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FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Minidoka Project  
Hunt, Idaho  
(For immediate release)

Arrival of 317 Japanese evacuees from the Portland (Ore.) Assembly Center Friday (Sept. 11) virtually completed large-scale movements to the Minidoka War Relocation Center at Hunt, Idaho, 20 miles north east of Twin Falls.

The population of this unusual new Idaho community, created as a result of the military decision to remove all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast war zone, stood at 9385 Saturday, (Sept. 12), making it the 8th largest city in the state and lifting Jerome county to ninth position among the counties. Puyallup and Portland Assembly centers clean-up crews and other small groups will eventually raise Hunt's population to around 10,000, the planned capacity of the Center. The new town is named for Wilson Price Hunt, early explorer of the Snake River country.

Morrison-Knudsen company of Boise, Idaho, builders of this sprawling sagebrush city of 600 wooden buildings, is rushing the project to completion. Temporarily there is a housing shortage for the new colonists which will be relieved as soon as barracks now under construction are completed.

These 120-foot barracks, divided into one-room apartments, and other buildings at Hunt are of the type the Army calls "theater of operations". Exterior walls are covered with tar paper. Interiors are unpainted. The largest apartment is 24 feet long and 20 feet wide. Each apartment has a coal-burning stove, one electric light outlet, and no running water. For each group of 12 barracks, called a block, there are a laundry room, men's and women's shower rooms and lavatories, a recreation hall, and a dining hall.

Centrally located are stores, a 150-bed hospital, a library, post office, newspaper office, fire stations, and other buildings found in any average community. The colonists are not permitted automobiles. Telephones are placed only in administrative offices.

As soon as the last of the large groups of evacuees arrived, plans were launched to set up democratic self-government in the colony. Representatives will be elected to a community council.

Nursery schools are now in progress, and elementary and high schools are scheduled to open October 1 under a staff composed mainly of Caucasian teachers and including some qualified Japanese teachers. Because of wartime shortages of building materials and school equipment, the Hunt schools will have a pioneer appearance in keeping with the rest of the colony as students sit on crude benches in dining and recreation halls.



FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Minidoka Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #2  
9/14/42

JAPANESE EVACUEES  
LEAVE IDAHO CENTER  
TO HARVEST CROPS

(For immediate release)

HUNT, Idaho--To save food-for-freedom crops threatened by the wartime labor shortage, hundreds of Japanese volunteer workers from the Minidoka War Relocation Center are moving into the sugar beet, potato, and onion fields of Idaho and Montana, it was announced today.

The vanguard of these workers was a group of 38 who started top-ping onions near Twin Falls Monday, (Sept. 14). They are living at the Twin Falls Farm Security Administration labor camp.

While large groups are being hired by the sugar beet companies, volunteer workers will harvest many different crops and perform a wide variety of farm tasks.

Work agreements between employers and Japanese evacuees are worked out through the United States Employment Service, the San Francisco regional office of the War Relocation Authority, and the administration at the Minidoka center. Contracts for 1,800 Japanese evacuees have been approved. The colony at Hunt, 20 miles northeast of Twin Falls in Jerome county, hopes to supply this many workers, sending out all evacuees who volunteered except those essential to the operation of the Minidoka center.

The government, which shouldered the responsibility for removing American citizens and aliens of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific coast as a military precaution, requires the governor of the state and local law enforcement officers to provide assurances that law and order will be maintained. Employers must provide transportation and adequate living quarters. Prevailing wages must be paid.

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A farmer wishing to hire Japanese evacuees must file his application at the nearest U. S. E. S. office. In this definite offer of employment he will indicate the type of work involved, its probable duration, wages he will pay, and housing facilities available for the workers.

If the requirements of the employer cannot be filled through normal procedures, the employment service office will endorse the application and forward it to the Employment Division, W. R. A., San Francisco. If the W. R. A. approves of the employment offer, it is forwarded to a relocation center or assembly center where it may be examined and accepted by Japanese evacuees who have volunteered for such work. The agreement is subject to termination by either the farm operator or the evacuees on five days' notice.

Japanese evacuees of established loyalty will be permitted to take permanent jobs outside the Western Defense Command without any restrictions. Those who leave the center in large groups for farm work within the Western Defense Command may remain in the county to which they were originally sent as long as work is available.

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FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Minidoka Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #3  
9/15/42

TO THE EDITOR:

Because of widespread interest in the Minidoka War Relocation Project and Japanese evacuees' community at Hunt, Idaho, newspaper editors have asked to receive news reports from the project. To provide weekly newspapers in this region with a news account of the project's progress, it is planned to issue each week in time for publication in these papers a summary of the week's news at Hunt. If you desire to receive these reports regularly, first copy of which follows, please advise this office and state your publication day.

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JAPANESE EVACUEES  
BEGIN TO HARVEST  
IDAHO FARM CROPS

(For weekly newspapers, release Thursday, Sept. 17.)

HUNT, Idaho--Hundreds of Japanese evacuees at the Minidoka War Relocation Project, located in Jerome county 20 miles northeast of Twin Falls, started moving this week into the harvest fields of Idaho and Montana to save Food-for-Freedom crops.

The movement started soon after the population of the unique war-created colony had climbed to 9,447, virtual capacity, with the arrival of final groups from temporary assembly centers at Puyallup, Washington and Portland, Oregon. The majority of the evacuees at Hunt are from these two states. Probably the most unusual colonists are the Eskimo-Japanese evacuees from northern Alaska.

While large numbers of evacuees who volunteered for farm work are being hired by sugar beet companies, many others will harvest potatoes and other farm crops.

Certain conditions must be met before the evacuees may leave the center for outside farm work. The government, which assumed the responsibility for removing American citizens and aliens of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific coast as a military necessity, requires the governor of the state and local law enforcement officers to provide assurances that law and order would be maintained. Employers must provide transportation and adequate living quarters. Prevailing wages must be paid.

The farmer wishing to hire Japanese evacuees must file his application with the nearest United States Employment Service office. In this definite offer of employment he will indicate the type of work involved, its probable duration, wages he will pay, and housing facilities available for the workers.

If the requirements of the employer cannot be filled through normal procedure, the employment service office will endorse the application and forward it to the Employment Division, W. R. A., San Francisco. If the W. R. A. approves of the employment offer, it is forwarded to a relocation or assembly center where it may be examined and accepted by Japanese evacuees who volunteered for such work.



The working agreement is subject to termination by either the farm operator or the evacuees on five days' notice. The evacuees may remain in the county to which they were originally sent as long as work is available and other conditions are met.

It is hoped that the evacuee farm workers will avert the serious threat to farm crops in this region caused by the critical wartime shortage of normal farm labor. While most of the colonists at Hunt are from urban Seattle and Portland, there are about 1,500 experienced farmers in the community, and many of the former city residents have expressed a desire to help with the harvests.

Within the last month the village of Hunt has sprung up on a dusty, sagebrush-covered plain. With a population of nearly 10,000, Hunt is the eighth largest city in Idaho and Jerome county now ranks ninth in the state. The Japanese town is named for Wilson Price Hunt, early explorer of the Snake River in this territory.

Hunt stretches for two miles in a crescent shape. Most of the 600 wooden buildings are 120-foot barracks divided into one-room apartments of three sizes; the largest, 24 feet long and 20 feet wide, and the smallest, 16 feet long and 20 feet wide. Each apartment has a coal stove, one electric outlet, and no running water. Each group of 12 barracks, called a block, has a laundry room, men's and women's shower rooms and lavatories, recreation hall, and dining hall where all eat. Centrally located in the village are stores, a library, post office, newspaper office, a 150-bed hospital, fire stations, and other buildings found in any average community. The colonists are not allowed to have automobiles, short-wave radios and radio transmitters, firearms, and cameras.

Directed by a small Caucasian administrative staff, the colonists do the work of the project and a democratic self-government runs the village itself.

Caucasian school teachers are scheduled to arrive next week to make preparations for the opening of elementary and high schools around October 1. Qualified Japanese teachers will augment the education staff.

Within a few days water from the Milner-Gooding canal will be turned into a five-mile ditch leading to the project. The first water will be used in the village area where quick-growing seed will be planted to alleviate the serious dust condition caused by stripping large areas of sagebrush during construction. Eventually it is planned to irrigate and farm 17,000 of the 68,000 acres of wasteland in the project area to make the community self sufficient in many foods.



FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Minidoka Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #4  
9/19/42

(For immediate release)

HUNT, Idaho--More than 400 Japanese evacuee colonists in the Minidoka Relocation center gathered around a flag-draped coffin Friday night (Sept. 18) to pay their final respects to a young Japanese boy who died while serving in the U. S. Army at Camp Carson, Colorado.

Baptist funeral services for Private Eugene Hayashi, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Hayashi, were conducted by the Reverend Emery Andrews, former associate pastor of the Japanese Baptist church, Seattle, now working with the Japanese evacuees for the American Baptist Homes Mission Board.

Eugene died September 12 at Camp Carson from a kidney ailment. With him during his last illness was a brother, Private Joe Hayashi, stationed at Fort Riley, Kansas.

The funeral services were held in one of the community's dining halls where an altar was set up with a cross, candles, and flowers. Assisting in officiating was the Reverend Shozo Hashimoto, former minister of the Japanese Baptist church of Seattle and now a colonist at Hunt.

Hymns were sung and prayers recited. Katsumi Takakoshi delivered the eulogy for friends, and K. Watanabe for the membership of the Japanese Baptist church.

At the conclusion of the services Sergeant W. Reiger, who escorted the body from Camp Carson, removed the flag from the coffin and presented it to the deceased's mother.

The parents and a friend, Shunji George Kashiwagi, were given special permission to leave Hunt to accompany the body to Salt Lake City for cremation.

This was the largest funeral yet held in the evacuee colony which has a population of 9,447.



FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MRP  
ID #5  
9/22/42

JAPANESE CENTER  
PROJECT TO MAKE  
ARID LAND BLOOM

(For weekly newspapers, release Thursday, September 24.)

HUNT, Idaho--A program for eventual reclamation of 17,000 acres of arid land now covered by sagebrush was started early this week when the first water for irrigation reached the Minidoka Relocation center area.

The water, flowing five to 25 second feet, was diverted from the Milner-Gooding canal into a five-mile ditch which evacuee colonists dug principally with hand tools. The water in this primary canal is now being diverted to all parts of the two-mile-long living area of the community. Quick-growing seed will be planted shortly to tie down the soil and end the serious dust condition which has plagued the center.

In addition to irrigating the center area proper, an adjacent area will receive water from the primary canal making a total of approximately 200 acres to be flooded and seeded immediately.

A main lateral canal will be constructed in about the same location as the primary canal to irrigate 3,000 to 4,000 acres immediately east of the camp area in time for planting next spring. Eventually a series of ditches off the Milner-Gooding canal will enable the colonists to turn about 15,000 other acres of waste land into farming area, increasing by a sizeable amount southern Idaho's total farming acreage.

The evacuee colony will be largely self-sufficient for food under the farming program.

FUNERAL SERVICES  
HELD FOR SOLDIER

Hunt's largest funeral to date was held last Friday night when more than 400 colonists paid their final respects to a young Japanese boy who died while serving the U. S. Army at Camp Carson, Colorado.

Baptist funeral services for Private Eugene Hayashi, 24, of Seattle, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Hayashi, Minidoka colonists, were conducted by the Reverend Emery Andrews, former associate pastor of the Japanese Baptist church, Seattle, who is now working with the Japanese evacuees for the American Baptist Home Mission Board.

Assisting him was the Reverend Shozo Hashimoto, former minister of the Japanese Baptist church in Seattle and now a resident at Hunt.



Funeral services were held in one of the community's dining halls before an altar set up with a cross, candles, and flowers. At the conclusion of the services, Sergeant W. Reiger, who escorted the body from Camp Carson, removed the American flag from the coffin and presented it to Mrs. Hayashi.

Eugene died September 12 at Camp Carson from a kidney ailment. The parents were given permission to accompany the body to Salt Lake City for cremation.

### 300 MORE LEAVE FOR HARVEST WORK

Three hundred more evacuee volunteers left Hunt this week to work in Idaho harvest fields. While a few went to the Farm Security Administration camp at Twin Falls, the majority will be housed by their employers.

A group of evacuees who went to the Twin Falls camp last week to pick onions doubled in brass to the delight of other onion pickers living there. Before evacuation the group played in a dance band, and when they left Hunt for the onion fields, they took along their instruments to get in some practice in their spare time. When the other workers heard them play, they made plans and staged a Saturday night dance.

### MORE ACTIVITIES GET UNDER WAY

As the Hunt colonists became more settled in their wartime homes this week, numerous activities got under way.

Knitting and crocheting classes were started. The Y. W. C. A. launched plans for "Y" groups in the community. Softball teams were organized upon the arrival of equipment. The first tournament of Go, Japanese checker game, will be held Saturday. The two public libraries extended the hours from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily. Model plane enthusiasts got together and formed a group. Winter sports fans started talking about skiing and ice skating. Mass choir rehearsals were held. A vaudeville troupe was organized to tour the colony.

Everybody was taking part, or preparing to, in the project-wide census which was started Monday. Information gathered in this census will be a complete record of each colonist for the confidential use of the administration staff.



HUNT COLONISTS  
TAKE INTEREST  
IN GOVERNMENT

(For weekly newspaper release, Thursday, October 1.)

HUNT, Idaho--Many American citizen evacuees of Japanese ancestry at the Minidoka Relocation Center still retain a keen interest in public affairs, both nationally and in their home states.

A total of 114 evacuees from Pierce and King Counties in the state of Washington cast their absentee ballots in that state's primary election. Since this election occurred during transfer of evacuees from the Puyallup, Wash. Assembly Center to the Minidoka Relocation Center, it is expected that many more absentee ballots will be cast in the general election, November 3.

Hunt colonists did their first home voting Tuesday night (Sept. 29) when plans were launched for self-government. The voting Tuesday was to elect representatives to a community-wide congress which will aid in the selection of seven from their own ranks to make up an organization commission. This commission will draw up a plan of self-government subject to ratification by a majority of the adult colonists. This plan will include a community council, members of which will be selected by a secret ballot at a general election.

CENTER OBSERVES  
BUSINESS HOURS

The Minidoka Relocation Center observes regular business hours like any other community.

The colonists work from 8 to 5, and because they perform nearly all the work around the center, ordinary business must be done between those hours except in the cases of emergency. Visitors to the center also must observe these hours.

YOUNG JAPANESE  
TO START SCHOOL

Little black school houses will call to 2,200 young Japanese evacuees at the Minidoka Relocation Center next week.

These schools will have many pioneer characteristics. Materials are not available for school buildings this year, and classes will be held in tar paper-covered barracks, recreation buildings, and dining halls. A laundry room will serve as a laboratory for science classes. A dining hall kitchen will be used for home economics instruction. Students will sit on wooden benches made in the evacuee colony's carpentry shop.

In addition to regular subjects, these young American citizens of Japanese ancestry will be taught trades and professions to equip them to make places for themselves in post war U. S. A.. Evening classes in Americanization subjects will be held for adults.



Heading a staff of 55 as superintendent of education at Hunt is Richard A. Pomeroy, president of the Idaho Education Association and formerly principal of Boise Junior High School.

#### MORE JAPANESE GO TO HARVEST

Between 150 and 200 Japanese evacuees are leaving the Minidoka Relocation Center daily to work in the harvest fields.

With the season nearing its peak, Japanese farm volunteers are going outside the project to relieve the wartime labor shortage. To date more than 900 have taken farm jobs.

A new procedure for emergency use during the harvest season allows farmers living near Hunt who have negotiated Japanese labor agreements to pick up workers at the center each morning and return them at night.

Another change in regulations to speed up the recruiting of farm help gives the Minidoka center authority to approve 30-day or less contracts without sending them first to the W. R. A. regional office at San Francisco.

Other requirements remain the same. Labor contracts must be negotiated first through a U. S. Employment Service office and the employer must provide transportation, adequate living quarters and pay going wages.

#### BARBER SHOP OPENS AT JAPANESE COLONY

Latest service to be set up for Minidoka colonists at Hunt is a barber shop. Like other services this will be operated by Community Enterprises, a co-operative organization working on a non-profit basis. Three community stores carrying a variety of merchandise already are operating. A mail order department takes orders for magazines, newspapers, and merchandise.

As soon as equipment is received, other services will be started including a beauty salon, a shoe repair shop, dry cleaning and laundry pick-up service, and watch, jewelry, radio, and general repair shop.

#### ALASKAN EVACUEES DON'T FEAR WINTER

There is one group of the evacuees at the Minidoka Relocation Center who do not fear the arrival of winter in Idaho.

They are of Japanese-Eskimo and Japanese-Indian ancestry, and their homes were in northern Alaska.

The Moto brothers, Jim, Taylor, and Donald, are from Deering, 10 miles north of Nome in extreme northern Alaska, and are half Eskimo. Ten Minidoka colonists are from Bristol Bay, north of the Aleutians. They are half native (Alaska Indian) as are many of the other Japanese Alaskan evacuees of mixed parentage. Three colonists from the Kodiak district have a Russian strain, six generations in the background.



FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #7  
9/26/42

EVACUEES PLAN  
FOOTBALL TEAMS

(For release Tuesday, September 29.)

HUNT, Idaho--Football is beginning to edge baseball out of the sports picture and the Minidoka Relocation Center, like many another American community of 9,500 population, is launching a pigskin program.

Baseball ranks No. 1 with the Japanese evacuees, but hundreds of young colonists will turn to football when the World Series are over.

Scores of neighborhood teams in each age group are being organized. Special interest is focused on the possibility of an all-Hunt team which might play other southern Idaho elevens this season. The colony has some first rate grid-iron talent. The Yanagimachi brothers, Harry, Mako, and Bill, played for Garfield High in Seattle and made all-city teams. Pete Fujino and George Naito are former Broadway High, Seattle, linesmen. Jack Yoshihara was on the Oregon State college squad which took the Rose Bowl honors. Don Sugai was an all-state back from Salem, Ore., high school.



FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #8  
9/26/42

HUNT COLONISTS  
HOLD ELECTION

(For release Wednesday, September 30.)

HUNT, Idaho--First steps towards a democratic form of self-government at the Minidoka Relocation Center were taken Tuesday night when all colonists, 18 years of age or over, elected two representatives from each block.

The 72 representatives will meet at an early date to recommend to Project Director H. L. Stafford seven from their ranks to serve as an organization commission to draft a plan of government. The plan will include a community council which will be largely responsible for legislating laws for the community. Members will be selected at a general election.

Many of the Hunt colonists will cast absentee ballots in the general election, November 3. Although the Washington state primary occurred during the transfer of evacuees from the Puyallup, Wash., Assembly Center to Minidoka, 114 of the colonists voted in the election.

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FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #9  
9/28/42

IDAHO WINTER HOLDS NO TERROR  
FOR ALASKAN EVACUEES AT HUNT

(For release Thursday, October 1.)

HUNT, Idaho--Records of severe Idaho winters hold no terror for one group of colonists at the Minidoka Relocation Center.

These evacuees are from northern Alaska. The Moto brothers, Jim, Taylor, and Donald, from Deering, 10 miles north of Nome, are half Eskimo and half Japanese.

Ten colonists were living in Bristol Bay, north of the Aleutians, when evacuated. They are half Alaskan-Indian as are many of the other 45 Alaskan evacuees of mixed parentage. Three evacuees from the Kodiak district have a Russian strain, six generations in the background.

Many of these evacuees have never seen or associated with Japanese people before the evacuation and cannot speak or understand the Japanese language. Living in Indian villages they hunted whale and seal to eke out an existence.

The rest of the 134 Japanese evacuated from Alaska lived principally in the southern part of the territory, and were engaged in normal businesses, such as groceries, laundries, bakeries, and restaurants.

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FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #10  
9/28/42

MORE JAPANESE  
GO TO HARVEST

(For release Thursday, October 1.)

HUNT, Idaho--Between 150 and 200 Japanese evacuees are leaving the Minidoka Relocation Center daily to work in the harvest fields.

With the season nearing its peak, Japanese farm volunteers are going outside the project to relieve the wartime labor shortage. To date more than 900 have taken farm jobs.

A new procedure for emergency use during the harvest season allows farmers living near Hunt who have negotiated Japanese labor agreements to pick up workers at the center each morning and return them at night.

Another change in regulations to speed up the recruiting of farm help gives the Minidoka center authority to approve 30-day or less contracts without sending them first to the W. R. A. regional office at San Francisco.

Other requirements remain the same. Labor contracts must be negotiated first through a U. S. Employment Service office and the employer must provide transportation, adequate living quarters and pay going wages.



FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #11  
9/28/42

EVACUEES LEAVE  
HUNT FOR COLLEGE

(For release Thursday, October 1.)

HUNT, Idaho--Eleven more young Japanese evacuees left the Minidoka Relocation Center this week to continue their studies at approved colleges.

They are Toru and Kiyoshi Sakahara, Frank Sugino, and Roy Yamagishi to the University of Utah, Salt Lake City; William Morita to Washington State College, Pullman; Fukumi Ashida and John Okada to Scottsbluff Junior College, Neb.; Tetsu Morita, Frank Sakai, Noboru Tosaya, and Midori Sakamoto to the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

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FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #12  
9/26/42

JAPANESE CENTER  
TO RECLAIM LAND

(For release Tuesday, September 29.)

HUNT, Idaho--The Minidoka Relocation Center's program for turning acres of sagebrush-covered land into crops got under way this week with the arrival of the first water for irrigation purposes.

Flowing through a five-mile canal dug by evacuees using hand tools principally, the water was brought first to the living area of the community to flood acres ankle-deep in dust. Fast-growing rye and barley will be planted to tie down the soil which has been blowing around since builders of the center stripped the land of sagebrush.

Irrigation water for the project is being diverted from the Milner-Gooding canal. Other ditches will be dug in the project area. By spring 3,000 to 4,000 acres immediately east of the camp area will be ready for planting. Eventually the colonists hope to reclaim 17,000 acres of the 68,000 in the project area. The evacuee colony will be largely self-sufficient for food.



FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #7/13  
9/28/42

PIONEER CONDITIONS  
EXIST AT SCHOOLS  
FOR YOUNG EVACUEES

(For release Thursday p.m., Oct. 1 and Friday a.m., Oct. 2.)

HUNT, Idaho--Schools with many pioneer characteristics will open next Monday (October 5) for 2,200 young Japanese evacuees at the Minidoka Relocation Center, 20 miles northeast of Twin Falls.

In little black school houses these young American citizens of Japanese ancestry will learn the three R's and, in addition, trades and professions to enable them to make places for themselves in post-war U. S. A.

Pupils and teachers alike will do some pioneering when classes are started. Because materials are not available to build schools, classes at Hunt will be held in tar-paper-covered barracks, recreation buildings, and dining halls. A laundry room will be converted into a laboratory for science classes. Students will sit on wooden benches made by evacuees in the colony's carpentry shop.

For other young Idahoans who might consider it fun to attend schools under such conditions, it should be pointed out that the schools at Hunt will be in session 11 months a year.

Only 19 of 57 teaching positions remain to be filled, Richard A. Pomeroy, superintendent of education at the Minidoka Relocation Center, announced Thursday.

Pomeroy, president of the Idaho Education Association and formerly principal of Boise Junior High School, said all applicants must hold an A. B. degree to meet with civil service requirements.

Eleven elementary teachers, ranging from kindergarten through the sixth grade with the exception of the third grade, are needed. Six high school teachers are wanted for the following departments: agricultural, vocal music, industrial arts, physical education (male), librarian, and science-mathematics. Vacancies exist also for an elementary vice-principal and a night school principal.

Evening classes in Americanization subjects will be held for adult evacuees.



FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #14  
9/30/42

HUNT POST OFFICE  
HONORS NAME OF  
SNAKE EXPLORER

(For release Sunday, October 4, and thereafter.)

HUNT, Idaho--Idaho's newest post office will officially become a part of the U. S. postal system soon when Russell Deardon of Idaho Falls arrives to assume the superintendent's duties at Hunt. He will be assisted by a staff of Caucasians. The post office will be a branch of the Twin Falls post office.

Hunt, located in Jerome county 20 miles northeast of Twin Falls, was not on the map two months ago. Today it is the eighth largest city in the state with a population of about 9,500 persons of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated from Alaska and Portland and Seattle districts.

Hunt was named for Wilson Price Hunt. While not yet 30 years of age, Hunt was chosen by John Jacob Astor, wealthy New York City fur merchant, to lead an overland party from St. Louis to the mouth of the Columbia River to locate sites for trade posts. Hunt and his party of 65 men left St. Louis in the fall of 1810. In late September a year later, they crossed the Teton Pass and entered the Teton River valley in what is now Teton county, Idaho. When they arrived at Fort Henry, near the present town of Saint Anthony, they decided to abandon their horses and travel on the Snake River the rest of the way.

The Snake at this point was navigable for canoes and the party, little realizing the treacherous conditions of the river farther down, set out in 15 boats. On October 21 they portaged around Idaho Falls and on October 24 reached American Falls. Four days later one of the canoes struck a rock in a rapids near the present town of Milner, and one member of the party was drowned.

This accident discouraged further travel by canoe and the party broke up into several groups and headed on foot for the Columbia River. Hunt and his party became the first white men to follow the route which later became the famous Oregon Trail. His expedition through southern Idaho was the first led by a white man. On November 21 he passed south of the present site of Boise and continued westward through the Boise valley to the Snake River. He turned northward on the east bank of the Snake until he was blocked by the sheer peaks in the Seven Devils Region. Retreating southward the party came to the Weiser River where the Hunt party crossed the Snake. A Snake Indian guided them up the Burnt River and across Oregon to reach the Columbia in the spring of 1812.

Hunt later became a leading citizen of St. Louis where he died in April, 1842. One of his close personal friends was General William Clark, the veteran Pacific Northwest explorer.



FROM: Information Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #15  
10/5/42

1400 JAPANESE  
FROM HUNT GO  
INTO FARM WORK

(For weekly newspapers release, Thursday, October 8.)

HUNT, Idaho--Approximately 1,400 Japanese evacuees from the Minidoka Relocation Center have gone out on farm jobs, it was announced today.

This is believed to be close to the peak of employment from the Minidoka center for this farm season.

With this number of workers leaving the center for outside employment to relieve the critical wartime shortage, the evacuee colony itself is facing numerous labor problems. Women and elderly colonists are filling jobs left by those taking outside employment.

A recent farmer-employer seeking evacuee labor at the Minidoka Center was Secretary of Agriculture Claude Wickard, who will employ a young couple on his Indiana farm.

HUNT, Idaho--Idaho's newest town--and its eighth largest city--will be on the map officially when Russell Deardon of Idaho Falls assumes the superintendent's duties at the Hunt post office, a branch of the Twin Falls office.

Hunt, located in Jerome county 20 miles northeast of Twin Falls, was named for Wilson Price Hunt who led an overland party of fur traders representing John Jacob Astor through the Snake River country in 1811. Hunt and his party became the first white men to follow the route which later became the famous Oregon trail.

HUNT, Idaho--The opening of school at the Minidoka Relocation Center, scheduled for last Monday, had to be delayed for two weeks due to lack of space for classes.

School will be taught in barracks converted into classrooms. The colonists plan to build a school when materials become available.

HUNT, Idaho--Dillon S. Myer, Washington, D. C., Director of the War Relocation Authority, will visit the Minidoka project Monday (October 12.)

HUNT, Idaho--In keeping with the government's policy of rubber conservation, the Minidoka Relocation Center plans to acquire several saddle horses for messenger and delivery service. Bicycles also are being put into service in the transportation crisis.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #18  
10/9/42

EXODUS OF FARM  
WORKERS CAUSES  
SHORTAGE AT HUNT

(Release Sunday a.m., October 11.)

HUNT, Idaho--So many Japanese evacuees have left the Minidoka Relocation Center to take outside farm jobs, the colony itself is faced with a critical labor shortage, officials revealed today.

The fire protection department, forced to close one of the community's two fire stations when firemen took harvest jobs, started recruiting women yesterday to reopen the station.

About 28 physically able women between the ages of 18 and 35 will be recruited. They will be on duty 24 hours at a stretch, and off 48 hours, just like regular firemen.

The fire stations have regular equipment including fire trucks. This community of 600 wooden buildings, none one story high, has yet to experience its first fire.

More than 1,800 of Hunt's original 2,500 residents had gone out on farm jobs by yesterday noon. They included both men and women, young and old. The great majority of them are working on southern Idaho farms. In addition to farm workers, nearly 50 Japanese women have left the center to take domestic jobs, and nearly 50 students have been released to continue their college studies at institutions outside military areas.

Since the evacuee colony requires about 2,000 persons to perform maintenance, supply, and service work, more jobs inside the center will have to be handled by women and elderly residents, officials said. In addition to women firemen it is planned to employ women colonists in warehouses and sanitation departments. The community's winter coal supply is arriving in carload lots daily at a siding five miles from the center. All possible manpower is being diverted to the coal trucking crews to get the fuel into the center before cold weather strikes.

Also contingent upon the labor supply within the center is the clearing of sagebrush from 1,000 acres where crops for the colony's dining halls will be raised.

With the exception of a small administrative staff, all work in the evacuees' community is done by the colonists themselves. Japanese evacuees are recruited by outside employers through the U. S. Employment Service.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #17  
10/9/42

WRA DIRECTOR  
TO VISIT HUNT

(Release Sunday, October 11.)

HUNT, Idaho--Dillon S. Myer of Washington, D. C., director of the War Relocation Authority, will arrive in Twin Falls Sunday afternoon (October 11) for a two-day inspection visit to the Minidoka Relocation Center, 20 miles northeast of Twin Falls.

Mr. Myer will spend Monday and part of Tuesday conferring with Project Director Harry L. Stafford and his staff. The national director of the agency administering the colonies of evacuated Japanese from the Pacific Coast will find the Minidoka Center partially emptied. More than <sup>1,800</sup> ~~7,500~~ of the 9,500 colonists have gone out to take jobs in the harvest fields.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #16  
10/9/42

JAPANESE EVACUEE  
CENTER WILL HOLD  
FARM CONFERENCE

(Release Monday, October 12.)

HUNT, Idaho--A conference to outline the 1943 agricultural program at the Minidoka Relocation Center will be held three days starting Wednesday at Hunt.

Subsistence for the Japanese evacuees at Hunt and at the nine other relocation centers is the primary objective of the W. R. A. farming program.

Since every relocation project plans to have an agricultural development, the conference will discuss ways and means of correlating crops so that all projects will not be growing the same crops at the same time. While nothing definite has been determined yet, the Minidoka project probably will raise beans, peas, potatoes, and some alfalfa.

E. H. Weed and D. R. Sabin of the W. R. A. Agricultural Division, Washington, D. C., will participate in the three-day session ending Friday.

As soon as colonist labor is available, it is planned to start clearing about 1,000 acres of sagebrush east of the community center and adjacent to the Milner-Gooding Canal. This canal will be tapped by laterals to irrigate the cleared land. It is hoped that this work can be done and rye planted before winter sets in so that the land will be ready for other crops in the spring. Eventually the W. R. A. plans to reclaim 17,000 of the 68,000 acres in the project area.

E. Sebbelov, farm superintendent at Minidoka revealed plans today for a hog farm on the project utilizing the center's garbage. Later on a poultry farm and a dairy will be set up.



FROM: PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
ID #19  
10/10/42

FARM CONFERENCE  
IS HELD AT HUNT

(For weekly newspapers release, Thursday, October 15.)

HUNT, Idaho--A conference to outline the 1943 agricultural program at the Minidoka Relocation Center was held this week at Hunt (Oct. 14-16.) Subsistence for the Japanese evacuees at Minidoka and at the nine other relocation centers was declared to be the primary objective of the farming program.

Since every relocation project plans to have an agricultural development, the conference discussed ways and means of correlating crops so that all projects will not be growing the same crops at the same time. While nothing definite has been determined yet, the Minidoka project probably will raise beans, peas, potatoes, and some alfalfa.

E. H. Weed and D. R. Sabin of the W. R. A. Agricultural Division, Washington D. C., participated in the three-day session ending Friday.

As soon as colonist labor is available, it is planned to start clearing about 1,000 acres of sagebrush east of the community center and adjacent to the Milner-Gooding Canal. This canal will be tapped by laterals to irrigate the cleared land. It is hoped that this work can be done and rye planted before the winter sets in so that land will be ready for other crops in the spring. Eventually, the W. R. A. plans to reclaim 17,000 of the 68,000 acres in the project area.

E. Sebbelov, farm superintendent at Minidoka revealed plans this week for a hog farm on the project utilizing the center's garbage. Later on a poultry farm and a dairy will be set up.

HUNT MEDICAL  
CHIEF GOES  
TO ARKANSAS

HUNT, Idaho--Dr. L. M. Neher, senior medical officer at the Minidoka Relocation Center, left Sunday for Arkansas to assist the administration at the new Jerome and Rohwer Relocation Centers in setting up medical and health facilities. He will be absent from the Minidoka project about three weeks.

During his absence Mrs. Maxalyn W. Evans, head nurse, will be in charge of hospital administrative detail, and Dr. Paul Suzuki has been designated as acting medical officer. A full program of medical services will be continued.



October 12, 1942

To The Editor:

The scheduled visit of Dillon S. Myer of Washington, D. C., director of the War Relocation Authority, to the Minidoka Relocation Center was postponed today until next week end. Therefore, please delete the item "WRA Director Sees Minidoka" from the weekly review of Hunt news sent to you for release Thursday, October 15.

Reports Officer,  
Minidoka Relocation Center



RUSH TO HARVEST  
CAUSES SHORTAGE  
OF HUNT LABOR

HUNT, Idaho--So many Japanese evacuees at the Minidoka Relocation Center have answered the call for farm workers to get crops harvested, the colony itself is faced with a serious labor shortage, officials revealed this week. As an example of the critical situation it was disclosed that the fire protection department has started recruiting women to man one of the center's two fire stations.

Nearly 1,900 of the 9,500 evacuees from Washington and Oregon have gone outside to help harvest Idaho's sugar beet, potato, onion, apple, and other crops. Since the colony itself needs more than 2,000 workers for maintenance, supply, and services to keep the community running, more jobs inside the center will have to be filled by women and elderly residents, officials said.

The community's coal supply for the winter is arriving in carload lots and is putting an additional strain on the available manpower to get it moved from the railroad siding to the center, distance of five miles.

Japanese workers are recruited by outside employers through the U. S. Employment Service.

WRA DIRECTOR  
SEES MINIDOKA

HUNT, Idaho--Dillon S. Myer of Washington, D. C., director of the War Relocation Authority, visited the Minidoka project Monday and Tuesday.

During his visit he conferred with Project Director Harry L. Stafford and his staff and inspected the center.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#20  
10/15/42

HARVEST LABOR  
RECRUITING AT  
HUNT NEARS END

(Release Saturday p.m., October 17, and thereafter.)

HUNT, Idaho--With approximately 2,100 workers out on farm jobs, large-scale recruitment of group labor at the Minidoka Relocation Center is drawing to a close for the current harvest season, officials said today.

Most of the workers, who are Japanese evacuated from the Washington and Oregon coastal region, are employed on Idaho farms topping beets and onions, picking apples, packing lettuce, and digging potatoes. The majority of the farm workers are young people, many of them from urban areas and doing farm work for the first time. The day after their wedding in Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Toshio Taniguchi left on a honeymoon trip to a farm near Boise where they will pick apples.

Recruitment of farm workers at the Minidoka center is on voluntary basis with the workers being guaranteed going wages, transportation, and adequate living quarters. These workers may remain outside the center as long as work is available.

Departure of such a large number of workers left the center, with a remaining population of 7,500, hard pressed for labor to maintain essential community services. Women have taken jobs as firemen, truck drivers, warehousemen, and service station attendant.

While group employment for harvest work has practically ended for this season, applications are still being received for individual employment, principally domestic positions for women. Any resident of Hunt applying for outside employment is contacted and hired through an employer's application to the U. S. Employment Service. The response of Hunt residents to the general appeal for farm workers is credited with relieving the critical labor shortage in southern Idaho.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD #21  
10/17/42

HARVEST LABOR  
RECRUITING AT  
HUNT NEARS END

(For weekly newspapers, release Oct. 22 and thereafter.)

HUNT, Idaho--With approximately 2,100 workers out on farm jobs, large-scale recruitment of group labor at the Minidoka Relocation Center is drawing to a close for the current harvest season, officials reported Wednesday. At the same time, they announced that more than 2,100 workers had left the center to take farm jobs, principally in southern Idaho.

Most of the workers, who are Japanese evacuated from the Washington and Oregon coastal region, are topping beets and onions, picking apples, packing lettuce, and digging potatoes. The majority of the farm workers are young people, many of them from urban areas and doing farm work for the first time. The day after their wedding in Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Toshio Taniguchi left on a honeymoon trip to a farm near Boise where they will pick apples.

Recruitment of farm workers at the Minidoka center is on voluntary basis with the workers being guaranteed going wages, transportation, and adequate living quarters. These workers may remain outside the center as long as work is available.

Departure of such a large number of workers left the center, with a remaining population of 7,500, hard pressed for labor to maintain essential community services. Women have taken jobs as firemen, truck drivers, warehousemen, and service station attendant.

#  
FIRST MOVIES SHOWN

HUNT, Idaho--The theater was only a dining hall; the seats were hard picnic bench-tables, but the community's first movie was a momentous occasion this week.

There was a lineup when the box office opened at 7:20 p.m. As soon as the place was packed with 350 residents, the movie was shown. Another lineup was waiting outside for the second showing to begin at 8:45 p.m.

What was the picture? An Abbott and Costello comedy.

#  
LONG VACATION ENDS

HUNT, Idaho--Children went back to school here Monday after one of the longest vacations ever enjoyed by group of American youngsters.

Most of these children of Japanese ancestry had been out of school since last April when evacuation orders were issued affecting their residence in coastal zones of Washington and Oregon.

About 800 children attend the two schools for grades 1 to 6. Upper grades and high school with an enrollment of more than 1,200 will be started as soon as space is available. All schools are being held in residential buildings converted to classrooms until materials for school buildings are available.



FROM: Project Report Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#22  
10/26/42

YWCA OFFICIAL  
TO VISIT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--Esther Breisemeister, a national YWCA official, will visit the Minidoka Relocation Center November 2-6 to help organize a leadership training course.

Her visit will be sponsored by the temporary board of the Hunt YWCA, members of which are Mrs. M. Paul Suzuki, general chairman; Ise Inuzuka, secretary; and the following group chairmen: Jeanne Mori, financial; Harue Okazaki, business and industrial; Hannah Masuda, young married couples; Stella Yorozu, Girls' Reserves. Frances Maeda, former fellowship chairman, has been granted an indefinite leave to do secretarial work in Boston, Mass.

#

HUNT PLANS BIG  
HALLOWEEN SHOW

HUNT, Idaho--The first community-wide activity will be a Halloween frolic scheduled for Friday and Saturday. Community singing, dancing, and games are planned for all age groups.

A marathon race will be one of the feature events Saturday. The race course will circle the community. Football games are also scheduled for Saturday.

#

rites held for  
harvest worker

HUNT, Idaho--Funeral services were held Monday evening for Mrs. Yae Kato, 46, former Seattle resident, who was fatally injured October 21 when struck by a loaded beet truck at the L. H. Brown ranch, three miles northwest of Filer, where she was working.

Surviving are her husband, Riuichi Kato; a son, Hiroshi; and a daughter, Toshie.

This was the first fatality or serious injury among the approximately 2200 Hunt residents out on farm jobs in southern Idaho.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
War Relocation Authority

MWRP  
PRD#23  
11/2/42

Hunt, Idaho  
(For weekly newspapers, release Thursday, Nov. 5.)

HUNT BOY SCOUTS  
HOLD JAMBOREE

HUNT, Idaho--Boy Scout Troop 123, formerly of Portland, Ore., was host at a Jamboree at the Minidoka Relocation Center, October 29. More than 250 Boy Scouts of Japanese ancestry participated in the program which included presentation of the colors, songs, games, a bugle quintet, drill by Troop 123, and refreshments. Kendall Dayley, field executive of the Snake River Boy Scout Council, E. Sebbelov, farm superintendent at Hunt and former scout commissioner at Fresno, California, and resident scout masters and leaders also attended.

Mr. Sebbelov is assisting in the organization of Boy Scout activities at Hunt. It is planned to register the scouts of five former Seattle troops and two Portland troops in two or three new Hunt troops in the Twin Falls council.

#

HUNT, Idaho--More than 200 residents cast absentee ballots in the general election Tuesday, it was reported today.

Most of the voters were former residents of coastal counties in Washington and Oregon.

A heavier vote by the American citizens of Japanese ancestry was prevented by the absence of a large number of evacuees on farm furloughs. About 2,300 from Hunt are in the harvest fields of southern Idaho.

#

HUNT, Idaho--More than 25 ministers of Protestant and Catholic faiths from southern Idaho cities and towns visited the Minidoka Relocation Center Wednesday (Nov. 4) as the guests of evacuee ministers of Japanese ancestry residing in the center.

The all-day program began with Catholic, Protestant and Buddhist services. The mass choir of residents entertained in the afternoon after the visitors toured the project.

#

HUNT, Idaho--A week-long conference to organize YMCA activities at the Minidoka Relocation Center was held this week with a national staff member, Miss Esther Briesmiester of Portland, Ore., in attendance.

Business and Industrial Girls, Girls Reserve, Matrons, and College groups held meetings. Mrs. P. Suzuki, Mrs. S. Yokota, Mrs. F. Kambe, Harue Okazaki, Joanne Mori, Ise Inuzuka, Natsuko Yamaguchi, and Sally Shimanaka conducted various phases of the program.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#24  
11/9/42

(For weekly newspapers, release Thursday, November 12, and thereafter.)

OFFICIAL VISITS  
HUNT GIRL SCOUTS

HUNT, Idaho--Ruth F. Stephenson, Portland, Ore., member of the national field staff of the Girl Scouts, spent Monday and Tuesday at the Minidoka Relocation Center assisting in the organization of Girl Scout activities.

Boy Scout activities also are getting under way at the center. Young people of Japanese ancestry were prominent in these two groups in Seattle and Portland prior to evacuation.

#

SAGEBRUSH ART  
EXHIBIT IS SET

HUNT, Idaho--An arts and handcraft exhibit will be held Friday, Saturday, and Sunday at the Minidoka Relocation Center of articles made by residents in handcraft classes.

Small portable gardens and artistic pieces made from sagebrush will be among the exhibits. The residents have learned how to make a number of useful and artistic articles from the twisted sagebrush wood which covers the area in which the center is located.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD #25  
11/23/42

U. S. ARMY SIGNS UP  
20 JAPANESE-AMERICANS  
AT CENTER IN IDAHO

(Release Tuesday, November 24 and thereafter.)

HUNT, Idaho--Twenty American citizens of Japanese ancestry were sworn into the U. S. Army at the Minidoka Relocation Center to become students in the Military Intelligence Service Language School in Savage, Minn.

Fourteen of the men, all of whom enlisted voluntarily for the duration of the war, left over the week-end for the Minnesota military establishment. Six others will leave Wednesday (November 25.)

All are between the ages of 20 and 40. Many of them have families. At Savage they will take an intensive six-month course in the Japanese language to augment the knowledge which they had to possess originally in order to qualify for the service.

Successful applicants will hold non-commissioned officers' rank.

Those leaving for the school are: Charles Takao Imai, Billy Masaharu Saito, Roy Sadao Terao, Makoto M. Kimura, Ben K. Hara, Joe Ichikawa, George Mukasa, Jack Uchida, George K. Okano, Tom K. Norisada, Etsuzo Ishikawa, Edwin Sasaki, Shinji Kozu, Teichiro Kitamura, Satoru Tony Sunamoto, Hideo Imai, Henry H. Goshō, Grayson H. Hagihara, Henry E. Suzuki, and Midori Inouye.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
War Relocation Authority  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#26  
12/4/42

DEVELOPMENT OF  
EVACUEE PROJECT  
TO BE CURTAILED

(Release Sunday, December 6 and thereafter.)

HUNT, Idaho--Plans for extensive development of the Minidoka Relocation Project, especially agriculture, have been changed, project officials revealed yesterday.

Originally it was planned to subjugate some 17,000 of the 68,000 acres of the sagebrush-covered project area. This program did not get under way last fall because of a lack of machinery and of a shortage of project labor, the latter due to the fact that 2,300 of the center residents worked in southern Idaho harvest fields to help save needed food crops.

In line with the government's plan for early permanent resettlement throughout the country of the 100,000 persons of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated from the West Coast, the relocation center will be held to a minimum development. Probably not more than 1,000 acres will be cleared, irrigated, and planted in food crops for subsistence of the center, officials said.

Under new regulations all evacuees who are interested in outside work, including those who want to go out in seasonal farm labor, must apply for indefinite leaves and be cleared by the F. B. I. There will be no 30-day or other temporary leaves except group work furloughs issued. Many evacuees are obtaining indefinite leave clearance in advance so they will be ready to accept offers of employment. Temporary passes from the project good for only a few hours also will be more restricted. To obtain an indefinite leave an evacuee must be cleared by the F.B.I., must have a job to go to, and must have assurance of acceptance in the community to which he goes.

While evacuees may take employment in any areas except in the West Coast military zones, the government's policy is to avoid settling large numbers in any one part of the country. Several evacuees from Hunt have taken permanent outside jobs and were placed on a basis of skill and experience. Nearly all skills are represented among residents including professions, trades, businesses, and farming.



HUNT MAN LOST  
ON DESERT DIES  
FROM EXPOSURE

(For weekly newspapers, release December 10.)

HUNT, Idaho--While walking in the desert looking for choice pieces of grease-wood to make into artistic articles, a resident of the Minidoka Relocation Center became lost last week and his body was found two days later by searchers.

Takaji Abe, 55, former Seattle grocer, left the center with a friend the morning of December 1 to walk a few miles into the sagebrush-covered project area. They became separated and the friend returned to the center about noon. A snow storm was then blowing across the rugged area of hills, gullies, and lava outcroppings. It later turned to rain. When Abe failed to return by dark a searching party set out and hunted for him all night. The next morning Harry L. Stafford, Project Director, began an aerial search in a plane which he piloted and Philip Schafer, Assistant Project Director, directed 500 volunteers in ground searching parties.

December 3 more than 1,200 started out from the center to sweep a wide area in a search for the missing man. In mid-afternoon his body was found. Death was due to exposure.

Apparently he had become confused in the storm and had walked parallel to the center for about six miles instead of toward it. He apparently became exhausted and lay down to rest beneath two sagebrush and here he was found. He was found about four miles northeast of the center and  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile west of the Milner-Gooding Canal.

Only the week before two other evacuees of Japanese ancestry from the center became lost and a search party found them at 4 a.m. beside a fire about seven miles from the center.

Abe is survived at the center by his wife, Sadako; two daughters, Kazuko, 22, and Lila, 18; and a son, Arthur, 21.

#

FARM DEVELOPMENT  
AT HUNT CURTAILED

HUNT, Idaho--In view of the government's announced plan to resettle permanently and as soon as possible throughout the country the 100,000 persons of Japanese ancestry evacuated from the Pacific Coast, development of the Minidoka Relocation Center will be held to a minimum, officials said this week.

They revealed that probably not more than 1,000 acres of the 68,000-acre project would be subjugated. It is planned to clear this acreage of sagebrush and irrigate it in time for spring and summer planting of food crops for the subsistence of the center.



This program was scheduled to begin last fall but this was prevented by a lack of machinery and shortage of project labor. More than 2,300 of the center's residents worked in southern Idaho harvest fields to help save needed food crops.

Under new leave regulations all evacuees who are interested in outside work, including those who want to go out in seasonal farm labor, must apply for indefinite leaves. To obtain an indefinite leave an evacuee must be cleared by the F. B. I., must have a job to go to, and must have assurance of acceptance in the community to which he goes. Many are obtaining this clearance in advance of offers of employment.

While evacuees may take employment in any areas except the West Coast military zones, the government's policy is to avoid settling large numbers in any one part of the country.

Several evacuees from Hunt have taken permanent outside jobs and were placed on a basis of skill and experience. Nearly all professions, trades, business, and farming are represented among Hunt residents.

#

#### AMERICANIZATION CLASSES POPULAR

HUNT, Idaho--One hundred forty-four adult residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center have enrolled in evening classes in Americanization subjects including American history and government.

#

#### HUNT COMMENCES MEAT RATIONING

HUNT, Idaho--Voluntary meat rationing for the 9,000 residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center was put into effect last week, project officials announced. Adults will be limited to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  pounds of beef, lamb, mutton, pork, and veal a week, including bone and fat; children from six to 12 will be restricted to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  pounds; and children under six to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a pound. Other rationing, including coffee and sugar, is now in effect.

Residents of the center eat at community dining halls.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#28  
12/19/42

ORGANIZATION OF  
BOY SCOUTS AT  
HUNT COMPLETED

(For weekly newspaper, release December 24, 1942)

HUNT, Idaho--Organization of the Boys Scouts of Japanese ancestry has been completed at the Minidoka Relocation Center.

George L. Townsend, chief, Community Services, was named representative at large and member of the executive board of the Snake River Council, Twin Falls.

E. Sebbelov, farm superintendent, was also elected to the council and was named district chairman.

R. A. Pomeroy, superintendent of education, was named chairman of organization extension, and Jerome T. Light, principal of the high school, was chosen chairman of leadership training.

C. T. Takahashi was elected district vice-chairman; George Kakehashi, district commissioner; George Sumida, chairman of camping activities; Ed Osawa, chairman of finance; Dr. George Tani, chairman of health and safety; and Tom Okazaki, chairman of the district board.

At the time of their evacuation from the Pacific Coast there were seven Japanese troops in Seattle including about 225 scouts and two troops in Portland with about 55 scouts. Most of these scouts are at the Minidoka center.



HUNT STUDENTS  
NAME SCHOOLS

HUNT, Idaho--The two elementary schools at the Minidoka Relocation Center have officially been named by the 664 pupils. One will be called "Huntville Elementary School" and the other "Stafford Elementary School". Harry L. Stafford is project director.

The elementary schools, including grades 1 - 6, are in two units, one at each end of the three-mile long center to solve the transportation problem.

#

RELOCATION CENTER  
OBSERVES CHRISTMAS

HUNT, Idaho--Christmas will be observed community-wide at the Minidoka Relocation Center. By ingenious use of sagebrush and scrap materials, the residents have made Christmas decorations. Religious groups and other outsiders have sent numerous gifts for the children.

Elementary school children sang Christmas carols, going from section to section and visiting shut-ins, sick people, and the aged.

Hunt's mass choir gave concerts Tuesday and Wednesday evenings singing traditional Christmas hymns and carols. Christmas seals were sold by the Girl Reserves of the Y.W.C.A.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#29  
1/7/43

STUDENTS FROM  
HUNT RESUME  
COLLEGE WORK

(Release January 14, 1943)

HUNT, Idaho--With the opening of a new semester not far off at most colleges, more students are leaving the Minidoka Relocation Center on indefinite leave to resume their studies.

In the past three weeks 11 students have left the center bringing the total to date to 58. They are attending schools in 15 states: Utah, 10; Colorado, 9; New York, 1; Illinois, 4; Michigan, 1; Texas, 1; Ohio, 2; Pennsylvania, 2; Nebraska, 11; Washington, 5; Minnesota, 2; Indiana, 2; Iowa, 2; Missouri, 4; and Wyoming, 2.

Sixteen young American soldiers of Japanese ancestry from the center are enrolled in the Army Intelligence language school at Camp Savage, Minnesota, to become interpreters for the Army in Pacific battle areas. Two persons from Hunt are teaching Japanese at the Navy language school, Boulder, Colorado.

More than 40 Japanese-Americans from this center have obtained indefinite leave to work outside. To obtain indefinite leave an evacuee must be cleared by the F. B. I., must have community acceptance where he is going, and if it is an employment leave, he must have a job waiting for him.

With nearly all of the workers returning from harvest furloughs the center's population has climbed back to approximately 9,200. At one time during the harvest season 2,300 workers were out of the center.

#

BEESON HEADS LABOR  
DEPARTMENT AT HUNT

Hunt, Idaho--J. G. Beeson, former field investigator for the WRA in Idaho, with headquarters at Boise, has been appointed employment officer at the Minidoka Relocation Center.

He succeeded Harold James who was named to a field position covering all ten relocation centers. James will concentrate on indefinite leave procedure by which Japanese evacuees may leave the relocation centers to take permanent jobs. James was in charge of the program at Hunt which sent 2,300 workers from this center into Idaho harvest fields to help save food crops which would not otherwise have been harvested due to the general shortage of normal farm labor supply.



SCHOOL PATROL  
PROMOTES SAFETY

HUNT, Idaho--The Minidoka safety patrol including 34 boys and girls of the Huntville and Stafford Elementary schools is a new activity in the Minidoka Relocation Center.

While there are only a few official cars and trucks traveling the center's streets, the safety patrol was organized to educate the school children in traffic safety habits for the future as well as for the present.

#

YOUTHS AT HUNT  
SIGN FOR DRAFT

HUNT, Idaho--The recent selective service sign up of 18 year olds affected 69 Hunt residents. Sixteen young American citizens of Japanese ancestry from the Minidoka Relocation Center enlisted in the Army not long ago to enter the language school at Camp Savage, Minnesota. American soldiers of Japanese ancestry visiting relatives and friends are a common sight in Hunt.

#

RELOCATION CENTER  
ART EXHIBIT PLANNED

HUNT, Idaho--An art exhibit will be held from January 20 to 23 featuring the work of Minidoka Relocation Center artists.

The exhibit will be limited to work done since the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast. Water colors, oil paintings, black and white, charcoal and pastel drawings showing scenes and characters of project life will be exhibited.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#30  
1/18/43

TOP FEATHERWEIGHT  
GIVES HIS GLOVES  
TO EVACUEE CENTER

ATTENTION: SPORTS EDITOR

(For release Friday, January 22)

HUNT, Idaho--Three pairs of boxing gloves which have seen championship action were donated to the Minidoka Relocation Center by "Homicide Hal" Hoshino of Pendleton, Oregon, and formerly of Seattle.

Hoshino, a protege of Lonnie Austin, was the Pacific Northwest Golden Gloves champion a few years ago. Later he invaded Hawaii and annexed the featherweight and lightweight crowns of the island territory.

In sending the gloves to Chick Uno, sports supervisor at the Minidoka center, Hoshino requested that they be used by young boxing enthusiasts among the 9,500 persons of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated to the center from Seattle and Portland.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#31  
1/18/43

HUNT GIRLS CLUB  
WILL ENTERTAIN  
VISITING SOLDIERS

(For release Thursday, January 21.)

HUNT, Idaho--A club called the "Serviceers" has been organized by girls at the Minidoka Relocation Center to carry on a program similar to the U. S. O.

The "Serviceers" will entertain American soldiers of Japanese ancestry when they visit the center on furlough to see friends and relatives. The club will "promote friendship and exchange ideas and talents among girls in this community" and "give constructive service."

HUNT RESIDENT  
APPOINTED TO  
BAPTIST OFFICE

HUNT, Idaho--Mrs. Y. Kashiwagi of the Minidoka Relocation Center has been appointed to serve as associate member of the Board of Managers of the Women's American Baptist Home Mission Society of the Northern Baptist convention. Mrs. Kashiwagi, who is a former Seattle resident, will represent the Japanese Women of America.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD/ST 32  
1/29/43

EVACUEE YOUTHS  
CHOOSE INLAND  
EMPIRE SCHOOLS

(For release Wednesday, February 3.)

HUNT, Idaho--Five students from the Minidoka Relocation Center have been granted leave to resume their college studies at two Inland Empire schools.

Ted Uomoto, Tom Shimizu, and Frank Yoshimura will attend Washington State College at Pullman. Taka Oka and Robert Yamasaki will be enrolled at Gonzaga University, Spokane.

Before obtaining leave the students were cleared by the F.B.I.

#

"GREASEWOOD"  
TURNS OUT TO  
BE BITTERBRUSH

(For release Thursday, February 4.)

HUNT, Idaho--Residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center learned today that the "greasewood" which they have been polishing into beautiful canes, lamp stands and other objects is really "bitterbrush."

A specimen of the wood, which grows in association with sagebrush on the project area, was sent to the University of Idaho School of Forestry for identification. Dean D. S. Jeffers said the bitterbrush is frequently known as buckbrush, quinine brush, black sage, deer brush and antelope brush. The stems of the shrub have a bitter taste and support wedge-shaped, three-toothed leaves.

#



FROM: Project Report Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD # 32 33  
1/29/43

CHOIR FROM HUNT  
WINS AUDIENCE

(For release upon receipt.)

HUNT, Idaho--The Minidoka Mass Choir of 83 voices sang for 700 Jerome High School students Thursday afternoon and presented a formal concert Thursday evening under the auspices of the Jerome Ministerial Association. Nine hundred persons applauded the evening performance.

This same group, composed of musicians who are residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center will sing at the First Methodist Church in Twin Falls, February 9 at 8 p.m. under the sponsorship of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce, Twin Falls service clubs, and church groups.

#

HUNT HOLDS FOUR  
BIRTHDAY BALLS

HUNT, Idaho--Four dances were held Saturday night in three different sections of the Minidoka Relocation Center to celebrate President Roosevelt's Birthday, in conjunction with the annual infantile paralysis drive. The entire proceeds will go to the Jerome County President's Birthday Ball Committee.

#

FARM CLUB FORMED

HUNT, Idaho--An agriculture club has been formed by students of agriculture classes at the Minidoka Relocation Center. Aims of the club include aiding in the raising of food for the center and being a part of the Future Farmers' Association.

#

Y.M.C.A. LEADER AT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--Everett W. Harding of Portland, Oregon, Y.M.C.A., associate executive of the northwest area, conducted a series of educational meetings at the Minidoka Relocation Center last Sunday (January 31.)

#

SEEK SWEETHEART

HUNT, Idaho--A search was launched this week for a Sweetheart of Minidoka to reign over the St. Valentine Dance. Personality will count 40%; poise, 25; speech, 20; and beauty, 15.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#34  
2/4/43

HUNT BOY SCOUTS  
PLAN CELEBRATION  
OF NATIONAL WEEK

(For release upon receipt)

HUNT, Idaho--Boy Scouts of Troop 123 from the Minidoka Relocation Center will begin their celebration of National Boy Scouts week Saturday (February 6) by participating in activities at Twin Falls.

The 29 members of the Hunt Boy Scouts Drum and Bugle Corps, ranging in age from 14 to 17, will play on Main Street in Twin Falls in the afternoon. The corps is under the joint leadership of Joe and Sam Shoji. In the evening about 75 Hunt scouts will attend a rally at the American Legion hall. All of the Hunt scouts<sup>to be</sup> at the rally with the exception of the Drum and Bugle Corps members are patrol leaders or higher ranking scouts.

George Kakehashi, scout commissioner of the Hunt district, and Tom Okazaki, secretary of the district board and scout master of Troop 123, will accompany the scouts. The Hunt scouts formerly lived in Portland and Seattle.

On Sunday these scouts will participate in a worship service in the center. A Hunt district rally and board review will be held Monday. A re-dedication to scouting and examination of candidates for a Court of Honor to be held Friday will feature Monday's session.

#

MINIDOKA CHOIR  
TO SING TUESDAY

(For release Upon Receipt.)

HUNT, Idaho--The Minidoka Mass Choir made up of 90 young singers from the Minidoka Relocation Center will present a concert of sacred music and negro spirituals at the First Methodist Church in Twin Falls Tuesday (February 9) at 8 p.m.

Appearing with the choir will be three soloists of recognized talent. Sachiko Ochi Kodaira is a concert pianist well known along the Pacific coast. Teruko Akagi appeared as violin soloist with the University of Washington Symphony orchestra. Yoshi Uchida, 16, sings in the choir and will also be heard in two solos especially suited to his unusually deep voice.

The concert will be presented under the auspices of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce, Twin Falls service clubs and church groups. No admission will be charged.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#35-4  
2/6/43

JAPANESE-AMERICANS  
WILL REGISTER FOR  
PART IN WAR EFFORT

(For release upon receipt.)

HUNT, Idaho--Registration of all residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center 17 years of age and older will begin Monday (February 8) as the first step of a program to use loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry in the war effort.

Male citizens between the ages of 17 and 37 will be offered an opportunity to serve in a combat unit of American citizens of Japanese ancestry to be formed for active service in a theatre of war. This plan was announced last week by Secretary of War Stimson.

A group from the War Department, Washington, D. C., personnel of which is headed by Lt. Stanley D. Arnold, and including Sgts. Carl E. Tuerk, Eugene F. Jendrek and Akira Kato, has arrived at the Minidoka center and will accept applications from those eligible for service in this Japanese-American combat unit of the U. S. Army. Sgt. Kato, who has served in the Army for almost a year at various posts, is staying with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Zenzo Kato, who are residents of the center.

Japanese-American men who do not desire to volunteer for induction or who are beyond military age, American-born girls and women of Japanese ancestry and males of Japanese ancestry who are not citizens will be considered for jobs in agriculture and in plants producing war materials. Citizens fit for military service who do not wish to volunteer for induction now probably will be taken into the service in due time.

It was estimated by officials of the War Relocation Authority, civilian agency which administers the Minidoka and nine other relocation centers, that approximately 8,400 persons will be registered here. It will require nearly a month to complete the registration since each resident over 17 must be interviewed.

The Minidoka residents, who came mainly from Portland and Seattle, possess a wide variety of skills and their addition to the war labor pool of the nation is expected to be a substantial contribution. Twenty-three hundred of them have already played a part in the nation's war effort by volunteering for farm work last fall to help save valuable food crops in southern Idaho which otherwise might have gone unharvested because of the labor shortage.

Through this registration the WRA expects to get clearance on a large number of employable persons before they obtain jobs so that they will be ready to go to work on short notice.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#35-8  
2/11/43

ALL CITIZENS OF  
JAPANESE DESCENT  
MAY GO INTO ARMY

(For Immediate Release.)

HUNT, Idaho--American citizens of Japanese ancestry who are between the ages of 18 and 38 and who live outside War Relocation Centers may volunteer for active service in the United States Army by applying at the nearest local draft board, according to instructions issued by national headquarters of the Selective Service system.

Instructions refer to the announcement made recently by Secretary of War Stimson that a combat team composed entirely of United States citizens of Japanese ancestry will be formed for active service in a theatre of war.

The WRA registration of all persons 17 years of age and over in the Minidoka Relocation Center is now underway. Citizens are being offered an opportunity to volunteer for induction in the U. S. Army for service in the combat team. Women and men not eligible for military service will be offered jobs on the home front in agriculture and in plants producing materials related to the war effort.

There already are 246 young Americans of Japanese ancestry serving in the United States Army who have relatives in the Minidoka Relocation Center. Staff Sergeant Paul Sakai, son of Mrs. Saki Sakai, is serving with the North African forces.

#

SHOE RATIONING  
IS PROBLEM IN  
RELOCATION CITY

HUNT, Idaho--The problem of enabling the 9,500 residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center to buy shoes is being tackled jointly by project officials and the Jerome County rationing board.

It is proposed to tailor ration books for the center residents eliminating sugar and coffee stamps and giving them stamps to purchase shoes in accordance with national rationing rules.

Residents leaving the center to take outside employment will be issued regular ration books.

The latest rationing adjustment to be made in the center, which strictly observes all rationing requirements, was to change the basis of coffee rationing in all mess halls to comply with the recent ruling which requires that the ration period for stamp No. 25 be extended from five to six weeks.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#36  
2/16/43

HUNT, Idaho--A University of Oregon graduate holds the title, "Sweetheart of Minidoka" following a St. Valentine competition in the Minidoka Relocation Center.

Ise Inuzuka, 23, won the coveted honor on a basis of personality and beauty. The search for the "sweetheart" was conducted by The Irrigator, twice-a-week mimeographed newspaper of the center.

Miss Inuzuka, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Takashi Inuzuka, attended Reed College in Portland after graduating from Franklin High School. She graduated from University of Oregon in 1940. In the Minidoka Relocation Center she is a social case worker in the counselor's office.

Six girls who were attendants for the "sweetheart" at a St. Valentine celebration are Misao Hayashida, Mary Jane Kinoshita, Amy Hidaka, Chickie Ishihara, and Kiyoka Kumagai, all of Seattle, and Mona Saito of Portland. Residents of the center are persons of Japanese ancestry from the Portland and Seattle areas.

#



FROM: Project Reports /division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#37  
2/18/43

(For release Sunday, February 21, 1943.)

THREE BROTHERS SEEK  
ARMY SERVICE IN UNIT  
OF JAPANESE AMERICANS

HUNT, Idaho--Three brothers, ranging in age from 21 to 26, have volunteered for induction into the United States Army to serve in the combat team being formed from volunteers of Japanese ancestry, officials of the Minidoka Relocation Center revealed today.

The brothers, all former Seattle residents, are Ko (Bill), 26, Kaun, 24, and Satoru Onodera, 21, sons of Mr. and Mrs. Toyosuke Onodera, also residents of the Minidoka center. Mr. Onodera formerly was a tailor in Seattle.

"Bill" Onodera was working in the Seattle post office at the time of evacuation. He graduated from Colman grade school in Seattle in 1930 and from Franklin High School in Seattle in 1934. Like his brothers, he is a sports fan and favors football, swimming, baseball, and basketball.

Kaun, who graduated from Colman grade school in 1931 and from Garfield High in Seattle in 1936, formerly was a drug clerk in Seattle. Satoru was a gardener's helper. He graduated from Garfield High in 1939 after completing his grade school education at the Washington School in 1935. There are two other children in the Onodera family, Fumiko, a daughter, and Yutaka, 15, a son.

Lieutenant Stanley D. Arnold, Sergeants Carl E. Teurk, Eugene F. Jendrek, and Akira Kato from the War Department, Washington, D. C., are now at the Minidoka Relocation Center to take applications from Japanese American citizens who volunteer for induction.

All residents of the center 17 years of age and over are being registered by the War Relocation Authority as the first step in obtaining clearance for all loyal persons of Japanese ancestry and in eventual placement of them in war work.

#

ADULT CLASSES  
BEGIN AT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--Adult education classes in industrial arts have been started in the Minidoka Relocation Center under the general supervision of Stanley Trenhaile of the Idaho State Vocational Education Department, Jerome.

George Buckley of Twin Falls is teaching elementary electricity; Arthur Herron of Jerome, auto and truck repairing; Homer Sisco of Jerome, repair and maintenance of farm machinery; and Henry Linke of Twin Falls, farm carpentry.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#38  
3/1/43

FOUR BROTHERS  
VOLUNTEER FOR  
ARMY SERVICE

(For Immediate Release.)

HUNT, Idaho--Last week the three Onodera brothers, Ko, Kaun, and Satoru, volunteered for induction into the Army to serve in a special Japanese American combat team.

Now the four Sakura brothers, also residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center, have applied for service in the new combat unit to the War Department representatives visiting the Minidoka Relocation Center.

Two of the brothers, Chet and Howard, are fathers. Chet has three children and Howard has a baby son six weeks' old. Kenny and Ted are the other brothers.

Speaking for the family, Chet said they have not "lost faith in America and are ready to discharge their responsibility to the United States, to our children, and to all future Japanese Americans."

"Long before Dad died," he declared, "he told all of us if Japan and America should ever be engaged in a war, there would be only one thing for us to do--live and fight to uphold the U.S.A."

Their father, Toyozo Sakura, died 20 years ago. Their mother, Mrs. Misa Sakura, lives at Hunt. The family formerly lived in Seattle. Chet, a graduate of Queen Anne High School in Seattle is believed to be the first Japanese American to rise to the rank of Eagle Scout in Seattle. Howard also is an Eagle Scout.

A sister, Grayce, wants to join the WAACS.

The Army team representing the War Department will end a three weeks' visit at the Minidoka Center in a few days. Already completed in the center<sup>is</sup> a general registration by the War Relocation Authority of 6,866 persons 17 years of age and older. Steps are now being taken to secure clearance for as many of these people as possible so that they can work in agriculture and in other industries to assist war production. Last fall more than 2,300 Hunt residents left the center on emergency work furloughs to help save Idaho sugar beet, potato, and other food crops which might have been lost due to the labor shortage.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#39 - A  
3/1/43

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

HUNT POPULATION  
REACHES PEAK

HUNT, Idaho--One hundred and ninety-three Japanese American residents of Bainbridge Island, Washington arrived at the Minidoka Relocation Center this week from the Manzanar Relocation Center in California.

Their arrival boosted the population of the Hunt community to 9393, highest in the six-month history of the center. The Bainbridge Island people were the first on the West Coast to be evacuated last March and were sent to Manzanar because that was the only assembly center ready. Other former residents of the coast areas of Washington and Oregon are living at Hunt.

#

YWCA OFFICIAL  
PAYS HUNT VISIT

HUNT, Idaho--Mrs. Elizabeth MacFarland of the Foreign Division of the National Board of Young Women's Christian Associations, New York City, visited the Minidoka Relocation Center this week to confer with Hunt YWCA workers and leaders.

#

PRINTED NEWSPAPER  
APPEARS AT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--The Minidoka Irrigator, edited and published by the residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center, blossomed in print with Saturday's issue. The paper, an eight-page weekly in tabloid size, is delivered free to every one-room apartment in the center. Total circulation is about 3300. It is printed by the North Side News, Jerome.

Since the center was established last August, a twice-weekly mimeographed Irrigator has served the community of 9400 residents. The new printed weekly is an enterprise of the Minidoka Consumers' Cooperative, formed and financed by the residents to operate stores, barber shops, shoe repair shops and the like.

#

CHOIR TO SING  
RUPERT CONCERT

HUNT, Idaho--The Minidoka mass choir of 85 voices will present a concert March 14 at the L.D.S. Temple Tabernacle in Rupert. This will be the third appearance within six weeks for the choristers from the Minidoka Relocation Center, many of whom formerly sang in Seattle church choirs.

#

HUNT WILL HAVE  
RED CROSS UNIT

HUNT, Idaho--Following the visit of Forrest V. Stewart, of Boise, State representative of the American Red Cross, plans for establishment of a Red Cross unit in the Minidoka Relocation Center are being pushed by a committee headed by Mrs. Yone Arai.

Plans call for the setting up of classes in first aid, home nursing, and adult education. A project-wide membership and fund raising campaign will be launched in a few days.

#

SCOUT LEADERS  
TAKE TRAINING

HUNT, Idaho--Boy Scout leaders attended a 20-hour leadership training course last week conducted by Kendall E. Dayley and C. R. Balmforth of Twin Falls, executives of the Snake River council. Eighteen Hunt scouters completed the course which included patrol methods, year-around program, camping and hiking, and service to the community.

#

KITE CONTEST SET

HUNT, Idaho--A kite contest is scheduled for March 13 for residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center. Young and old kite fans will compete in the following fields: fancy kites, largest kite, smallest kite, pulling contest, and string cutting contest.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#39-13  
3/8/43

WAAC LIEUTENANT  
PAYS HUNT VISIT

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

HUNT, Idaho--Lt. Margaret Deane of the WAAC recruiting office in Salt Lake City visited the Minidoka Relocation Center at Hunt last week.

The WAAC is not open at this time to women of Japanese ancestry. Lt. Deane made a survey at the center to determine what the response would be if the Japanese-American women were permitted to volunteer.

#

RED CROSS DRIVE  
BEGINS AT HUNT

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

HUNT, Idaho--A community wide campaign to raise funds for the American Red Cross began Monday at the Minidoka Relocation Center.

The community has been divided into three geographical groups to provide competition in the campaign. The entire drive is being conducted by the Japanese-American residents of the center.

All funds over \$200 will be turned over to the national organization. The \$200 will be used to maintain an active Red Cross chapter in the center.

#



FROM: Project Reports Office  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#40  
3/9/43

300 JAPANESE AMERICANS  
AT HUNT VOLUNTEER FOR  
COMBAT UNIT OF U.S. ARMY

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

HUNT, Idaho--A total of 300 Americans of Japanese Ancestry at the Minidoka Relocation Center, at Hunt, Idaho, have volunteered for service in the United States Army, the War Relocation Authority announced this week.

This represents 19 per cent of those eligible for army service.

Those meeting requirements for army service will be assigned to duty in the Japanese American combat team whose formation was announced on January 28 by Secretary of War Stimson. The Japanese American volunteers include 41 who are married, and 24 with children, and eleven Japanese-born men who are not eligible for service at the present time. The volunteers formerly lived in western Oregon, western Washington and Alaska.

Volunteers are wearing armbands with a blue V on a red and white background. Each community dining hall is displaying a service flag with a star for every volunteer who lives in the block. Hunt residents already have 246 relatives serving in the Army.

Registration and acceptance of volunteers ended at all ten of the relocation centers on March 10.

A general registration of all persons over 16 was completed recently at Hunt as part of the program to enable all loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry to participate in the war effort, either in the armed forces, in agriculture or in other industries related to war production.

Every resident who leaves the relocation center must have an indefinite leave and to secure this he must be cleared completely by the F.B.I., must have a job or means of support outside the evacuated area and the War Relocation Authority must be reasonably certain that the community in which the evacuee prepares to relocate will accept him.

About 2000 from all ten of the relocation centers, already have been placed in private employment.

The Japanese-American evacuees have a wide range of skills and experiences in nearly all businesses and professions.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
H unt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#41  
3/19/43

(For Immediate Release)

JAPANESE AMERICANS  
GIVE TO RED CROSS

HUNT, Idaho--With the campaign about two-thirds completed residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center have contributed \$1,544 to the American Red Cross. Following the drive a permanent chapter of the Red Cross will be established here.

In addition to the contributions by the Japanese American residents, the WRA administrative staff contributed \$298 to the Red Cross fund.

#

MINIDOKA MASS CHOIR  
DIRECTOR GOES EAST

HUNT, Idaho--The Minidoka Mass Choir, which is becoming well-known in the Magic Valley, has lost its director. Mrs. I. Hara, who formerly directed a prize-winning choir in Seattle, has left the Minidoka Relocation Center to direct musical activities at the Laird Settlement House in Chicago. Her husband has taken a position at the Y.M.C.A. in Chicago.

The Mass Choir, composed of approximately 85 mixed voices, has sung three concerts outside the center. The latest one at Rupert attracted a capacity audience of 1350 persons.

#

YWCA OFFICIALS  
TO VISIT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--Following the YWCA work-shop at Pocatello March 23-26, three national officials of the YWCA from New York will visit the Minidoka Relocation Center March 27 for a one-day conference with Girls Reserves and YWCA leaders.

The three officials are Mrs. Bartlett B. Heard, national board member for the Western region, Miss Helen Flack, advisory secretary, division of community, and Miss Elsie Harper, national secretary for public affairs.

#

SCHOOL MASTERS  
TO MEET AT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--The South Idaho school masters club will hold its regular meeting Friday evening, March 26 at the Minidoka Relocation Center. The regular business meeting will be held after a tour of the center. Richard A. Pomeroy, Superintendent of Education in the center, will make arrangements for the meeting.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
H unt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#42  
3/19/43

HUNT CREW WILL  
HELP TO FIGHT  
FIRES ON RANGE

(For Immediate Release)

HUNT, Idaho--A volunteer crew is being organized at the Minidoka Relocation Center to help fight forest, brush and grass fires in this region under the direction of the U. S. Forest Service and U. S. Grazing Service.

The general manpower shortage, especially the absence of CCC crews, prompted the organization of a volunteer crew of fifty young men in the relocation center who will be ready to travel to the scene of a fire on short notice.

Plans for the fire fighting crew of young men of Japanese ancestry were made at a conference at the relocation center attended by Maurice W. March, U. S. Grazing Service, Burley; John T. Mathews, superintendent, Minidoka national forest, Burley; Elmer C. Ross, forest ranger, Twin Falls; Leon R. Nadeau, district grazier, Shoshone; Harry L. Stafford, director of the Minidoka center and William L. Yeager, fire protection officer of the center.

An education program to train the crew members will begin March 29 at the center under the direction of forest service and grazing service officials. This crew will not only be useful in combating outside fires but also in protecting the 68,000 acres in the project area, mostly covered by sagebrush and cheat grass. Because of the large amount of moisture this winter it is anticipated that the growth of brush and grass on the plains and underbrush in the forest will be unusually heavy.

The crew from the Minidoka center will respond to fire calls only from the forest service or the grazing service and not from individuals.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#43  
3/22/43

TOWNSPEOPLE GIVE  
PLANTS TO HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--A small quantity of bulbs, shrubs and flower seeds has been donated to residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center by Twin Falls residents. Greater quantities of landscaping materials are expected following the agreement of the Twin Falls Parks department to permit such donations to be left at the bandstand in the city park for pick-up by W.R.A. trucks.

Due to limited government funds to be used for beautifying the community of Japanese Americans, the residents are making the fullest use of cuttings, roots, bulbs, and seed which are given to them. Hunt is located in an area cleared of sagebrush less than a year ago and the town-site is bare of vegetation.

Numerous small victory gardens are springing up in the center and some sort of landscaping program with donated materials is planned to tie down the loose soil before the dust season arrives. High school students are taking vocational training in agriculture and will operate small plots of ground and possibly a poultry project.

In order to use all donated plants and seeds in the most effective way, it was requested that donors attach a small tag to their contributions, stating the plant variety and name of donor.

#

HUNT WILL RAISE  
OWN VEGETABLES

HUNT, Idaho--A five-mile lateral from the Milner-Gooding Canal to the Minidoka Relocation Center will be excavated by Dan J. Cavanagh, Twin Falls contractor. All other work on the canal including turnouts, headgates and weirs will be done by workers from the center.

This lateral eventually will irrigate approximately 2000 acres, 500 acres of which will be cleared and planted this year in alfalfa, barley, white clover and field peas.

Approximately 320 acres in and adjacent to the center will be planted in vegetables for use in the community dining halls.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

MRP  
PPD<sup>11</sup> 44  
3/22/43

HUNT GIVES <sup>#2564</sup> ~~152~~  
IN RED CROSS DRIVE

HUNT, Idaho--T he MinidokaRelocation Center contributed <sup>#2564</sup> ~~152~~ to the American Red Cross in the current campaign. A few sections have not yet reported and they are expected to boost the total slightly higher.

The staff members of the War Relocation Authority which administers this community of Japanese Americans contributed \$300 and the rest was raised by the residents including school children. The total raised was more than twice the quota set. Residents of the center have no salary income except workers who receive monthly wages of \$12, \$16 or \$19 depending upon their skill.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRC#45  
3/27/43

#### WRITER GIVES BOOKS

HUNT, Idaho--Zetta Wells, who has accompanied her explorer-writer husband, Carveth Wells, on many expeditions contributed two of their books to the Hunt school library following her recent visit to the Minidoka Relocation Center. They are "Raff, the Jungle Bird" co-authored by Mr. and Mrs. Wells and "North of Singapore" by Mr. Wells. She recently lectured in Twin Falls.

#

#### EVACUEE WORKERS WILL NOT COMMUTE

HUNT, Idaho--Residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center who accept private employment outside the center will not be permitted to live at the center, according to instructions of the War Relocation Authority received by Joseph G. Beeson, employment officer.

Evacuees who wish to accept such employment must make arrangements to live outside the center during the period of such employment.

Last fall more than 500 residents of the center commuted daily to farm jobs in the vicinity of Hunt. An additional 1800 lived outside the center while working in southern Idaho harvest fields.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#46  
3/27/43

SCHOOL MASTERS  
MEET AT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--More than 150 members and their wives and guests attended the meeting of the South Idaho School Masters Club Friday evening at the Minidoka Relocation Center. After dinner the group toured the project and then held the regular business meeting.

#

HUNT CONTRIBUTES  
\$2595 TO RED CROSS

HUNT, Idaho--Final tabulation of contributions to the American Red Cross for the 1943 war fund by residents of Minidoka Relocation Center showed a total of \$2595. Of this \$2117 was raised by the residents, \$45 by the elementary school children, \$113 by the high school students and \$320 by administrative staff members of the War Relocation Authority.

#

YWCA LEADERS  
HOLD HUNT MEET

HUNT, Idaho--National officials of the YWCA from New York City conducted a one-day conference with Girls Reserves and YWCA leaders in the Minidoka Relocation Center Saturday.

The national visitors included Mrs. Bartlett B. Heard, national board member for the western region, Miss Elsie Harper, national secretary for public works, Miss Margaret Hogan Clark, leadership division, and Miss Dorothy Nyhus.

Nearly 75 Girls Reserves from Twin Falls accompanied by Mrs. William Chase, YWCA president in Twin Falls, attended the conference which was climaxed by a dinner in the evening.

#



JAPANESE AMERICAN  
ATHLETES JOIN ARMY

HUNT, Idaho--The Army will gain several outstanding Pacific Northwest high school and college athletes when volunteers from the Minidoka Relocation Center are inducted. Among the 304 American citizens of Japanese ancestry from the center who volunteered for induction into the Army to serve in a special combat team are many former Seattle and Portland sports figures.

Masaru (Chick) Uno starred in football, basketball and baseball at Foster High School near Seattle. At Washington State College, Pullman, he was on the boxing team for three years.

Jimmy Sakamoto was an outstanding grid player during his days in Franklin High School in Seattle. Later he climbed the ladder in the boxing world, fought in Madison Square Garden and was a contender for the lightweight championship when he lost his eyesight. In recent years he was editor and publisher of the Japanese American Courier in Seattle. He is a former president of the Japanese American Citizens League.

Good material for a top sergeant is Harry Yanagimachi, who won all-city football honors while playing for Garfield High in Seattle. He <sup>also</sup> played basketball and threw the shot. At the University of Washington he made his fresh numerals in football. Two of Harry's brothers, Bill (Fat) and Frank also volunteered. Bill was one of the few Nisei four-year lettermen in Seattle High School competition. He won all-city honorable mention.

Tad Fujioka of Franklin High in Seattle was named all-city for his gridiron performances and also in his senior year was given the Inspirational Award by his teammates. At the University of Washington he placed on the varsity swimming team.

Other Seattle prep gridgers who have signed up with Uncle Sam are Peter Fujino, Broadway High School, and George Okamura, both all-city honorable mentions. Another Seattle boy, Dick Setsuda, a boxer, has volunteered.

From Portland the Army is getting Frank Tanaka, two-year grid letterman at Washington High and pitcher for a junior legion team.

Murphy Ida played basketball for Lincoln High and later for Multnomah Junior College. George Morishita was a boxer at Milwaukee High in Portland.

Gresham High School in Oregon had Hito Heyamoto, baseball ace and Tomomi Namba, track performer.

The Japanese American volunteers will train at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.



Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#48  
4/8/43

(For release Sunday, April 11)

EVACUEE EMPLOYEES  
MUST LIVE OUTSIDE  
RELOCATION CENTER

HUNT, Idaho--An employer who lives near the Minidoka Relocation Center will not be entitled to an exception from the War Relocation Authority's regulations against daily commuting of workers from the center, H. L. Stafford, project director, said today.

Last fall some commuting from the center was permitted because of the urgent need for workers and shortage of housing in many communities.

"One of the primary objectives of the WRA is to enable the Japanese American evacuees to regain their full rights as citizens or law-abiding aliens as soon as possible without overpopulating any particular area," Mr. Stafford said. "Commuting does not fit into this picture. It discourages relocation and encourages evacuees and their dependents to continue to live in the center."

Mr. Stafford also said that to allow employers near the center to hire workers on a commuting basis would be unfair to employers living at a greater distance from the center.

The establishment of a number of seasonal labor camps in farming districts in southern Idaho is expected to enable agricultural workers from Hunt to live near their jobs.

While offers of <sup>seasonal</sup> employment for workers from the center should be cleared through the nearest U. S. Employment Service Office, the WRA has an outside employment office at the center where prospective employers can discuss work contracts with prospective employees.

The WRA has established a regional relocation office in Salt Lake City to facilitate employment negotiations in Utah, Nevada, Idaho and parts of Wyoming, Montana, and Arizona. Plans are underway to open nine field branch offices in cities in this area including Idaho Falls, Twin Falls and Boise in Idaho. The Boise office has already been established.

Indefinite leave is granted to a resident of the relocation center after his background and personal record have been checked by the F. B. I. and the WRA. This program of giving all loyal Americans, regardless of their ancestry, a chance to contribute to the war effort has been approved by President Roosevelt, the War Department, the Department of Justice and the War Manpower Commission.

Because more than 300 young men of Hunt recently volunteered for induction into the Army and because many other residents of the center are taking permanent jobs in the midwest and east, the number of workers available for agriculture in southern Idaho is not expected to be as great as last fall when 2,300 persons from the Minidoka center helped harvest crops in the Snake River Valley.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD# 49  
4/8/43

(For immediate release)

MEDICAL EXAMS  
FOR VOLUNTEERS  
SET AT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--An examining team from the Butte (Mont.) Induction Station headed by Major M. M. Campbell of the Army Medical Corps will begin giving medical examinations Tuesday morning at the project hospital in the Minidoka Relocation Center to more than 300 Hunt volunteers.

There will be four doctors in the group and two enlisted men. Examinations will take two or three days.

The volunteers who pass the medical examinations probably will be called to report to the Jerome Selective Service Board within a week or ten days. They will be inducted at Fort Douglas, Utah and then sent to Camp Shelby, Miss., for training in a Japanese American combat unit.

#

KIMBERLY HIGH BAND  
WILL PLAY AT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--The Kimberly High School band of 60 persons will play a concert in the Minidoka Relocation Center April 18 at 2 p.m. The band, under the direction of Clayton Boyd, will give a marching and maneuvering demonstration in addition to the concert.

The smartly uniformed Kimberly band has won honors in competition in southern Idaho and elsewhere for many years. It won the visiting band award at the Portland Rose Festival in 1937.

#

PARENT-SOLDIER GROUP  
BEING FORMED AT HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--The Japanese American Parent-Soldier Association is being organized in the Minidoka Relocation Center among parents and wives of Japanese American soldiers serving in the U. S. Army. S. Hara, head block manager, is temporary chairman of the organization committee.

More than 300 men at this center have volunteered for induction into the Army to serve in a special combat unit of Japanese Americans. Medical examinations prior to induction will be given here next week.

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FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#50  
4/19/43

(For release Thursday, April 22.)

HIGH PERCENTAGE OF  
HUNT VOLUNTEERS PASS  
MEDICAL EXAMINATION

HUNT, Idaho--A total of 211 or 73.3 percent of 289 volunteers from the Minidoka Relocation Center were classified as acceptable for general military service following medical examinations at the project hospital by four Army doctors from the Butte (Mont.) induction station.

Twenty-eight or 9.3 per cent were classified for limited military service and 50 or 17.4 per cent were disqualified for military service.

Of the 211 who were classified as acceptable, 188 are single. Twelve of the 23 married men have children.

More than 300 Japanese American residents of the center have volunteered for induction into the Army to serve in a special all-Nisei combat team but only 289 were available to take the medical examination. The all-Nisei combat unit will be trained at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

#

HUNT BOY SCOUTS  
RECEIVE AWARDS

HUNT, Idaho--Two Hunt boy scouts received Eagle rating at a court of honor held in the Minidoka Relocation Center. Watson Asaba, assistant scout master of Troop 123, and Koji Sono, junior assistant scout master, Troop 123, and drum major of the Drum and Bugle Corps, received the awards at the court presided over by C.R. Balmforth of Twin Falls, scout executive of the Snake River council. Joseph T. Shoji, assistant scout master of Troop 123, received Star rating.

Seven scouts received first class badges, 14 received second class badges and 26 were awarded merit badges. Five-year service awards were presented to Richard Imai, assistant scout master of Troop 119, and George Gojio, scout master of Troop 122, by W. W. Frantz, Twin Falls district commissioner.

#

HUNT POPULATION  
STARTS TO DROP

HUNT, Idaho--The population of the Minidoka Relocation Center dropped below the 8800 mark this week as more residents obtained clearance to leave the center to work on Idaho farms and in a wide variety of jobs in the midwest.

More than 600 residents have obtained indefinite leave which means that they have been cleared by the F. B. I., the War Relocation Authority and military intelligences and are free to go anywhere in the United States outside of the evacuated areas and restricted military zones.

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FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#51  
4/20/43

(For Immediate Release)

HUNT PLANTS BIG  
VICTORY GARDEN

HUNT, Idaho--Following announcements by the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the O.W.I. to the effect that supplies of food for civilian consumers will be less in 1943 than in 1942, the residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center have cleared a huge Victory garden out of the sagebrush-covered project area.

Because a labor shortage is developing on the project as increasing numbers of evacuee residents obtain indefinite leave to work outside and resume normal lives, much of the project farm work is being done by volunteer crews of men and women, young and old, from all departments.

One afternoon recently the administrative office workers, both appointed personnel and evacuees, raked and burned sagebrush to prepare a large field for plowing.

A total of 320 acres has been cleared and cultivated to date. This acreage will be planted in vegetables to provide much of the subsistence requirements for the center this summer. The planting program includes: bean, 30 acres; broccoli, 10; cabbage, 20; carrots, 20; sweet corn, 20; table beets, 10; lettuce, 20; peas, 25; radishes, 20; nappa, 10; rutabagas, 10; squash, 10; onions, 25; tomatoes, 10; turnips, 10 and potatoes, 70.

A crew from the center is at work repairing the Milner-Gooding Canal so that water taken by the project will largely be water that otherwise would have been lost through leaks in the canal.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#52  
5/1/43

(For Immediate Release)

HUNT, Idaho--With more than 1000 residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center and visitors taking part an impressive flag dedication ceremony was held Friday afternoon on the eve of departure of the first group from the 300 Japanese-Americans from the center who have volunteered for active service in the Army.

The Hunt Boy Scout Drum & Bugle Corps led a parade of the Army volunteers and the schoolboy safety patrol to the flagpole in the administrative area.

Howard Sakura, an Eagle scout and one of four brothers who all volunteered, was master of ceremonies. He introduced visitors from Twin Falls and Jerome including Bert Sweet, new mayor of Twin Falls; Claude H. Detweiler, president of the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce; W. W. Thomas, L. W. Folsom and A. W. Peck, representing the Twin Falls American Legion post; O. L. Thoreson, mayor-elect of Jerome; Charles H. Welteroth, president of the Jerome Rotary Club; and Lieut. William J. Cullinane and Lieut. George M. Terry of the Military Police Escort Guard company at Hunt.

In the presentation of the flag to the residents of Hunt Project Director H. L. Stafford declared that the ceremony "demonstrates that the principles of free speech, thought and worship, tolerance, justice and protection for which this government was founded can be extended to the smallest of minorities even in the darkest hour."

Addressing the volunteers he said: "We will be proud to remember that you are defending the flag of America and the cause of free men."

Mike Hagiwara, one of the volunteers, accepted the flag on behalf of the residents and stated: "We have discovered in a way that no other Americans have how real and precious these ideals and principles are. It is in losing and then regaining that true values are discovered. We have gone through that experience and know how to love our flag."

The Rev. L. H. Tibesar, M. M., Catholic pastor of Hunt, gave the invocation.

The first 38 volunteers from Hunt to be called were inducted Saturday at Fort Douglas, Salt Lake City.

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From: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD #53  
5/1/43

(For Immediate Release)

HUNT, Idaho--Thirty-eight Japanese-American volunteers, the first to be called of more than 300 who volunteered from the Minidoka Relocation Center, were inducted into the Army at Fort Douglas, Salt Lake City, Saturday.

These American soldiers of Japanese ancestry will be trained at Camp Shelby, Miss., along with other Japanese-Americans to form a combat team for action in a theatre of war.

The first group included: Henry Taikai Matsumura, George Yukio Hijiya, Masao Iga, Fred Matsuhara Irinaga, Charles Mitsuo Murakami, Larry Toshio Murakami, Masao Ikeda, Hidemitsu John Sato, Donald Dairoku Matsumoto, Yoshio Fujiwara, Yoshio Fred Ohno, Acting Corporal Kaoru George Yamauchi, Pete Masaharu Kozu, George Kobuto Okitsu, George Keiji Sato, Robert Masao Nishimoto, Meiji Hayashi, Hisashi Nishimura, Takeo Shimizu, Tamio Suyama, Yoshide Noritake, Arthur Osaki Susumi, Yukio Imada, Wakao Matsushita, Edward Etsuke Kiyohara, Minoru Mukai, George Komoto, Robert Taro Mizukami, Kiyoshi Okada, Hiromu Heyamoto, Nagaki Ihara, Frank Toshio Okita, Joseph Wakamatsu, Kazuo Hirabayashi, George Minoru Komachi, James Chizumi Nose, Osamu Hirata and George Abe.

They formerly lived in the Seattle and Portland areas. Frank Mitani of Jerome, who was not an evacuee, was inducted with the Hunt volunteers. As the volunteers boarded their bus at Hunt Friday night each was handed a packet of cigarettes, book and writing materials with the compliments of Twin Falls merchants and residents.



(For Immediate Release)

JAPANESE-AMERICAN  
VOLUNTEERS TELL  
WHY THEY FIGHT

HUNT, Idaho--Twelve Japanese Americans of the first group of 34 volunteers from the Minidoka Relocation Center who were inducted into the Army at Fort Douglas, Utah on May 1 felt so strongly about serving their country that they prepared a broadcast for the ears of the militarists of Japan.

The broadcast will be short-waved to Japan and the Far East by the Overseas Division of the Office of War Information from a Pacific Coast station.

All but one of the 12 volunteers used his name and address in making the broadcast transcription. The exception was a boy whose father is still in Japan. Typical comments of these American-born citizens of Japanese ancestry who formerly lived in Seattle and Tacoma follow:

"My reason for offering my services to the United States is so that I may help bring about defeat of the militarists of Japan. We have seen and realized the illegal attacks by them against this peaceful nation. Until the imperialistic military government of Japan has been crushed, the ideas of democracy cannot exist. We, Nisei, shall do our part to prevent fantastic military ideas of Japan from spreading over the world."

"The quicker we destroy Tojo-Hitler & Company, the sooner we can come back and enjoy the peace and contentment of a democracy. Tojo probably doesn't know the meaning of peace, justice and liberty. He knows only the meaning of force, brutality, and treachery. We aim to teach him otherwise."

"I have volunteered to serve in the U. S. Army to join my three brothers already serving to help carry the weight of the war back to the Japanese militarists who are responsible for the disgraceful execution of our soldiers captured."

"We are confident that the people of Japan, our relatives, would not support the militarist government of Japan if they only knew the extent of disgrace and humiliation into which they have been led in the eyes of the rest of the world. I volunteered for the United States Army because I felt that we, Nisei, and other Japanese all over the world must do everything possible to aid a victory for the democracies and to erase the shadow of shame on all Japanese cast by Pearl Harbor and the military leaders of present-day Japan."

"America is my country and despite of the incidents of the past year, I still have faith in it and I am willing to fight and die for it. Japan's treacherous attack on Pearl Harbor and her subsequent acts have brought great shame, embarrassment and hardships to those of us over here who happened to be related to these madmen. I have vowed to do my part to exterminate these despots so that we Japanese over here can once more look the world in the eye."

"I am now in the United States Army because I want to show that the Japanese in this country are loyal to this country. We Japanese in this country have all our friends and future here so our loyalty is here also. If my parents were happy in Japan, I don't think they would have taken the trouble to come to this country. I am glad they came and I am here to stay."

"We, American-born Japanese, will always remember that day the Japanese militarists bombed Hawaii. Our purpose of volunteering into the United States Army is to crush those mad and blood-thirsty gangsters under the Emperor of Japan. When victory is won, we will be able to go back to our American homes, American public schools and live in our former American communities. We have the same physical features of those in Japan, but mentally we differ a great deal. Our hearts and our ideas are Americanized. We believe in democracy and the pursuit of happiness."



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#55  
5/6/43

(For Immediate Release)

MORE VOLUNTEERS  
LEAVE FROM HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--A group of 31 American-born Japanese from the Minidoka Relocation Center left Thursday night for the Fort Douglas Reception Center, Salt Lake City, for final physical examinations and induction into the U. S. Army.

They were the second group to leave from the Minidoka center where more than 300 have volunteered for the Army. They will be trained in a Japanese-American combat unit at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

Those who left Thursday night were: Roy Kazuyuki Komachi, Minoru Nagaoka, Shigeo Tom Sakai, Robert Tsuyoshi Endo, Michael Masayuki Ozaki, Samuel Sakae Aoyama, Kazuo Kiyomura, Mitsuru Mitz Yamamoto, Tony Satoru Sunamoto, Tatsuya Ariyasu, Edward Tasuku Sasaki, Frances Kinoshita, Hideo Sam Onoda, Franklin Masahiro Koriyama, Masayasu Mac Nogaki, Kenji Nagaishi, Hiroshi Sumida, Yutaka Morishita, George Morishita, Tadao Horita, Tatsumi Tada, Tom Namba, Terry Ogawa, Hifumi Matsui, Sam Sasaki, Roy Susuki, Mathew Masato Hasegawa, Victor Moriyasu, Howard Sakura (acting corporal), Chester Sakura, and Yahachi Sagami.

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FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#56  
5/12/43

(For Immediate Release)

MORE VOLUNTEERS  
LEAVE FROM HUNT

HUNT, Idaho--Thirty-nine Americans of Japanese ancestry left the Minidoka Relocation Center Wednesday night (May 12) for Salt Lake City to be inducted into the U. S. Army.

More than 100 of the 300 Japanese Americans who volunteered for the Army from the relocation center have been inducted into the Army for service in a special combat unit being trained at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Among the group of volunteers who left Wednesday night were Eddie Sato, 20 year-old artist who won first prize in a national war bond poster contest; the three Onodera brothers, Kaun, Ko and Satoru; and the Yanagimachi brothers, Harry and Frank, well-known football players during high school and college days in Seattle.

#

RELOCATION CENTER  
POPULATION DROPS

HUNT, Idaho--The population of the Minidoka Relocation Center dropped to the 8,100 mark this week as more residents departed to take jobs outside or to enter the U. S. Army.

More than 850 have gone out on seasonal work leave and more than 600 have obtained indefinite leave for permanent employment in this region and in the midwest. While the majority of these Japanese Americans are doing agricultural work, many are engaged in other lines such as secretarial work, bookkeeping professional services, auto mechanics and wholesale and retail trade. More than 100 of the 300 who volunteered from this center for service in the U. S. Army have been inducted.

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FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#57  
5/20/43

(For Immediate Release)

HUNT VOLUNTEERS  
LEAVE FOR ARMY

HUNT, Idaho--Thirty-two more volunteers from the Minidoka Relocation Center will leave Friday night (May 21) for Fort Douglas, Utah, to be inducted into the U. S. Army.

These volunteers and 100 from the center already inducted will be trained at Camp Shelby, Miss., for service in a Japanese-American combat team.

#

HUNT POPULATION DROPS

HUNT, Idaho--The population of the Minidoka Relocation Center on May 19 was 7924. More than 1,058 residents have left the center permanently on indefinite leave after being cleared by the F.B.I. Many are working in the intermountain region and in the midwest. The majority, however, as well as 981 residents out on seasonal work leave are working in agriculture in southern Idaho. More than 125 young volunteers have been inducted into the Army and 100 more are awaiting their call.

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FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#58  
5/28/43

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HUNT, Idaho--The departure of 1500 workers from the Minidoka Relocation Center for permanent and seasonal jobs has caused a labor shortage on the center's own 400-acre vegetable farm.

High school students are spending a half day in classrooms and the other half in the fields, officials of the center reported. Elderly people and office workers also are helping out the regular farm crews. A poultry farm was recently put into operation.

Center officials have been advised that the Minidoka center must produce \$253,000 worth of its own food in keeping with Bureau of the Budget estimates for the fiscal year 1944.

Because the residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center came from areas in and around Portland, Tacoma, and Seattle, not more than 15 per cent of the 9500 originally sent to Hunt were farmers.

HUNT, Idaho--Four residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center were awarded "Honorable Mention" in the Relocation Center Art Exhibit held at the Friend's Center, Cambridge, Mass.

Eddie Sato, cartoonist for The Irrigator, project newspaper, until his recent induction into the Army as a volunteer, was given an award in the mimeograph art division.

F. Kato, Hisashi Hagiya and Harry Fukura were named in the painting division.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#59  
5/28/43

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HUNT, Idaho--While many residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center are working in agriculture in southern Idaho increasing numbers of Japanese American evacuees are going into the midwest and east to make new homes and to settle permanently away from the west.

As cities in the mountain states reach the saturation point for absorbing evacuees, more and more Japanese Americans are going to the midwest and east to resettle. According to the center's records, however, seasonal workers are still taking jobs in the intermountain region.

Of those who have left the Minidoka center permanently, 510 have resettled in the mountain states including 213 in Idaho, 113 in Utah, 83 in Washington, 45 in Colorado, 36 in Oregon, 16 in Montana, and four in Wyoming. Two-hundred and twenty-one have settled in the midwest and a fewer number in the east and south.

About 75 per cent of all those who have left the center permanently are employed in domestic, farm or unskilled jobs. Twelve per cent are in skilled and semi-skilled labor. Eight per cent are clerical workers and three per cent in professional jobs. Two per cent are unclassified.

A total of 645 had left Hunt by May 17 on indefinite leave to take work. One hundred and eighty of these went into agriculture, 154 became domestic workers, 48 took jobs as waiters, cooks, hotel workers, janitors, etc.

Many of the evacuees are trained in office work. As of May 17, 44 were doing clerical work. The demand for people with a good knowledge of both Japanese and English has been great since the United States went to war with Japan. Ten former residents of the Minidoka center are working as translators.

Professional services have employed nine others including engineers, commercial artist, laboratory technician, pharmacists, and nurses.

One person went to the merchant marine. To date only two have established their own businesses. In the labor field, 25 have taken skilled jobs; 46, semi-skilled; and 31, unskilled.

On May 17 a total of 1030 persons had departed from the Minidoka center on indefinite leave. To secure this leave an evacuee must be cleared by authorities by a close check of his past associations and affiliations. After departing from the center on indefinite leave, the evacuee is like any other resident of the United States except that he cannot enter the evacuated zones along the Pacific coast (unless he is in Army uniform) and he must report changes of address.

One hundred and fifty-five volunteers from the Minidoka center have been inducted into the Army for service in a special Japanese American combat unit. More than 300 have volunteered from the Minidoka center and it is estimated that about 225 physically fit will be inducted into the Army.

One hundred and forty-seven from Hunt have gone outside to continue their college education at their own expense or on scholarships.

One hundred and fifteen have left to join their families on the outside or to get married.

According to the center's records 920 persons were outside the center on seasonal work leave on May 12. Of these 461 were working in southern Idaho counties, 157 in eastern Oregon, 150 in Utah, 94 in Washington, 53 in Montana, and five in Colorado.

Unless these workers obtain indefinite leave while they are out on seasonal jobs, they will return to the center in four or five months or whenever the season ends.

With so many workers going outside, the center is struggling to overcome a labor shortage on its own farm of 400 acres.

D. S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority, recently advised the Minidoka center that it would have to provide \$253,000 worth of its own food this year. To date only a poultry farm has been started in addition to the vegetable acreage.

The population of the center on May 27 was 7859.

Recent reports that the Minidoka Center would be abandoned in the near future were denied by Mr. Myer.

"While the WRA goal of relocating the evacuees outside is progressing rapidly, it is not expected to proceed so rapidly that the project will close down immediately," he said.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#60  
6/3/43

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HUNT, Idaho----Last week 131 more residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center departed on leave. Fifty-seven of this number secured seasonal work leave of which 27 went to work on southern Idaho farms, four in eastern Oregon and two in Utah.

Seventy-four obtained indefinite leave to go out of the center permanently. Forty-five of these stayed in Idaho, 9 went to Illinois, 5 each went to Colorado and Utah, 3 to Minnesota, 2 each to Missouri and Washington and 1 to Michigan, Oregon and Ohio.

The records of each individual leaving the center are checked and cleared by intelligence agencies.

The population of the Minidoka center on June 3 was 7814.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD#61  
6/7/43

(For Immediate Release)

HUNT, Idaho--Twenty-six more volunteers from the Minidoka Relocation Center will leave by special bus Wednesday night to be inducted into the U. S. Army at Fort Douglas, Utah.

With 150 other volunteers from the center and several thousand other Japanese-Americans these volunteers will be trained into a special combat team at Camp Shelby, Mississippi.

Among the volunteers leaving Wednesday will be Mike Hagiwara, who sang tenor with the Minidoka Quartet which made numerous appearances before clubs and church groups in the Magic Valley.

#



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD # 62  
6/12/43

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho---Children of the Huntville and Stafford elementary schools in the Minidoka Relocation Center will dedicate their new flagpoles Monday with special Flag Day programs.

The Minidoka Volunteers Organization of more than 300 young Japanese Americans who volunteered for service in an Army combat team recently presented a flag to each school. These will be raised for the first time Monday on the new flagpoles.

Henry Kumasaka of the Huntville sixth grade will give a history of the flag at the Huntville program Monday morning. Tom Takeoka will be the speaker at the Stafford school program in the afternoon. The national anthem and other patriotic songs will be sung.

R. A. Pomeroy, superintendent of schools at Hunt, will speak at both flag raising programs.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

MWRP  
PRD # 63  
6-19-43

(For Immediate Release)

HUNT, Idaho--Two hundred and fifty-seven residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center left Hunt during the past two weeks to resume living in normal American communities, the War Relocation Authority reported yesterday. They had been living in assembly centers and in the Minidoka Relocation Center for more than a year since all persons of Japanese ancestry were evacuated from the Pacific coast. To date 1371 have left the center permanently on indefinite leave and 949 have gone out on seasonal work leave.

Of those who departed from this center during the past two weeks, 177 were granted indefinite leave by the War Relocation Authority after their past associations and records were checked and showed that they are either loyal Americans or law-abiding aliens. Most of the group are American citizens by birth.

Those with indefinite leave went to sixteen states in line with the War Relocation Authority's policy of encouraging the Japanese-American evacuees to resettle individually or in small groups throughout the United States, except the West Coast, so that no congregated communities will be formed again.

Forty-nine of the group went to Utah, 34 to Idaho, 26 to Illinois, 21 to Ohio, 12 to Washington, 8 to Minnesota, 6 to Michigan, 5 to Montana, 5 to Oregon, 3 to Wisconsin, 2 to Missouri, 2 to Washington, D. C., and one each to Pennsylvania, Nebraska, Colorado, and New York.

In keeping with the government's policy of offering all loyal citizens and law-abiding aliens a chance to contribute to the war effort in a normal manner in our democratic society, the War Relocation Authority is reestablishing such people in communities where they are welcome unless they are found to be potentially dangerous. The War Relocation Authority has emphasized that in administering its leave program it has protected the national security. It utilizes information from the intelligence agencies of the government in determining whether or not there is anything in the record of an evacuee which would make it undesirable for him to live outside of the relocation center. The granting of permits to leave is handled very carefully on an individual basis.

Dillon S. Myer, Director of the War Relocation Authority, recently stated: "To our knowledge not one instance of disloyal activity on the part of any of the 12,000 persons of Japanese ancestry on leave from relocation centers has been reported."

Eighty of those who left the center in the past two weeks were granted seasonal work leave to work in agriculture and in food preservation. Fifty-seven of these remained in Idaho, 22 went to Utah, and one to Washington.

The population of the center on June 18 was 7718.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD#64  
6-22-43

EVACUEES PRODUCE  
VEGETABLES FROM  
SAGEBRUSH ACRES

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

HUNT, Idaho-- First production came this week from the Minidoka Relocation Center's new farm hacked out of sageland by the Japanese-American evacuees.

One hundred and twenty bushels of radishes and 54 bushels of nappa were sent to community mess halls where all the center residents eat.

By the end of June the center's agricultural division hopes to have 250 acres in vegetables, including 70 acres of potatoes, and 150 acres in barley. During July an additional 100 acres of vegetables will be planted if the land can be cleared of sagebrush and cultivated in time.

This week farm workers, including many women, started transplanting tomatoes, peppers, egg plants, cabbage, broccoli, and celery plants from the project hot beds to the fields.

The center hopes to produce most of its own vegetables and a substantial quantity of its meat and eggs for its population of 7,700. The hog project was started recently with 50 brood sows and two boars for breeding and 200 feeder pigs. The chicken ranch has 4,500 chicks.

All rationing regulations and recommendations applicable to the civilian population of the United States are applied in the operation of mess halls in the Minidoka Center. In the face of forecasts of less food for the civilian population of the United States because of the tremendous demands of the armed forces and lend lease, the relocation center is pushing its farm development program as rapidly as possible with its limited supply of labor. From the original evacuee population of this center more than 1,500 have left to work on farms in Idaho, Utah, Oregon, Washington, and Montana.

Evacuee crews are now installing gates, turn-outs, and other controls on a new irrigation ditch northeast of the center which will provide water to irrigate approximately 1,500 acres which is the farm goal for next year.



HUNT POPULATION  
TOUCHES NEW LOW

For Immediate Release

Hunt, Idaho--The population of the Minidoka Relocation Center dropped to 7537 July 8, an all time low for this sageland community of Japanese Americans evacuated from their Pacific Coast homes.

The previous low point in the 10-month history of Hunt was 7541 on last October 23 when many of the center residents were helping to harvest Southern Idaho food crops threatened by a labor shortage. A peak of 9393 was reached on February 26.

The center's population has been declining steadily as evacuees leave to resume living in normal American communities in keeping with the government's policy of utilizing all <sup>loyal</sup> Americans, regardless of ancestry, in the war effort. On July 8, 1515 had left the center on indefinite leave after their records were carefully checked by the WRA with federal intelligence agencies. Of these nearly 900 are working in a large variety of jobs, both skilled and unskilled.

In keeping with the War Relocation Authority's policy of resettling the evacuees throughout the United States rather than in Japanese colonies such as existed on the Pacific coast, Evacuees on indefinite leave from the Minidoka Center are working in 16 states and the District of Columbia. The distribution is as follows: Idaho, 317; Utah, 203, Washington, 108; Colorado, 60; Illinois, 55; Oregon, 45; Ohio, 33; Minnesota, 27; Montana, 24; Michigan, 14; Missouri, 6; Wyoming, 4; Wisconsin, 13; Washington, D. C., 2; and one each in Nebraska, Pennsylvania and South Dakota.

More than 200 others are serving in the Army after having volunteered and 150 are continuing their college education at their own expense. Others obtained indefinite leave to marry soldiers, rejoin families, etc.

A total of 974 have left the Minidoka Center to date to work on seasonal jobs, chiefly in raising and preserving food. Of these approximately 600 are working in Idaho, about 200 in Utah, 169 in Oregon, 102 in Washington, 82 in Montana, 8 in Colorado, and one each in Minnesota and Wyoming.

A total of 193 young American citizens of Japanese ancestry who volunteered from the center have been inducted into the Army in the last three months to serve in a special combat unit of Japanese Americans now being trained at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. A total of 337 volunteered from Hunt of which 211 were physically qualified for active service and 75 for limited service. Prior to this 358 families in the center already had sons and brothers in the Army.



FROM: Project Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Project  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #66  
7/19/48

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--Hunt High School will hold its first commencement July 23 when 206 seniors will receive their diplomas. This high school, attended by young residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center, was in session later than other Idaho schools because the year's term was not started until November.

Because members of the graduating class came from more than 25 different schools in the Seattle and Portland areas making scholastic comparison difficult, no valedictorian and salutatorian were named.

Baccalaureate services were held Sunday evening (July 18) in a natural amphitheater in the center. Commencement exercises will be held at the same place at 8 P. M., July 23.

Hunt high school classes will be resumed August 23 after a month's recess. The elementary schools are now carrying on a summer program and will recess August 16 for a month.

Fifteen students of Hunt high school already have received their graduation diplomas from schools in Portland and Seattle which they attended prior to evacuation a year ago. They had less than half a year of school to finish when they were evacuated and their requests to receive diplomas were granted after they finished at Hunt High School.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #67  
7/23/43

HUNT GRADUATES  
GO RIGHT TO WORK

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--Two hundred and six seniors graduated from Hunt High School on Friday as the first commencement exercises were held in the Minidoka Relocation Center.

More than 50 of the high school senior boys left immediately to work on farms in Southern Idaho and another 50 were looking for jobs. In addition 50 other high school students were planning to take jobs for one month during the summer recess of the high school. A harvest vacation will be held later in the fall.

In addition to the boys numerous high school girls were planning to pick fruit and do other farm work.

Some of these high school students already have gone to farm labor camps at Melba, Twin Falls, Paul, and an independent camp at Hazelton. Offers of employment to these and other evacuees may be placed through United States Employment Service offices or the War Relocation Authority offices at Twin Falls, Burley, Boise, and Nyssa, Oregon.

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MORE VOLUNTEERS  
LEAVE FROM HUNT

Hunt, Idaho--Seven volunteers for the Army to serve in the Japanese-American combat unit will leave Minidoka Relocation Center Monday morning for final medical examinations and induction at Fort Douglas, Utah. They will raise the number of volunteers inducted from the Minidoka Center to 199. The combat team is being trained at Camp Shelby, Miss.

The latest volunteers are John Tanaka, George Nakamura, Tom Shiiki, Kiyoshi Yabuki, Howard Uyehara, George Abe, and Bill Nakamura.

#

HUNT POPULATION DROPS

Hunt, Idaho--The population of the Minidoka Relocation Center hit a new low July 22 when it dropped to 7391. A total of 1589 evacuees have gone out on indefinite leave and 1142 are out on seasonal work leave.

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FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #68  
7/23/43

HUNT BASEBALL  
TEAM IN TOURNEY

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--The Hunt baseball team, made up of evacuees of the Minidoka Relocation Center, left for Idaho Falls, Saturday (July 24) to participate in the Idaho semi-pro tournament there next week.

Although the Hunt nine has won seven games and lost none this season, the team has only two players left of the original line-up. Eighteen players have left the project to work or to serve in the Army. The departure of four pitchers has left the team hard-up for hurlers. The latest to go was Rikio Kumagai who pitched a one-hit game against the Nampa All-Stars at Hunt two weeks ago. Ralph Takami, former Oregon State College pitcher and the only college player on the Hunt team, will not be available for the whole tournament.

Only two high school players are left on the team, Shiro Kashino, formerly of Garfield High School of Seattle, and Henry Ito of Gresham High (Oregon). The Hunt team this season has defeated Filer, Jerome twice, Rupert twice, Nampa and Burley.

#

HUNT BOY SCOUTS  
ON CAMPING TRIP

Hunt, Idaho--About 70 Boy Scouts from the Hunt troop will leave Sunday for the camp site on Andersen Creek, about 15 miles from Twin Falls in the Minidoka National Forest. They will camp a week.

$\frac{16}{17}$



From: Reports Office  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD # 69  
8-9-43

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho --- Raymond R. Best, a resident of Idaho for the last 25 years and recently of Twin Falls, has been appointed project director of the Tule Lake Center in Northern California of the War Relocation Authority.

Mr. Best joined the War Relocation Authority in April, 1942. Prior to that he had been with the Soil Conservation Service in Idaho since 1934 and was stationed recently at Malad. He also served with other agencies of the department of agriculture and with the federal land bank in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

He was transportation and supply officer at the Minidoka Relocation Center until the first of this year when he was named director of the WRA Center at Moab, Utah, which later was transferred to Leupp, Arizona.

The Tule Lake Center has been designated by the WRA as the place of residence for evacuees who have applied for repatriation or expatriation to Japan and for others who have indicated that their sympathies are not with the United States in the present war.

Mrs. Best and two of their sons, Raymond R. Jr., 10, and Jack L., 14, will reside at the Tule Lake Center. A third son, Robert T., 23, is in the Army Air Corps.

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From: Reports Office  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #70  
8-10-43

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

Hunt, Idaho---This war-born community of evacuees from the Pacific Coast celebrated its first birthday Tuesday (August 10) without fanfare or special celebration.

Just a year ago an advance crew of 212 Japanese-American evacuees from the Puyallup Assembly Center near Seattle arrived at the Minidoka Relocation Center which was then about 75 per cent completed. The dust was ankle deep and the sun was broiling hot when the first crew started fixing up barracks and installing kitchen stoves to make ready for the arrival of other evacuees.

The main movement of evacuees at a rate of 500 a day started on August 16 and after the evacuees of the Puyallup Assembly Center had been transferred a group from the North Portland Assembly Center was received. The population of the center on September 14 when the movement was completed was 9381.

The next day evacuees started moving out of the center to meet the labor emergency which had developed in southern Idaho. The 2400 evacuees from the Minidoka center who answered the call to the harvest fields were given credit for helping in no small way to save a large percentage of food crops.

The peak population of the year was reached February 26 when 190 former residents of Bainbridge Island, Wash., were transferred from the Manzanar Relocation Center to Hunt to raise Hunt's population to 9393.

The population on August 5 dropped to 7170, a new all-time low.

The WRA's policy of helping loyal evacuees to relocate throughout the United States, except in the evacuated coast zone, to contribute to the war effort has resulted in 1667 leaving the center permanently and 1227 others going out on seasonal work leave.

Most of those on indefinite leave are working. They are in 19 states and the District of Columbia. The distribution is as follows: Colorado--75, Idaho--368, Illinois--73, Michigan--21, Minnesota--29, Utah--251, Washington--127, Montana--31, Ohio--45, Oregon--52, Missouri--11, New Jersey--1, Wisconsin--18, Indiana--1, Kansas--1, Nebraska--3, Wyoming--4, Washington, D. C.--2, Pennsylvania--1, South Dakota--1. In addition to these 250 young men have left the center to join the Army.

Nearly all of the 1227 out on seasonal work leave are employed in Idaho, Utah, Oregon, Washington, and Montana, principally in raising and preserving food crops.

The year has seen a transformation take place on the sage-covered plains of eastern Jerome county where the relocation project is located on 68,000 acres of the Minidoka Reclamation project. Trees donated by residents of near-by towns and victory gardens have been planted in the living area along streets and between barracks. Four hundred acres of sageland have been cleared since spring and nearly 300 acres of vegetables have been planted. This land is irrigated by the Milner Gooding canal.

The community of Hunt, which was named after Wilson Price Hunt, early Snake River explorer, is like any other town of its size in many respects--it has stores, a hospital, a newspaper, and schools. But there are many other reminders that it is simply a temporary stopping place for people removed from the coast who have not yet had a chance to resettle in normal communities. The tarpaper-covered barracks and the community mess halls where the residents eat are of a temporary frame construction. There are no private cars and no paved streets.

Commenting on the first year at Hunt Project Director H. L. Stafford said that the progress in relocation was encouraging.

"These people are moving back into normal communities as fast as work opportunities are extended to them," he said. "In this way they are re-establishing themselves and are making a substantial contribution to the war effort through productive labor.

"We are now engaged in a program of segregation which will place in one center all those who want to return to Japan and who are not in sympathy with the United States in the present war. Approximately 400 will be transferred from Hunt to this segregation center, the Tule Lake Center in northern California, and about 2,000 loyal evacuees now living at Tule Lake will be transferred to Hunt. When this movement has been completed in October every person in the Minidoka Relocation Center will be eligible to go out on leave."



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRE #71  
8/25/43

GROUP WILL BEGIN  
TRIP TO JAPAN AT  
SHOSHONE SUNDAY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Hunt, Idaho--Ten families and three single persons who have been residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center will board an east-bound train at Shoshone next Sunday afternoon (August 29) to start a three months' journey which will end in Japan.

These 40 persons have requested repatriation or expatriation to Japan and will sail from New York on the exchange ship Gripsholm. At Mormugao, Portuguese India, an exchange of American civilians who were interned in Japan will be made for Japanese civilian internees. This exchange is expected to be carried out by October 15, according to the State Department.

A group of 22 Japanese from the Central Utah Relocation Center will also leave Shoshone Sunday afternoon for New York to sail on the Swedish liner.

Other persons who have applied for repatriation or expatriation to Japan, and others who have indicated by acts and statements that they are loyal to Japan and are not in sympathy with the United States in its war effort will be moved within the next few weeks from relocation centers to the Tule Lake Center in northern California. At the present time 280 persons are on the list of those to be transferred from the Minidoka Relocation Center to the Tule Lake Center in the first movement tentatively set for October 7. A total of around 400 is expected to be moved altogether.

Nearly 2000 loyal Japanese-Americans now living in the Tule Lake Center will be transferred to the Minidoka Relocation Center at the time that the Tule Lake Center becomes the segregation center. This will fill the Minidoka Relocation Center to capacity. The present population is about 7100.

When the movements to and from Tule Lake are completed, all the persons of Japanese ancestry remaining in the relocation centers will have been checked and cleared and will be eligible to apply for leave to get out of the relocation centers and into normal communities where they can contribute to this country's war effort. This program of relocation has the approval of President Roosevelt, the War Manpower Commission and military authorities.

From the Minidoka Relocation Center to date 1769 evacuees have gone out on indefinite leave and 1133 are out on seasonal leave working in food production and food processing. Those on indefinite leave must report changes in address, and those on seasonal leave cannot without permission leave the county to which they are assigned. Aliens out on leave cannot travel without permission of a U. S. attorney.



FROM: Reports Officer  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD # 72  
9/2/43

(For Release Sunday, Sept. 5, 1943)

Hunt, Idaho--Fifteen hundred persons will be transferred from the Tule Lake Relocation Center to the Minidoka Relocation Center between September 25 and September 30, H. L. Stafford, project director of the Minidoka Center, announced Saturday.

At the same time he said that 274 residents of the Minidoka Center would be transferred to the Tule Lake Center in northern California on September 25.

The transfer of persons from Tule Lake to Minidoka will be made in three special trainloads. Five hundred will arrive at Hunt siding, five miles from the center, at 7:40 A.M. September 25; 500 more will arrive at the same time on September 27 and the last 500 will arrive at the same time on September 30.

"This movement is part of the War Relocation Authority's program of segregation to place at one location, the Tule Lake Center, all evacuees who wish to return to Japan or who are believed to be loyal to Japan and not in sympathy with the United States in the present war," Mr. Stafford said. "Loyal Japanese-Americans are being moved out of the Tule Lake Center as it becomes the segregation center."

The first group of Minidoka Center people to be transferred to the Tule Lake Center will total 274 persons. Hearings are now being held for others and those denied leave clearance by the director of the WRA on the basis of these hearings will be transferred in a few months to the Tule Lake Center.

The arrival of the Tule Lake transferees will fill the Minidoka Relocation Center to capacity. The population on September 1 was 7140 and 1154 were out of the center on seasonal work leave. The latter will return to the center after the harvest season is over unless they find other jobs. On September 1 1867 evacuees had left the center permanently on indefinite leave, most of them resettling east of the Rockies.



FROM: Reports Office  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD#73  
9/20/43

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

HUNT, Idaho--The population of the Minidoka Relocation Center hit a new low this week as more evacuees left to work in southern Idaho harvest fields.

For the first time since the evacuees took up residence in this center a year ago the population this week dropped below the 7000 mark. However, it will rise sharply next week when 1500 residents of the Tule Lake Relocation Center in northern California will be transferred to the Minidoka Center between Sept. 27 and Sept. 30.

A total of 257 evacuees will be transferred from the Minidoka Center to the Tule Lake Center as the latter center becomes the place of residence for evacuees desiring to return to Japan and for those not in sympathy with the U. S. war effort.

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HUNT, Idaho--Hunt High School will begin a three-week harvest vacation October 2, according to J. T. Light, Principal.

The students will take jobs in keeping with policies of the War Food Administration, United States Employment Service and the War Relocation Authority.

Additional harvest labor is expected to be available at the Minidoka Center after the transfer of 1500 evacuees from the Tule Lake Relocation Center to the Minidoka Relocation Center between Sept. 27 and Sept. 30. A preliminary survey showed that at least 300 of these evacuees will be ready to go out on harvest work shortly after they are received at the Minidoka Center.

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FROM: Reports Office  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #74  
9/21/43

(FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

HUNT'S HARVEST  
VACATION WILL  
LAST FULL MONTH

Hunt, Idaho--The length of the harvest vacation for students of Hunt High School has been extended one week to the end of October, Jerome T. Light, principal, announced today.

The vacation will begin on October 2 to permit boys and girls to take harvest jobs in southern Idaho. Originally the vacation was to last three weeks.

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FROM: Reports Office  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD#75  
10/2/43

(FOR RELEASE Monday, Oct. 4, 1943)

HUNT, Idaho--The population of the Minidoka Relocation Center rose to 8175 last week with the transfer of 1529 evacuees from the Tule Lake Center in northern California. The transfer was part of the War Relocation Authority's program to segregate in one center, the Tule Lake Center, all persons of Japanese ancestry loyal to Japan and to place Tule Lake evacuees loyal to the United States in other relocation centers. The Minidoka Relocation Center transferred 254 to the Tule Lake Center.

More than 1300 Hunt evacuees are out on seasonal jobs, mostly in harvest work, and more than 2000 have left the center permanently. Hunt High School began a harvest vacation Monday (October 4) to enable students to take harvest jobs. The vacation will last at least one month.



FROM: Reports Office  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD#76  
10/18/43

EVACUEES HELP  
HARVEST CROPS

(FOR RELEASE MONDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1943)

Hunt, Idaho -- More than 4500 Japanese and Japanese American evacuees have left the Minidoka Relocation Center to contribute productive labor to the nation's war effort in agriculture, in industry and in other fields, H. L. Stafford, project director, stated Monday.

"About 2400 evacuees have gone out of the center on seasonal work leave, principally to do harvest work," Mr. Stafford stated. "Of these it is estimated that more than 1200, including 300 school children, are working in the six counties of the Magic Valley. A peak of about 2500 is expected to be reached this week in the number of those leaving the center for harvest work.

"In addition to those who have left the center temporarily to assist in harvesting food crops vitally needed by the nation at war, nearly 2100 evacuees have left the center to remain out indefinitely. The majority of these are working. More than 200 volunteered for the Army. Some have gone into agriculture in western states and others have resettled in the mid-west and east to work at a wide variety of jobs, both skilled and unskilled.

"They are successfully filling jobs as pharmacists, teachers, engineers, mechanics, farmers, hotel workers, nurses aides, domestics, waitresses and in many other lines of work. They have resettled in 25 states and the District of Columbia, including Colorado, Idaho, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, Utah, Washington, Montana, Ohio, Oregon, Missouri, New Jersey, Wisconsin, Indiana, Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Iowa, Mississippi, New York, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Arkansas and Washington, D. C."

The current population of the Minidoka center is around 7,000. It has never been higher than 9,400. While more than 4500 evacuees have left the center many have been transferred to Hunt from other centers including the recent transfer of 1529 persons from the Tule Lake Center in northern California. These transferees like the majority of the other residents of Hunt lived in and around Seattle and Portland prior to evacuation.

The transfer of the evacuees from Tule Lake was part of the War Relocation Authority's program to place in one center, Tule Lake, all evacuees loyal to Japan or not loyal to the United States. Two-hundred and fifty-four were transferred to Tule Lake from the Minidoka Relocation Center. Hearings are now in progress for a few borderline cases and when these are completed all evacuees residing in the Minidoka Relocation Center will be eligible to leave under the W. R. A. policy of relocation approved by President Roosevelt, the War Department, the Department of Justice and the War Manpower Commission.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #77  
10/25/43

HUNT HIGH HARVEST  
VACATION EXTENDED

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--The harvest vacation of Hunt high school students will be extended to November 15, Jerome T. Light, principal, announced Monday. The vacation which began October 1, was originally scheduled to last one month.

The extra two weeks were provided because bad weather has delayed harvesting in many areas. More than 300 Hunt high school boys and girls have left the Minidoka Relocation Center to work in the harvest. Others are helping to harvest project crops.

More than 2,000 other evacuee residents of the center are working outside in harvest fields, according to H. L. Stafford, project director.

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CK 67,100 ✓  
22,400

FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #78  
11/30/43

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--As its contribution to the National War Fund, the Minidoka Relocation Center in a two day drive raised \$1907.93. Over \$1250 of this amount was contributed by the Japanese American residents of the center and the remainder by the government employees.

With over 420 Japanese American soldiers from the Minidoka Center represented in the armed forces of the United States, the residents of Hunt demonstrated a vital interest in the War Fund Drive. Each block of the center contributed a certain amount to raise a quota of \$1000 which had been set for the residents. Many of the blocks far exceeded their quota. The overall quota was topped by almost \$250. The elementary and high school children raised \$65 to swell the resident quota.

By arrangement with the Jerome County War Fund Board it had been agreed that anything in excess of the \$1000 quota for the Japanese residents would go to the local Hunt USO which is sponsored by the residents for visiting Japanese American soldiers.

With returns still coming in, the Hunt War Fund Board last week had turned over \$1663.30 to the Jerome County War Fund drive as its share in the county war fund campaign.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #7.9  
12/16/43

(For Immediate Release)

HUNT PRODUCES BIG  
CROP IN FIRST YEAR

Hunt, Idaho--Two hundred and thirty-three acres of farm land cleared out of the rolling sagebrush-covered plains adjacent to the Minidoka Relocation Center produced 2,221,512 pounds of vegetables and melons during the 1943 farm season, the first year of farming for the Japanese-American community, H. L. Stafford, project director, reported yesterday.

Because so many of the evacuees were engaged in farm work in Idaho, eastern Oregon and northern Utah, the clearing of land for the project farm did not get under way until late last spring. Lack of proper equipment in sufficient quantities made it necessary for much of the grubbing-off of the sagebrush to be done by hand. Lava out-croppings are frequent in the area and the size of the fields is comparatively small compared with acreages on the south side of the Snake river.

The Hunt farm was irrigated from the Milner-Gooding Canal about five miles northeast of the Minidoka Center. A temporary lateral was used this year while work was being completed on a permanent lateral which is expected to be ready for use next spring.

Although many crops were planted late, the unusually late occurrence of the first frost enabled the evacuee residents to harvest good yields. Much of the harvesting was done by Hunt high school students since 2500 of the project workers were absent from the center to help harvest crops on outside farms.

A large root cellar was built on the project for the storage of potatoes, carrots, onions and cabbage. A cannery was put into operation to preserve surplus tomatoes grown on the farm.

Vegetable production on the farm and acreages included: potatoes, 979,700 pounds, 55 acres; onions, 302,319 pounds, 36 acres; cabbage, 101,814 pounds, 18 acres; turnips, 55,591 pounds, 5 acres; tomatoes, 95,512 pounds, 11 acres; squash, 138,817 pounds, 8 acres; and carrots, 79,325, 4 acres. Smaller amounts of lettuce, radishes, broccoli, celery, green beans, sweet corn, green peppers, egg plant, cucumbers, peas and melons were produced.

In addition to the field crops, the project has a hog farm and a poultry plant to produce meat and eggs for consumption in the community mess halls in which all residents of the center eat.

Plans are under way to clear enough land during good weather between now and next spring to enable the community to plant some 1,000 to 1,200 acres of food crops to make the project nearly self-sufficient in many food requirements.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #80  
12/17/43

(For Release on December 24, 1943)

Hunt, Idaho--The second Christmas for Japanese American evacuee residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center will be marked by festivities and church services typical of other American communities.

For the past week, the residents of each of the 35 blocks in the center have been working early and late to decorate their dining hall in competition with the others. Due to the scarcity of decorative materials and lights, the evacuees are obliged to call upon their ingenuity to give a festive air to the dining halls, which seat from 275 to 300 persons at picnic-type tables. Judges ~~will tour~~ <sup>toured</sup> the dining halls on ~~Christmas~~ <sup>last</sup> night ~~and will~~ <sup>to</sup> pick the five most outstanding ones.

Gifts for the children of the community and for the aged persons, 70 years and older, poured in from all parts of the United States, chiefly from religious groups. Many gifts came from ~~the 2,250 former residents~~ of Hunt who left the Minidoka Relocation Center since last Christmas to resettle in normal outside communities. One relocated man, who remained anonymous, sent a check for \$525 from Denver to buy toys for the children. The gifts will be distributed by a Santa Claus in each dining hall on Christmas day.

Following a custom started last Christmas, groups of school children and church choristers will travel around the center singing Christmas carols. Young people's groups are planning to hold holiday ~~dan~~ <sup>ba</sup>ñcos.

The population of the center at the present time is about 8,800 compared with 9,000 at Christmas time a year ago. Only 95 were out on indefinite leave last Christmas compared with the 2,250 now out indefinitely and 700 still out on seasonal leave. Hunt's population has remained around the 9,000 mark due to the transferring of evacuees from other relocation centers.

Hunt high school students are having a one-day Christmas vacation in addition to Saturday and Sunday. They did not attend classes today and they will return Monday. The two elementary schools will have a vacation all next week.

Church groups will hold special services. Father L. H. Tibesar, Maryknoll Missionary, will say Midnight Mass on Christmas eve in the recreation hall in block 22 which serves as the Catholic church. The Christian group will hold a worship service Christmas day.

Saturday, Christmas Day, will be a holiday on the project. Under the work schedule followed by government war agencies, Christmas is the only holiday in the year. Following the completion of seven four-apartment housing units, 28 members of the WRA staff and their families are now living on the project and they are planning a community party. About 40 teachers and other single persons on the staff also live on the project in dormitories.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #81  
12/23/43

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--Japanese American boys who are fighting in Uncle Sam's Army will not be forgotten this Christmas. The Parents-Soldiers Organization of the Minidoka Relocation Center formed by parents of boys in the service mailed Christmas cards to 470 soldiers whose parents or close relatives are living in the Minidoka Relocation Center.

The Parents-Soldiers Organization, which is in effect a local branch of the U. S. O., will entertain Nisei soldiers who are lucky enough to be home on leave during the holiday season.

Residents of Hunt have soldier sons, brothers and husbands fighting on many fronts. At least one saw action in the Aleutians; several in North Africa and Italy; and several in the South Pacific where they are invaluable as front-line interpreters. About half of the number were in the Army before Pearl Harbor and the other half volunteered since.

Japanese American soldiers have received the praise of high Army officials for their fighting ability and courage.

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(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--Residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center and W.R.A. staff members living on the project contributed a total of \$2011.53 in the recent National War Fund Drive, according to a final report made yesterday by S. Hara, chairman.

He reported a total of \$1759.80 to the Jerome county chairman. The Hunt U.S.O. received \$251.73 from the drive. Evacuees contributed \$1251.73 and the W.R.A. staff gave \$759.80.

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FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #82  
1/1/44

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--Friends here of Mr. & Mrs. Y. Komoto who reside at the Gila River relocation center in Arizona recently received word that their son, Sergeant Kazuo Komoto, has been decorated with the Purple Heart for service in combat duty with U. S. forces in the Southwest Pacific.

Inducted prior to Pearl Harbor, Sergeant Komoto is a veteran of both the Guadalcanal and New Georgia campaigns against the Japanese in the Southwest Pacific. He received the Purple Heart after taking part in an engagement in which he and several other men in his detachment were wounded by an enemy sniper who opened fire upon them with a machine-gun mounted in a tree. He is now convalescing in a military hospital in California.

Another Japanese American soldier, Sergeant Ben Kuroki, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. The War Department revealed that he had been turret-gunner on one of the Liberator bombers which delivered the crippling blow to Nazi oil supplies in the attack on the Ploesti oil fields in Rumania last August. The Flying Cross is awarded "for heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight."

Sgt. Kuroki has previously been awarded the air medal for "participation in 100 hours of operational flight against the enemy in the Middle East Theatre", and three oak leaf clusters for taking part in "bomber combat missions over enemy-occupied Continental Europe." The citation to Kuroki and other members of the crew stated that "the courage, coolness and skill displayed by these officers and enlisted men upon these occasions were of the highest order and reflect great credit upon themselves and the armed forces of the United States."

Kuroki was among a group of American air fighters recently presented to the King and Queen of England when the royal couple visited the base at which they are stationed in England. The parents of this Nisei airman live on a farm near Hershey, Nebraska, and they have three other sons serving in the United States Army.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #83  
1/14/44

(For Immediate Release)

JAPANESE AMERICAN  
GIRLS ANSWER WAR  
CALL FOR NURSES

Hunt, Idaho---Four Japanese American girls from the Minidoka Relocation Center will enter nurses' training in February raising to 31 the number of Hunt girls who have answered the call to serve in this branch of war service. The majority of them are entering training under the United States Cadet Nursing Corps plan which provides that student nurses may be furnished complete maintenance, training school expenses and a monthly stipend in return for which they must promise to make their services available throughout the war in military, other federal government or essential civilian nursing services.

The following girls have been accepted for the February class and will be leaving Hunt shortly: Sharon Tanagi and Tsuyako Kasai to St. Mary's School of Nursing, Rochester, Minn.; Katsuko Kawaguchi, Deaconess Hospital, Spokane, Wash., and Sonoko Matsuo to Kansas City General Hospital, Kansas City, Missouri.

A roll of honor for all girls from Hunt who have entered nurses' training since the Minidoka Relocation Center was opened has been placed in the reception room of the business office at the project hospital. The girls receive their first taste of nursing as nurses' aides in this hospital.

"Nursing at this time is just as truly a war service as any other branch of the armed forces," stated Maxalyn W. Evans, head nurse of the hospital.

The 27 girls who have left the project already are receiving nurses' training at hospitals and schools in eight states as follows: Kahler School of Nursing, Rochester, Minn. -- Geraldine F. Takahashi; St. Mary's School of Nursing, Rochester, Minn. -- Ann Chiye Ando, Bessie Sato, Toshiye Tsukamoto, Fumiye Yoshida, Sumiko Ito, June Y. Kumakura and Margaret Ouchi; Sherman School of Nursing, Elgin, Ill. -- Marie Fukutomi, Lillian Fujioka, Hamako Ozawa and Miney Yasui; St. Joseph's School of Nursing, Elgin, Ill. -- Michiko Akagi, Haru Fukumoto, Miyo Inouye, and Kay Keiko Kudo; St. Francis School of Nursing, Peoria, Ill. -- Yuri Lillia Satow; St. Mary's School of Nursing, Peoria, Ill. -- Alyce Shimizu; Asbury Hospital, Minneapolis, Minn. -- Margaret Yamamoto; St. Joseph's School of Nursing, Mitchell, S. D. -- Edith Otaka; Seton School of Nursing, Colorado Springs, Colo. -- Margaret M. Baba and Betty Sato; Sacred Heart Hospital, Spokane, Wash. -- Ayame Ike; Walther Memorial Nursing School, Chicago, Ill. -- Takae Nakata; University of St. Louis Hospital, St. Louis, Mo. -- Michiko Watanabe; Rochester General Hospital, Rochester, N. Y. -- Fumiko Yasaki; St. Mark's Hospital, Salt Lake City, Utah -- Marian Mitsudo.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #84  
1/17/44

(For Immediate Release)

HUNT WILL HOLD  
BIRTHDAY DANCES

Hunt, Idaho--Atleast two dances celebrating the President's birthday in behalf of the infantile paralysis fund will be held in the Minidoka Relocation Center.

The Block 1 Young People's Club will hold its President's Birthday Ball on January 20 in Dining Hall 1. The Block 14 Young People's Club has scheduled its ball for the same night and it will be held in Dining Hall 14. The dances will be for couples only.

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(For Immediate Release)

EVACUEE COMMUNITY  
TO PICK SWEETHEART

Hunt, Idaho--The second annual Valentine contest to elect a Sweetheart of Minidoka was announced this week by the Minidoka Irrigator, weekly newspaper of the Minidoka Relocation Center.

The contest is being sponsored jointly by The Irrigator and the Community Activities organization. The queen, who must be between 16 and 25 years of age, will be chosen by popular vote. The winner will be announced in the February 12 issue of The Irrigator. Last year's winner was Ise Inuzuka formerly of Portland. She is now Mrs. George Azumano.

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(For Immediate Release)

HANDICRAFT EXHIBIT SET

Hunt, Idaho--The handicraft exhibit featuring leisure-time work of residents of the Minidoka Relocation Center will be held January 21-23 at Recreation Hall 12. The exhibit will be open January 21 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. and on January 22 and 23 from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. and 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

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(For Immediate Release)

YMCA OFFICIAL  
VISITS HUNT

Hunt, Idaho--Masao Satow of Salt Lake City, member of the national council of the Y. M. C. A., is visiting the Minidoka Relocation Center to coordinate the activities of the Y. M. C. A. and churches. A graduate of U. C. L. A. and Princeton Theological Seminary, Satow was executive secretary of the Japanese branch of the Los Angeles Y. M. C. A. prior to evacuation.

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FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #85  
1/22/44

(For Immediate Release)

FIRST NISEI  
PARATROOPER  
VISITS HUNT

Hunt, Idaho--The first, and to date the only Japanese American paratrooper is visiting his parents in the Minidoka Relocation Center.

Pvt. Junichi Kawamura, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. Y. Kawamura, wears the wings and the words "Air Borne" identifying him as a full fledged paratrooper of the 460th Parachute Field Artillery Bn., Camp Mackall, N. C. This is his first furlough since he volunteered last June while attending the College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, Minn.

Junie, as he is called by his friends here, has made 11 jumps. The first one "felt like a circus" he said. To become a paratrooper, he explained four consecutive day jumps and one night jump are required. The first jump is made at 1200 feet, the second at 800 feet and the next three at 600 feet.

"Since jumping is not the objective of the paratroopers but only a means to an objective, we receive plenty of hand-to-hand combat training," he said. "Our physical training includes rope climbing, tumbling, judo and calisthenics. We also learn to pack our own chutes and we are mighty careful when we are packing our first one. It took me from early morning until 3 in the afternoon."

Pvt. Kawamura attended the University of Washington at Seattle prior to evacuation. He is a 1941 graduate of Garfield High School in Seattle.

While visiting Hunt, he met many of his friends also home on furlough. Hunt has seen more home-town boys in uniform than usual this week because many training at Camp Savage, Minn., were given furloughs at graduation time. Most of these Nisei (American-born citizens of Japanese descent) soldiers receiving this special training will join other Nisei as front line translators and interpreters on the Pacific battle front. Other Nisei soldiers are fighting with the 100th Battalion in Italy and training with the 442nd all-Nisei Combat Team at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Following the reinstitution of selective service for citizens of Japanese ancestry, announced recently by the War Department, many more Hunt boys are expected to join the 437 from the Minidoka Relocation Center who are already fighting in Uncle Sam's Army. Of these 204 were volunteers.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #86  
2/9/44

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--Evacuees from the Minidoka Relocation Center and the eight other centers are finding good community acceptance and business opportunities in midwest and eastern cities, Harold S. Fistere, WRA supervisor for the Cleveland area, said yesterday.

Fistere and Dr. P. A. Webber of the Salt Lake WRA office are spending four days here to acquaint Hunt residents with the situation regarding evacuees in the midwest and east. Dr. Webber, an educator in Japan for twenty years prior to 1940, speaks Japanese fluently.

"Young evacuees who received professional training in western colleges are finding it much easier to practice their professions in the midwest and east," Fistere said. "Children of relocated evacuees find that most of the other school children have never seen an oriental face before.

"The older evacuees, the Japan-born Issei, find that their situation is quite similar to first generation immigrants from European countries. They have the same language difficulties and the same problems with ration books and shopping.

"The movement of evacuees from the relocation centers eastward is expected to increase as the evacuees learn more about the U. S. east of the Rockies."

Fistere and Dr. Webber will leave Friday for the Central Utah Relocation Center at Topaz.

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*U.S. War Relocation auth*

FROM: Reports Office  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #87  
3/9/44

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info*

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--The traveling board of Army medical examiners from Fort Douglas, Utah, will come to the Minidoka Relocation Center March 18 to give pre-induction physical examinations to 292 male citizens of Japanese ancestry who have been called this month by Selective Service.

The examining board's visit to the center will save the transportation of the nisei draftees to Boise. The examinations will be held at the project hospital during the afternoon.

Of the 292 called for pre-induction physicals this month from Hunt, 94 are 18-year-olds who reached military age while residents of the center and are registered with the Jerome County Board. The others are registered with Pacific coast boards in Oregon and Washington and they transferred to the Jerome Board for their pre-induction physicals.

Last month 149 nisei from Hunt were called for their pre-induction physicals at Boise and one volunteered. To date, reports have been received on 111. Seventy-nine were accepted by the Army and 32, including the volunteer, were rejected. Already serving in the U. S. Army from Hunt are 438 nisei including more than 200 volunteers. The majority of nisei in the Army are training at Camp Shelby, Miss., in a combat team composed entirely of Japanese Americans. The others are doing specialized work in interpreting and translating on the battle front in the South Pacific. A few have already seen action with the 100th Battalion in Italy which is composed mostly of Hawaiian-born nisei.

S. Sawada, a resident of Hunt, received word this week that his son, Pfc. Hiroshi Sawada, was wounded in action in Italy and has been awarded the Purple Heart. He is believed to be the first nisei soldier from the state of Washington to receive this decoration. The family formerly lived in Seattle.



FROM: Reports Division  
Minidoka Relocation Center  
Hunt, Idaho

PRD #88  
3/9/44

(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--In a recent Red Cross drive, the students of Hunt High School contributed \$54.59, according to Julius Numata, chairman. The money was sent to the Jerome County headquarters.

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(For Immediate Release)

Hunt, Idaho--Pfc. Hiroshi Sawada, an American-born citizen of Japanese ancestry, was wounded in action in Italy in January, according to word received by his father, S. Sawada, a resident of the Minidoka Relocation Center.

He has been awarded the Purple Heart and is believed to be the first nisei soldier from the state of Washington to receive this decoration. The family formerly lived in Seattle.

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