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Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

January 1, 1945

Memorandum to Mr. Robert Parnell, Chairman
Board of Survey

Subject: Initiation of Board of Survey Actions in case
of fire.

Effective at once the Block Manager in the block in which a fire occurs shall initiate the Board of Survey Action with the assistance of the Property and Warehousing Officer. The Block Manager shall also execute the certificate on the face of the Report of Survey.

The top of the reverse side of the report will be signed by the person to whom the property is directly charged. I think this method will eliminate the confusion presently existing in the preparation of these reports.

Duncan Mills
Duncan Mills
Project Director

cc: Barrett
Lipian
Palmer
Block Managers
Block Managers' Supervisors
Unit Administrators

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Hunter

Jan 1, 1945

JAN 10 1945

Mr. Duncan Mills
Project Director
Colorado River Relocation Center
Péston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Mills:

This is in answer to your letter to the Director under date of December 19th concerning the difficulty of evacuees in establishing themselves upon farms and in small businesses in spite of provisions for loans to citizens through the Farm Security Administration and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation. We are negotiating with these agencies almost constantly, but at this time we do not see any great possibility that the instructions concerning aliens will be revised.

We will keep you advised of any developments, however.

Sincerely,

H. Rex Lee
Acting Chief Relocation Division

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Gila River Project
Rivers, Arizona

Hunter

January 9, 1945

JAN 15 1945

Duncan Mills
Project Director
Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

Attention: Corliss R. Carter
Relocation Program Officer

Dear Mr. Mills:

With the re-opening of the evacuated area and the announcement of the impending closing of the Project, it appears necessary to redefine the policy and procedures to be followed in granting and denying approval of applications for short-term visits between Poston and Gila. It is our belief that our policy in this matter should consist of strict adherence to the terms of Paragraph B, Section 150.1.10 of the WRA Manual which limits visits between centers to those which are undertaken for the following purposes:

1. Attending the funeral of a member of the immediate family.
2. Visiting a close relative who is ill if the attending physician recommends the visit as beneficial to the patient.
3. Arrangement of family relocation in cases where the center Relocation Division at both projects have been unable to work out a satisfactory plan and such visit is approved as necessary to complete or carry out the family plan. In approving visits for the purpose of discussing relocation it is believed that a decision should be deferred until the Relocation Divisions in both centers have discussed the matter in detail with the persons in such center and have forwarded a complete plan to the Relocation Program Officer in the other center. Visits for the purpose of relocation should not be approved, for example, in the case of persons who merely state that they want to talk with their friends or relatives "to see what he is going to do".

[Handwritten signature]

Mr. Mills -2-

The procedure outlined above is the same as agreed upon in November when Mr. Carter and several members of his staff discussed the matter with Mr. Huso and his staff. Henceforth, it will be our policy to disapprove all visits to and from this Project in cases where the primary reason is social visits, discussion of marriage plans, or stop-over in Phoenix. Persons who request visits to talk relocation or to settle matters of property in California will not be approved for short-term leave unless it can be clearly demonstrated that these matters cannot be handled through correspondence. It is hoped that the foregoing meets with your approval.

Sincerely,

L. H. Bennett
Project Director

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INCOMING TELETYPE #64 352PM

WASHINGTON
JAN 11, 1945

DUNCAN MILLS POSTON ARIZONA

REURTT 1/9/45 SOLDIER STATUS. MANUAL 150.1.10C/2/ NOW BEING BROADENED TO
INCLUDE SOLDIERS ON FURLOUGH AS WELL AS MEN AWAITING INDUCTION. PREVIOUSLY
OMITTED THROUGH OVERSIGHT. DISCHARGED SOLDIERS ON SAME BASIS WITH REGARD
CENTER ADMITTANCE AS RELOCATEES.

J. H. PROVINSE WRA WA

MILLS
LIPTAN
RELOCATION
BUTLER

JAN 12, 1945

Copy

copy
P E T I T I O N

January 18, 1945

TO: Mr. Duncan Mills - Project Director

On the twelfth day of January, 1945, Block #5 and #12 of Unit I received administration orders to consolidate their mess halls by January 29, 1945, through Mr. John L. E. Burdick, Chief Project Steward.

Each block had a meeting of the block and came to the conclusion that the consolidation of mess hall #5 and #12 or any other mess hall hardly gives any advantage to the Administration and W.R.A.

On the other hand, consolidation of mess halls will give plenty of trouble among the blocks and the mess halls. Therefore, the residents of Block #5 and #12 unanimously voted the consolidation plan is unwise and to ask to postpone consolidation program of mess halls indefinitely.

The evacuees, in general, are restless and confused by the notice of closing the center before most of the evacuees can find relocation points to re-establish their families.

There has been even a rumor going around that the W.R.A. is going to squeeze us out by cutting mess operations and trying to force us to go out of the center before we can find suitable places to relocate.

Several months ago, mess halls in the blocks of 150 residents or under, voluntarily cut their mess hall workers to 21, including Nutrition Aides. That was approved by administration and put to effect at that time, in order to avoid consolidation of mess halls. At present there is plenty of man-power and it is not necessary to cut mess hall workers by consolidation. The quota of the third quarter of the fiscal year already was given to Mess Operations. Therefore, there is no need of changing the present quota of mess hall workers. Besides, consolidation and suggested new quota for mess hall workers, will result in increasing jobless evacuees whose families may have to be taken care of by Family Welfare.

We, all Mess Hall workers of Unit I, are against consolidation of Mess Halls by which either the administration nor evacuees gain nothing but trouble and confusion.

We, all mess hall workers of Unit I, are against the suggested new quota for mess hall workers, except of a sliding scale of present quota which is valid until the end of March.

We, undersigned mess hall representatives, hereby present to you this petition to reconsider the consolidation program and suggested new quota for mess hall workers, through the Community Council for Poston.

Sincerely yours,

Mess Hall	#2	-	Kunichi Yokoyama
	#3	-	K. Arita
	#4	-	K. Miyake
	#5	-	Sadaichi Oda
	#6	-	Bunichi Kato
	#11	-	Kazuto Imanaka
	#12	-	H. Ezaki
	#13	-	Motoi Murai
	#14	-	Kanoo Mizuguchi
	#15	-	Ryuemon Asano
	#16	-	Toshio Hora
	#17	-	Masayoshi Nishijima
	#18	-	S. Ura
	#19	-	Saburo Sakaguchi
	#21	-	Ruichi Ooka
	#22	-	Raichi Shigemasa
	#26	-	George Ikuma
	#27	-	Taizo Saruwatari
	#28	-	Paul Kajihara
	#30	-	Yashizo Hoshino
	#31	-	S. Imagawa
	#32	-	Toshinosuke Murotake
	#35	-	Hatsuichi Kishi
	#36	-	Yusei Iwakura
	#37	-	Taichi Omori
	#38	-	Iwaki
	#39	-	Seichi Mitamura
	#42	-	Hikotaro Nagata
	#43	-	K. Kamimura
	#44	-	Tatsumi Harada
	#45	-	M. Kimura
	#46	-	Y. Sano
	#53	-	K. Sasaki
	#54	-	Y. Kitamura
	#59	-	I. Okutsu
	#60	-	S. Hoshizaki

COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER
Poston, Arizona

January 18, 1945

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MEMORANDUM TO: Relocation Advisers
Assistant Relocation Advisors

SUBJECT: Trips to Phoenix

In connection with Project Memorandum No. 67, all persons requesting short term leave to Phoenix for the purpose of transacting personal business not to exceed two days absence from the center should be referred to the Unit Administrator.

Trips requiring more than two days absence, as well as those requiring medical or dental care will be handled as previously through the Unit Relocation Office.

This new procedure will relieve the Relocation Office of a considerable amount of work.

Dorothy Stewick
Assistant Relocation Proj. Off.

DS:et

cc to: Wells
Carter
Fujikawa
Yagi

C
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Y

Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

January 20, 1945

Memorandum to R. H. Rupkey

Subject: Closing of the Mojave Room

As agreed upon at a conference in Mr. Lipian's office on the morning of January 19 and in conformance with instructions from Mr. D. S. Myer, Director, War Relocation Authority, you are hereby instructed to discontinue the operation of the Mojave Room on or prior to January 31, 1945.

I am hereby also instructing Mr. Lipian to arrange for the complete inventorying of and taking over the supplies and equipment in the custody of the Mojave Room which are properties of the War Relocation Authority.

If the skills of any of the evacuees presently employed in the Mojave Room can be utilized elsewhere it would be advisable to arrange for their transfer. The employees and the others concerned with the operation of the Mojave Room should be advised by you immediately, so they may have at least 10 days notice prior to the closing of this shop's operations.

/s/ Duncan Mills
Project Director

Colorado River Relocation Authority
Poston, Arizona

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January 22, 1945

Memorandum to Maurice Lipian
J. W. Powell
R. H. Rupkey
Pauline Brown
Corlies Carter
Scott Rowley
James LeBerthon
John L. Horn

Subject : Shopping in Parker

It appears desirable to clarify the project policy on shopping in Parker.

Some months before I arrived in Poston shopping by evacuees in Parker had been prohibited because of indications that some Parker people were being made unhappy by the depletion of stocks in the stores. At the time I arrived, and for some months thereafter, all work passes were marked "No shopping in Parker", these being virtually the only passes issued to Parker. We found, however, that some Parker merchants were interested in evacuee business and became increasingly interested in it after nearby Army installations were abandoned. We found also that it was impossible to prevent men holding work passes from shopping without stationing a full-time guard in Parker. Since the prohibition was ineffective it was abandoned a few months ago and as far as the project is concerned the only objection we have to men who have work passes shopping in Parker is the possible unauthorized use of project equipment.

Although a number of Parker merchants would welcome it, passes should not be issued to evacuees solely for the purpose of shopping in Parker for the reason that they are likely to buy in such volume that stocks of scarce articles will become depleted and the resentment of Parker residents again aroused. The number of persons with work passes who may avail themselves of the opportunity to shop is easily controlled by means of limiting the amount of project equipment in Parker on project business. Evacuees who desire to shop off the project should be informed of the existing procedure for passes to Phoenix.

Duncan Mills
Project Director

DM:dl

INCOMING TELETYPE #318P

WRA WASHINGTON JAN 29, 1945

DUNCAN MILLS POSTON ARIZ

REURTT 1-25-45. WE HAVE AGREEMENT WITH ARMY THAT PEOPLE WHO ARE NOT RESIDENTS OF RELOCATION CENTERS WOULD NOT BE RECOMMENDED FOR SEGREGATION. CONSEQUENTLY AS FAR AS WE ARE CONCERNED ANY PERSON WHO IS IN VISITING STATUS AT CENTER IS FREE TO GO SUBJECT ONLY TO INDIVIDUAL EXCLUSION ORDER WHICH WOULD PREVENT HIS RETURNING TO EVACUATED AREA. WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO TAKE ANY ACTION WHICH WOULD PROHIBIT HIS GOING TO OTHER SECTION OF THE COUNTRY.

D S MYSER WRA WA

*copy
JAN 21*
INCOMING TELETYPE # 218 (923 AM

WASHINGTON JAN 22, 1945

DUNCAN MILLS POSTON ARIZ

REURTT 1-18-45 PERSONS WHO HAVE BEEN SENT TO NEARBY HOSPITALS MERELY BECAUSE FACILITIES WERE NOT AVAILABLE AT CENTER MAY BE READMITTED AS CENTER RESIDENTS UPON DISCHARGE. CLARIFICATION ON WHOLE REINDUCTION POLICY AS IT AFFECTS HOSPITALIZED EVACUEES WILL BE FORTHCOMING SHORTLY. PARTICULAR GROUP MEDICALLY DISCHARGED FROM ARMY SERVICE AT INDUCTION CENTER SHOULD ALSO BE READMITTED. HOWEVER, EVACUEES GOING OUT TO REPORT FOR INDUCTION HEREAFTER SHOULD BE GIVEN SHORT-TERM LEAVE WHICH SHOULD BE CONVERTED TO INDEFINITE DEPARTURE AFTER ACTUAL ARMY INDUCTION. CLARIFICATION ON THIS WILL ~~BE~~ ALSO SOON BE ISSUED.

D S MYER WRA WA

mills
relocation-3
powell
butler

JAN 23 1945

copy
*Parker
Business
Relations*

Parker, Arizona
February 6, 1945

Mr. Duncan Mills
Director Poston Camp
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Mills:

The purpose of this letter to you and your associates at Poston, Arizona, is to inform you that we as business people and interested citizens of Parker, Arizona, bear no malice or hold no grudge against the Japanese people and those who are assisting them in the Poston Camp. And we further want to state that we are desirous of obtaining whatever business the inhabitants of Poston may have to offer business people outside of Poston. We will be glad to serve employees and Japanese alike in our places of business in Parker, Arizona.

Thanking you for whatever assistance you can and will give us in helping obtain patronage from Poston Camp, we are

Very sincerely yours,

INDIVIDUAL

K. L. DePue
J. L. Foster
Floyd D. Smith
J. G. Ewall
J. B. Shelton
Wade M. Marrs
James B. Emmons
Lena Pool
Thomas Kinder
Cecil Florence
Sandy Clay
J. Q. Fuqua
Thos. B. Georgakin
Mrs. R. H. Thompson
Mrs. H. O. White
E. H. Couch
N. D. Van Wagenen
W. F. Stephan
Winifred Burritt
Robert W. Vasarhely
W. J. Parker
Mrs. A. L. DePue
Mrs. O. Smith
O. H. Wester
David F. McConnell
Ruel Lightfoot

BUSINESS CONDUCTED

Variety Store
City Drug Store
Restaurant
Popular Store
Shelton Gro.
Shelton Butcher
Parker Pool Hall
Parker Malt Shop
Parker Taxi Service
Food Distributor
Western Truck Lines (Agent)
Parker Commercial Co.
Parker Cafe
Parker Lumber & Supply Co.
Mgr. of Rice Commercial Co. or (Gift Shop)
Shell Station
Arizona Theatre
Oasis Bar
Marinello Beauty Shop
Parker Lbr. & Supply
Santa Fe

AT&SF Ticket Clerk
Atchison Topeka & Santa Fe Ry.
Shelton's Groc.

007.1

INDIVIDUAL

W. P. Hendrix
Theresa English
Mrs. Cecil Florence
Mrs. Sandy Clay
Ruth Fuqua
Perry Mershon
Eleanor Groszakin
Ruth K. Marrs
George T. Hanley
Voyd Robinson
Imogene Cole
D. L. Beaver
Rodney Vanegas
R. M. Rowan
Tom Keyes
H. O. White
W. H. Marrizne

BUSINESS CONDUCTED

Shelton Groc.

Parker Commercial Co.
Parker Commercial Co.
Parker Cafe
Shelton's Food Store
The Texas Company
U. S. Indian Service

Parker Motor Co.
Parker Motor Co.
Parker Arizona
Oasis Bartender
Trailer Court
Gift Shop

Orig. dir.
DRAFT

February 20, 1945

SUBJECT: Inventory and Record Control of Government Properties Used
in Evacuee Housing and all Unit Administrative Offices

A. General Statement

Since the reorganization of Project Administration in January, 1944, resulting in the realignment of responsibilities for Unit Administration, the Evacuee Unit Administrators have exercised defacto responsibility for all government properties used in the blocks for evacuee housing purposes. However, the Unit Administrators have not been formally considered totally responsible for such properties as the nominal responsibility therefor until October, 1944 was assumed by the Deputy Project Director and after that date by the Project Director or the Assistant Project Director in charge of Community Management Division.

In order to establish more definite lines of Administrative responsibility, it has been determined that hereafter the total custodial responsibility as well as responsibility for the maintenance of internal control records and the determination as to movement of properties between the blocks in any one Unit will rest solely with the respective Unit Administrators. Similarly, responsibility for the movement of properties within the blocks will be vested in the respective Block Managers. The control exercised by the Unit Administrators shall be on the same level as that exercised by Division Chiefs over property for which they have assumed custodial responsibilities and shall be subject to the same general supply and property control procedure prescribed in the Supply Section Handbooks.

For purposes of requisitioning equipment, materials and supplies for use within the blocks and Unit Administrative offices, the

February 20, 1945

Unit Administrator shall assume the responsibility defined in Project Memorandum No. 75 as that of a Division Chief. Authority to requisition equipment, materials and supplies other than for evacuee housing may not be delegated by the Unit Administrator without the prior written approval of the Project Director addressed to the Supply Officer.

In order to comply with the prescribed Property control regulations, it is necessary to establish greater uniformity in the methods of maintaining inventory control of property records and in the methods of requisitioning from and return to the warehouse of properties used in evacuee housing.

To prevent misunderstanding of responsibilities of the respective individuals involved in connection with properties used in evacuee housing, there follows a brief description of those responsibilities:

1. Responsibility of the Unit Administrator

The Unit Administrator shall be personally responsible for all government properties entrusted into his custody for the use of evacuee residents within all blocks of his unit and for the proper maintenance of adequate and acceptable records in connection therewith. *And Unit Administrator's office*

2. Responsibility of the Block Managers' Supervisor

The Block Managers' Supervisor shall be personally responsible to the Unit Administrator for the performance of all functions which may be properly delegated to him by the Unit Administrator in connection with the record keeping, acquisition and disposition of properties used in evacuee housing.

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3. Responsibility of the Block Managers

The Block Managers shall be personally responsible to the Unit Administrator through the Block Managers' Supervisor for all government properties within their blocks entrusted into their custody and for the maintenance of adequate records in connection therewith.

4. Responsibility of the Individual Evacuee

The individual evacuee into whose custody and possession government property has been issued is personally and financially liable to the Block Manager, the Unit Administrator through the Block Managers' Supervisor, and the Project Director for the care and safe-keeping of such government property, until it has been returned in an acceptable condition and release from custodial responsibility has been granted.

5. Responsibility of the Project Supply Officer

The Project supply officer shall be responsible for the overall installation of a uniform method of record keeping, the official supervision and recurrent audit thereof as well as ^{investigation} ~~investigating~~ recurrent physical inventories of these properties and total reconciliation thereof with the Unit Administrators' records and the official project records. He shall also be responsible for the requisition, acquisition, transfer, removal or disposition of properties in all Units as requested by the Unit Administrator and in accordance with established procedure.

B. Maintenance of Records related to Properties Used in Evacuee Housing

1. Records maintained by the Unit Administrators

a. The respective Unit Administrators shall maintain a record

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of issuances to the Block Managers on Form WRA-Colo.River-183, section or Activity Accountability Record. Entries to these records shall be made as provided for hereinbelow.

- b. In addition thereto the respective Unit Administrators shall maintain individual files of issuance to each Block Manager within their respective Units. Form WRA-108 (Rev.), shall be used to summarize inventory of issuances to the Block Manager, and Form WRA-7 shall be used for recording issuance of property to and receipts of property from the Block Manager. These forms shall be used as supporting data for establishing inventories of properties for which the respective Block Managers are responsible.
- c. The Unit Administrator may delegate the responsibility for the actual maintenance of all records herein prescribed to the respective Block Managers' supervisor. However, overall responsibility therefor shall remain with the Unit Administrator.

d.
2. Records to be maintained by the Block Manager

- a. The Block Managers shall maintain perpetual inventory control of property records which shall reflect issues to the evacuee, on an individual basis, through the use of Form WRA-108 (Rev.)

- (1). Receipt of property by the evacuee shall be evidenced by Form WRA-Colo.River-177 prepared in an original only which shall be signed by the evacuee at the time he receives government properties. Items of property so issued to the evacuee shall be transcribed therefrom to WRA-108 (Rev.) and to Form WRA-Colo.River-183

*Original
Properties received*

d. Similar records shall be maintained by the Unit Administrator for properties in the Unit Administrative offices.

February 20, 1945

as provided hereinbelow. Form WRA-Colo.River-177 shall thereupon be securely fastened to Form WRA-108 (Rev.) and filed for future reference.

(2). Returns of property to the Block Manager by the evacuee shall be evidenced by the return to the evacuee of the corresponding receipt, WRA-Colo.River-177, and the property so returned shall be ruled off of the perpetual inventory of the evacuee Form WRA-108, (Rev.) by the Block Manager and corresponding entries shall be made therefrom to Form WRA-Colo.River-183.

b. In addition thereto the Block Manager shall maintain a record by item of all issuances of property to evacuees on Form WRA-Colo.River-183, Section or Activity Accountability Record. Postings to this record shall be made from the individual perpetual inventory control record Form WRA-108 (Rev.)

C. Requisition and Receipt of Property

1. All requisitions for property by the evacuee shall be submitted to the Block Manager in the manner prescribed by the Block Manager.
2. The Block Manager shall consolidate all requisitions received from residents within the block and shall submit such consolidated requisitions for materials and supplies and/or equipment no oftener than once a week to the Block Managers' Supervisor, through the use of Form WRA-7, prepared in duplicate. The original copy of Form WRA-7 shall be transmitted to the Block Managers' Supervisor and the duplicate copy thereof shall be retained in the files of the Block Manager for his own reference.

February 20, 1945

3. The Block Managers' Supervisor shall consolidate all requisitions received from the Block Managers and shall submit such consolidated requisition for materials and supplies and/or equipment no oftener than once a week to the Unit Administrator for approval and signature. This requisition shall likewise be prepared on Form WRA-7 and shall comply with all requirements prescribed in Project Memorandum No. 75.
4. Delivery of items so requisitioned by the Unit Administrator and approved by the Supply Officer shall be made on Friday of each week in accordance with the schedule of deliveries provided in Project Memorandum No. 75. All deliveries shall be made to the Unit Administrator and receipt of such property shall be evidenced by the Unit Administrator or his officially designated representative.
5. Distribution of items so received, to the Block Managers shall be made by the Unit Administrator or his designated representative and receipt of such property shall be evidenced by the signature of the Block Manager on the original copy of Form WRA-7 previously submitted as requisition for those items. Form WRA-7 shall thereupon become a part of the file of the Unit Administrator evidencing issuances of property to the Block Managers and postings therefrom shall be made to Form WRA-Colo.River-163, Section or Activity Accountability, as provided hereinabove.
6. Delivery of properties to the residents shall be evidenced by the use of Form WRA-Colo.River-177 as provided hereinabove.

D. Transfer of Property Between Blocks

1. Transfer of property between residents within a block of a

February 20, 1945

Unit may be made only with the prior approval of that Block Manager since it is his responsibility to adjust his internal records and obtain necessary signatures involved in such transfer.

2. Transfer of property from one block to another within a Unit may be made only with the prior approval of the Unit Administrator, or Block Managers' supervisor if authority for such approval has been delegated to him by the Unit Administrator. In such instances, Form WRA-Colo.River-177 shall be prepared in triplicate and the Unit Administrator shall signify his approval by signing in the space provided for the signature of the warehouseman. Distribution of the three copies shall be made as follows:

Original: To the Block Manager releasing the property.

1st Copy: To the Unit Administrator

2nd Copy: To the Block Manager receiving the property.

All copies of Form WRA-Colo.River-177 evidencing transfer of property between blocks, shall be plainly marked "Transfer From Block ____ to Block ____."

3. Transfers of property between the Units shall not be permitted without prior written approval of the Supply Officer. In such instances, procedure evidencing the transfer shall be prescribed by the supply officer, depending on the circumstances of each requested transfer.

E. Return of Property to the Warehouse

1. It is the responsibility of each evacuee to report all of his surplus property to his Block Manager.

February 20, 1945

2. On determination by the Block Manager that a surplus of property exists within the block, he shall prepare Memo Receipt for Property Transfer, Form WRA-Colo.River-177, in triplicate, listing such property. Form WRA-Colo.River-177 together with the property so listed shall thereupon be delivered to the Unit Administrator or his delegated representative who shall consolidate such surplus property with surplus declared by other blocks and shall thereupon make delivery to the Property and Warehousing Officer. The Property and Warehousing Officer shall acknowledge receipt of such property by signing in the space provided for that purpose on Form WRA-Colo.River-177, and retain the second copy thereof for his files. The original and first copy of Form WRA-Colo.River-177 signed by the Property and Warehousing Officer shall be returned to the Unit Administrator or his designated representative.
 3. On receipt thereof the Unit Administrator shall prepare Material Delivery Ticket, Form WRA-96, in an original and four copies as prescribed in Project Memorandum No. 68, and shall deliver the original and all copies thereof to the Property and Warehousing Officer. Distribution of Form WRA-96 shall thereupon be made in accordance with ^{provisions of} Project Memorandum No. 68. Upon return of Form WRA-96, the Unit Administrator or his designated representative shall match it up and securely fasten it to the related WRA-Colo.River-177 and file it for future reference.
- 4.
- F. Report of Property Loss, Damage or Theft
1. It is the responsibility of each evacuee to immediately report to the Block Manager any evidence of property loss or damage.

4. Return of surplus properties, major office equipment, typewriters, desks, etc, from the Unit Administrative offices shall be as provided in Project Memorandum No. 68.

February 20, 1945

2. On determination by the Block Manager that property has been lost, damaged or stolen, he shall report such cases in accordance with procedures prescribed in Project Memorandum No. 76. (Only in this manner can the evacuee, the Block Manager, and the Unit Administrator be relieved of personal responsibility for property so lost, damaged or stolen.)

3. Form WRA-Colo.River-182, prepared as prescribed in Project Memorandum No. 76, shall be routed to the Property and Warehousing officer through the Unit Administrator.

4. 6. Inventory of all Government Properties in Blocks and Unit Administrative Offices

Through promiscuity or otherwise many government properties have been taken to the blocks from places of employment or have been transferred from one block to another when residents have moved their homes, without a proper transfer ^{documentation} record to evidence the movement of the property. In a few instances due to the turnover in Block Managers, records evidencing issuance of property to evacuees have been ^{incorrectly} ~~loosely~~ maintained.

In order to reconcile all properties now in the blocks and in the Unit Administrative offices with the official records maintained by the Property Control and Warehousing Unit it becomes necessary to take a complete physical inventory of all such properties and have it completely reconciled with the official project records not later than March 31, 1945. To accomplish this, the following steps shall be taken:

1. The Supply officer shall provide the Unit Administrators with a sufficient quantity of forms WRA-108 (Rev.), Physical Inventory of Property, especially mimeographed for this purpose, listing thereon most of the items normally used within the blocks and

4. Provisions of this section do not relieve the Unit Administrator from individually reporting the loss, damage or theft of any property for which he has assumed responsibility to the Property and Warehousing Officer, in accordance with provisions of Project Memorandum No. 76.

February 20, 1945

and issued by the Block Managers to the residents thereof. Additional items not so listed shall be inserted by the Block Managers as the physical inventories are taken.

2. The Unit Administrators, in cooperation with the Supply Officer shall arrange a definite schedule for the completion of the inventory. (For purposes of this inventory, the Unit Administrators may delegate the Block Managers' supervisor to act for him. However, responsibility for the completion of the inventory in a satisfactory manner according to schedule remains with the Unit Administrator.)
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2/20/45
- a. The Unit Administrators shall instruct the Block Managers on methods for accomplishing the physical inventory counts and shall exercise the degree of personal supervision necessary to make certain that it is properly completed. In this connection, the Unit Administrators shall consult with and be guided by the recommendations made by the Supply Officer.
 - b. Form WRA-108 (Rev.) shall be prepared in an original and two copies for each evacuee resident to whom government property has been issued. This form shall be typewritten where possible or otherwise manually printed in ink or in indelible pencil.
 - c. On completion of the physical inventory, the evacuee shall signify his concurrence with data indicated on Form WRA-108 (Rev.) and his acceptance of responsibility for these property by signing in the space provided on the form. Similarly, the respective Block Managers shall certify as to the accuracy of the inventory by signing in the space provided for their signature.
3. On completion of all individual inventories, the respective

February 20, 1945

Block Managers shall prepare an overall summary thereof on Form WRA-108 (Rev.) in an original and two copies. All copies shall be plainly marked "SUMMARY." On this summary, the Block Manager's name shall be entered in the space provided for the name of the evacuee and he shall sign in the space provided therein, acknowledging the correctness of the "summary" and his custodial responsibility for the properties in his block.

4. On completion of the Inventory Summary, distribution thereof, together with the individual inventories, shall be made as follows:

- a. The original copy of the summary shall be stapled to the original copies of the individual evacuee inventories and transmitted to the Unit Administrator, who shall certify as to the correctness of the summarization. He shall thereupon transmit the complete set of these data representing the completed inventory to the Supply Officer who shall, upon review thereof, forward these data to the Property and Warehousing Officer for reconciliation with the official project records. (Authority for approving and signing the completed inventory may not be delegated by the Unit Administrator.)
- b. The 1st copy of the summary shall be transmitted to and retained by the Unit Administrator for his records, evidencing the Block Managers' accountability for the property.
- c. The second copy of the Summary shall be retained in the files of the respective Block Manager together with the first copy of the individual inventory and shall be used by him as a perpetual inventory of property charged to

February 20, 1945

the evacuee. The second copy of the individual inventory shall be returned to the evacuee for his own future reference.

5. The Block Managers, Block Managers' Supervisors, and Unit Administrators shall complete the physical inventory of all government properties in their own custody or within their office on a separate Form WRA-108 (Rev.) which shall be labelled "Inventory of Property in the ~~Individual~~ ^{AT} ^{Custody of} _____". On completion of such inventory, summarization and distribution of copies shall be identical with that provided in Paragraphs 4 hereinabove.

H. Amendment of Previous Instructions

Provisions of previous project memoranda and instructions which conflict with procedures contained herein are hereby superseded.

Duncan Mills
Project Director

Colorado River War Relocation Project
Poston, Arizona

April 3, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Gelvin
Mr. Evans
Mr. Crawford
Mr. Burge

I have been wondering recently if it would not be advisable to take a survey of all families with sons in the Armed Services and find out how many have fathers in the internment camps, then ask that the cases of these fathers be reopened with the possibility of bringing them to Poston.

Will you please have a survey made of all such families and submit the names to me with your recommendations.

W. Wade Head
W. WADE HEAD
Project Director

WWH:hj

Done.
3/5/43
14/2

4/23/45

C O P Y

INCOMING TELETYPE 92

930AM

WASHINGTON D.C.
APRIL 21, 1945

DUNCAN MILLS POSTON ATTN..WELFARE AND RELOC OFORS

IF FAMILY PLAN INCLUDES RECOMMENDATION THAT FAMILY APPLY FOR RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE TO PROVIDE HOUSE FURNISHINGS, ESSENTIAL THAT YOU CHECK PROPERTY AT CENTER AND PROPERTY RECORDS IN SAN FRANCISCO OFFICE AND INCLUDE INFORMATION IN SUMMARY. EACH SUMMARY SHOULD STATE WHETHER OR NOT ANY PROPERTY IS OWNED, APPROXIMATE VALUE, AND PRINCIPAL ITEMS INCLUDED. SUMMARIES SHOULD REACH RELOCATION OFFICE BEFORE FAMILY MAKES APPLICATION FOR ASSISTANCE. IF FAMILY HAS PROPERTY STORED IN PRIVATE STORAGE OR WITH FRIENDS, FAMILY SHOULD SECURE FROM THEM INFORMATION AS TO CONDITION OF PROPERTY AND AVAILABILITY FOR USE IN COMMUNITY OF RESETTLEMENT. ALL EVACUEES SHOULD BRING WITH THEM FROM THE CENTER TO RESETTLEMENT, COMMUNITY ALL PERSONAL HOUSEHOLD LINENS, DISHES, KITCHEN EQUIPMENT AND OTHER HOUSEHOLD FURNISHINGS WHICH ARE IN THEIR POSSESSION DUE TO SHORTAGE ON LOCAL MARKETS.

MILLS
BUTLER, ACTION
MALCOLM PITTS
C CARTER

Poston Admin. Notice

Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

April 28, 1945

MEMO TO: Mr. D. French

SUBJECT: Seventh War Loan Drive

Please personally solicit each member of your staff and secure replies as soon as possible. In order to make pay roll deductions for the last half of April, the information must be given to the Pay Roll Unit on May 2. Make your first report to your division head or his designated representative by that date.

Lee Mechem

Lee Mechem
Bond Drive Chairman

COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER
Poston, Arizona

Mills

May 5, 1945

MEMO TO: Mr. Lipian
Dr. Powell
Mr. Parnell
Mr. Sharp
Mr. Connolly
Mr. Palmer

SUBJECT: Return of Lands to Office of Indian Affairs

Mr. Pitts and Mr. Utz telephoned today to say that the following arrangements for return of lands to the Office of Indian Affairs had been tentatively agreed upon:

1. We are to turn over to the Office of Indian Affairs all lands within the confines of the present project area except the areas included in the three unit townsites, the hog and poultry plants, the shop and personnel housing areas, and the sewage disposal plants and fields.
2. All lands except those reserved above and those now planted to vegetables are to be turned over immediately.
3. We are to reserve access to the areas now planted to vegetable crops and to the hog farm.
4. Areas outside the three townsites which are now planted to vegetables will be turned over to the Office of Indian Affairs upon completion of the vegetable harvest.
5. We are to be relieved of irrigation water charges from January 1, 1945 on all areas which we are now turning back. We are to pay water charges, however, on areas planted to vegetable crops.
6. The Office of Indian Affairs will take over the contract which we have recently executed for the cutting of 280 acres of alfalfa, except for the small areas included in this contract which lie within the areas to be retained.
7. It is understood that the Office of Indian Affairs or its designee will proceed at once to harvest the grain crops which are now ready for harvesting.
8. Our Washington office has indicated that it will turn over to the Office of Indian Affairs, through established surplus procedures, certain alfalfa seed which I understand we have on hand. In the event that other seed which we may have is requested, this too will be handled in the same manner.

9. Our Washington office has agreed that we will lend to the Office of Indian Affairs for a period not to extend beyond June 30, 1945, certain items of farm equipment which may be required in the operation of the lands which are being turned back.* I believe these equipment items are included in surplus declarations which we have already transmitted to Washington.

We should initiate the following actions at once:

1. Mr. Parnell is preparing a marked map and legal descriptions of the areas to be retained which we are to transmit to Washington for inclusion in the Memorandum of Understanding.

2. It will be necessary for us, in collaboration with the Colorado River Indian Agency, to break down the existing contract for the cutting of the 280 acres of alfalfa in order to separate the areas to be turned back from those to be retained by us.

3. The Colorado River Indian Agency has recently submitted its bill for water charges for the current period. Settlement of this account should be held in abeyance until the Memorandum of Understanding has been executed.

Duncan Mills
Project Director

DMills:eeh

cc: Mr. Gensler

** Indian Service to maintain.*

INCOMING TELETYPE 33

1110AM

WRA WASHINGTON
MAY 19, 1945

copy

DUNCAN MILLS POSTON ARIZ

ATTN: WELFARE SECTION RELOCATION DIVISION

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 1945, RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE RELIGNED AS FOLLOWS-- 1. WRA WILL PROVIDE AID THROUGH GRANTS COMPUTED AND ISSUED AT CENTER FOR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE SUCH AS FURNITURE, ADVANCE RENT, ONE MONTH'S FOOD AND TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONAL EFFECTS FROM RAILWAY STATION TO RESIDENCE TO THOSE NEEDING ONLY THIS TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE. WRA WILL ALSO ISSUE GRANTS FOR FURNITURE TO DEPENDENCY CASES. 2. SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD THROUGH STATE AND LOCAL WELFARE AGENCIES WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FOR MAINTENANCE NEEDS AND MEDICAL CARE, NOT INCLUDING FURNITURE, OF DEPENDENCY CASES NEEDING CONTINUING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. 3. SSB, THROUGH STATE AND LOCAL WELFARE AGENCIES WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FOR UNFORESEEN NEEDS OCCURRING AFTER RESETTLEMENT.

PROCEDURE FOR ITEM (1) NOW BEING DEVELOPED AND WILL BE SENT TO CENTERS AND FIELD OFFICE NEXT WEEK.

GRANTS FOR FURNITURE LIMITED TO FAMILIES OF 3 OR MORE MEMBERS WITH DEDUCTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL WAGE EARNERS, FURNITURE OWNED, AND CASH RESOURCES. NO GRANT FOR FURNITURE TO EXCEED \$300 AND AVERAGE GRANT TO BE \$150 PER FAMILY. FAMILIES EXPECTED TO USE \$25 PER PERSON LEAVE ASSISTANCE GRANT TO MEET ADVANCE RENT AND FOODS COSTS UNTIL RECEIPT OF PAY CHECK BUT TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE MAY BE GRANTED NOT TO EXCEED \$12.50 PER WEEK FOR FOOD. GRANTS FOR ADVANCE RENT AND TRANSPORTATION OF GOODS ACCORDING TO SCALE IN PROCEDURE BEING DRAFTED. GRANTS FOR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE SHALL NOT BE MADE MORE THAN TEN PERCENT OF NON-DEPENDENT FAMILIES IN CENTER. THIS LIMITATION WILL NECESSITATE CAREFUL EVALUATION OF EACH APPLICATION BY RELOCATION AND WELFARE STAFFS TO ASSURE EQUITABLE TREATMENT.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION YOUR CENTER FOR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE DURING REMAINDER OF PROGRAM \$166,405. BASED ON 346 DEPENDENT FAMILIES NEEDING \$150 EACH AND 266 NON-DEPENDENT FAMILIES NEEDING \$242.50 EACH. ALLOTMENTS WILL BE PREPARED AND FORWARDED UNDER OBJECTIVE CLASS 11.3 PM FOR \$33,000 OR ESTIMATED 2/7TH NEEDED DURING JUNE WHICH CAN BE FINANCED FROM 1945 APPROPRIATION. COST OF REMAINING 5/7TH CAN BE MET FROM 1946 APPROPRIATION IF CONGRESS APPROPRIATES FUNDS REQUESTED. YOU MAY REQUEST ADDITIONAL ALLOTMENT FOR JUNE, PROVIDED EXPENDITURES DURING REMAINING 6 MONTHS WILL NOT EXCEED TOTAL APPROPRIATION.

MALCOLM S PITTS

MILLS
C CARTER (ACTION)
LIPIAN
CONNOLLY

Mayor's Office
J. Albin Anderson, Jr.
Mayor

Coverup

City Of
Springfield
Massachusetts

THE CITY OF
SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS

May 28, 1945

Mr. Duncan Mills, Project Director
Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Mills:

About four months ago Charles G. McCallister of the War Relocation Agency in Hartford, Connecticut came to Springfield to seek the assistance of the community in relocating loyal Japanese-Americans in the Springfield area. A competent committee was chosen and despite some initial, uncontrolled, unfavorable publicity, the committee has met with considerable success in preparing the community for reception of some of the dislocated citizens.

Approximately twenty-eight offers of jobs have been received to date, including positions as farmers, houseman and housewife, shoe cobblers, and even offers of small neighborhood businesses. The local Morris Plan bank has offered to furnish financial assistance in taking over small neighborhood businesses.

We have arrived at a point where the local activity is running much in advance of cooperation from the federal agency. We feel that the time has arrived when it would be most advantageous for you to send one of your Japanese-Americans to the Springfield area for the purpose of getting the ground knowledge of the situation so that he may take it back to the center with the expectation that he may persuade a group to come to this area.

Unless some step like this is taken shortly, we fear that the community at large may get the erroneous impression that there is no longer a problem of relocating these citizens.

Your early and favorable reply to this request will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

J. ALBIN ANDERSON, JR. /s/
Mayor

Leone Office

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Room 6301, 350 Fifth Avenue
New York 1, New York

June 4, 1945

Mr. Duncan Mills
Poston, Colorado Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Mills:

In response to your letter dated May 19 in which you asked for information regarding housing facilities in New York and suburbs, may we state that we will endeavor to answer for New York and will refer your letter to our Newark, New Jersey Office for further information.

At the present time, we have temporary housing facility available in a one-family hostel apartment. The total rent is \$2 per day, and this furnished apartment accommodates six persons.

We have a hostel in Brooklyn which can accommodate single persons. (The hostel is a half hour from the W.R.A. Office.) Rates are \$1 a day per adult, room and meals, and 50¢ for children.

We have temporary accommodations for single women at the Y.W.C.A. and for single men at the Y.M.C.A. Approximate prices here are \$1 per day rent. Reservations made at these temporary residences must be paid for unless canceled.

We have a housing service in our W.R.A. Office where evacuees may secure leads for permanent housing. At present, we have approximately 100 unfurnished, steam-heated apartments. These all have hot water, private bath, kitchen, bedroom, and livingroom. They all rent for \$30 per month. They are all situated in made-over tenements--buildings of six stories without elevators.

There is a New York Public Housing Service called the City Vacancy Listing Bureau located at 1 East 44th Street, New York, New York. They have listings of ten thousand vacant apartments at the present time. Practically all of these are unheated flats. This means that the tenant supplies his own heat by means of coal or fuel oil used in either a "Space" or "Victrola" heater. These flats have hot water supplied. They usually have kitchen, private bath, living room, and two bedrooms. They are located in all parts of the city.

We have a few listings of homes for sale in the suburbs and have the names of some cooperative real estate agents who have assisted evacuees to purchase homes in this vicinity, and are anxious to help other evacuees.

In our files, we have only one house for rent. This is a $6\frac{1}{2}$ room house located on the Long Island Railroad, one hour from New York City. The heater is installed and the bath has not been yet installed. The tenants would use well water. Some furniture is provided. There is one-half acre for the tenant's use for gardening. Further information of this house can be found by writing directly to Mr. A. C. Abden, Deer Park, Long Island.

Your question on leases is hard to answer. In general, agents are not anxious to provide leases because they hope that O.P.A. will go out of existence, and that they will be able to raise the rents. It is not possible to buy refrigerators, although W.P.B. has given a conversion release to at least one manufacturing plant. Probably refrigerators will be available in the near future. Meantime, iceboxes are used by at least half of the people living in New York City. Ice is delivered daily.

Stoves are provided for apartments and houses. If necessary, they can be purchased.

It is possible to buy used furniture in New York City at very reasonable prices. House furnishings can be purchased.

We hope that this will give you some idea of housing facilities here. We suggest that families with children come immediately in order to get themselves established before school opens on September 8.

If there is further information which you would like, please feel free to write again.

Sincerely yours,

Mary H. S. Hayes /s/
Acting Relocation Officer in Charge
New York District Office

By Priscilla Ayres /s/
Relocation Officer

Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

June 8, 1945

MEMO TO: Captain Kenneth L. Henry
Commanding Officer
Local Security Command

SUBJECT: Authorization To Sign Gate Passes

Please add the name of Miss Lorraine Hilke,
Leave Office, to the list of those persons author-
ized to sign gate passes. Her signature follows:

Duncan Mills
Project Director

cc: Miss Gorham

Incoming telegram 64

Phoenix, Arizona
June 20, 1945

Duncan Mills Poston

The following is a press release you may wish to carry in your project newspapers. Project Press Release No. 143 B. For publication in project newspapers. Poston Units 2 and 3 will be closed to evacuee occupancy no later than October 1, 1945 according to an announcement just received by Project Director Duncan Mills. The announcement signed by Director Dillon S. Myer stated that administrative considerations plus the fact that continued normal relocating should in itself depopulate Units 2 and 3 on or before that date made the decision necessary. It also stated that Canal Camp of the Gila River Center would be closed by the same date for the same reasons. The announcements were made at this time in accordance with WRA's previously stated policy of giving the residents three months advance notice before closing centers or units. Mr. Myer stated "During the next three months, I am confident that you and your staff, with the cooperation of the evacuee committees can work out relocation plans with all the residents of Units 2 and 3 if need be the Washington office will provide additional assistance and I am asking all field offices of the authority to render special services to the Colorado River and Gila River Relocation centers during the closing period. It is expected that all residents of Units 2 and 3 will relocate before October 1, transfers to Unit 1 will be permitted only in those individual cases where WRA is not able to complete final relocation arrangements for persons in need of continuing public assistance or some form of institutional care. The Director's letter announcing closing of the three units sent to all projects. Also asked that appointive staff and evacuee leaders work out recommendations for setting of individual center closing dates prior to January 1, where feasible, relocation rates. It was announced that suggested procedures for the mechanics of closing of the units would be forwarded to the center within a short time.

M M Tozier WRA Washington DC

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~~Matsumoto Commercial~~

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Matsumoto Commercial School

Incoming Teletype #2
9:15 a.m.

WRA Washington
Backdate 6-20-45
June 21, 1945

Duncan Mills
Poston, Arizona

I have been considering carefully for several weeks, with the aid of key staff members in Washington, the administrative problems to which you called my attention some time ago, created by our attempt to continue in operation Units 2 and 3 of your center despite the sharp drop in the population of these units because of the successful relocation of former residents. After weighing the convenience to the present residents of continued operation of these two units until the closing date for your entire center against the benefits the residents will receive from early relocation and the administrative difficulties involved in keeping these units open, I have decided that Units 2 and 3 of your center should be closed to evacuee occupancy not later than October 1, 1945. We have also decided to close the canal unit of the Gila River Relocation Center by the same date, for the same reasons.

During the next three months, I am confident that you and your staff, with the cooperation of the evacuee committees, can work out relocation plans with all the residents of Units 2 and 3. If need be, the Washington Office will provide additional assistance and I am asking all field offices of the Authority to render special services to the Colorado River and Gila River Relocation Centers during this closing period.

This is a suitable time, I believe, to re-examine the status of our entire Relocation Program. The principal purpose of this letter is to secure from you, the members of your staff, and the leaders of the evacuee community, your ideas on how we can best complete the job we have before us. I am asking all other project directors and evacuee leaders to consider in the same way the procedures to be followed in closing their centers. We have considered these problems in the Washington Office for some time. We have six and one-half months left before final center closure. We would like to set up a schedule by which the several centers will be closed on successive dates instead of being all kept open until December 31. This seems to us highly desirable for the following reasons:

First of all, I believe everyone will agree that conditions will be much more favorable to relocation during July, August and September than during October, November and December. Housing is a problem in virtually every relocation district. The housing problem can be met better during the summer months than during the fall and winter months. The transportation problems will be more acute in the last three months of this year than during the rest of the summer. Transportation will become increasingly difficult as each month passes. In addition to the needs created by the military situation, there will be additional seasonal demands on the transportation system by Christmas mail and holiday traffic during the last two months of the year. Further, while I do not expect that the evacuees will experience serious difficulties in obtaining jobs during the last three months of the year, it is true that normally jobs are more plentiful during

the summer than during the winter months. Also, war cut-backs are beginning to be made, which will progressively make the employment situation less favorable for evacuees although it seems clear that the employment situation will be favorable for quite some time to come.

Still further, the business of moving and making an adjustment in a new locality is more difficult in the winter months than it will be during the next three or four months. There are other factors which favor early relocation. At present, we have an adequate staff to handle several times the present weekly and monthly volume of relocation. We must recognize, however, that as we come closer to the end of the year we shall lose additional staff members, some of them key personnel. Consequently, the amount of assistance we shall be able to offer evacuees in the field and at the center will diminish as time goes by.

Recently we have been offered many fine group relocation opportunities both on the Pacific coast and in other areas. These group opportunities are available only if we can get a sufficiently large group relocation in a short period of time to make the employers feel justified in making such opportunities available.

I feel certain that the early acceptance by relatively large groups of evacuees of such group relocation opportunities is the most effective means of dissolving local anti-Japanese American activities.

The final consideration, of course, and the most important one, is the fact that the Congress is now considering the last appropriation it will make to the War Relocation Authority. I have realized for some time that we could not reasonably expect the Congress to appropriate money for the maintenance of relocation center beyond a reasonable period after the West Coast Exclusion Order was lifted. Those of you who have followed the progress of our appropriation bill in the House Committee on Appropriations and on the floor of the House of Representatives know that there was a good deal of opposition to our continuing our operations after July 1 of this year. We have succeeded in convincing the legislative and administrative authorities of the Government so far that we were right in our belief that a full year of operation of the relocation centers beyond the date of the lifting of the Exclusion Order was necessary to enable the residents of the centers to complete their relocation plans and make their necessary adjustments.

The House of Representatives has just passed an appropriation bill providing money to operate centers until December 31, but did so only after it defeated by a small majority of only 18 votes an amendment that sought to reduce the amount of our appropriation by \$ 5,000,000 and that would have required W.R.A. to wind up all its business by next January 1. I am convinced that we would have been unable to get even this slim majority of 18 votes if it had not been for the plea that this was the last appropriation needed to complete our program. I am hopeful that the Senate will pass this appropriation. We shall have a very tight schedule to meet because

the Budget Bureau reduced by \$5,000,000 the sum we asked for and which we believed necessary to operate all centers until December 31. The larger the number of people who delay their departure from the relocation centers, the tighter our budget situation will be. If there should be a sizeable group within the relocation centers during the last two months, some of them may be almost stranded by lack of adequate transportation or by their failure to make adequate relocation plans earlier. I am sure that you can appreciate the additional difficulties which will face such evacuees at that time. A large scale movement during the winter season will place the later leavers among the evacuees in a very disadvantageous position in comparison to those who made earlier plans. We must be realistic about this and must recognize that a year is long enough time in which to make the personal adjustments and plans required for relocation. Many thousands of evacuees have already shown that this can be done in much less time than a year. In the light of these considerations, I wish that your staff, and the leaders of the evacuee community would immediately take further inventory of the specific operation you need to complete at your center. The number of relocation interviews completed and definite relocation plans made to date should be considered. Your transportation resources should be carefully investigated, as well as the number of temporary and continuing dependency cases and the further arrangements that may need to be made to provide for them. Upon completion of your consideration of these problems, please give me your recommendations as to when you can close the remaining unit of your center and what further steps you plan to take as the best way to do the job.

In working out a schedule of closing the centers on successive dates, we will, of course, live up to our commitment to give ninety days advance notice to the evacuees before closing any center. We have interpreted that commitment to require us to give ninety days advance notice before closing Units 2 and 3 at Poston and the Canal Unit at Gila. That is why we have announced that we shall close those units by not later than October 1. We have listed above in this letter the administrative considerations which impel us to announce the closing of those units by the date and to believe that we need now to work out a schedule of successive closings for the centers.

In considering a closing date for your center you may be assured that all appointive personnel who have rendered satisfactory service at your center will be needed either at your center to complete the administrative work in connection with closing or in another center or in a field office until W.R.A.'s administrative job is wholly finished.

Please discuss these considerations with the Community Council, other evacuee leaders, and staff members so that we may have your ideas and recommendations on how we can best serve the interests of all evacuees, keeping in mind the problems we have summarized which make early relocation so much more desirable than delayed relocation. We want to have the benefit of your recommendations.

I am leaving tonight on a trip to the West Coast and shall be back in my office on June 27. It would help me greatly if I could have your recommendations to study when I return or at least very shortly thereafter.

D. S. Myer

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COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER
Poston, Arizona

June 23, 1945

MEMO TO: Mr. Richard S. Nishimoto
Block Manager Supervisor
Unit I, Poston

SUBJECT: Transfers between Units

Instructions from the Washington Office regarding the closing of Units II and III state that transfers from these units to Unit I will be permitted only in those individual cases where W.R.A. is not able to complete final relocation arrangements for persons in need of continuing public assistance or some form of institution care.

Transfers of persons in the categories just mentioned will, of course, require my approval. Please instruct Unit I Block Managers that henceforth they have no authority to approve transfers of persons desiring to move from Units II and III to Unit I.

/s/ Duncan Mills
Project Director

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

July 5, 1945

Mr. Duesan Mills
Project Director
Colorado River Relocation Center
Preston, Arizona

Attention: Relocation Advisory Board

Dear Mr. Mills:

Thank you for the copies of your minutes for the May 31 meeting. We are glad to have your suggestions and recommendations.

In regard to the first suggestion concerning financial assistance to people wishing to travel from the project on short-term basis, we feel that the assistance for investigation trips partially meet this need and is as far as we are able to go. Investigation trips were developed in order to have representatives of various community groups report back the conditions and opportunities which they found in outside areas. It is obviously impossible for us to financially support each person while he again becomes acquainted with the outside world.

Since your fourth point is closely related to number one in that additional funds for subsistence enroute are recommended, we will answer that next. Investigation trips are really joint ventures between WRA and the people. It has been our experience that where investigators have a stake in their visits, such visits have become more beneficial in relocating their own families and the families of others. In cases of real hardship where an exploratory trip is mandatory or where the group is reported financially unable to pay for such minor expenses as subsistence, we will consider a request from the Relocation Advisory Board and Project Director to provide necessary aid.

The second point concerning the limitation for resettlement assistance at the project level is also worthy of comment. The financial assistance is limited because of the amount of money available for this purpose and because more cannot be justified on a basis of need. The fact that it is limited to families of three or more is realistic because couples, whether young or old, and single individuals, are able to secure furnished housing and become reestablished much more readily than families in which there is a child or other dependents.

Your other points, three and five, relate directly to project procedure. We commend you on the consideration of such matters and hope that you will continue to give us the benefit of your suggestions and recommendations.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Iyer
Director

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

211 Lettmanish Bldg.,

Watsonville, Calif.

July 6th, 1945.

Mr. Carlisle Carter,
Relocation Program Officer,
War Relocation Authority,
Colorado River Relocation Center,
Preston, Arizona.

Dear Carlisle:

Enclosed you will find a copy of the
resolution presented by the C. I. O. - Local 78 of Watson-
ville.

This is the resolution promised you in
our telegram of today.

Yours very truly,

THEL:DJH

/s/ T. Lewis

Theodore R. E. Lewis
Relocation Officer

C
O
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RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY: H. E. HANDBOOK

Mr. Chairman:

Brothers and Sisters:

Knowing full well that the interests of the working class are best served by presenting a united front against Fascism and that the foremost weapon of the Fascists is racial discrimination, I offer this resolution;

We resolve that we will always abide by our pledge not to discriminate against "anyone" because of race, creed, color, religion political Belief; and we especially pledge ourselves to uphold the United States Government in its decision to return loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry to their rightful homes and further uphold the rights of said citizens to engage in any lawful or useful occupation and we further pledge that we will assist any American of proven loyalty to enjoy the rights and privileges granted to them by our democratic constitution.

RESOLVED And passed by the entire body of Local 78.

C
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
3208 Hamilton Avenue
Fresno 2, California
July 9, 1945

Mr. Duncan Mills
Project Director
Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Mills:

A delegation representing the Board of Directors of the Japanese Language School at Reedley were in the office today and discussed the use of the school facilities for temporary family housing. The committee was composed of Messrs. S. G. Sakamoto, Jitaro Kodama, Denroku Sasaki, Terashi Ihara and Charles K. Iwasaki.

They state that the Board will make the facilities available immediately to returning evacuee families, who have their own furniture. Ten to fifteen families can be accommodated in the various buildings.

This is not a WRA hostel arrangement but is an enterprise undertaken by the Board of Directors on their own initiative. They will have complete supervision of the housing project. Preference will be given to former Reedley residents. Poston residents who are interested in securing housing accommodations should communicate directly with Mr. Denroku Sasaki, Rt. 1, Box 276, Reedley, California - Telephone 26 F 3. It is our understanding that a reasonable rental charge will be made for use of these premises and that there will be a maximum length of time that facilities may be used by a single family.

In our opinion, this arrangement should do much in speeding up relocation in the Reedley district. Every family will either have furniture in storage that can be transferred to this location or will be eligible for resettlement assistance at the Center, for the purchase of furniture.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Cecil Morgan
CECIL MORGAN,
Relocation Officer

DRAFT

7-13-45

For more than seven months we have been talking about closing relocation centers and about closing Poston in particular, and during that time a tremendous amount of discussion and argument has occurred as to the advisability of closing Poston, or the feasibility of closing, or the possibility of closing Poston. But the time for discussion and argument on the question of closing Poston is now past. Now is the time for action. I cannot conceive of anything more futile at this juncture than another series of meetings at which the question as to whether or not Poston can or will be closed is discussed. That decision has been made and will not be retraced. I expect to be quite busy and I know all of you will be and I trust you will use your influence to counsel against any further discussions about closing and to work instead to solve the problems of those who must relocate. I hope that you will not spend your time or permit the residents to spend their time or to take up my time in further discussion on this point. As I have said, I cannot conceive of anything more futile in the present situation. In the teletype which I have just read emphasis has been placed on the necessity of securing an even, orderly flow of movement over the next several months. Unfortunately we have not had this even flow thus far. There are, I am sure, many people in the center whose plans are complete, who have a place to go, and who have ordered packing boxes. And yet I see the same boxes standing in the blocks week after week. Apparently the decision has been made that they will relocate or the boxes would not have been ordered but for some reason or on some excuse they continue to stay on. It is not fair to the people who are unable to leave yet to have those who can go now put off going with the result that travel for all concerned will be much more difficult in the closing months.

In order to secure an even flow we must move 2,000 people in August. That will be our quota for the month. It will be broken down into units, districts, and blocks, and if necessary we will go into the blocks to find out why people who are able to go and whose plans are made are not going. Our relocation files are full of such cases and we have only to refer to the files to ascertain that they have a place to go, that all necessary arrangements have been made, but that they are putting off their departures as long as possible. We intend to use whatever pressure we can to see that these people do go soon in order that those who are unable to go now can have fair consideration when they need it. We are particularly interested now in seeing that families with children of school age leave before September. Many of them have been misled by bad advice to the effect that there will be schools of some kind in Poston in September. Insofar as Poston's school facilities are concerned, or its church buildings, or its recreation halls, there will be no schools. They are specifically prohibited by the director. The only way for families with children to give them proper schooling will be to see that they are entered in schools outside at the beginning of the school year.

I advise you most sincerely and seriously to counsel against any resistance to the closing. Absolutely nothing is to be gained by it. You may be quite sure that resistance will be ~~xx~~ met ~~xxx~~ by counter-measures and those who resist will be worse off in the long run than if they had accepted the decision and gone about making their plans accordingly.

I will ask all division chiefs to have ready for ^{the} next Wednesday morning staff meeting a draft of programs and procedures for closing first units two and three on October 1 and then for closing the entire center to evacuee occupancy on December 1. There is a need for a great deal of thorough planning and we should start on it immediately.

July 12, 1945

Duncan Mills, Poston, Arizona

Following statement regarding closing of relocation centers should be announced to residents your center at time of evening meal but not before. Announcement might well be made orally in mess halls but will leave this to your discretion. In any case statement should be reproduced in both English and Japanese for distribution as soon as possible to every family. Announcement to outside press is being made from here and will appear in tomorrow morning papers. Statement is entitled "A Message from the National Director to the Residents of Relocation Centers" and reads as follows:

"As you all know, WRA is primarily a service organization. Its main job is to help the people in Relocation centers become established once again in private life. During the past three years, in helping over 45,000 people to relocate, we have encountered almost every conceivable type of resettlement problem. Each family that has come forward for relocation assistance has presented a challenge to the energy and ingenuity of our staff members. No two cases have been exactly alike. Yet, in all cases without exception, we have been able to help the relocators in working out their own distinctive problems and in making an adequate adjustment. Never once have we found an individual or family relocation problem which we considered unsolvable. We do not expect to meet such problems in the future. It is highly important that we continue rendering this individualized type of assistance in relocation until the very end of the program. In order to do this effectively, however, we must have a comparatively even flow of movement out of the centers over the next several months. Such a movement is essential in order to insure continuously efficient service in individual or family counselling, in travel arrangements for the relocators, in transportation of personal property, in finding housing accommodations for resettlers, and in all the other lines of relocation assistance which WRA is now in excellent position to provide. Those who advise the residents of centers to hang on or tell them that their problems are unsolvable, therefore, are doing a most serious disservice. They are not only ignoring WRA's past record of relocation assistance but are actually working against the welfare of the people whom they pretend to help. We have considered the problem of rendering adequate assistance on an individual basis to every eligible family and every person still residing in relocation centers. We have also given attention to the shortage of transportation facilities which will inevitably become more acute in the fall months as additional thousands of troops are redeployed across the country. Because of these pressing considerations, we have decided on a gradual schedule for closing relocation centers over a period of two months instead of closing them all simultaneously. The following is the schedule for the closings of the relocation centers:

Granada on or before October 15
Central Utah and Minidoka on or before November 1
Heart Mountain and Gila River on or before November 15
Colorado River and Manzanar on or before December 1
Rohwer on or before December 15

In order to assure an even, orderly movement from the centers and a well planned program of assistance, it is essential that all residents should decide where they wish to relocate by September 1 at the latest. Our advice and assistance to you cannot be made effective until you have made that basic decision. I am greatly pleased with the high degree of success achieved by the more than 45,000 evacuees who already left relocation centers. The WRA is prepared to assist every one of you to make a similar successful readjustment. As I have indicated on various occasions at the centers, there is no such word as "can't" either in the vocabulary of center residents or in the vocabulary of WRA.

D. S. Myer
WRA

12:30 New Broadcast
from Phoenix today

Story on closing of
Mesa + Boston -

DC.

Duncan Mills

July 12, 1945

A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR TO RESIDENTS OF RELOCATION CENTERS

As you all know, WRA is primarily a service organization. Its main job is to help the people in Relocation centers become established once again in private life. During the past three years, in helping over 45,000 people to relocate, we have encountered almost every conceivable type of resettlement problem. Each family that has come forward for relocation assistance has presented a challenge to the energy and ingenuity of our staff members. No two cases have been exactly alike. Yet, in all cases without exception, we have been able to help the relocators in working out their own distinctive problems and in making an adequate adjustment. Never once have we found an individual or family relocation problem which we considered unsolvable. We do not expect to meet such problems in the future. It is highly important that we continue rendering this individualized type of assistance in relocation until the very end of the program. In order to do this effectively, however, we must have a comparatively even flow of movement out of the centers over the next several months. Such a movement is essential in order to insure continuously efficient service in individual or family counselling, in travel arrangements for the relocators, in transportation of personal property, in finding housing accommodations for resettlers, and in all the other lines of relocation assistance which WRA is now in excellent position to provide. Those who advise the residents of centers to hang on or tell them that their problems are unsolvable, therefore, are doing a most serious disservice. They are not only ignoring WRA's past record of relocation assistance but are actually working against the welfare of the people whom they pretend to help. We have considered the problem of rendering adequate assistance on an individual basis to every eligible family and person still residing in relocation centers. We have also given attention to the shortage of transportation facilities which will inevitably become more acute in the fall months as additional thousands of troops are redeployed across the country. Because of these pressing considerations, we have decided on a gradual schedule for closing relocation centers over a period of two months instead of closing them all simultaneously. The following is the schedule for the closings of the relocation centers:

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Dillon S. Myer
WRA Director

館府閉鎖に関する轉住局長よりの書簡

W.R.A.は皆様も御承知の如くも、一種の奉仕機関であります。従つてその目的たるや轉住所の皆様を、もう一度普通の生活に復歸させる援助をするにあるのであります。過去三々年間、吾々は四萬五千の人々を再住せしめその間、各種の再住問題に遭遇しました。再住援助を希望する各家族は積極的に吾々職員に向つて問題を投げかけてゐます。この人々の問題は一として同じものは有りません。併し例外なしに吾々は再住者へ援助を與へて來てをりますし又解決不能な再住問題は未だ一面もなかつたのであります。そして今後ともその様な懸念はないと思つて居ります。吾々は將來とも各人々々の事情に應じて再住の相談に預つて行くことが肝要であると信じてゐます。併し乍らこの仕事を効果的にするには今後の数ヶ月、センターから相當數量の人々が毎月平均的に再住して行くことが必要であります。と云ふのはそれに依つてW.R.A.は皆様に継続的に色々の特別援助——即ち再住相談、旅行、荷物の運輸、家屋探し、等々の援助を充分に與へる様にせんが爲であります。所が再住者に向つてセンターに頑張れ、とかあなた様の様な事情の人は絶対に再住不能だとか云ひ觸らす人々はW.R.A.の過去の業績を無視するのみならず又人の爲を計る振りをしてその人々に大きな不利を與へてゐることになるのであります。吾々は今、各人、或は各家族の個々の事情に基いて適當な援助を與へることを專心考慮中であります。而して又この秋の二、三ヶ月は軍隊の大陸横断大輸送が行はれる關係上、再住者の旅行が極めて困難になるであらうと云ふことも関心を拂はねばなりません。以上の諸問題を考慮に入れまして吾々は全センターを同時に閉鎖せずに二ヶ月間に漸次閉鎖すると云ふ方針を樹てたのであります。

各センターの閉鎖時期は左の通りであります。

アマチ	十月十五日	ハート山	十一月十五日	マンザナ	十二月一日
トパヅ	十一月一日	ヒラ	同	ロウワ	十二月十五日
ミニドカ	同	ポストン	十二月一日		

皆様は遅くとも来る九月一日迄に再住目的地を決定されることが大切であります。それはセンターより毎月平均量の再住者を出し且つ皆皆様への再住援助を各々が充分行ふことが出来る様にする爲であります。吾々は皆様が再住目的を確定されて初めて積極的に皆様の相談に應じ援助を與へることが出来るのであります。私は既に四萬五千の再住者を出し得てゐることに喜びを感じると同時にW.R.A.は皆様一人々残らずにこの四萬五千の再住者と同様の援助を與へる準備をしてゐることを申し上げたいのであります。私が今迄各地の轉住所に於て機会ある毎に申し上げた様に、こと、再轉住に関する限りW.R.A.の側に於ても皆様の側に於ても解決し得ない問題はないと云ふことを茲に再び申し上げたいと思ふのであります。

一九四五年七月十二日

轉住局長

D.S. マイヤー

387 PV PX 7-12-45 109PM

24 PX WAR VIA TWX/ DUNCAN MILLS POSTON ARIZONA

FOLLOWING STATEMENT REGARDING CLOSING OF RELOCATION CENTERS SHOULD BE ANNOUNCED TO RESIDENTS YOUR CENTER AT TIME OF EVENING MEAL BUT NOT BEFORE. ANNOUNCEMENT MIGHT WELL BE MADE ORALLY IN MESS HALLS BUT WILL LEAVE THIS TO YOUR DISCRETION. IN ANY CASE STATEMENT SHOULD BE REPRODUCED IN BOTH ENGLISH AND JAPANESE FOR DISTRIBUTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO EVERY FAMILY. ANNOUNCEMENT TO OUTSIDE PRESS IS BEING MADE FROM HERE AND WILL APPEAR IN TOMORROW MORNING PAPERS. STATEMENT IS ENTITLED A MESSAGE FROM THE NATIONAL DIRECTOR TO THE RESIDENTS OF RELOCATION CENTERS AND READS AS FOLLOWS-

" AS YOU ALL KNOW, WRA IS PRIMARILY A SERVICE ORGANIZATION. ITS MAIN JOB IS TO HELP THE PEOPLE IN RELOCATION CENTERS BECOME ESTABLISHED ONCE AGAIN IN PRIVATE LIFE. DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS, IN HELPING OVER 45,000 PEOPLE TO RELOCATE, WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED ALMOST EVERY CONCEIVABLE TYPE OF RESETTLEMENT PROBLEM.

3

PAGE TWO OF MESSAGE TO ALL CENTERS BEGINNING WITH NO 24 PX

EACH FAMILY THAT HAS COME FORWARD FOR RELOCATION ASSISTANCE HAS PRESENTED

A CHALLENGE TO THE ENERGY AND INGENUITY OF OUR A STAFF MEMBERS- NO TWO CASES HAVE BEEN EXACTLY ALIKE. YET, IN ALL CASES WITHOUT EXCEPTION, WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO HELP THE RELOCATORS IN WORKING OUT THEIR OWN DISTINCTIVE PROBLEMS AND IN MAKING AN ADEQUATE ADJUSTMENT. NEVER ONCE HAVE WE FOUND AN INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY RELOCATION PROBLEM WHICH WE CONSIDERED UNSOLVABLE. WE DO NOT EXPECT TO MEET SUCH PROBLEMS IN THE FUTURE. IT IS HIGHLY IMPORTANT THAT WE CONTINUE RENDERING THIS INDIVIDUALIZED TYPE OF ASSISTANCE IN RELOCATION UNTIL THE VERY END OF THE PROGRAM. IN ORDER TO DO THIS EFFECTIVELY, HOWEVER, WE MUST HAVE A COMPARATIVELY EVEN FLOW OF MOVEMENT OUT OF THE CENTERS OVER THE NEXT SEVERAL MONTHS. SUCH A MOVEMENT IS ESSENTIAL IN ORDER TO INSURE CONTINUOUSLY EFFICIENT SERVICE IN INDIVIDUAL OR FAMILY COUNSELLING, IN TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RELOCATORS, IN TRAPXX TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONAL PROPERTY, IN FINDING HOUSING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR RESETTLERS, AND IN ALL THE OTHER LINES OF RELOCATION ASSISTANCE WHICH WRA IS NOW IN EXCELLENT POSITION TO PROVIDE. THOSE WHO ADVISE THE RESIDENTS OF CENTERS TO HANG ^{ON} OR TELL THEM THAT THEIR // THEIR PROBLEMS ARE UNSOLVABLE, THEREFORE, ARE DOING A MOST SERIOUS DISSERVICE. THEY ARE NOT ONLY IN// ING// IGNORING WRA -S PAST RECORD OF RELOCATION ASSISTANCE BUT ARE ACTUALLY WORKING AGAINST THE WELFARE OF THE PEOPLE WHOM THEY PRETEND TO HELP. WE HAVE CONSIDERED THE PROBLEM OF RENDERING ADEQUATE ASSISTANCE ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS TO EVERY ELIGIBLE FAMILY AND EVERY PERSON STILL RESIDING IN RELOCATION CENTERS. WE HAVE ALSO

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~~RESIDING IN RELOCATION CENTERS.~~ WE HAVE ALSO GIVEN ATTENTION TO THE SHORTAGE OF TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES WHICH WILL INEVITABLY BECOME MORE ACUTE IN THE FALL MONTHS AS ADDITIONAL THMUSANDS OF TROOPS ARE REDEPLOYED ACROSS THE COUNTRY. BECAUSE OF THESE PRESSING CONSIDERATIONS, WE HAVE DECIDED ON A GRADUAL SCHEDULE FOR CLOSING RELOCATION CENTERS OVER A PERIOD OF TWO MONTHS INSTEAD OF CLOSING THEM ALL SIMULTANEOUSLY. THE FOLLOWING IS THE SCHEDULE FOR THE CLOINSG OF THE RELOCATION CENTERS-
GRANADA ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 15-
CENTRAL UTAH AND MINIDOKA ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1-
HEART MOUNTAIN AND GILA RIVER ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15-
COLORADO RIVER AND MANZANAR ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 1-
ROHWER ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 15.

IN ORDER TO ASSURE AN EVEN, ORDERLY MOVEMENT FROM THE CENTES AND A WELL PLANNED PROGRAM OF ASSISTANCE, IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT ALL RESIDENTS SHOULD DECIDE WHERE THEY WISH TO RELOCATE BY SEPTEMBER 1 AT THE LATEST. OUR ADVICE AND ASSISTANCE TO YOU CANNOT BE MADE EFFECTIVE UNTIL YOU HAVE MADE THAT BASIC DECISION. I AM GREATLY PLEASED WITH THE HIGH DEGREE OF SUCCESS ACHIEVED BY THE MORE THAN 45,000 EVC// EVACUEES ~~WHICH ALREADY LEFT THE RELOCATION CENTERS~~ THE WRA IS PREPARED 848488\$ EVER OVERLINED LAST LINE SRY

OK WONT START OVER TOO LONG WHICH LINE
LAST LINE WRITEN

XXXXXXXXX

WHO ALREADY LEFT RELOCATION CENTERS. THE WRA IS PREPARED TO ASSIST EVERY ONE OF YOU TO MAKE A SIMILAR SUCCESSFUL READJUSTMENT. AS I HAVE INDICATED ON VARIOUS OV// OCCASIONS AT THE CENTERS, THERE IS NO SUCH WORK AS "CANT" EITHER IN THE VOCABULARY OF CENTER RESIDENTS OR IN THE VOCABULARY OF WRA.

D. S. MYER WRA WA

LP135P

1ST LMW 2ND WD STATEMENT 45,000 15 1 15 1 14 // 15 1
45,000

VY 230PM

Mrs. Evans

INCOMING TELETYPE 438

2.46P

WASHINGTON D. C.
JULY 16, 1945

DUNCAN MILLS POSTON

THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT SOME CENTER ARE MISINTERPRETING PARAGRAPH 110 3 OF ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE 263 RE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE IN REESTABLISHING HOUSEHOLD. THEY ARE WIRING FIELD OFFICES FOR VERIFICATION OF WAGES FOR RESETTLED FAMILY MEMBERS AND WAGES EVACUEES ARE LIKELY TO RECEIVE 30 DAYS AFTER LEAVING CENTERS. WAGES FROM WRA FOR WORK PERFORMED IN CENTER ARE ONLY WAGES OF CENTER RESIDENTS TO BE INCLUDED AS CASH RESOURCE. DO NOT INCLUDE WAGES APPLICANTS ARE LIKELY TO RECEIVE AFTER LEAVING THE CENTER OR WAGES OF FAMILY MEMBER WHO HAS ALREADY RELOCATED. IF THE RELOCATED FAMILY MEMBER IS LIVE WITH THE PEOPLE RELOCATING, HE WILL BE CLASSIFIED AS A WAGE EARNER IN COMPUTING THE AMOUNT OF RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE TO BE ALLOCATED TO FAMILY.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

July 27, 1945

Mr. Duncan Mills
Project Director
Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Mills:

This refers to your letter of May 22, 1945 respecting the re-employment of evacuees by the Santa Fe Railroad. This letter was only recently referred to us for answer.

We have examined typical labor agreements between the railroads and the unions. In most cases the railroads have open shop agreements and thus may employ non-union labor. The agreements provide for establishing and maintaining seniority rights. Definite obligations are placed upon the employees in order that they may maintain their seniority, but no provision is made to retain seniority under circumstances such as confront the evacuee. A seniority roster is posted each year on January 1st and any employee having any protest is required to make such protest within 60 days.

Employees are permitted leaves of absence under the labor agreements but arrangements must be made between the employing officer and the chairman of the local committee representing the employees in order for the employee to retain his seniority. The only exception made under the rules, is in the case of sickness.

The agreements also provide the procedure for submitting grievances by the employee. Such steps may be followed in the event the railroads refuse re-employment in any specific case. If reinstatement is denied after submission of a grievance the employee may then pursue such remedies as he may have under the Railway Labor Act.

Technically the railroads are justified in denying reinstatement with seniority rights to those former employees who failed to protect their rights in accordance with the labor agreements. Unfortunately, through no fault of their own, the evacuees were unable to meet the requirements of the labor agreements as to leaves of absence. Thus they have at least a moral right to reinstatement since their employment was terminated through no choice of their own and since they were not discharged for reasons of incompetence or unsatisfactory service. There are some indications that as a matter of policy the railroads are not inclined to reinstate evacuee employees as a group.

Neither do the unions seem inclined to accept them as a group. However, there is some prospect that as individuals they will be re-employed and it would probably be best to present the problem on an individual case basis. In any event each specific case should be prosecuted separately for the reason that each employee must take every step possible to protect such rights as he may have.

To that end, it is suggested that each former railroad employee write a letter directly to the railroad and mail a copy to the Union to which he belonged, making application for re-employment with the railroad and for restoration of the seniority status which he enjoyed prior to evacuation.

It is further suggested that the letter state: (1) The date he was first employed by the railroad; (2) the continuity of his employment; (3) the fact that he was evacuated under executive order excluding all persons of Japanese descent from the West Coast and the specific date of his evacuation; (4) that the exclusion order has now been lifted and that he has been cleared by the military authority; (5) that relocation centers are to be closed and he is obliged to relocate; (6) that he has not engaged in any work since the time of evacuation; (7) that he is now ready and willing to accept a job with the railroad.

We suggest that this letter be drafted with the help of the Project Attorney.

The application for the job is the first step that must be taken by the former employee of the railroad to be restored to his position. This office will assist in every proper way in those cases where the railroad may refuse re-employment. In this connection it would be helpful if a copy of the letter of each applicant be forwarded to this office.

We believe that re-employment is the important factor and that once re-employed the evacuee will be in a better position to re-establish his seniority status.

Sincerely,

Kent Silverthorne /s/

Kent Silverthorne
Principal Attorney

COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER
Poston, Arizona

July 27, 1945

MEMO TO: Mr. Cassilly
Mr. Connolly
Mr. Thompson

Memo to Mr. Mills not sent there

I am transmitting a copy of the transcript for the hearings in the case of Messrs. Waldrip and Thorman.

The decision of the committee has been approved by the Project Director. I am asking Mr. Thompson to submit a statement to the Finance Officer which will indicate the cost for the use of the Caterpillar and the labor involved in removing the tractor from the canal bank.

I am asking the Finance Officer to proceed with the collections from Messrs. Waldrip and Thorman as agreed by the committee and approved by the Project Director.

Maurice Lipian
Assistant Project Director

Attachment

MLipian:fa

Lip
Cross

COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER
Preston, Arizona

July 25, 1945

MEMO TO: Mr. Duncan Mills

I am submitting the "Hearing on Unauthorized Use of Project Equipment" which was conducted in my office on July 23 and 24.

As you know, Mr. Dorman Thompson reported to me that a tractor became stalled on the canal bank between camps I and II on Saturday, July 21, around 2:00 p.m.

It appeared that Messrs. Waldrup and Thorman, the two drivers attached to the Motor Pool, attempted to drive to a swimming hole in that vicinity, but unfortunately could not get there; neither could they remove the tractor and bring it back to the Motor Pool. The whole story is related in the transcript of the hearings attached.

On the last page of this transcript you will please find the decision of the committee and if you concur with that decision, will you kindly countersign in the space provided for that purpose. I have taken the liberty of conducting these hearings since both the men are members of my Division.

If you disapprove the decision reached by this committee and feel that the two individuals should be discharged because of this offense, I would appreciate your indicating your disapproval in the space provided for that purpose on the last page of the transcript, and we will proceed accordingly.

Maurice Lipian
Assistant Project Director

Attachment

MLipian:fa

COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER
Poston, Arizona

Hearing on Unauthorized Use
of Project Equipment
July 23, 1945
2:30 p.m.

Present: Mr. Lipian Mr. Barrett
 Mr. Cassilly Mr. Thompson

Mr. Lipian: We are meeting for the purpose of discussing how a tractor became stalled on the canal bank. I hear every kind of stories. I don't know which to believe. As I get from your memorandum, Dorman, Waldrip and Thorman were the drivers involved, and they were supposedly hauling a load of boxes to the warehouse. On the way back they decided to take the road to the canal.

Mr. Thompson: I didn't say this in the memo, but I think their intention was to go swimming. I didn't approach them, so I can't say that that wasn't their intention.

Mr. Lipian: They apparently didn't go swimming.

Mr. Cassilly: What did they say they intended to do?

Mr. Thompson: When I asked them, they said they were exploring. I didn't know whether to fire them or not. I knew it was gross misuse of government property. The time involved was from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Mr. Lipian: Has anything like this ever occurred before as far as those two boys are concerned? Did these two misuse government equipment before?

Mr. Thompson: No. Waldrip is a very willing worker. I think Thorman leads the boy. When they told me what happened, Waldrip said, "Don't look at me--it was Thorman's idea." Thorman said, "We're both in on this together." Thorman has either had a lot of bad luck on every tractor he has taken out, or he is very irresponsible.

Mr. Lipian: I think he is very irresponsible.

Mr. Cassilly: Waldrip is leaving the end of this week.

Mr. Thompson: He planned to work until the 28th of this month. I think he came to see Phil.

Mr. Cassilly: Yes, he came to see me on the 18th. He said he wanted to leave the following evening. He had received a telegram from his wife telling him to come to her home immediately. He said he didn't know what was wrong, but he felt he should go. After talking to him for quite a while, I prevailed upon him to give us sufficient time to get a replacement. He decided to stay until the 28th.

Mr. Lipian: Did anyone know before they left that they might go swimming. Dorman, did you or Jack have any idea they might do such a thing?

Mr. Thompson: No. The crew was in Parker. I thought they could help unload the boxes so I suggested that they help. They said there was nobody there so they came back. There was nothing for them to haul here. There was no suggestion made that they would go swimming.

Mr. Cassilly: Did you know that there was nothing to haul?

Mr. Thompson: Yes, I am sure there was nothing to haul.

Mr. Cassilly: What time did they leave?

Mr. Thompson: About 1:45. We think that at 3:10 they went down to try to get the tractor out before either of us knew anything about it. When they couldn't get it out, they came back and told us about it. I went to talk to Patrick, but the only alternative was to send the wench truck. They came back at 4:40. McRay said he had made previous arrangements to go out for the evening and he didn't feel he could spend the time to get it out, so I said we would have to wait until Monday morning.

Mr. Lipian: Was the tractor pulled out?

Mr. Thompson: Yes, about 10:00 this morning.

Mr. Lipian: Was there any damage?

Mr. Thompson: Not that I could see.

Mr. Lipian: What will it do to your section if both boys are discharged?

Mr. Thompson: Well, Waldrip is leaving anyhow. Thorman is irresponsible and quite cocky. We are trying now to get a replacement for him.

Mr. Lipian: How long would it take to prepare a statement on the cost of the service that was necessary to pull the tractor out as well as the cost of repairing any damage?

Mr. Thompson: We would count the cost of the time the two drivers spent in getting the truck out.

Mr. Lipian: I think, if you feel it is necessary, that we should call the two of them in and get their side of the story. My inclination is to make a recommendation that both of them be discharged and that they be charged for the cost that was incurred in getting the tractor out and that this money be refunded to the government. What do you think, Phil?

Mr. Cassilly: I think we had better talk to them individually first. It may be entirely the fault of just one of them.

Mr. Barrett: If one of them was doing the driving, there was nothing the other could do about it. I can't figure out why they took that road.

Mr. Thompson: They didn't mention the fact that they could take the other road. I understand that the Indian Service is considering billing WRA for regrading the side of the canal. They ran the truck down and it made a big dent in the side of the canal.

Mr. Barrett: I don't think there could have been that much damage.

Mr. Cassilly: Why don't we bill them (the boys) \$10 for it? I think it probably cost \$10.

Mr. Lipian: When can we see them?

Mr. Thompson: There is another driver being shown around by them now. We probably couldn't see them before late this afternoon.

Mr. Lipian: Well then, can you arrange to have them here by 8:30 tomorrow morning?

Mr. Thompson: I think so.

(The meeting was adjourned.)

July 24, 1945
8:30 a.m.

(Mr. Waldrip was questioned.)

Mr. Cassilly: Mr. Waldrip, it has been reported that on Saturday afternoon you and Mr. Thorman were assigned to use a tractor to take some boxes to Camp II and on the way back you got off the road and got the tractor stuck in the canal bank. The indications are that this constitutes a misuse of government equipment which is a serious offense against Federal law. We are holding this meeting to hear what you have to say.

Mr. Waldrip: It wasn't my intention to get it stuck.

Mr. Cassilly: Were you driving?

Mr. Waldrip: Yes.

Mr. Cassilly: Where were you going?

Mr. Waldrip: We were going to watch them swim for a few minutes. As far as that goes, I know of fellows who go to town and drink beer on government time and in government cars.

Mr. Cassilly: That may be so, but it has nothing to do with your own case. Had you intended to go swimming?

Mr. Waldrip: No, I wasn't going swimming.

Mr. Cassilly: You were driving to the place where other people were swimming?

Mr. Waldrip: Yes.

Mr. Cassilly: What were you going over for?

Mr. Waldrip: To watch them swim. We only intended to stay a few minutes and when we tried to go, we couldn't.

Mr. Cassilly: I don't think it makes much difference, but how did you happen to get off the road?

Mr. Waldrip: There is a roadup to the canal.

Mr. Cassilly: Are there any conditions that existed which might have a bearing on the reason for your going there that would make us feel that you probably made a proper use of government equipment?

Mr. Waldrip: I can't say anything.

Mr. Thompson: There is something I can say that might have some bearing insofar as the psychological aspect is concerned. Before the boys left, I suggested that they help unload the boxes. As there was no one there to instruct them, and since they had nothing to do, they might have thought they may as well kill a little time anyway.

Mr. Cassilly: How far off the road did you drive?

Mr. Waldrip: About a block.

Mr. Cassilly: Had you been notified in the course of your work that you were not to go off certain roads?

Mr. Waldrip: No.

Mr. Cassilly: Did you know that what you were doing was contrary to the rules and regulations of the government?

Mr. Waldrip: No, I didn't think it would hurt to go down for a few minutes. We just wanted to watch them swim. Then when we started to leave, we couldn't.

Mr. Cassilly: Have you handed in your resignation as of the 25th?

Mr. Lipian: I don't know whether you fellows were informed as to how serious it is to use government equipment for anything other than government business. If it is proven that you had been using it for your own personal use, it is a very serious charge and one which calls for a discharge. All that we have been doing is to try to find a logical reason for your using the tractor on that road. You must consider the time involved plus what it cost the government to get the truck off the embankment and get it back where it belonged. What we have to do in the face of the facts as presented, Waldrip, is to discharge you. I don't know just what we will do. However, the regulations read this way:

"The Independent Offices Appropriation Act, 1945. (Public 358, 78th Congress) stipulates that any officer or employee of the Government who uses or authorizes the use of any Government-owned or leased motor-propelled passenger-carrying vehicle for other than official purposes shall be immediately removed from office. The words 'official purposes' does not include the transportation of officers and employees between domiciles and places of employment. The word 'uses' has been defined to include not only the driver of the vehicle, but also passengers as well, if it is determined that they knowingly were using a car for other than official purposes. This law is applicable to the War Relocation Authority, and to all employees. Each project director or head of a field office who discovers one of his staff violating the law shall take immediate steps to secure the offender's dismissal. For an interpretation of the law under the particular circumstances prevailing at centers."

This is an extremely serious matter. We interrogated Mr. Thompson yesterday to get his statement as to whether the use of the truck was authorized. He felt that you were merely the passenger instead of the driver.

Mr. Thompson: I didn't know at the time that he was the driver.

Mr. Lipian: Mr. Cassilly, have you anything to add?

Mr. Cassilly: For the record I think you should make a statement as to Mr. Waldrip's past services.

Mr. Thompson: Mr. Waldrip has proven very satisfactory in his work. He put in several hours overtime for which he has never received any compensation. I think there should be leniency in this case.

Mr. Lipian: In other words, you feel that we should accept Mr. Waldrip's resignation as of the 28th?

Mr. Thompson: Yes. That way it would not leave a bad mark against his record.

Mr. Lipian: That will be all for now. We will discuss it further and let you know of our decision, Mr. Waldrip.

(Mr. Thorman was questioned.)

Mr. Cassilly: Mr. Thorman, we have received a report that you and Mr. Waldrup were off the road over toward the swimming hole between camps I and II on the way back from your work. We understand that you had the tractor with you and that it stuck on the canal bank. Such use of equipment is contrary to government law as you were using it for recreation or personal purposes, so we have asked you to come in this morning to tell us how you happened to be there and why.

Mr. Thorman: Well, we just got hung up. We didn't have any idea we couldn't get back.

Mr. Cassilly: Who was driving?

Mr. Thorman: Ray was driving.

Mr. Cassilly: Who gave you permission to use the truck?

Mr. Thorman: Mr. Thompson sent us to help unload some boxes.

Mr. Thompson: They were sent by me to do a job and this was done.

Mr. Cassilly: Mr. Thorman, had you been instructed that government equipment was not to be used for private business?

Mr. Thorman: Yes.

Mr. Cassilly: Do you feel that we would be doing wrong if we took some action against you?

Mr. Thorman: I don't see why there is such a big row. The afternoon was slow. I had no intention of getting the truck stuck. If it hadn't gotten stuck, nothing would have been said.

Mr. Cassilly: How far did you get off the road?

Mr. Thorman: About a block.

Mr. Cassilly: Have you anything to add, Mr. Thompson?

Mr. Thompson: The only thing I have to say is that we are very much undermanned and that unless a replacement can be made, I think leniency should be shown.

Mr. Thorman: But it was unintentional.

Mr. Thompson: We are aware of that fact. We could calculate the time it took to get the truck out and make reparation to the government to that extent.

Mr. Lipian: I think we should read the regulation to Mr. Thorman. All we have been trying to do is to find a reason why they were stuck there. So far we have found no reason.

Mr. Cassilly: (Reads the regulation - Section 20.1.13 of the Handbook.) You see, the statement of the regulation leaves us no room for choice, especially if the person doing it had full knowledge of what he was doing. This is always the case with knowledge of the law. Mr. Lipian, have you anything to add?

Mr. Lipian: No. Mr. Thorman may want to make a final statement.

Mr. Thorman: I have never been fired from a job before, but I think that if we are fired you should let us know now so we can make some preparations.

Mr. Lipian: We may have to recommend your dismissal to the Project Director.

Mr. Thorman: It was entirely unintentional.

Mr. Lipian: The fact that you got off the road, even if you hadn't gotten stuck, would still constitute unauthorized use of government equipment. If your car did not get stuck, but if someone had seen you and had reported it to us, whether your car was stuck or not, we would still have to take action.

Mr. Thorman: Well, I would like to know this morning so that I can go this afternoon.

(Mr. Thorman left and a private discussion was held as follows:)

Mr. Lipian: Well, what is your opinion? (To the committee)

Mr. Thompson: I have just one thing to say. Right at this time there is a terrific amount of heat on available manpower. I think that for the good of the Center leniency should be shown in this case.

Mr. Lipian: This case is outside of the labor problem entirely. Some action has to be taken.

Mr. Thompson: But even Congress reserves the right to some elasticity in the law in order to allow the deviation from the letter of the law if it is for the general good. I think that they could be made to pay for the time involved and the damage to the canal. Of course, now that the investigation has been carried through, it might make them much worse--or better; I don't know.

Mr. Cassilly: I think that since the case is so clear cut, we will have to take some action.

Mr. Lipian: What is your opinion, Mr. Barrett?

Mr. Barrett: It was just one of those things. If they hadn't gotten stuck, we would never have known anything about it, and just as the boy says, lots of people have gone to Parker to drink using government cars and on government time.

Mr. Cassilly: If they had stopped the tractor on the side of the road and walked to the swimming pool, there probably would have been no infraction of the rule. I think they probably thought it would be perfectly all right to drive such a short distance. It is the first offense of this kind for either of them. They are relatively new employees.

(Discussion off the record)

Decision of the Committee

The committee which has been appointed by Mr. Lipian consisting of Messrs. Cassilly, Thompson and Barrett, upon considering the facts brought out during the hearings agreed on the following:

1. That, since it is the first offense for either of the two individuals involved, both being veterans of the war, and since there was no damage to government property or equipment, that disciplinary action be taken against those employees suspending them from duty without pay for a period of three hours, i.e., from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, July 21, for the time they devoted to attempting to pull the tractor off the canal embankment, and

2. That the cost for one hour's use of one caterpillar plus the cost of the labor involved in pulling the tractor out of the canal embankment be equally divided between the two employees and that these amounts be collected from them by the Finance Officer.

Accordingly, the committee instructed Mr. Cassilly to advise Messrs. Thorman and Waldrip and the Finance Officer of this Center.

Date July 24, 1945

Signed Maurice Lipian
Maurice Lipian
Assistant Project Director

Reviewed and
Approved ()
Disapproved ()

Date _____

Signed _____
Duncan Mills
Project Director

November 30, 1945

Mr. T. C. Osborne
Assistant Division Freight
and Passenger Representative
Santa Fe Railroad Company
San Bernardino, California

Dear Mr. Osborne:

This letter is written in especial appreciation for the thoughtful, understanding, and efficient cooperation and work performed by your ticket agent at Parker, Arizona, Mr. Gus Ihlefeldt. Our task of relocating thousands of evacuated Japanese-Americans from the Colorado River Relocation Center at Poston, Arizona, was accomplished with greater ease and satisfaction because of Mr. Ihlefeldt's cheerful good will and willingness to work with us on all occasions. We take pleasure in paying him this compliment through your office.

Sincerely yours,

HHollenbeck

Duncan Mills
Project Director

Project
Subject
Crono.

War Relocation Authority

Washington

Mr. Duncan Mills
Project Director
Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Mills:

A group of us in the Washington office have considered carefully your letter of June 26 in reply to my teletype of June 18 on the schedule for center closing. I wish that you would give me a more detailed statement of the procedures you propose to follow in each division in order to accomplish the relocation of the remaining residents of Poston, together with a listing of the problems you foresee, how you propose to solve those problems, and what help you would like the relocation offices or the Washington office to give you in solving them. I received such a detailed statement from three of the Project Directors and am asking the others to give me similar information.

May I call particular attention to the next to the last paragraph in my teletype to you of July 12 in which I have informed the evacuees that it is essential that all of them should decide where they wish to relocate by September 1 at the latest. This is very important. I shall discuss with you later some plans we have in mind for getting an orderly flow of evacuees out of the centers during the last four or five weeks before each center closes. I wish that you would instruct your Relocation Interviewers that it is important that they attempt to secure from each family a decision by September 1 as to the place the family intends to go when it relocates.

I do not feel that I can approve the recommendation that resettlement assistance be liberalized. This policy has been very carefully considered and I believe it would be a mistake to change it

We have also considered carefully your suggestions on providing additional housing. I have asked Mr. Ottis Peterson, in Rex Lee's absence, to check further on the procedure for assurances of evictee certificates by the local OPA offices to departing center residents. We shall report to you further on that as soon as we have some progress to report. It does not seem practicable for us to instruct Field Relocation Officers to obtain housing for particular families and pay the first month's rent to hold such housing. The difficulty is that we cannot know what kind of housing the family will be satisfied with. We are in position to give evacuees considerable help in finding housing, but only when they are on the ground to look at the available possibilities.

I doubt the need for moving lumber salvaged from vacated barracks to points of destination for relocating groups of evacuees. If you have

Mr. Duncan Mills

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particular situations in mind, let me have the facts and I am sure we will be able to work out solutions.

I am sending you a separate letter on personnel problems you have mentioned.

Sincerely,

D. S. MYER
Director

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:
Permits

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Wade Head, Project Director
Colorado River War Relocation Project

SUBJECT: Policy and procedure to be followed in handling
mixed marriage cases

The WCCA has informed us that the following data must be submitted to their office in cases which involve persons applying for release from relocation centers on the ground that either the husband or the wife is not Japanese. This information is to be transmitted through the Regional Office to the military authorities:

1. Full name, sex, and date of birth of both husband and wife.
2. Birthplace of both husband and wife.
3. Birthplace of parents of both husband and wife.
4. Status, alien or non-alien, of both husband and wife.
5. Nationality of both husband and wife.
6. Address prior to evacuation.
7. Occupation of husband prior to evacuation.
8. Sufficiently detailed information concerning the past environment of both husband and wife to determine whether or not their cultural background and present sympathies are Japanese.
9. Sufficient information regarding their financial status to give assurance that they will not become public charges of the community in which they desire to establish residence.
10. Place at which they desire to establish residence.
11. Full name, age, and sex of all sons and daughters.

It is requested that the project directors submit to the Regional Office a complete list of members (including children) of mixed marriage families and mixed blood individuals resident in the projects. For this purpose a mixed marriage shall be defined as

Mr. Head-----2.

a marriage union in which one party is of Japanese ancestry and the second party is of non-Japanese ancestry. This should be done as soon as possible. Such portions of the above listed data as are not immediately available should be temporarily omitted and forwarded at a later date.

Before persons of non-Japanese ancestry are permanently admitted to the reception center, it should first be determined that the military will not approve the release of their Japanese husband or wife. If this has been done and the non-Japanese person desires to be admitted permanently to the reception center, he or she should execute a waiver to rights of exemption on a WRA form to be supplied you. This application should then be approved by the project director and forwarded to the Regional Office for final action.

For: E. R. Fryer
Regional Director