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MINIDOKA RELOCATION PROJECT
Hunt, Idaho

Event: Interview with Housing Adjustment Board on Self Government
Place: Housing office
Time: March 26, 1943
Members of Housing Board

In talking with the nisei and issei members of the housing adjustment board today it was apparent that there is feeling in the community in regard to self-government. The nisei members wanted to shy away from the subject. Fujii, the issei member who is also a member of the "council", on the other hand wanted to talk about it. I recall that Chiujo, another member of the council, also brought the subject up at the volunteer banquet last week---out of a clear sky. Fujii feels "embarrassed" and "in a ticklish situation" as a member of the council. He says that people stop him on the street and ask what has happened to the council, "is it doing anything?" The nisei member of the adjustment board mentioned when this was said that there is "an undercurrent of people who want self-government." Fujii wonders why the charter has not been approved. He said that there is a need for the council. When I suggested that perhaps the block managers were enough, he said "no". "The block managers represent the WRA. A council is necessary to represent the people." Fujii feels that if nothing is done after the public meeting this coming Wednesday, the council will have to resign, because it has done nothing since December when it turned its charter in. "We are not representing the people; we are doing nothing." However, he thinks that if Mr. Stafford does not want them to resign, they will have to compromise by being appointed as an advisory board to the project director. They cannot remain in the position of representatives of the people, if they do nothing to represent the people.

Fujii's conception of the function of the council is quite definite. It is to represent the people, that is "to be a channel through which the desires of the people may come to the project director." "The desires of the WRA come back down to the people through the block managers." He is certain that the block managers cannot serve any of the council functions.

The major points around which discussion revolved during the deliberations

of the council were the following (1) whether it would be desirable to have a general block council or not, and (2) the nature of an issei advisory group. Many people think that it is necessary to have a council composed of 35 block representatives, one from each block. This body would serve "to make recommendations to the council of 7 who would pass on them and give them to the project director." This body would keep the council of 7 in close touch with the people and moreover its membership would provide block leaders, who are very much needed to keep harmony in the blocks. "There is trouble all the time in many blocks. Trouble between the people and the mess halls. In my block I am with another man. We are the block leaders and we keep these things smoothed over. In other blocks there is no leader to do this and they are very much disturbed. The council men elected by the people would be the leaders in each of their block." It is thought by others, however, that there would be friction between the block managers and a council of block representatives. They have hesitated to suggest the council for this reason. (2) They believe that an issei advisory board would be desirable. "All of the issei, I think, believe, that they should act as advisors to their sons. They always have. It is no different now. They should go on advising their sons if they are elected to the 7 man council. We all want that. So we provided for an issei advisory group of maybe three or four. They would advise the council and they would advise the project director. But the important question is how they should be chosen. If they are elected by the people as representatives and placed in the same position as the council, then they would have very great influence over the nisei on the council. That is sure to happen. We feel, many of us, that that would bring on conflict. The two elected bodies would conflict with each other, as the issei group began to dominate the other. We felt therefore that it would be wiser to have an appointed group of issei advisers who would then be on a different basis from the council. They would only be able to advise them as always and there would be no conflict in powers. That is why we made it that way in the charter."

(EHS)

ORGANIZATION COMMISSION MEETING

March 31, 1943

Block 21 Dining Hall

7:30 p.m.

This was the first meeting of the commission since December. It was called by the chairman for the purpose of reporting to the 70 delegates who had elected the commission last September. There had been no meeting of the 70 block delegates since last October. Okajima, Fujii, and Izawa (?) have all told me in the past few days that there has been a noticeable pressure from the people in the blocks, ever since at least early January, for some statement from the commission as to what has been done about self-government. Chujo told me last week that the commission had been letting things ride during the volunteering and registration period and that "as soon as the volunteering is over Mr. Stafford will do something about self-government." Schafer said day before yesterday that he was aware that there had been talk in the community that the commission should resign, since nothing was being done about their plan for self-government. Just before the meeting tonight, Schafer said that he and Townsend would be present and that they would probably be asked to explain why "the administration had been stalling off on self-government." He raised the question as to what might be done, "if the commission starts to resign." Townsend interrupted him to say that he "had that all fixed." During the last two days I have been discussing with Schafer and Townsend some of Provinses's ideas in regard to the necessity for modifying WRA policy in regard to self-government. Schafer has decided that at the present meeting any attempt to resign on the part of the commission must be headed off and that, if possible, he will try to put over the suggestion that the commission go on working on a plan for self-government which they regard as "ideal for Minidoka" in the hope that this might be favorably received by WRA. The background of this is that the whole administrative staff here and also the members of the organization commission are convinced that the institution of self-government in accordance with WRA Administrative Instruction no. 34 would be a bad thing for the project.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Okajima, speaking in Japanese. At the table with him was Dr. Tani (the only nisei member of the commission) and a girl secretary. Dr. Tani, a youth of 26, acted as a sort of nisei chairman and interpreter during the meeting. Townsend and Schafer sat together on a rear seat and DeYoung and Spicer sat together still farther back among the delegates. There were between forty and fifty delegates present. It seemed to me that perhaps a third of those present were under thirty and probably Nisei. These Nisei took the most prominent part in the discussion. It was noticeable that a number of Block Managers were delegates--including Matsuda, Harada, and at least 5 others whose names I do not know. Also present were Yoshito Fujii of Housing (member of commission), James Sakamoto (JACL leader), Ishihara and Hagiwara of Cty. Services, Yoshioka, Ralph Ochi.

The meeting proceeded with little attempt at the European sort of parliamentary order. Okajima, it seemed to me, started out on the assumption that the meeting would be conducted in Japanese fashion, that is, without formal motions, with expressions of approval and requests for order from the floor in the form of hand-clapping. At first the meeting did proceed in this manner: discussion was in Japanese, speakers were applauded with hand-clapping, and motions were not made. However, after Schager's speech, the character of the meeting seemed to change. Discussion was almost entirely in English and attempts were made to make motions and carry through votes on them. Ultimately the single motion which was passed was carried through in regular parliamentary fashion by Okajima. Nisei around me commented on Okajima's unfamiliarity with parliamentary

procedure and rather laughed at him for his failure to adopt it until the very end of the meeting. The meeting was not, however, actually disorderly. It had rather the air merely of being informal. There was a good deal of laughter and spontaneous clapping and general good feeling. The single instance of heated argument and bad feeling came from a nisei who corrected Dr. Tani in a translation he made of a Japanese speech.

Okajima opened the meeting with a fifteen minute speech in Japanese in which he apparently described what the commission had been doing. This met with no comment and Tani Proceeded to go over the same ground in English, referring to numerous documents. The gist of what he said was as follows: The commission had begun work immediately on its election and approval by the Project Director on October 7. It conferred with Myer and with Kimball and drew up a charter for self-government. It received suggestions from Prof. Posey of Northwestern Univ. (a friend of Mr. Townsend's). It was from the first doubtful about the advisability of the exclusion of issei from office and attempted to get around this provision by embodying a plan for an advisory board (not restricted to citizens) to be elected by the people. The provision for an advisory board was included in the charter. The charter was completed and submitted for approval to the project director on November 7. It was 18 pages long. Meanwhile Dr. Kimball had seen the charter, made some minor corrections, and said that he would have to take under advisement the provision concerning an advisory board. Myer had previously said during his visit to Minidoka that he would approve an advisory board arrangement. The commission, after submitting its charter, had worked out a calendar of procedure in which the date of December 7 was set for the induction of councilmen under the proposed charter. By that date, however, no word had been received from the administration in regard to the disposition of the charter. The commission wrote a letter in December to Mr. Stafford asking him why nothing had been done. His reply gave as reasons the incidents at Poston and Manzanar and his continued misgivings about any form of self-government which would intensify "cleavages and cliques" among the evacuees, referring to the prohibition of issei holding office. In January Okajima wrote another letter to Stafford pointing out that people were beginning to ask about what was being done on self-government.

When Tani had finished his chronological account of the commission's actions, he emphasized the point that the commission had from the very first not approved of the distinction between issei and nisei in ADM. Inst. 34 and that they had agreed in believing that all persons in Minidoka should be regarded as equal and should participate in self-government equally. All their efforts had been directed to obviating that provision in the best way possible.

Okajima called Townsend up front "to explain" what the administration had done and why there had been no action on the charter. Townsend commended the commission on its "magnificent job" in preparing the charter. He then pointed out that from the beginning the project director and the staff working with him had disliked the idea of a self-government which excluded any group of the population arbitrarily. The charter was submitted to them on November 7 and shortly after that had come the Poston and Manzanar incidents. They had felt that the form of self-government adopted in these centers may have played an important part in the trouble and felt that no action should be taken until that had been carefully determined. About the same time they had received a memo from the regional office saying that self-government programs should not be accelerated at this time. They have never received any definite comments or approval from WRA in regard to the charter which had been duly submitted to Washington. Townsend emphasized his belief that evacuee participation had been achieved in Minidoka without the institution of Adm. Inst. 34 and called attention to the fact that every member of the present group had served

in some capacity in project administration. He was applauded as he went back to sit down.

Discussion began in Japanese, and went on for several minutes from the floor, after a proposal from Tani that the charter be read in summary form was rejected by the group. The discussion was being translated privately for Schafer and Townsend as it went on. Schafer apparently understood that the suggestion was being entertained that the commission should resign. He interrupted to ask for the floor, and when it was granted, walked up front and made a speech. He spoke quietly, but towards the end with a good deal of force. He began by saying that the commission should not be blamed for the failure have anything definite done about self-government. The administration, he said, would take all the blame for delay. He mentioned doubts that all had about the issei prohibition in adm. inst. 34, the fine job done by the commission in trying to avoid that difficulty in their charter, the failure of Washington to pass on the charter, and his conviction that the people of Minidoka were participating in the project and were satisfied with the way things were going. His main point was that the commission's job was not done yet. Having worked out a plan in accordance with WRA regulations, it should now work out a plan which it was convinced would really work. He said that he thought it possible that some change might be made in the WRA regulations. He also was applauded.

As soon as he had finished, someone from the floor asked that what had been said before he spoke be translated properly for his benefit, he apparently having misunderstood the discussion. The translation was to the effect that suggestions had been made, not that the commission resign, but that the whole question as to whether the people wanted any form of self-government at all be taken back to the blocks by (the delegates and discussed and voted on. Ochi played a prominent part in making this suggestion. After this point was clarified, the discussion turned (now in English) to the possibility of a change in WRA regulations and consequent lack of necessity for proceeding on the basis of the charter drawn up by the commission. Yoshicka raised the question as to whether it would be wise to take a mere possibility of this sort back to the blocks, suggesting instead that the delegates merely report back the progress so far made by the commission in their charter work.

Sakamoto got up and made a speech to the effect that he was opposed to the original WRA regulation in regard to office-holding. He said: "To limit office to nisei while allowing all persons to vote was wrong. It should be either a limitation of both office and voting privilege to nisei or no limitation. That is the principle involved and it is clear that the position of the administrative instruction No. 34 on this is not right. However, in regard to the question of any change in the regulations we must take into consideration the fact of public opinion on the outside. If there is talk of giving non-citizens the right to participate in government, what will be the effect on the outside? We must always consider that, because that outside opinion is there."

Discussion on this point continued in Japanese and Tani attempted to translate one statement. The statement was to the effect that there would probably be no harm in discussing the whole matter back in the blocks because the administration itself would be discussing and so with holding it from the blocks would not be any more likely to prevent it from leaking to the outside. Tani in translating this substituted "nisei" for "administration", saying something of this sort: "The nisei would be discussing it on the outside anyway." A nisei in the rear rose up and angrily demanded that Tani withdraw his statement and saying that he had made a mis-translation. Tani denied having said nisei, became confused, said he would retract anything if it was a mis-statement, and went on with his

translation, using "administration" in place of "nisei". The man who demanded the retraction angrily exclaimed that Tani had "put the nisei on the spot" and he wouldn't stand for that. As he said this Abe Hagiwara turned back to him and said, "That's the way." (The following morning Billee Yoshioka whose husband is a delegate and from whom she had heard an account of the meeting came to me and said, "I hear that you were at the meeting last night. It sounds to me as if the Issei-Nisei fight is getting much worse than it was." I asked her why she said that, and she cited this incident of "Tani putting the nisei on the spot.")

Schafer obtained the floor and said that he wanted to guard against raising any hopes too high in regard to a change in WRA policy. It is only a possibility. Okajima chimed in saying, "You mean that Mr. Stafford will do his best for us. I remember that at the very beginning Mr. Stafford said he was against the restriction. We can be very sure that he will go on working for us."

There was final agreement that the delegates should merely report back to their blocks what the commission had done and that the possibility of change need not be mentioned. There was burst of clapping when the final speech setting forth this decision was made. After some confusion there was an attempt to pass this as a motion. Okajima falling down completely in the job of presenting it as a motion and getting a vote, Tani finally taking the chairmanship to do this.

Discussion proceeded in regard to the purpose of this meeting. It was said that the commission was merely reporting what it had done and that there was nothing else to talk about. Tani began to suggest in a roundabout way that perhaps the delegates wanted a new organization commission and if so, now was the time to express such a sentiment. His indirect presentation of this, roused someone to say "You mean you want a vote of confidence?" Tani became confused, there was general laughter and talk, and finally Ishihara said that he thought it was clear that the commission was not to blame for any delay, that the administration had taken the blame for that, and that everyone would be willing just to have the commission go on with its work. This speech was applauded.

A motion was made that the commission should itself prepare a report, written, on its work and as soon as possible present this through the Irrigator or some other means, such as the block managers, to the people. Tani declared during the discussion of this motion that the commission had several times submitted reports to the Irrigator but that they had never been printed. The motion was finally passed by an aye vote, Okajima having gotten the hang of parliamentary procedure. As it was passed there were comments in English around me, "well, we got out of something there." There were other comments indicating that those delegates around me who spoke English were not very anxious to call block meetings or try to make reports to their blocks. One nisei said, "Hell, I don't know any Japanese; how can I make a report."

At some point in the meeting Okajima said, "I have wondered if this self-government would be self-government in this peculiar place. We are under the United States government. I have always wanted to cooperate with the government. When they said that we should have self-government, I wanted to cooperate and that is why I tried to work out the plan with this commission."

Sakamoto: "I think there is a feeling against that word government. The people don't like it. They think it is something repressive. We should use another word, maybe council or something. I don't object to government myself, but the people do."

At the end Ochi raised the question that there is a difference in the camp

now as compared with what it was when the delegates were elected. "I think that we in this group are more concerned with self-government than the people in the center are. Shouldn't we take the question back to the people to decide whether they want it or not." Okajima replied that the delegates had been elected for the express purpose of establishing self-government and that this is their only function.

The meeting adjourned about ten.

(EHS)

MINIDOKA RELOCATION PROJECT

ORGANIZATION COMMISSION MEETING

April 7, 1943

K. Okajima's apt. 31-12A

2:30 P. M.

Subject: Plan for Self-government Not in Terms of Administrative Instruction No. 34

Persons present: K. Okajima, D. Kanaya, Roy Akiyama, J. Yukawa, Dr. G. Tain, F. Chujo, E. Spicer, G. Townsend. (Y. Fujii, other member of commission, was absent at a housing board meeting.)

The meeting of the commission had been called by Townsend for the purpose of considering an ideal plan for self-government, independent of Adm. Inst. No. 34. Townsend however was not able to be present until after the meeting had been going for an hour. I went over by myself and arrived before anyone else. Okajima had a business card on his door with his name and the title "Business Counsellor" and a Los Angeles address. He ushered me into the apartment which he occupies alone. All around were books and magazines and folders of music. I saw almost nothing in Japanese; there were Reader's Digest, Sat. Eve. Post, U. S. News Weekly, a book on "Perfect Eyesight Without Glasses", a Webster's dictionary. There were also many fotos of children, evidently relatives. The place struck me as most un-Japanese. Before the others came in, Okajima gave me a seat on a wooden stool without back and he sat on the U. S. blanket covered iron cot. He asked me about myself and when I had finished began to describe himself, said he had studied sociology in the U. S. and had become interested in delinquency, in which work he engaged in Denver. "But I could never make anything at it. Never made a penny out of sociology." Then he said, "The great problem is that the young people, the young men, have lost their self-respect. I am convinced of that. (This, by the way, was the same statement which he made to Myer last fall when Myer discussed self-government with him, according to the Irrigator.) And I think the reason is that their parents never had much self-respect. I hate to say that, but I think it is true. Their parents lacked self-respect." About this time the others began to come in.

J. Yukawa---the oldest of the group except Okajima, dressed in old, rough clothes and carrying a cane. He greeted me in rather good English. He said nothing else during the afternoon, but sat during the meeting over the corner by the stove with his chin in his hands. Once, after we had been discussing at length and after Townsend had come in, Townsend said that Yukawa had so far said nothing and what did he think. Very slowly, Yukawa raised his head from his hand and said, "It is hard to give any opinion. I think that this is all not of very much importance. It is all just a temporary matter anyway." We waited for him to go on, but he rested his chin on his hand again and said no more. (It struck me that he represented a widespread issei feeling, that a relocation center is not a real community and that there is not much use of doing anything while one is in it, other than to pass the time as peacefully as possible.) Later someone said that Tom Masuda, the well known Seattle lawyer, ought to be here to help draw up the plan for government. Masuda is at Poston and I said, "You would have to fight the people of Poston, if you want to get him." Yukawa looked very sharply at me, questioningly. I explained that Masuda was very well thought of in Poston and that the people wanted him to stay there. Yukawa's first glance had seemed to me hostile, but with my explanation he nodded his head vigorously and then sank back into indifference. This struck me as significant, because it is evidently widely believed here that Masuda was yanked from Puyallup Assembly Center by the Caucs. because they were afraid of him. Yukawa was sensitive to criticism of Masuda and was belligerent at any indication of it.

F. X. Chujo, the Catholic leader, dressed rather nattily in plus fours and high boots, with a pressed coat and a flower in his buttonhole, suave, talking easily in English. Chujo talked at length to me in English, buttering the staff rather

heavily, saying that Minodoka has been fortunate in having Stafford, Schafer, and Townsend. Chujo was talkative at the beginning of the meeting, and outlined a plan for government which included two advisory groups---one elected from a congress of block representatives and one appointed by the project directors. When Akiyama and others opposed two boards, rejecting the appointed one, he said little else. He was however insistent on two points: (1) that there must be block representation and (2) that a single representative from a block was sufficient. In regard to the first point, he said several times that the blocks were being organized more and more and that nothing would work other than some system which was based on one representative from each block. He insisted that there were now usually three old men in each block who had been chosen by the residents and were functioning in all block activities as advisers and leaders. Another point which he made was that the center has become divided into two major factions which were fighting with each other in most of the blocks. He said in this connection, "We can't have these Japanese Associations splitting us up. It will mean fighting and trouble. We must give these block leaders a place and keep the political fighting from breeding us up."

D. Kanaya--university graduate, dressed in old clothese, thinning hair, heavy-set, but looking young. Not saying much and having no particular ideas, but participating, showing moderate interest, speaking English like one at home in it.

K. Okajima, the chairman, dressed neatly, unobtrusive, making no speeches, but carefully summing up each point made, always asking the others for their opinions, but giving little himself. Quite at home in English, but not eloquent in it. The one point which Okajima spoke at length on and remained insistent on in the face of opposition from Townsend and Tani at first was that there must be a judicial commission. "It is very necessary to have a judicial commission as they have at other camps. We must have some force that stands over the young people, who may be becoming delinquent. This is the most important of all, that we have some force that they will think of. We cannot do with a judicial commission."

Dr. George Tani, the only nisei, Oakland, Cal. optometrist. Young and boyish, outspoken, never weighing his words. He and Akiyama did most of the talking and Tani acted as secretary, recording the minutes of the meeting--(see his notes for details.) Tani, like the others, spoke throughout in English, but he had a curious habit of throwing Japanese translations of words into everything he said. Tani really ran the meeting until Townsend came. He was convinced that the charter as the commission had drawn it up would work. "To be frank, I think the administration is all wrong on being afraid of this thing. I know it will work. Anything would work here. All it needs is somebody good to put it across. If there are just 7 councilmen, they are bound to be good men. If you have 35, then there would be a bunch that the issei would not respect. If we can't get 7 good nisei, then we might as well quit and say it's no use to have self-government." Although Tani did a lot of talking, he made no points that were not made by others and contributed no fundamental ideas to the discussion. He tended merely to agree with Akiyama.

Spicer--gave a brief history of Poston's political experience and suggested, in Townsend's absence, that the commission attempt to work out an ideal plan for government in Minidoka, regardless of Adm. Inst. No. 34. Contributed some discussion of community councils made up of civic organization representatives, and asked questions regarding the present organization of blocks.

Roy Akiyama--dressed in rough working clothes, extremely voluble, the

only one who addressed Townsend as "George." He talked constantly from the first and was the major influence on the meeting, aside from Townsend. He opened the discussion of the hour preceding Townsend's arrival with diatribe against Hara, the block manager head. "It's our job to head off this trouble when it starts. I tell Mr. Stafford what goes on and he listens to me. Now here's this Hara and his block managers. They've got something started right now. These coordinators of the blocks, or whatever they call them. They had meeting and it just about broke up, but they've called another one for tonight. Some guys are getting all steamed up about it and let me tell you they're going to have trouble, lots of it. You know this guy Hara what he is. There isn't a dirtier politician around. Why, the low down guy--you remember how he did when we first came in. He got up there and said he was the one who was going to carry out the administration's orders. Yes, he said it just that way. He was the one who was going to run this place. That kind of thing has got to be stopped and I've been telling them about it. It's the same thing we had six months ago, starting all over again....You know as well as I do that there's somebody waiting out there (pointing east) just ready to step in when we make a slip. (Okajima interposed, "But we haven't made any slip.") No, we haven't, they haven't got anything on us. But these dirty politicians. I'd like to resign. (Tani said he would like to resign, too.) (Chujo said he thought it wasn't the commission's business to deal with these things.) But you know Stafford won't let us resign. As long as he can keep us in, he's got a chance to keep this thing smooth, and that's why I tell him that he's got to stop this block coordinator stuff. Who are they anyway? (Chujo interposed: Yes, I know some of them who are getting very much puffed up already. They go round saying that they are the representatives who are going to act between the people and the administration. If that is allowed to go on, it will get very much mixed up and people will not know who is to be in the government.)

George Townsend--came in shortly after the group had turned from the discussion of the block coordinators to a consideration of details for a new plan of government. As soon as he came in, there was a complete break in the meeting. Everyone except Okajima shifted chairs and Townsend was seated beside the table where Tani was taking notes. Townsend attempted to have Okajima take the chair offered him, because it was the only one which had a back to it, but Okajima refused. Townsend dominated the meeting from this point on, although he evidently made the effort to start thinking rather than stop it, but whether he wanted it so or not, his personality was dominant. Akiyama asked him first what the block coordinators were and Townsend was unable for some time to recall what Hara had told him about them. Then he said that they were individuals who were to be appointed to settle disputes between kitchen crews and block managers in regard to the use of dining halls for other purposes than eating. Chujo point out the dangers of such block officials mistaking their functions for governmental ones. Townsend said that the matter should be entirely apart from representatives for self-government and that he would find out from Hara more precisely what the coordinators were expecting to do.

Townsend then asked if there had been consideration of the use of representatives from various civic organizations in a self-government set-up. The discussion resulting, in which Townsend and Akiyama took leading parts, resulted in a plan for government which included a congress of representatives, one elected from each block; an advisory board of seven elected at large by the congress. The latter would be advisory to the project director and would have to do with the "rules and regulations for running the project." It was also agreed that the advisory board would have charge of the disbursement of community funds, because, as Akiyama insisted, "an elected body is the only one which should have the power to dispose of community funds." The advisory board would also set up a judicial commission of some nature. The group was agreed that it would be very necessary

to have at the base of the whole structure a representation of blocks. They agreed that representatives of civic organizations might form a Civic Planning Board apart from the governmental structure, of which the Advisory Board would have representation. This CPB would present coordinated plans for community development to either the Advisory Board or the Project Director, but it would also carry on a great deal of coordinated planning which would not have to be referred to either. Tani was delegated to draw up this plan for the purpose of discussing with Provinse when he should arrive. Okajima suggested that Moore, the project attorney, be asked to help in drawing it up, but Townsend wondered if he was perhaps not too legalistic in approach. It was agreed, to Townsend's suggestion, to get aid from certain evacuees instead. Townsend suggested Norio Wakamatsu. No one seemed to know much about him except Kanaya who said he was a smart boy. Townsend then suggested Sasaki who works on the rationing board. There was considerable discussion of him, and Akiyama insisted that he was "all right," although the others seemed to know little about him. It was finally decided that Tani should present them with an official letter from Okajima asking them to help. The evacuees suggested no other names themselves.

Townsend then asked if the group thought that the block managers would still have any function, after this sort though at first there was some indication of dissatisfaction with particular block managers. No names were mentioned, but it was said that some of them were not respected in their blocks, and Tani said that you couldn't expect to have all good apples in a box. Some would be bound to be rotten. Chujo also said that a number of block managers were making the people quite mad by interfering too much in their affairs. Townsend then said that if the block managers could be restricted to their proper functions in maintaining the government property in the blocks and passing on administrative orders to the blocks that everything would be all right. The group agreed to this and Townsend then suggested that the setting up of self-government would undoubtedly result in reducing the importance of the individual block managers in the blocks. No one seemed to think that this would result in important conflicts.

Townsend asked Spicer to give a sketch of Provinse's background and that was done, Kanaya commented that he thought Provinse would consider the new plan with reference to the real human problems involved and not on just technical agreement or disagreement with Administrative Instruction No. 34. The meeting broke up after Townsend asked everyone to do some thinking in the next few days and perhaps have several meetings before Provinse should arrive.

I was impressed with the following things: the fact that this whole group spoke in English during the whole meeting; suggesting to me a doubt as to the closeness of their touch with the community.

2. At least three of the commission strike me as being odd characters, whom I would not expect to have much real influence in the community. Tani is not of either the Portland or Seattle people, but comes from Oakland and cannot be one who was well-known to this community before evacuation; (he was also notable inept in handling the meeting in Block 21 the other night) especially incurring the disapproval of nisei). Okajima was once a Seattle man, but he has drifted, and ultimately landed in Los Angeles, where he engaged in the unusual occupation of "Business Counselor." Chujo is actively Catholic and has the air of a smooth individual, who would be better at polishing the administration than gaining the respect of ordinary people in the blocks. These three seem to me to be very likely not to have any real weight with the rank and file. Akiyama is in close touch with things, but he is evidently one who runs to the administration with tales about other leaders in the community. He speaks like a rabble-rouser and goes in heavily for personalities. Yukawa is indifferent to the whole business, representing the

basic issei attitude.

3. The feeling among the group of political trouble brewing. This is definite and bears out the statements of several people that things are quiet only "on the surface in Minidoka."

(EHS)

MINIDOKA RELOCATION PROJECT
Hunt, Idaho

Field Report #27

ORGANIZATION COMMISSION MEETING
H. L. Stafford's office

April 15, 1943
10:00 a. m.

SUBJECT: Community Self-government

Persons present: K. Okajima, D. Kanaya, J. Yukawa, Roy Akiyama, Dr. G. Tani,
F. Chiujo, Y. Fukui, G. Townsend, J. Provinse, J. de Young.

The meeting of the commission had been called by G. Townsend in order to talk over the problems connected with self-government in Minidoka with J. Provinse who was visiting the project. Mr. Provinse was introduced individually to all the members of the commission before the meeting began. Mr. Okajima sat at the head of the table with Provinse on the left and Townsend on the right. Tani, the secretary, sat in the middle of the table.

Tani opened the meeting by presenting to the group the proposed charter of the "Community Advisory Council." He explained that the committee had felt this particular form of council was best suited to the community under the terms of Admin. Instruction No. 34 telling in detail just how the restriction prohibiting Issei from holding office had been arrived at. Townsend then asked each member in turn what their opinions were.

Akiyama: Akiyama took the leading part in the early discussion. He was in favor of having as simple a form of government in Minidoka as possible, that considering the peculiar situation here an elaborate charter was not needed. He felt or at least voiced the opinion that the Project Director and other top men would see that everything was done right.

Fujii: answered his arguments by pointing out that the caliber of the top men was not the issue at stake and that the commission had to act on principle. If self-government were to be put in effect, there must be a formal charter background.

Provinse then raised the question as to whether the commission would submit the same charter if No. 34 were to be changed. He informed the group that the

decision to change No. 34 had already been made and only awaited D. S. Myer's signature which had probably already been affixed to the amendment.

Kanaya: felt that if No. 34 were changed, the Issei would dominate the group and run the camp. He pointed out that the background of the older Japanese was not democratic and therefore could not be expected to think along those lines.

Chiujo: was of the opinion that the best solution was to have a community advisory council which would be a temporary form of government. He stated this as "Most of the Nisei will be relocating very soon and should be thinking in terms of future outside experience. When self-government was talked about 6 months ago, this center was regarded as permanent, not temporary. Now the Nisei must go outside so there is no reason to have any permanent form of self-government."

Yukawa: Yukawa said nothing throughout the meeting until called upon. He expressed himself then "If No. 34 were changed and Issei allowed to hold office, all would go smooth, the Issei and Nisei would work hand in hand." This drew exclamations of doubt especially from Kanaya.

Tani: held forth "This camp is totalitarian. The Nisei are getting out and if the project is to be for the elders, provision should be made to let them have a voice in running it."

The group as a whole felt that because of the able top men, Minidoka was rather unique. Provinse said that the closest parallel to the relocation problem that had been experienced in United States was the 150 years the Indian Service experienced, and said the net result was not very helpful, but the Indian Service directors were in a sense dictatorial and to a large extent it depended on them personally as to what kind of treatment was given to the Indians. He pointed out that the commission should take into consideration the possibility of a change of administration in drafting any plans for self-government, for while this particular group of administration men might have the community's confidence, later men might think along different lines.

Chiujo: "If we could get enough capable Nisei to run this camp, it would be totally peaceful. We did have very capable Nisei who understood both groups but they are not longer here. I don't think we could find 7 able Nisei to be on the Community Advisory Council. We Issei will run this camp and make it a small Japan, a little Japanese community, in fact. If we had Nisei like Tom Masuda, Kenji Okuda (Dr. Tani is included, of course,) things would be different."

Akiyama: broke in with "It's just impossible to find that kind."

Chiujo: continued, "Most of the Issei don't like hard work and self-government is going to be work, so you'll find only a powerful few being elected. Since we can't get able Nisei we should make this only a temporary affair."

Kanaya expresses pessimism as to whether the proposed plan would work. He asked Provinse about the background of the P.D.'s from other projects. Provinse gave a short background sketch and Townsend said, "I think the question that faces us all now is "Will the Washington office look kindly and favorable on any plan that deviates in detail from Ad. Instruction No. 34." Provinse said he was sure Washington office would look kindly, that no No. 34 had been strictly mandatory with exception of certain clauses.

The commission decided that even if No. 34 were changed the proposed community advisory council would be best suited to Minidoka's needs. If No. 34 were definitely changed, the charter would be modified to permit Issei to be elected to the Council.

The commission decided to rework the charter and then present it to a public vote for approval. Mr. Okajima, the chairman, said little throughout the meeting. He summed up occasionally but took no part in the discussions. Dr. Tani seemed slightly ill at ease both in manner and speech. He frequently broke into a nervous laugh while talking. He spoke of leaving the project soon.

The behavior of the group at this meeting was very much like that described by Spicer in his report on the commission.

MINIDOKA PROJECT

Field Report No. 31

EVENT: ORGANIZATION COMMISSION MEETING
TIME: 2:00 a.m. April 20, 1943
PLACE: Stafford's Office

People present: K. Okajima, Fujii, R. Akiyama, Yukawa, D. Kanaya, Dr. Tani,
G. Townsend, J. deYoung

This meeting had been called to go over the charter for the proposed Community Advisory Council. Tani, the secretary of the O.C. was not able to attend at 2:00 o'clock. Okajima as chairman presided. Townsend opened the meeting with the announcement that a telegram had arrived that morning telling that Administrative Instruction #34 had been amended to allow Issei to hold elective office. Everyone present expressed their gratification at this change. It was decided that the best policy in discussing the charter was to go over it point by point and Townsend began reading it. Article I Section I deals with establishment of the Community Advisory Council. Seven members are to be elected at large for a term of 6 months. The first discussion arose because of the length of term.

Fujii: "Why six months instead of a year?"

Akiyama: "I think it is best to have 6 months -- that way we keep new blood coming in -- keep the thing going.

Towsend: "You must remember that things move so fast that we can't plan ahead too far.

Fujii: "We want to keep the best man in -- shouldn't have too much change."

Okajima: "This is not to be regarded as permanent form of government. I think 6 months is a good length. We might be leaving here any time. (at this everybody laughed)

Fujii: "Having such short terms means too many elections. Some people might begin to play politics -- that is the only reason I raised a question."

Towsend: After reading age qualification 2 members which set at 25 years -
"Why 25 years instead of 21?"

Okajima: "We can make it 21 years. We were going on theory that at 25, a man is more mature, has had more and better experience and would be more capable.

Towsend: "Don't you think that the Nisei might feel the cards were stacked against

them if the age is set at 21 years.

Discussion of this finally led to all agreeing on 21 years. A few minor changes were made at various points mostly on wording in Article I.

Article II which deals with Coordinating Commission (see attached charter) was then read. Wording was changed slightly at several places in Section 1 and 2. Section 3 deals with officers and discussion arose as to who should be chairman of the Coordinating Commission.

Fujii: "I don't believe the chief coordinator should act as chairman. Why not have chairman of Advisory Council be chairman, otherwise you might get friction and striving between Advisory Council and Coordinating Commission."

The others agreed with this. It was also decided that the Community clerk should record the Coor. Comm. meetings.

Akiyama broke in with: "That Clerk must have clear head -- not be a dumbhead like me."

The rest joshed him and said: "What's the matter Ray. Haven't you been catching any fish lately?"

Next Section 4, dealt with vacancies which first were to be filled by appointment but consensus of opinion was that it would be wiser to fill vacancies by special election within block to avoid running into trouble.

There was no disagreement on Article III which defines the Judicial Commission. Townsend suggested adding amplifying the Judicial Commission function to encompass ordinances, crimes - etc. to conform with Section 6 of Article III of previous charter worked up by Organization Commission.

Article IV defined Treasury Commission. Townsend raised question whether there was any need for a Treasury Commission for this particular advisory type of council. A long discussion took place in which Fujii took the leading part. Dr. Tani who had come in late agreed that there was no need for this treasury commission if the council were to be purely advisory.

There were no other major changes in the charter except that petitions were qualified to require at least 2% of the qualified electors of the community. Tani was delegated to rework the charter to include the changes decided upon by the

commission. Townsend would then discuss the proposed charter with Project Director Stafford and after his approval was given, the charter would be mimeographed and submitted to the 72 delegates of the Self Government commission for their approval before final submission to the residents.

Behavior of group:

The group in its behavior did not differ from earlier meetings. Mr. Yukawa sat with his head in his hands and was dilent during most of the meeting. Dr. Tani came in late but took over much of the discussion after his arrival. Mr. Fujii was most active of the commission members. G. Townsend more or less took charge of the meeting in absence of Tani, the secretary, reading the charter aloud and steering the discussion.

(JdY)

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
MINIDOKA PROJECT
Hunt, Idaho

UNDERLINING REFERS TO CHANGES MADE. (SEE REPORT FOR COMPARISON)

ARTICLE I
COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Section 1. Establishment of Community Advisory Council:

The highest legislative body of this community shall be representative legislative advisory council which shall be known as the Community Advisory Council. The Community Advisory Council shall be composed of seven members elected from the community at large for a term of six months, or until their successors have been elected and take office as duly provided herein. Members of the Community Advisory Council shall be duly registered, qualified electors of the community who shall have attained the age of twenty-one years.

Section 2. Powers and Functions of Community Advisory Council:

The Community Advisory Council shall advise, counsel, make recommendations and suggestions, give criticism and assist the Project Director in the determination of matters of broad policy in maintaining and promoting the general welfare of the residents, and for the enactment of law and order regulations. It shall assume additional powers as conferred to it from time to time by the Project Director.

Section 3. Officers:

The Community Advisory Council shall elect from among its members a presiding officer who shall have the title of "Chairman of the Community Advisory Council" who shall preside at all meetings of the Community Advisory Council, and who shall be recognized as the head of the Community Advisory Council and Government for all ceremonial purposes. The Chairman of the Community Advisory Council shall have all the powers and duties of any other member of the Community Advisory Council, but shall not have any special administrative or executive functions or powers other than those specifically enumerated in this Charter.

The Project Director, upon the recommendation of the Community Advisory Council, shall appoint an officer of the community who shall have the title of "Community Clerk" who shall be a qualified elector and who shall have the following powers and duties: to give notice of all Community Advisory Council meetings, to keep a journal of the proceedings of the Community Advisory Council, to cause the publication of all ordinances, rules and regulations, to authenticate by his signature and to record in full in a book kept for the purpose, all ordinances and resolutions, and to perform such other duties required by this Charter or by the Community Advisory Council.

Section 4. Vacancies:

Vacancies shall be declared immediately in the event of a councilman who leaves the project with the intent to relocate permanently, and further, a vacancy shall be declared in the event of the absence of any councilman for four consecutive regular meetings. The Advisory Council is required to fill such vacancies within two weeks period after such a vacancy has been declared.

Section 5. Recall:

The recall of councilman may be initiated by petition of ten per cent of the eligible voters, and shall become final upon the majority vote of the electors.

ARTICLE II COORDINATING COMMISSION

Section 1. Establishment of Coordinator Commission:

The Coordinating Commission shall be composed of one person from each block to be known as the coordinator and who shall be elected by plurality vote casted by the eligible voters in his block. Members of the Coordinating Commission shall be duly registered qualified electors of the community.

Section 2. Functions of Coordinating Commission:

The function of the members of the Coordinating Commission shall be to concern themselves with the general welfare and desires of the residents within their respective blocks. The members of the Coordinating Commission shall disseminate information regarding action and ordinances of the Community Advisory Council. The Coordinating Commission shall be subsidiary to and subject to the control of the Community Advisory Council which shall promulgate necessary rules and regulations for the conduct and the operation of the Coordinating Commission.

Section 3. Officers:

There shall be chosen from among the members of the Coordinating Commission, a Chief Coordinator and an Assistant Chief Coordinator, and such other subordinate officers as the Commission shall determine. The Chief Coordinator shall be the Chairman of the Coordinating Commission.

Section 4. Vacancies:

Upon certification of a vacancy in the membership of the Coordinating Commission by the Chief Coordinator, the Community Advisory Council shall fill such vacancy within one week of such notification by special election of another person from the block where vacancy in representation to the Commission occurs.

ARTICLE III JUDICIAL COMMISSION

Section 1. Establishment of the Judicial Commission:

There shall be established a Judicial Commission of at least 5 persons appointed from among the qualified electors by the Project Director upon the recommendation of the Community Advisory Council. No member of the Judicial Commission shall serve on the Community Advisory Council concurrently. Members of the Judicial Commission shall hold office until recalled, which may be initiated by a petition of at least ten per cent of the electors, and which may become final upon the affirmative votes of two-thirds of the voters.

(b) The Judicial Commission shall act as an arbitration board and provide for orderly methods of settling disputes between residents of the community who voluntarily agree to submit their disputes to the Commission. Addition from previous charter.

ARTICLE IV NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Section 1. Eligibility of Electors:

All resident colonists of the Minidoka War Relocation Center 21 years of age or over, who are duly registered electors, shall be eligible to vote in all elections held pursuant to this Charter.

Section 2. Qualifications of Officers:

All officers of the Community Advisory Council shall be at least 21 years of age, but all residents shall be eligible for membership on appointive committees,

commissions, boards and other appointive offices or positions provided for by this Charter or which may be established by the Community Advisory Council.

Section 3. Secrecy in Voting:

All elections held pursuant to this Charter shall be my secret ballot.

Section 4. Registration of Electors:

All qualified electors of the community shall be registered. Registration shall be open throughout the year and closed during specified periods during elections. All registrations must be in person and shall bear the signature of the person applying. Any person for registration must be registered by the clerk as a matter of right, provided that he or she is 21 years or over, but the validity of such registration may be questioned by a formal writing filed with the Community Clerk, which question is determined by his Judicial Commission.

Section 5. Nominating Conventions:

Every block shall be represented by two delegates at a Nominating Convention. The block delegates shall be elected in their respective blocks from among the qualified electors. Express instructions as to nominees may be given at the discretion of the block residents. The Nominating Convention shall convene at the call of the Community Advisory Council and shall nominate at least ten, and not more than twenty-one candidates for the Community Advisory Council. Nominations shall be verbal and a second required. Each delegate shall be limited to one nomination. The Community Clerk shall secure the acceptance of candidacy by such persons as are nominated. In the event that a group of persons feel that a desirable person has not been nominated, nominations by petition of at least 2% of qualified electors of community may be made. The eligibility of any nominee may be challenged and the question shall be determined by the Judicial Commission.

Section 6. Elections:

Regular elections are to be held twice a year, on the first Monday in February, and on the first Monday in August. All persons are required to vote at the place where registered, and absentee or proxy voting is prohibited. For election to the Community Advisory Council, a majority is required. There shall be a runoff election in the event that all of the members of the Community Advisory Council are not elected at the regular election. Such other regulations pertaining to the conduct of elections may be prescribed by the Advisory Council.

ARTICLE V INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

Section 1. The Power of Initiative and Referendum:

The power of initiative and referendum shall be granted to the electors. The petitions for both initiative and referendum require ten per cent of the qualified electors signing.

Section 2. Form of Petition:

Every person circulating a petition must certify that he himself circulated the petition and that he believes the signatures to be genuine. There shall be attached to every petition the names of at least five persons who are responsible as a committee of petitioners. Every petition must be filed with the Community Clerk who shall certify as to the sufficiency of such petitions, but if he should declare that the petition is insufficient, the petitioners shall be given successive periods of ten days for the filing of the additional copies bearing duly certified signatures until requisite ten per cent is obtained, or the proposal shall be abandoned by the committee.

ARTICLE VI
AMENDMENTS

Section 1. Initiating Amendments:

Amendments to this Charter may be proposed by five-sevenths ($5/7$) of the Community Advisory Council, or by a petition of the people containing the signatures of ten per cent of the qualified electors of the community.

Section 2. Ratifications:

Amendments, whether proposed by the Community Advisory Council or by popular petition, shall be ratified by an affirmative vote of two-thirds ($2/3$) of the qualified electors of the community voting upon the amendment.

ARTICLE VII
RATIFICATION OF CHARTER

Section 1. Ratification of Charter:

The ratification of a majority of the qualified electors of this community voting at a special election shall be sufficient for the establishment of this Charter.

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY ANALYSIS SECTION

Field Report #42

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Minidoka

SUBJECT: An Historical Glimpse of Coal and Coal Division

1. First Period - Lack of Coal Supply
October 1942 - November, 1942
2. Second Period - Lack of Labor Supply
November 1942 - December 1942
3. Third Period - Ample Supply of Coal
December 1942 - March 1943
4. On Coal Division - Conclusive Remarks

Sources: Irrigator - Weekly paper published in this project
Mr. Takahashi - Foreman of Coal Division
Mr. Jensen - Councilor High School
Mr. Anderson - Head of Warehouse

Note: Though this report is titled "An Historical Glimpse of Coal and Coal Division" of this project it is just a collection of Irrigator articles and the remarks made by those people. Real inside information concerning contracts are not obtainable for the reporter.

First Period - Lack of Coal Supply

Regional climate noted for its coldness after sunset towards the end of October necessitated the need for fuel for home heating. Clamor for coal became louder and louder, but there was no supply of fuel. Colonists began to snatch basketsful of coal reserved for kitchen use and any small pieces of wood within their reach. Signs "This is for kitchen use. Don't take away" etc. on coal piles were seen. Both men and women made it a daily business to carry sage brush home on their backs. Many people hovered near lumber yard at night time.

On October 10, 1942, the first article on coal in the Irrigator appeared:

HUNT NEEDS 125 TONS COAL DAILY

The daily needs for 125 tons of coal to supply each apartment, dining hall, and boiler room when cold weather hits Hunt was pointed out Thursday by Howard Mann, Senior Procurement Officer, when he revealed that government contracted coal should arrive "within ten days." Present plan calls for one of three Utah mines to ship three carloads daily to Hunt while another will ship four carloads daily per week. The third schedule has not been revealed yet.

"As soon as these shipments start rolling in," Mann said, "we will be able to supply everyone."

This was a plan and a hope and there was not a definite perspective yet.

On November 14, 1942, Irrigator reported on the coal

COAL DEAL SIGNED WITH DENVER FIRM

A coal contract with the Consolidated Coal Company of Denver, Colorado, which will mean an additional 10,000 tons of coal for Hunt coming in at the rate of four carloads a day, was negotiated this week, according to H.W. Mann, Procurement Officer.

In conjunction with this report, it was disclosed that 20 trucks left here last Wednesday for 80-mile trip to an abandoned CCC camp north of Rupert and returned with 50 tons of coal for project use.

This was the first coal contract of large tonnage made for the project.

November 14, 1942

COAL PROBLEM RELIEVED

Hunt's fuel situation took a turn for the better this week with the arrival of eight carloads of coal Thursday which were unloaded immediately and distributed to alleviate the shortage which had existed since the start of winter weather.

A daily shipment of eight to ten carloads of coal should be sufficient for the needs of this center, Howard Mann, Procurement Officer, indicated.

A coal contract with Colorado mines having been negotiated, Mann reported that a steady shipment should be available for Hunt colonists.

November 18, 1942

REGULAR ARRIVAL OF COAL ASSURED

With the regular arrival of 10 to 12 carloads of coal per day, the worries of a fuel-less winter are over. Five mines in Utah, Wyoming, and Colorado will supply Hunt with 40,000 tons of coal, the need for the community being estimated at 20,000 tons per year, Howard W. Mann, Procurement Officer, indicated this week.

Due to the beginning to high school, a call has been issued for more coal swappers to distribute the coal.

The above two articles reported the actual delivery of coal to the colonists.

Second Period - Lack of Labor Supply

The Coal Division established in the Public Works Department was turned over to Warehouse under Mr. Anderson at the beginning of November. At that time they had only few dump trucks and carried only one or two carloads a day. The Division was assisted by high school students who volunteered for coal swamping.

The need for coal workers was urgent at the end of November as the bigger tonnages of coal began to come in and the "compulsory volunteers" were mobilized.

November 25, 1942

NO COAL GIVEN BLOCKS WHICH FAIL TO HELP

Blocks which fail to cooperate to meet the common coal emergency by refusing to provide volunteer coal crews "will get no coal," Edward Osawa, of the project coal division, warned this week.

A new arrangement for assuring coal for colonists will require the whole-hearted cooperation of every block manager and the residents of the respective blocks.

Under the plan announced by Osawa, each block will be a part of a rotation system and will be called upon daily by the coal division to furnish crews for hauling and distributing coal.

"Those blocks which fail to cooperate in this emergency will get no coal," Osawa pointed out.

Although most of the coal crews are made up of volunteer workers, Osawa said workers wishing the job on a 90-day basis, the period which the emergency is expected to last, will be placed on the payroll if they wish to sign up for the work.

"We have been getting splendid cooperation thus far, with a few exceptions, and I'm sure the colonists appreciate the volunteer services of those who are contributing their time and labor to the welfare of the community," Osawa said.

As to these volunteer helpers, Irrigator has an article in Japanese:

November 28, 1942 Translation from Japanese article:

"MOBILIZATION FOR THE HAULING OF COAL"

Yesterday morning, November 27, we had a mobilization of volunteer workers for the hauling of coal, when more than ten volunteer workers from each block rode on trucks in the hail. On the day of Thanksgiving all the block managers were called by the chief block manager, Mr. Hara, and were explained of the urgent need for the labor in order to distribute coal. Explainers were Takahashi and Yamashita, who asked for volunteers ... Volunteers are working with sweat and dust ... This will bring us the better condition of life ... Hauling is making a good progress.

About this time the Coal Division had been under reorganization and the crew was consisted of about 60 laborers. They needed more men to meet the situation.

Irrigator of December 2, 1942, made an appeal to public.

December 2, 1942

NEW APPEAL MADE FOR COAL WORKERS

Since the present coal crews are still inadequate for the unloading of the incoming coal each day, further appeals are being made for volunteer workers from each block to assist the regular swamper so that the boxcars may be released back to the mines as quickly as possible.

The average arrival daily is between 10 to 15 carloads of coal.

Third Period - Ample Supply of Coal

In January, 1943, supply of coal was abundant, but there was a fear that the coal would be brought back unless the coal was dumped in due time. For this emergency the Public Works Department assisted the Coal Division for 13 days. As to this Irrigator put the following article:

January 9, 1943

COAL LOAD

With about 50,000 tons of coal under contract for a year's period, 21,614 tons have arrived to date. The box cars are arriving so rapidly that the Public Works

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Division has shifted many men to the Transportation and Supplies Division to help haul the coal.

Thus together with enough labor and coal supply ample coal was obtained for the project, which Mr. Mann reported in the Irrigator on January 27, 1943 issue:

January 27, 1943

30,000 TONS OF COAL IN

With daily shipments of approximately 8 carloads of coal, 30,000 tons of coal have already arrived in this project, Howard Mann, Procurement Officer, revealed this week.

20,000 tons more is scheduled to arrive with the peak of the shipments to be reached by the end of March when the major companies will have completed their contracts. "Enough coal has been obtained for a year's supply," Mann said.

Now, the next thing to be done was the storing of the coal delivered for the next cold season. For this purpose coal pits have been dug.

March 6, 1943

WORK TO START ON COAL PITS

STAFFORD WILL LEAD ON SHOVEL CREW

Representatives were named Friday from every block within the center to recruit volunteers to dig two pits in their block for the storage piling of coal. The pits will be 25 feet square and 1 foot deep. One will be located near the kitchen and one near the boiler room. The foreman of each block crew will see a practical demonstration of how the pits should be dug when able-bodied male members of the appointed personnel grab shovels and wheelbarrows Monday morning at 9:30 in Block 23. The staff members, including Project Director Harry Stafford, have assumed the responsibility of digging the two pits in Block 23.

There will be no admission charged to see this demonstration.

Work on the pits in the other blocks will begin Wednesday. Tools will be furnished by the Public Works Division. This division also will put in floor gravel after the pits are dug and will direct placing the coal.

The Coal Division is the most powerful and appreciated both by public and by authorities among all the divisions of the project.

Some reasons for this are:

First impression of the Coal Division was very good -- when cold season came and coal was at spur already, there was not enough labor for delivery coal. When coal was delivered, colonists had to feel the works of the coal crew biologically, and cheered them as saviours and heroes. Their face value -- sooted dark face -- is very high. Just to look at their faces, one had to imagine they are hard working. However, they are not always the most efficient workers. If comparison is allowable, the gravel crew, who are doing the similar work, carry .95 carload a person per day, while the

coal crew .88 (in February) on the average. We must notice here that the gravel crew has to take away the surface soil in order to reach the gravel layer.

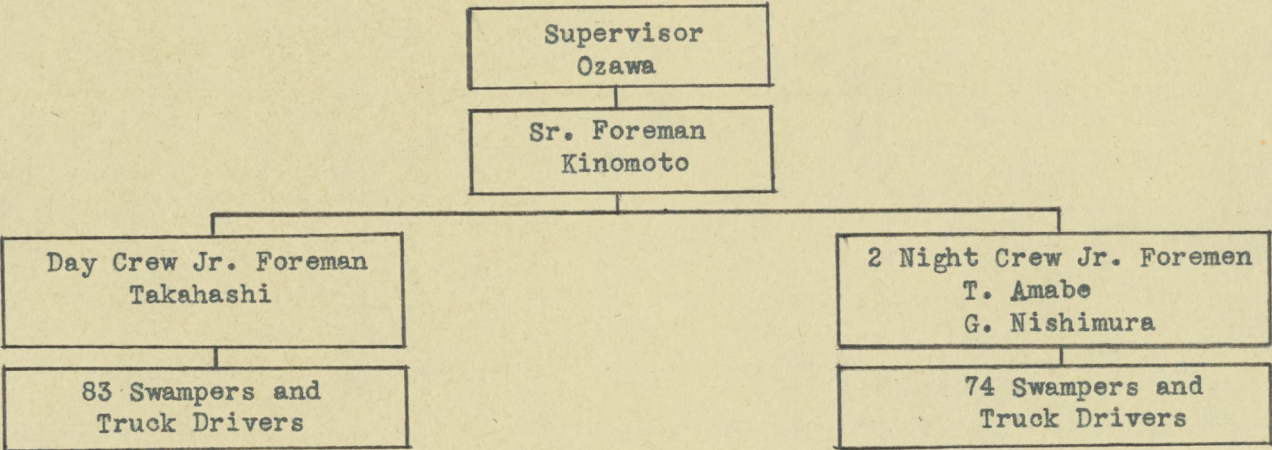
The authorities value Mr. Takahashi, foreman, very highly as a leader of the coal crew which has been closely organized like a labor union. True, he has much influence over the coal crew: He has personality and ability to give satisfaction for his crew whether it be for appetites or privileges, which the leaders of other divisions could not give. Another reason why he can be influential over the crew is that the crew is consisted of comrades -- groups of friends were added to its original coal crew of which Mr. Takahashi is one of the oldest. This means they were friendly to him before they got in the Coal Division directly or indirectly. They enjoy friendship while working, too. They have enjoyed the good competition of sportsman: Competition between Day crew and Night Crew, and among each truck to carry more coal. This sportsman spirit made the job very efficient. But, if one of them desires to be transferred, others would follow him, if one desires to get an outside job others would do, too, and if one volunteers for the Army others would follow. As a matter of fact 60 per cent of elibible workers in the crew volunteered for the Army and some applied for outside jobs as a group already. This attitude has given the leader of the coal crew much support when he wanted negotiations with the authorities.

On account of volunteers and outside workers going out, Takahashi predicts the collapse of the coal in a few weeks. But, this is not very hard kind of job for men who have muscular pride, who can ignore the soot on their faces heriocally. One must notice the great pleasure of the coal crew in going outside of the project and the enjoyment of speed. These are great consolations for the confined people psychologically. Mr. Stafford in his speech for the drive of farm hands cited the coal problem as a comparison but he seemed to have missed their psychology of that situation. Coal crew get day off every other day. This suits for the younger workers, who like to work hard and to have their own time. (c.f. Speeches on need of Farm Labor, April, 1943.) Certainly, the coal crew is working hard, but they have some pleasures in work itself to make it up.

It is not deniable that Takahashi has much personal influence beyond his function (see the chart below), but his influence has seemingly been estimated very highly by the authorities of this project. Now, Takahashi is in the stituation to have to leave the project very soon, but the future of the coal division, I believe is on the same level as other divisions, excepting that the male labor, which is going to be short in general, is exclusively required in this job.

ORGANIZATION CHART OF COAL DIVISION

For the Month of March, 1943
(162 workers)



(KW)

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

Ade, Lester K.
Alexander, H. F.
Arnold, E. G.
Baker, John C.
Barrows, Leland
Brooks, Earl
Buttedahl, O.J.
Byrd, Harold L.
Cahn, Seymour
Clear, John W.
Collins, H. F.
Collins, L. J.
Dixon, Charlotte
Dunbar, Oleta
Embree, John F.
Featherston, C. M.
Ferguson, E. E.
Frase, R. W.
Gifford, Selene
Gilbert, Jack
Glick, P. M.
Harding, F. W.
Henderson, Nat
Hoffman, W. E.
Holland, T. W.
Howard, John
Jonscher, Glen
Kimball, Solon

Lechlitter, Irvin
Leflar, Robert
Marks, E. B. Jr.
McIntyre, Davis
McMenamin, E. B.
Miller, Ray
Moore, Eleanor
O'Brien, A. E.
Powers, C. H.
Reed, E. F.
Richardson, W. G.
Robertson, Paul
Sabin, D. R.
Scheidt, Melvin E.
Seltzer, Morris
Sigler, L. A.
Silverman, Maurice
Spector, Melbourne
Stauber, R. R.
Stenz, Hall
Strieffler, Lt. P. M.
Thompson, R.
Tozier, M. M.
Wilson, Col. Erle M.

The history of a remarkable coal crew.

(Myer, D.S., Provinse, J.H., Rowalt, E.M., and Utz, E.J. crossed off above list.)

MINIDOKA PROJECT
Hunt, Idaho

Field Report No. 48

EVENT: Organization Commission Meeting
PLACE: Mr. Townsend's office
DATE: May 13, 1943
TIME: 3:00 P.M.

Chairman: Mr. Okajima

The members present were: Mr. Okajima, Mr. Yukawa, Mr. Fujii, Mr. Chiujo, Mr. Akiyama, Mr. Kanaya, and Mr. Townsend.

Mr. Townsend took the lead in the discussion. The discussion was on the subject of "Proposed Charter and Procedure for Organizing a Community Advisory Council" and on the "Code of Organization". A few changes were made in the Code of Organization as follows:

Article II Community Advisory Council Coordinating Commission was changed to "Block Commissioner" in order to avoid the confusion with the terms, Kitchen Coordinators and Recreational Coordinators. Also Article III of the original charter which deals with Judicial Commission was deleted. The Project Director is willing to take charge of or assume the responsibility of the works of the Judicial Commission. After the corrections, all the Commission members agreed that the revised charter be mimeographed so that it will be ready for the next meeting of the Commission members and the Congress of Delegates. Such matters as selection of election committee, making of by-laws for the election and other rules will be discussed at the next meeting which is to be held on May 20. There will be also meetings held in the blocks to elect block representatives where a block representative is absent due to an indefinite leave from the Center on May 17. After this has been done, the Organization Commission will meet with the Congress of Delegates from each block on Next Thursday May 20. The notice to block representatives will be sent out by the Community Service Dept.

Mr. Townsend notified Mr. James Sakamoto, (alternate commission member) in order to fill the vacancy of Dr. George Tani who left this project for Chicago on May 11, 1943.

There was no further discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

(dk)

MINIDOKA PROJECT
Hunt, Idaho

Field Report No. 48

EVENT: Organization Commission Meeting
PLACE: Mr. Townsend's office
DATE: May 13, 1943
TIME: 3:00 P.M.

Chairman: Mr. Okajima

The members present were: Mr. Okajima, Mr. Yukawa, Mr. Fujii, Mr. Chiujo, Mr. Akiyama, Mr. Kanaya, and Mr. Townsend.

Mr. Townsend took the lead in the discussion. The discussion was on the subject of "Proposed Charter and Procedure for Organizing a Community Advisory Council" and on the "Code of Organization". A few changes were made in the Code of Organization as follows:

Article II Community Advisory Council Coordinating Commission was changed to "Block Commissioner" in order to avoid the confusion with the terms, Kitchen Coordinators and Recreational Coordinators. Also Article III of the original charter which deals with Judicial Commission was deleted. The Project Director is willing to take charge of or assume the responsibility of the works of the Judicial Commission. After the corrections, all the Commission members agreed that the revised charter be mimeographed so that it will be ready for the next meeting of the Commission members and the Congress of Delegates. Such matters as selection of election committee, making of by-laws for the election and other rules will be discussed at the next meeting which is to be held on May 20. There will be also meetings held in the blocks to elect block representatives where a block representative is absent due to an indefinite leave from the Center on May 17. After this has been done, the Organization Commission will meet with the Congress of Delegates from each block on Next Thursday May 20. The notice to block representatives will be sent out by the Community Service Dept.

Mr. Townsend notified Mr. James Sakamoto, (alternate commission member) in order to fill the vacancy of Dr. George Tani who left this project for Chicago on May 11, 1943.

There was no further discussion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

(dk)

MINIDOKA PROJECT
Hunt, Idaho

Field Report No. 54

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Japanese Relocation Papers
Bancroft Library

EVENT: SELF-GOVERNMENT CONGRESS OF DELEGATES MEETING
PLACE: Block 23
TIME: 7:50 P.M. May 20, 1943

Persons attending: 50 delegates out of Congress of 70. Caucasians present were G. Townsend, Community Service Chief; J. deYoung, Social Analyst in role of observer.

This meeting of the Congress of Delegates had been called by the Organization Commission to present the Charter for the Advisory Council for approval. Mr. Okajima, the former chairman of the Commission had left the project the week before as had Dr. George Tani, the Commission secretary. Mr. Dick Kanaya had been chosen secretary of the Commission and Mr. Roy Akiyama was acting chairman.

There are 70 members of the Congress of which 50 were present. Of the 70 members, 13 are Nisei, 6 Kibei, and 51 Issei.

Of the 20 absent, 3 were Kibei, 4 Nisei and 12 Issei.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Akiyama, the chairman. Three other members of the Org. Commission sat at the speaker's table, Mr. Yukawa, the 5th member was absent due to illness. Mr. Akiyama, chairman, explained why Mr. Okajima and Dr. Tani were not present. After roll had been taken, he reviewed briefly the history of the self-government here and mentioned Mr. Provinse several times and telling of the change in Instruction No. 34.

Mr. Fujii then briefly explained why the Charter presented was so short and simple. All this was done in Japanese. The chairman, then, in Japanese explained the proposed Charter page by page for the Issei representatives. Mr. Shimono and Mr. Urakawa raised a question concerning the appointment of a Temporary Advisory Council. Mr. Akiyama attempted to explain this clause but was not successful and Mr. Fujii took over and explained the reasons for this Temporary Council. Mr. Urakawa (of Fair Labor Board) raised the questions as to the advisability of this Temporary Council and felt that it was unnecessary. When

the discussion seemed to be getting out of hand, G. Townsend took over and gave a summary of the history of the Organization Commission and the Congress of Delegates and how the short brief Charter came about. He explained that the Admin. and Organization Commission had felt that the Charter should be as brief and simple as possible and that the 7 or 8 page Charter had finally been pared down to 2 pages. The Code of Organization was set up to take care of such things as, term of office, etc.

Townsend: "We all felt that if a complicated Charter was presented to the people, there would be confusion and misunderstanding."

Mr. Urakawa: "We are not arguing about the Charter, only about advisability of having a Temporary Council."

Mr. Sakamoto: (former National JACL President) "If the permanent body should disagree with by-laws as set up by the Temporary Council. What can they do? We already have an Org. Commission so why can't permanent Advisory Council make by-laws or the Org. Commission submit their suggestion."

Mr. Arai: (former Seattle lawyer) "According to the brief, the Org. Commission will submit it for ratification."

Mr. Sakamoto: "The Delegates should submit the Charter to the public. The Org. Commission has no authority to submit it directly."

Townsend at this point called on Clarence Arai who explained his ideas as to the legal side of the Charter. He pointed out that Section I, Article II in reality conflicts with Section 2 of Article I.

Mr. Akiyama: "The Org. Commission has provided Charter, now you as delegates will have to accept or reject our suggestion and decide whether you want to submit it to the people."

Mr. Arai: "You mean in other words, that the delegates are to submit Charter to public and we delegated you (Org. Commission) to prepare Charter for us."

Mr. Akiyama: (in Japanese) went over what the discussion had been about.

Townsend: "As I see it, there are 2 things you can do.

1. Accept what the Org. Commission has prepared in full.
2. or delete Section 2, in this case the by-laws will have to be submitted for approval."

Mr. Sakamoto: "I think Mr. Townsend's suggestion is sound. I never heard of a Charter that had a clause providing for a Temporary Council until a permanent one is elected.

Mr. Urakawa motioned that Section 2, Article I be deleted ... it was seconded

by Mr. Sakamoto and carried by almost unanimous vote. At this point Akiyama became

flustered and announced that motion was carried before vote was taken. Rev.

Hayashi objected, vote was then taken.

Japanese Relocation Papers
Bancroft Library

Mr. Sakamoto: "You may not agree with what I am going to say. Mr. Stafford doesn't want factions to develop here. Let's be realistic. If we have election, factions are bound to develop. I'm not suggesting that we do away with election for elections are democratic. But the picture is changing here every day. I question the advisability of an election here. If we have faith and confidence in our Project Director, we can have him appoint a council. That may sound like dictatorship but I suggest it to keep harmony in the community. If people are going out next week, they won't have much responsibility as to who they will elect. I'd like to have some discussion as to advisability of holding election."

Mr. Akiyama: "As for me, election should go on. Many of the people here have no contract with Stafford, Townsend, etc. The majority don't have this though."

Mr. Sakamoto: "Question revolves around, 'What is this Advisory Council?' My idea is that it is a liason body between the people and the Project Director. Right now with so many people going out and community changing, how are we goint to be sure that we will get a stable Advisory Council through election? Best bet is a man like Mr. Stafford to appoint council rather take a haphazard chance on election." This was met by Silence.

Mr. Akiyama: (very confused) "I don't think people will be as muddled as to note the way you suggest."

Mr. Shimono: (in charge of Newspaper distribution for Coop, young Issei about 33 years old) "Our obligation is to take this Charter back to our blocks for rejection or adoption. If they want it, that will indicate that they are interested enough to vote intelligently. Our job is to take it back if we decide to accept it, not to discuss elections."

One lone member applauded this. Mr. Sakamoto motioned that the Charter together with Code of Organization be submitted to residents. Seconded by Mr. Urakawa and passed.

Mr. Sakamoto then raised question as to having a discussion of the Code of Organization before acceptance. Mr. Fujii (member of Commission and Housing Board) translated into Japanese the Code of Organization. Mr. Sakamoto quickly objected to voting age limit of 21 years. "21 years is all right outside, but we are living under peculiar situation here. Many of our people of 18 - 21 years are taking an important part in community life. Not fair to exclude them. This group probably will be here longer also."

Mr. Akiyama: "We decided that 18 years old are not mature enough to hold responsible positions."

Mr. Sakamoto: "That's all right for office holding, but I'm talking about voting. People of 18 ought to be given voice or participation."

There was no response from other delegates until Akiyama asked for suggestions.

Mr. Kanno: (head of Placement) "Most of young fellows are going out and won't be interested anyway."

Mr. Sakamoto: "If they don't have an interest, it's about time we let them have some experience. When Dillon Myer was here he said to us if you remember that one of the primary concerns of self-government would be to give the young people chance to get some experience in American form of government."

Mr. Arai: "According to Ad. Instruction No. 34, everyone 18 years or over has right to vote. How can we sit here and deny them the right to vote for this Charter. They can demand their right."

Mr. Townsend: "Clarence Arai is right about No. 34 and the 18 year old limit. But we are asking National Office to give us special dispensation in regard to No. 34. This Advisory Council doesn't fit under the type of self-government outlined in 34. Mr. Provinse led us to believe Washington would look kindly on our proposal."

Mr. Sakamoto: "We'd better remember that all of us here were partly elected by people 18 to 21. I, for one would be dilatory if I didn't stand up for their rights."

Rev. Hayashi: "Unless we have official Washington No. 34 must stand."

Mr. Townsend explained again that he was waiting for final Washington approval.

Rev. Hayashi: "I'd like to ask the Org. Commission why the change was made when we were partly elected by 18 - 21 yr. old."

X: "Some of us wouldn't be here if people 18 - 21 hadn't voted for us. Not fair or democratic. Now we are supposed to submit back to them a Charter to them that says they can't vote."

Arai, Hayashi, Sakamoto all hertily agreed.

Mr. Sakamoto: "It's almost like taxation without representation." (For the first time, Mr. Sakamoto was applauded.)

Mr. Arai: (shouting above the din) "It's illegal. Personally I can't face the 18 - 21 yr. olds if we exclude them."

Mr. Sakamoto had moved that vote be taken and Rev. Hayashi seconded. Vote was now taken and 24 voted "yes" for 18 yrs. and 8 voted "no" for 21 yrs. All of the "no's" were older Issei men. Eighteen didn't vote, mostly Issei.

(Note: There was very heated discussion in favor of the 18 yr. olds. Arai and Sakamoto, Nisei members were very vehement. Rev. Hayashi was the only Issei who spoke in favor of this younger group. In reality, the placing of vote age limit at 21 yr. instead of 18 was due to an oversight on the part of the Org. Commission and the Admin. participants. At one of the Org. Commission meetings this question had come up but no one had recalled that No. 34 had set the age

limit at 18 years. Actually, probably very few people between 18 - 21 voted for the delegates. The defenders, no doubt, realized this but were defending the principle.)

The Code of Organization was finally accepted unanimously after the voting age qualification was changed from 21 yrs. to 18 yrs.

There was some discussion of election committee and finally the Org. Commission was given authority to select the election committee. No one seemed to be in a hurry to hold the election, some wanted to postpone it as long as possible. The delegates felt that it was not necessary to elect 2 additional Com. members to fill the vacancies. It was also decided that the Code of Organization be translated into Japanese.

Behavior of Group: Akiyama, the special chairman proved very inept at handling the meeting. Mr. Fujii frequently had to take over and straighten things out. Mr. Urakawa took a leading part in the discussion as did James Sakamoto. The Issei were on the whole non-committal and said very little. When issues were taken, it was on Issei-Nisei lines.

(JdY)

MINIDOKA RELOCATION PROJECT
Hunt, Idaho

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PLACE: Dining Hall 36
TIME: 7:40 p.m. -- 12:00 p.m.
DATE: May 20, 1943
ATTENDANTS: 300, of which 230 females and 70 males, and 15%
of them were nisei.
LEADERS: Rev. Terao and Rev. Sugimoto

Field Report No. 55

On the Sect of St. Shinran:

This was the 750th birthday of St. Shinran, founder of Jōdoshinshū, commonly called Monto, sect of Buddhism in Japan. He was the Saint who dared to marry, which was prohibited for priests of those days. Naturally, his ways of preaching, or his interpretation of Buddhistic bible, was easy to understand and was welcomed by common people.

Roughly speaking, there are two kinds of doctrines in the interpretation of Buddhism: "Doctrine of by-one's self" and "Doctrine of by-other". The former one is similar to that of Protestant of Christianity or of Franklin Benjamin's "God helps those who help themselves", while the latter one "by-other" means "by Buddha," which implies that however sinful one might be he would be saved by the mercy of Buddha. Jōdoshinshū sect is the only, or the representativesect which belongs to the latter. Though Shinran might be compared to Luther in their revolutionery conducts, their interpretations were just opposite.

Higashi hongan ji (East Hongan Temple) and Nishi hongan ji (West Hongan Temple) headquarters of the Jōdoshinshū, are both in Kyoto, Japan. They have their own missionary colleges.

On the Scene of Celebration:

Pictures of Buddha and Shinran were hung on the wall of the rostrum. Crepe paper flowers, made by colonists, which is by the way a fad among females in this project, were arranged all over the rostrum.

Near the entrance of the dining hall was a tray to which attendante put some money. Most of them were 25 cents coins, but many dollar bills were seen, too. A man sat by the tray handed an envelope of cookies to those who donated money.

Regular dining hall tables were all taken out, and small chairs were put in the hall in order to save space.

On Ceremony:

7:40 p.m.--7:48 p.m.:--Rev. Terao appeared on the rostrum in whitish robe of Buddhist priest, and made an introductory speech to the following effect, "We are very happy to have a celebration party of the 740th birthday of St. Shinran, founder of our sect."

7:48 p.m.--8:15 p.m.:--Rev. Terao and Rev. Sugimoto chanted in Buddhistic low voice.

8:15 p.m.--8:20 p.m.:--Representatives called by Rev Terao burned incense at the rostrum.

8:20 p.m.-- 8:25 p.m.:--Rev. Sugimoto made a speech praising Buddha and congratulating on His birthday.

8:25 p.m.--8:30 p.m.:-- A chapter of Shinram's Book was read by Rev. Sugimoto.

8:30 p.m.--8:50 p.m.:-- Rev. Sugimoto made a speech on Jodo-shinshū sect and its doctrine, quoting some of Shinram's words and the book "Tariki no kyūsai (Salvation by other's power, or by Buddha)" written by Rev. M. Kiyozawa, a Buddhist scholar of about 50 years ago, in reference to the doctrine of other sects of Buddhism.

8:50 p.m.--8:55 p.m.:-- A song praising Buddha was sung by all the attendants. This song was not a traditional one.

8:55 p.m.--9:05 p.m.:-- A speech thanking to the general for having this celebration was made by Rev. Terakawa.

From 9:10 p.m. on entertainments, a talent show, continued, such as dancing, singing, instrument playing, and drama. Encores were made to a boy just for fun. A little girl appeared on the stage but suddenly became bashful and cried, and the curtain was closed. The last one, comic drama, was produced by the Buddhist Young Men Association of Seattle. Gay atmosphere were seen all through the entertainment.

Behavior of the Attendants:

Except few, they were all as well dressed up as Sunday-church people outside. Majority attended from the beginning of the ceremony but about seventy more people after the entertainments started.

The party on celebration of the birthday of a saint etc. is a chance to get together for the rural people in Japan

laying off their business. Children usually count the day like Christmas. This custom is not very articulate in big cities as the influence of religion is weakening there. Japanese immigrants to U. S. are mostly from rural districts and are carrying on their custom in this respect, it seems.

A song sung between 8:50 p.m. to 8:55 p.m. was not a traditional one as I wrote. It was not a chanting in low voice but was after European music rules. This kind of song will be frowned upon by old folks of strict Buddhism in rural Japan, but it may be accepted as progressive by city folks. Here it is accepted without any objection. It will be explained that it is an example of acculturation: On the part of priests it is their effort to adjust the difference between Christianity and Buddhism, and on the part of people it is one of the Europeanization of their mores. This song is just one of the example but there appeared many Europeanization, or Christianization, in Buddhism in this country.

The whole party gave satisfaction to everybody.

(KW)

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY ANALYSIS SECTION

Employment and
Labor Relations

MINIDOKA RELOCATION PROJECT
Hunt, Idaho

Field Report No. 65

EVENT: Fair Labor Practice Board Meeting
PLACE: Block 22 Placement Office
TIME: 8:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
DATE: May 17, 1943

Those who were present:

The regular board members:

Y. Akiyoshi
S. Soeda
M. Tai
J. Chikata
K. Kanno
G. Mizuki

The alternate members:

K. Kahara
T. Morita
T. Sawaji
M. Yatagai
Yonemura

The special guests were:

C. Ozawa of Steward Division
C. Hashiguchi of Housing Division
H. Kitayama of The Minidoka Irrigator
F. Chiujo of Organization Commission
D. Kanaya of Community Analysis Dept.

This purpose: The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the wage scale and the working condition of the Minidoka

This was a special meeting and was called to order by Chairman, Yutaka Akiyoshi. He explained briefly the existing condition of labor situation in the center, stating, in spite of tremendous increase in the number of workers, since last fall there is shortage of help in the Center at the present. The government object was to put all the evacuees on the same wage scale but it has been already noted this objective has been a failure from the standpoint of labor efficiency and manpower problem.

Mr. Urakawa stressed (in Japanese) the point that the manpower shortage in Minidoka is caused by low wage scale. Nobody wishes to work in the farm for \$16.00 per month. Raising the wage scale does not mean it will hinder the Relocation program by any means. If people are determined to leave the center they will go regardless of few dollars raise in the wages. Through increasing the wage scale, we can get more efficiency out of individual, thus the manpower shortage problems would be gradually solved.

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The administration claims that the wage increase in (\$16.00 to \$19.00) Poston is merely a rumor, but since it has been publicized in the newspaper already, it is not a rumor but fact.

The evacuees' meager resources are rapidly exhausting and unless something should be done about it, we have to face a very difficult time not only when war is over, but when we try to relocate to some place else.

If we could get substantial statistical dates to indicate to the Administration the amount of money going out from the evacuees every month, and also how much money evacuees receive, we have some basis on which we can demand our increase in the wages.

There were general discussions after Mr. Urakawa's talk. One person from the floor said: "Since \$16.00 and \$19.00 are not exactly our wages but they are allowance. Personally, I rather see many people get equal amount of allowance rather than few people get higher wages. This community (Relocation Center) is more or less, based upon Communistic principle -- certain amount of unfairness cannot be avoided. It is very desirable for everyone to get certain amount so that people can manage to keep on going while they are in the center. This argument is not against higher wages, but he wishes to see everyone have a break.

Mr. Urakawa argued that the placement of a right person in a right place is very urgent under the present circumstances so the sooner the task is accomplished, better it will be.

There was no opposition as to the demand for reclassification of wage scales and also increase in the wages, they have decided to take the matter up to Mr. Harry Stafford, P. D., Tuesday, May 18, 1943.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 p.m.

(DK)

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MINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER

Community Analysis Section

Field Report NO. 96

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ENGLISH WORDS IN CURRENT USE AT MINIDOKA CENTER THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN A "JAPANIZED-ENGLISH" PRONUNCIATION OR HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED INTO A JAPANESE EQUIVALENT.

The following list of translations is not taken from the dictionary but is from actual conversation carried on among residents at Minidoka. Although linguistically speaking the residents of this center can be divided roughly into an "English Speaking" group and a "Japanese Speaking" group, the majority are bilingual. However, there is a great deal of difference in the degree of use of the secondary language whether it be English or Japanese.

When two individuals of the "English Speaking" group are engaged in conversation, they use English exclusively. When an "English Speaking" individual and one of the "Japanese Speaking" group talk, they use both languages to a certain degree depending upon their linguistic abilities and circumstances. When two individuals of the "Japanese" groups engage in conversation they use Japanese, but throw in many English words with Japanized-English pronunciation or accent. It is with this type of conversation that this paper will deal, as in the second type of conversation those Japanese words are always found in the vocabulary of the last type.

The following key will be followed:

- (J) ----Japanized-English pronunciation.
- (B) ----Bookish or formal
- (1) ----First choice (in case there is)
- (2) ----Second choice(a difference.)

WRA TERMS (general)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
assembly center	(J) sentā	
relocation center	(J.1) kyampu (J.2) sentā (B)	-shortened form of "ten-jusho" is "sho", e.g. "sho-nai" means in the center.
internment camp	(J.1) kyampu <i>(J) intzimento kyampu</i> (B) shūyōjo	-In this case a proper noun is preceded to distinguish from a relocation center, e.g., "Montana no kyampu" means "the camp of Montana" -rare
army	(J) āmi (B) gumbu	
W.R.A.	(J) daburyū āru ei	
evacuation	tachinoki (J) ebakyueishon	
alien registration	shimon tōroku	-means finger print registration.
draft	chōhei	
induction	chōhei nyūei	
volunteer	(J) bokantia shigan	

(leaves)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
indefinite leave	(J) indefinito rību (J) rirokeito	-relocate
group leave short term leave		-no substantive forms for them. Word-groups or sentences are used, e.g., They went together.
border pass	(J) pasu	pass
travel permit	(J) tsuraberu pāmitto	-rare

(occupations in the project)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
director	shochō	
assistant director	fuku shochō	
department head	buchō	-more colloquial one is Hakujin no bosu, i.e. Caucasian boss.
social service	(J) sōsharu sabisu (B) shakai bu	
legal division	horitsu komon (J) rīgaru debijon	
fiscal division	kaikei	
sanitation	benjo no soji (J) saniteishon (B) eisei	-means toilet cleaning
internal security	junsa (J) intānaru sekyuritī	-means police
captain (head police)	shochō (J) kyaputen	
fireman	shōbō (J) faiyā man	
carpenter	daiku	
cook	(J) kokku	
waiter	(J) waitā	
electrician	denki ya	
draft	seizu	(one who does so and so (is usually used for (these occupations. ((
statistics	tōkei	
accounting	kaikei	
typist	(J) taipisuto	
secretary	(J) sekuretarī hisho	

(occupation in the project - continued)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
driver	(J) doraibā untenshu	
janitor	(J) janitā kozukai	
boiler man	(J) boirā man kamataki	-rare
garbage man	(J) gyabeji ya	
post office	yūbin kyoku	
block manager	(J) burokku maneja ku chō	
section coordinator	(J) sekushon koodineitā	
doctor	isha (J) dokutā	
nurse	kangofu	
dietician	(J) daietishan (B) eiyōshi	

(physical facilities)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
apartment room	(J) rūmu heya	-room
barrack (one) building	(J) hausu - nagaya (hito) mune	-house
block	(J) burokku (B) ku	-(e.f. ^{see} appendix) not to be confused with the Japanese buraku
section	(J) sekushon	
dining hall	(J.1) mesu hōru (J.2) shokudō	-mess hall
recreation hall	(J.1) rikurieishon horu (J.2) goraku shitu	
laundry room	sentaku ba (J) randorī rūmu	
ware house	(J.1) wais hausu (J.2) sōko	
bath (shower) room	(J) basu rūmu furo ba	
hospital	byūin	
post office	yūbin kyoku	
library	toshokan	
irrigation	(J) irigeishon	
running water	suidō	
canal	kawa unga (J) kanaru	

(shops)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
co-operative store	kyantīn (B) shohi kumiai	-canteen. This is used for both the store and cooperative itself, e.g. "kyantin no kabu" for "stock of co-op."
barber shop	(J) bābā shoppu toko ya sampatsu ya	
shoe shop	kutsu ya	
watch repair's shop	tokei ya	
radio shop	(J) rajio ya	
flower shop	hana ya	
fish shop	sakana ya	
beauty salon	(J) byūti saron kamiyui	
optician	megane ya	
mail order	(J) meiru ōdā	

(religion, ritual, holiday, life)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
religion	shūkyō	
Christianity	kiristo kyō	
Buddhism	bukkyō	
church	kyōkai	
temple	tera	
minister	bokushi	
prayer	oinori kitō	
funeral	sōshiki	
wedding	kekkon	
fiance	inazuke (J) engaiji shita hito	-engaged one
engage	(J) engaiji konyaku	
death	(B) shibō (v. shinu) (B) shikyo	(Verb forms (are prepared (in conver-
birth	(B) shusseï (v. umareru) (B) shussan	(sation unless (they are used (as a word (group.
burial	(B) maisō (v. umeru)	(
cemetery	ohaka	
holiday	(J) haradei oyasumi	-means vacation
Christmas	(J) kurisumasu	
New Year	shin nen	
Decoration Day	shōkon sai	
Fourth of July	(J.1) hōsu jurai (B.2) dokuritsu sai	

(school)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
school	gakkō	
high school	(J) hai sukūru chūgaku kotogakkō	
elementary school	(J) guramā shōgakkō	-grammar school
principal	kōcho (sensei	-sensei adds a conver- sational politeness
teacher	sensei	
student	seito	
class room	kyōshitsu	

(miscellaneous)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
Caucasian	hakujin	
Japanese	nihonjin	
rumor	uwasa	
radio	rajio	
short wave radio	(J) shōto weibu	
phonograph	ohikuonki	
coal	(J) kōru sekitan	
truck	(J) torakku	
automobile	(J.1) kā (J.2) ōtomobiru jidōsha	
stove	(J) autōbu	

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
sage brush	(J) sēiji burashi	
dust storm	sunā kaze	
coyote	(J) kayōte yamainu Okami	
cat	neko	
dog	inu	
crow	karasu	
magpie	chūsen garasu	
jack rabbit	(J) jakku rabbitto usagi	

appendix

omit

On use of "buraku" for block.

Buraku can be translated as hamlet. Fundamental factors included in the idea of buraku are:

- a. face-to-face group
- b. isolated group
- c. rural group
- d. uncultured group
- e. same mores group

If a block is isolated, there is a tendency to associate ^{the} term buraku ^{with} to it. If the block residents have not been town dwellers, they may not have this contemptuous feeling toward buraku sound. If the block residents are distinctive from others on account of their place of origin, this block may be called buraku by others. Among town people there is ^a tendency to look down upon buraku people. omit

Though this can be applied to a specific block, once a block is called a buraku, it will tend to diffuse into all. However, those conjectures do not seemed probable. My guess is that where buraku is used a fellow who liked pun stated first and others followed. But, he or they possibly have the above stated background. 2

Note: As far as this observer can discover the term buraku is not used in Minidoka center.

(KW)

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Community Analysis Section

Project Analysis Series No. 10
July 1943

ENGLISH WORDS IN CURRENT USE AT MINIDOKA CENTER THAT HAVE BEEN GIVEN A "JAPANIZED-ENGLISH" PRONUNCIATION OR HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED INTO A JAPANESE EQUIVALENT.

The following list of translations is not taken from the dictionary but is from actual conversation carried on among residents at Minidoka. Although linguistically speaking the residents of this center can be divided roughly into an "English Speaking" group and a "Japanese Speaking" group, the majority are bilingual. However, there is a great deal of difference in the degree of use of the secondary language whether it be English or Japanese.

When two individuals of the "English Speaking" group are engaged in conversation, they use English exclusively. When an "English Speaking" individual and one of the "Japanese Speaking" group talk, these use both languages to a certain degree depending upon their linguistic abilities and circumstances. When two individuals of the "Japanese" groups engage in conversation they use Japanese, but throw in many English words with Japanized-English pronunciation or accent. It is with this type of conversation that this paper will deal, as in the second type of conversation those Japanese words are always found in the vocabulary of the last type.

The following key will be followed:

- (J) ----- Japanized-English pronunciation
- (B) ----- Bookish or formal
- (1) ----- First choice (in case there is)
- (2) ----- Second choice (a difference)

WRA TERMS (General)

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
assembly center	(J) senta	
relocation center	(J.1) kyampu (J.2) senta (B)	- shortened form of "ten-jusho" is "sho", e.g. "sho-nai" means in the center.
internment camp	(J.1) kyampu (J) intanmento kyampu	- in this case a proper noun is preceded to distinguish from a relocation center, e.g., "Montana no kyampu", means "the camp of Montana".

	(B) shūyōjō	- rare
army	(J) āmi (B) gumbu	
W.R.A.	(J) daburyū āru ei	
evacuation	tachinoki (J) ebakyueishon	
alien registration	shimon tōroku	- means finger print registration.
draft	chōhei	
induction	chōhei nyuei	
volunteer	(J) borantia shigan	
(Leaves)		
indefinite leave	(J) indefinito rību (J) rirokeito	- relocate
group leave		- no substantive forms for them. Word-groups or sentences are used, e.g., They went together.
border pass	(J) pasu	- pass
travel permit	(J) tsuraberu pamitto	- rare
(Occupations in the Project)		
director	shochō	
assistant director	fuku shochō	
department head	buchō	- more colloquial one is Hakujin no bosu, i.e., Caucasian boss.
social service	(J) sōsharu sabisu (B) shakai bu	
legal division	horitsu komon (J) rigaru debijon	
fiscal division	kaikai	

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
sanitation	benjo no soji (J) saniteishon (B) eisei	- means toilet cleaning
internal security	junsa (J) intanaru sekyuriti	- means police
captain (head police)	shocho (J) kyaputen	
fireman	shobo (J) faiya man	
carpenter	daiku	
cook	(J) kokku	
waiter	(J) weita	
electrician	denki ya	
draft	seizu	(one who does so and so (is usually used for (these occupations. ((
statistics	tokei	
accounting	kaikei	
typist	(J) taipisuto	
secretary	(J) sekuretarī hisho	
driver	(J) doraiba untenshu	
janitor	(J) janita kozukai	
boiler man	(J) boira man kamataki	- rare
garbage man	(J) gyabeji ya	
post office	yubin kyoku	
block manager	(J) burokku maneja ku chō	
section coordinator	(J) sekushon koodineita	

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
doctor	isha (J) dokuta	
nurse	kangofu	
dietician	(J) daietishan (B) eiyooshi	
<u>(Physical Facilities)</u>		
apartment	(J) rumu heya	- room
barrack	(J) hausu - nagaya (hito) mune	- house
block	(J) burokku (B) ku	- not to be confused with the Japanese term <u>buraku</u> .
section	(J) sekushon	
dining hall	(J.1) mesu hōru (J.2) shokudo	- mess hall
recreation hall	(J.1) rikurieishon hōru (J.2) goraku shitu	
laundry room	sentaku ba (J) randōri rumu	
ware house	(J.1) waia hausu (J.2) sōko	
bath (shower) room	(J) basu rumu furo ba	
hospital	byōin	
post office	yubin kyoku	
library	toshokan	
irrigation	(J) irigeishon	
running water	suido	
canal	kawa unga (J) kanaru	

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
(Shops)		
co-operative store	kyantin (B) shohi kumiai	- canteen. This is used for both the store and cooperative itself, e.g., "kyantin no kabu" for stock of co-op."
barber shop	(J) baba shoppu toko ya sampatsu ya	
shoe shop	kutsu ya	
watch repair's shop	tokei ya	
radio shop	(J) rajio ya	
flower shop	hana ya	
fish shop	sakana ya	
beauty salon	(J) byuti saron kamiyui	
optician	megane ya	
mail order	(J) meiru oda	
<u>(Religion, Ritual, Holiday, Life)</u>		
religion	shūkyō	
Christianity	kiristo kyō	
Buddhism	bukkyō	
church	kyōkai	
temple	tera	
minister	bokushi	
prayer	oinori kito	
funeral	sōshiki	
wedding	kekkon	

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
<u>(Religion, Ritual, Holiday, Life)</u>		
fiance	inazuke (J) engeiji shita hito	- engaged one
engage	(J) engeiji konyaku	
death	(B) shibō (v. shinu) (B) shikyo	(Verb forms are pre- pared in conversa- tion unless they are used as a word group.
birth	(B) shussei (v. umareru) (B) shussan	(((
burial	(B) maisō (v. umeru)	(
cemetery	ohaka	
holiday	(J) haradei oyasumi	- means vacation
Christmas	(J) kurisumasu	
New Year	shin nen	
Decoration Day	shōkon sai	
Fourth of July	(J.1) hosū jurai (B.2) dokuritsu sai	
<u>(School)</u>		
school	gakkō	
high school	(J) hai sukūru chugaku kotogakkō	
elementary school	(J) guramā shogakko	- grammar school
principal	kōcho (sensei)	- sensei adds a conver- sational politeness.
teacher	sensei	
student	seito	
class room	kyōshitsu	

<u>ENGLISH</u>	<u>JAPANESE</u>	<u>NOTE</u>
(<u>Miscellaneous</u>)		
Caucasian	hakujin	
Japanese	nihonjin	
rumor	uwasa	
radio	rajio	
short wave radio	(J) shōto weibu	
phonograph	chikuonki	
coal	(J) kōru sekitan	
truck	(J) torakku	
automobile	(J.1) k _a (J.2) otomobiru jidosha	
stove	(J) sutōbu	
sage brush	(J) seiji burashi	
dust storm	sunā kaze	
coyote	(J) kayōte yamainu Okami	
cat	neko	
dog	inu	
crow	karasu	
magpie	chōsen garasu	
jack rabbit	(J) jakku rabitto usagi	

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Hunt, Idaho

In reply, please refer to:
Community Analysis Section

July 8, 1943

To:

John F. Embree
Community Analysis Section
War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington, D. C.

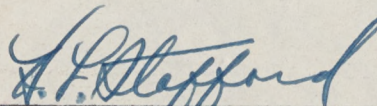
Dear Mr. Embree:

Your inquiry of July 5, regarding the discussion of the term, buraku, on page of 12 of the Community Analysis Field Report No. 96 can be answered in the following manner.

The appendix (page 12) of this report dealing with the use of Japanese words in this center was written by one of the Community Analysis research assistants who was speculating as to why the term, buraku for block might be conceivable used in other centers. However, this term apparently is not used here in Minidoka.

The discussion on isolated blocks being called buraku is thus merely conjecture on the part of one of the assistants who prepared this report. Enclosed are several copies of a revised version of appendix which makes this situation clear.

Sincerely,



H. L. Stafford
Project Director

Enclosure:

in CA. Files



Enclosure:



Enclosure

These two enclosures contain
a copy of the report of the
Commissioner of the War Relocation
Authority, dated July 15, 1943,
and a copy of the report of the
Commissioner of the War Relocation
Authority, dated July 15, 1943.

These two enclosures contain
a copy of the report of the
Commissioner of the War Relocation
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a copy of the report of the
Commissioner of the War Relocation
Authority, dated July 15, 1943,
and a copy of the report of the
Commissioner of the War Relocation
Authority, dated July 15, 1943.

DEAR SIR:

Enclosed for you are
two copies of the report of the
Commissioner of the War Relocation
Authority, dated July 15, 1943,
and a copy of the report of the
Commissioner of the War Relocation
Authority, dated July 15, 1943.

Yours
Sincerely,
[Signature]

Continued on next page

Very truly
yours,
[Signature]

de Young
July 3, 1943

Mr. Harry L. Stafford
Project Director
Minidoka Relocation Center
Hunt, Idaho

Attention: John de Young, Community Analyst

Dear Mr. Stafford:

In Field Report No. 96, page 12, there is a discussion of the Japanese term, Buraku.

The writer after telling what it means and how it is used adds the note that the term is not used at Minidoka. If it is not used, then what is the basis of the two paragraph discussion on isolated blocks being called Buraku?

Yours sincerely,

John F. Embree
Head, Community Analysis

MINIDOKA RELOCATION PROJECT
Community Analysis Section

Field Report No. 97

EVENT: Organization Commission Meeting
TIME: 1:30 - 3:30 P.M. Friday June 18, 1943
PLACE: Community Analysis Office

persons attending: Mr. Y. Fujii; Mr. F. Chiujo; Mr. Roy Akiyama; Mr. Dick Kanaya; Mr. J. Yukawa; Mr. Urakawa, Election Chairman; Mr. G. Townsend, Chief Community Services; J. deYoung, Community Analyst.

This meeting had been called by Mr. Townsend to discuss the results of the vote on the Charter for the Advisory Committee. It was held in the Community Analysis Office since this was a central place and a relatively quiet spot.

The meeting was opened by Mr. G. Townsend who explained why he had suggested the group come together and asked for discussion on the outcome of the vote.

Mr. Urakawa: (chairman of the election board) who is the head of the Fair Labor Board.

"A criticism that is heard is that the Block Delegates didn't have a complete understanding of the set-up and couldn't explain to the residents. However, most of the delegates didn't receive their instructions until very late. The mimeographed Charter and translation and instructions were delivered to the block managers on Thursday morning. Some of the delegates didn't get their instructions until late Sat. afternoon. In a few blocks, the instructions were held in the Block Manager's Office until Sunday and Monday. (Note: The election was held Tuesday night.)

A few of the opinions that I got was that the people were perfectly satisfied with the way things were run and this group believed that self-government would lead to trouble. We all know that some of the block managers actively worked against the Charter."

Mr. Townsend:

"Do you know why the block managers were against it?"

Mr. Urakawa:

"Why? The block managers don't have a clear idea of what their duties are and have taken over all sorts of functions. They are afraid that they will lose their power if block coordinators were elected."

Mr. Yukawa: (oldest member of the Commission and usually not saying very much)

"I can't talk today because I've been having my teeth out, but I've prepared a statement here which you can read. (Mr. Townsend read the typewritten statement.) This was as follows:

Our constructive exertion has been brought to naught after all. This is the sadest thing, indeed, not only to us committee, but also to the thoughtful people in the center. "Gone is gone" We do not follow any longer. What we have to look for next is the way that can promote the general welfare, insure harmony and tranquility, provide peace and order of the residents.

In my study of the failure of this time, the causes are enumerated as following:

1. A miss of right time.
2. The time was too short in between voting day and circulation of the Charter.
3. Lack of self-awakening of the residents.
4. A hint given by the block-manager.

The first three points are too clear to be explained. What is now worth discussing is the last point.

At the block-meeting last Monday, a block-manager had declared that 90% of the block-managers are in opposition to organization. And another manager has said at his respective block-meeting that we block managers are granted by Washington government the authority of participation in the political matter of the block, and some manager did not circulate at all the Charter to the residents. (If necessary, their names will be mentioned.) To say such as above, I think, is surely an eccentric act for block-manager. They have given to the residents a hint of None-Voting, while amplifying his prestige under the title of block-manager. Their agitant, intimidatory conduct such as should be supervised strictly by W.R.A. Administration.

Some of them are in fear of being deprived of their own position upon establishment of Organization, and others are engrossed in promoting their own interest by sacrificing of the Public Welfare.

If the things be left to their group as it is, our community will be, as birds of feather block together, of faction and clan. As its result, despotism by Oligarchy will take place, just was at Puyallup, and agitation, dissension of the public sentiment will be even more serious than was at Puyallup.

Here-upon, it is very necessary to find out a stick to carry before we stumble.

Here is a suggestion, provided that no organization be established:

1. Abolishment of Head-managership. Authority of head-managership would be held by W.R.A. staff office.
2. Block-manager should be elected from his respective Block and be appointed by W.R.A.

To say in the end, we will, upon honor, be in concert with W.R.A. at all events.

Mr.. Townsend:

"I'd like to make one comment about the election. Some of the people came to me and wanted me to tell the block managers to keep hands off the election. However, I felt that since the block managers were residents they had right to speak their mind."

Mr. Urakawa:

"We know some block managers went around and talked to people and tried to convince them that there wasn't any need for this Advisory Council. They said, 'everything is going smoothly now and something new will have trouble.'" "

Mr. Townsend:

"I'm interested in statement that some people said that if we turn this Charter down things will go much smoother."

Mr. Akiyama:

"Most of the intelligent people agree with our Charter, but the majority are ignorant about it, and don't care anything about it."

Mr. Urakawa:

"I quite differ on one point. The majority of the people are not ignorant, majority are satisfied with the way camp is being run. Not a question of ignorance, but question of not wanting anything new."

Mr. Fujii:

"Quite a number of people are satisfied. Many feel such a machinery should be established. We could have changed picture if we could have explained the 'why' of this Charter."

Mr. Kanaya:

"In the first place, explanation wasn't good enough. Many of the block representatives couldn't understand the Charter and at meeting of the block meeting couldn't explain to people what it was all about and the people didn't understand."

Then the residents as a whole are not interested in self-government. Many thought that this Advisory Council was really self-government and were afraid factions and trouble might result. The block managers have been working against this since last March, and are interested in maintaining their status quo. They are afraid of losing their social status. Some haven't qualification to be supervisors.

This is rather delicate but true. Some people have individual grudges against some of the block representatives - perhaps even some of us on the Organization Commission. Some felt that Organization Commission was trying to get to be the Advisory Council."

Mr. Yukawa:

"Regardless of what we do about Charter, we should reform the block manager system."

Mr. Urakawa:

"In Block 44 many of the people are from Manzanar and have had experience with self-government and wouldn't vote 'yes' for any form."

Mr. Fujii:

"What about Block #39? That is Mr. Akiyama's block and there only 4 voted 'yes' for the Charter. I'd like to know the explanation for that."

Mr. Akiyama:

"The lowest people live there. They are the worst in the project - a lot are farmers who come from Gresham, and haven't any education. They can't understand anything. I explained the Charter for over an hour and still they couldn't understand."

(Note: Mr. Akiyama's block was the lowest in number of 'yes' votes, even though Mr. Akiyama was a Commission member. It would appear that 2 factors were at play here. Mr. Akiyama is unpopular in his own group and the vote was largely a protest against him personally, Second, in light of Mr. Akiyama's bungling of the job conducting the last meeting of Block Delegates, his explanation to the Block probably could not be understood. His explanation that the people are 'dumb' farmers and can't understand the Charter bear this out. Further, he is unpopular with the entire Portland group and the neighboring Portland blocks also voted against the Charter.)

Mr. Urakawa:

"What is next step that is to be taken?"

Mr. Townsend:

"Mr. Stafford felt we should get the Block Delegates together to discuss with them why the Charter was turned down."

Mr. Urakawa:

"The vote indirectly was a vote of confidence in Mr. Stafford."

Mr. Townsend:

"In one sense that is true, but if we say the block managers worked against it for personal reasons, that doesn't indicate confidence on their parts."

Mr. Urakawa:

"I think the reason the Block Managers could exert influence was that the people were neutral and could be swayed either way."

Mr. Chiujo:

"I still believe that if we had explained why we need this Advisory Board, 80% would want it. 80% would say 'yes'. The block managers are boasting that they are agents of W.R.A., they do not represent the people."

Mr. Townsend:

"Do you think if we had given more time for discussion before election the results would have been different?"

Mr. Fujii:

"I think so. In Block 42 for example, the Block Delegates did a very good job. They came to me and I explained the Charter and they understood it. Then they went back to the people and explained. You can see it in the results."

Mr. Urakawa:

"In Block 10, I explained the Charter at the meeting, Mr. Chiujo explained it also. Mr. Nomura, the Block Manager, was against it and I let him watch the ballot box to see if he could sway the votes. The results were about even."

Mr. Townsend:

"What do you think of calling the Block Delegates together?"

Mr. Urakawa:

"I don't think you'll get anywhere. They will bring up all the points we raised here but we'll also start bringing out personalities."

Mr. Kanaya:

"Probably the block managers who are Delegates won't come."

Mr. Townsend:

"I have interpreted vote as meaning the people don't want self-government here. Or should it be that they didn't want this particular type."

Mr. Akiyama:

"The block manager always get into everything around here. The block manager should be put on elective basis."

Mr. Fujii:

"Why can't Mr. Stafford ask the residents to form such an organization. He could ask them to recommend a group from which he could appoint an Advisory Board. No need for a Charter then."

Mr. Urakawa:

"If they wouldn't approve of his choice, they could object."

Mr. Townsend: Told of work of the Employment Committee and the consolidation and cutting down in all types of jobs and mentioned that there had been discussion of having only 1 block manager for every 2 blocks.

"I haven't discussed this with Mr. Stafford, but what do you gentlemen think of this suggestion? The residents of pairs of block (as for example block 1 & 3) could hold meeting and nominate men for block manager and have elections. The three men receiving the highest vote would then be recommended to Mr. Stafford to be appointed as block manager. This would result in:

1. giving people representation through election
2. giving block managers enough to do
3. at the same time, break block organization

Mr. Akiyama:

"Mr. Stafford could pick out 21 people or so and have residents pick out the 7 they want for Advisory Council."

Mr. Townsend:

"Mr. Stafford is violently opposed to his appointing such a group. It would put him on a spot. He feels he doesn't know the people that well to take such responsibility."

Mr. Urakawa:

"I'm in favor of having Block Managers and Block Coordinators work combined and have block manager elected and call them block coordinators. Then in turn, the block coordinator could act as nominating committee and submit 20 or so names to Mr. Stafford for appointment of Advisory Board. This Board could be strictly accountable to Block Coordinators."

Mr. Fujii:

"If Block Manager were elected by the people they would be representing the people and could be given power."

Mr. deYoung:

"Mr. Townsend discussed the reduction of Block Manager and I see one danger in that. If one block manager represents 2 blocks, the other block manager who would be dismissed might be resentful. There would still be danger of factions between the 2 blocks. One of the blocks might not like the remaining block manager. However, if the block manager were elected, the situation would be a little different. I suggest though that if the three highest are submitted to Mr. Stafford, no public announcement be made of their number of votes. It might be that for various reasons -

the 3rd man would be the logical choice, yet the people's 3rd choice. There would be possibility that No. 1 & 2 would be resentful."

Mr. Urakawa:

"If we combine Block Manager and Block Coordinator, possibly there should be one to each block."

Mr. Townsend:

"We must remember that we can't pay anyone for being political representatives."

Mr. Fujii:

"I don't see any need for Block Coordinator if Block Manager were elected by people."

Mr. Townsend:

"Mr. Stafford might well say, let's have election every 6 months for Block Manager to see if they are still the people's choice. Word of caution might be inserted here. I have not discussed this with Mr. Stafford. I will discuss it, but I don't think you should talk about it yet."

Mr. Yukawa:

"My plan is better. We should abolish head block managership."

Mr. Urakawa:

"What we object to is "Mr. Hara & Co.""

Mr. Fujii:

"Instead of an appointed head block manager we could have the 18 elected block managers pick their own chairman."

Mr. Chiujo:

"If Hara is put out, the Administration should give him a better job. He's a very capable man."

Mr. Fujii:

"We are not discussing Mr. Hara. Not our problem here today."

Mr. Urakawa: (to Mr. Townsend)

"What you don't know is that Hara was unpopular in Seattle, in Harmony Center and in this project."

Mr. Fujii:

"Let's forget about Mr. Hara."

Mr. Urakawa:

"Is it your proposal to do away with Advisory Council?"

Mr. Urakawa:

"Why couldn't Mr. Stafford appoint Advisory Board who would be responsible to the block managers."

Mr. Townsend:

"I don't think Mr. Stafford will do that. He won't take the initiative in setting up Advisory Council. If he feels people don't want Advisory Council, he will sit back and wait until the initiative comes from residents. It may be that Washington will come back and say we insist you have some sort of self-government."

Then he will carry out those orders."

Mr. Akiyama:

"You're wrong in one way. We voted against a form of Charter, not against self-government."

Mr. Townsend:

"Technically you're right."

Mr. deYoung: Pointed out that an analysis of the actual vote couldn't be interpreted as people actually voting against self-government. Out of 5330 eligible voters, 3943 voted.

"The vote was 2375 against and 1568 for ratification. In percentage that is 60% to 40%. We've been talking about how personal factors have entered in, lack of understanding, active campaign against Charter by block manager. We can conjecture that if a full explanation had been given, the vote would have been larger in favor of ratification."

Mr. Townsend:

"Should we go back to the Block Delegates and say the people turned this down? Should we flatly ask the people if they want representation or not?"

The members of the Commission thought this might well be discussed at the meeting of the Block Delegates. It was decided that a meeting of Block Delegates would be called for Wednesday night, to discuss the election and the next step to be taken.

(JdY)

MINIDOKA RELOCATION PROJECT
Community Analysis Section

Field Report No. 109

EVENT: Organization Commission and Congress of Delegates Meeting.

TIME: 8:00 p. m. June 23, 1943

PLACE: Block 23, Dining Hall

Attendants: All the Commission members and 42 Congress of Delegates. Chairman - Mr. Fujii.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Fujii who acted as Chairman for the evening.

Mr. Urakawa gave a brief summary of the result of the election.

Mr. Fujii:

Mr. Stafford wishes to know as a matter of record the reasons why the election for a ratification of the Charter failed. We want know the opinions from the floor so that we might be able to get better insight into the whole matter.

Mr. Urakawa:

I wonder if voting "No" to the Charter means that the residents don't want any form of self-governing body in the Center, or if they merely voted against the Proposed Charter and Code of Organization.

Mr. Fujii:

That is the question I can not answer. I am not certain about that.

Mr. Sakamoto:

I interpret the result of the election to mean that the residents here felt any form of self-government is unnecessary. They are not voting against the Charter, but rather against any form of organized body in the Center.

Mr. Kimura:

If more time had been given to the people so that they could digest the materials presented, the result of the election might have been different.

Mr.

Everything is going smoothly here. Why should we invite trouble? Whenever there is election, there is some evil that goes with it. Many good nisei went out from the Project.

Mr. Masumoto:

I would like to know the opinion of Mr. Stafford.

Mr. Fujii:

I suppose he wanted to establish some form of body, that is why we are here for. Of course, I can not state definitely what his opinion is as to the establishment of self-government here.

Mr. Sakamoto:

The residents here have confidence in the Project Director that is why they voted "no."

Mr. Fujii:

Mr. Stafford felt some form of body is necessary so that he can confer with such body from time to time.

Mr. Nakagawa:

We should make the issue clear. We should present these questions to the residents:

1. Are the people here satisfied with the present conditions?
2. Do people think some form of self-government is necessary?

Mr. Fujii:

It is a very good idea. We may have to ask the residents about these questions.

Mr. Nakagawa:

The block representatives know the attitude of their own block but not of other blocks. We should take the votes from all the blocks in the Center in order to understand the sentiment of people in the Center.

Mr. Fujii:

We were elected to formulate charter. We sent a letter of resignation to Project Director because we felt our duty is over. It is still doubtful whether the residents voted against any form of self-government or against our Proposed Charter and Code of Organization. Mr. Kanaya will briefly summarize the reasons why representative body is necessary in the Project.

Mr. Kanaya gave the reason why Organization Commission formulated Advisory Council, its significance and necessity as a medium between the Administration and the residents.

Mr. Nakagawa:

It is very desirable that everyone in the Project should be informed of the importance of such body (meaning Advisory Council).

Mr. Fujii:

We have many problems here. We have the problems of wages, coal, food, medical care and etc. All the residents should help each other for the benefit of all. One body or organization is not sufficient to attain our goal.

Mr. Yoshida:

I express my thanks to the Commission members for their effort up to this time. Unfortunately, due to the lack of time and proper information, the Charter failed to ratify. Everything has been going on smoothly here in the Project, but that does not mean our future will be peaceful. I personally feel some form of body is necessary to act as a medium between the Administration and residents. Explain the urgent need of such organization to the residents, then they will know the significance of it.

Mr. Sakamoto:

Our duty is over as far as we are concerned.

Mr. Fujii:

I don't think your duty is over as a block representative. You are still a block representative. You should consult with the residents of your block ask their opinion. You are elected as a block representative because residents felt some form of governing body is necessary in the Center.

Mr. Sakamoto:

In interpret the result of the election as people are against self-government not against the Proposed Charter.

Mr. Hosokawa:

I think our work is over.

Mr. Hatate:

Let us take the vote on the question.

Mr. Fujii:

I don't know whether your duty is over or not.

Mr. Hosokawa:

I still think our duty is over.

Mr. Kikoshima:

The Japanese as a whole are not familiar with election methods and procedures. If the order comes directly from the Administration then the residents will do anything. Soft talk gets us nowhere.

Mr. Urakawa:

There is no doubt that we missed the proper time to present our Charter. We should have aroused the interests of residents before the election so that people had more interest in the election.

Mr. Fujii:

We should gather all kinds of opinions, then we should present such opinion to Mr. Stafford. Mr. Townsend, have you an comment to make?

Mr. Townsend:

I have no comment to make. Sorry to confess that I could not understand what people were talking about. The Advisory Council in true sense is not a self-government but merely advisory to the Administration.

Mr. Sakamoto:

People did not vote against Advisory Council or the Charter. Majority of the people are against any form of self-governing body. The people are not criticizing the contents of the Charter.

Mr. Townsend:

I am afraid some people might disagree with you on that point.

Mr. Sakamoto:

The people felt if they voted "Yes" to the Charter that means establishment of self-government. Since they don't want any form of self-government so they voted "No". People voted negatively so we have no authority to say anything now.

Mr. Urakawa:

The people are satisfied with the present conditions. The majority of them are content with the way things are running here.

Mr. Sakamoto:

Nobody is criticizing the Charter. There is nothing bad about the Charter.

Mr. Urakawa:

Satisfied elements always keep away from anything which is new.

Mr. Townsend:

Select men from the residents, by any method, group of men who represent majority with whom we can confer. That is what we want. In the past, we have called in many people for advice, but that may not always work out. The Administrative Staff don't know the best interest of people. They want to consult with the leaders of the community and then make decisions. We need some form of body of council who come from the people. The suggestion has been made

to appoint seven persons but Project Director is not in favor of such suggestion.

Mr. Sakamoto:

Our job is finished. Don't you think it is about time we should disband.

Mr. Townsend:

The block representatives were elected by the residents for the purpose of forming self-government here. Then they in turn elected seven men as Organization Commission. This body can disband if the people definitely don't want any form of body, then your job is finished. I have a feeling, it was the Charter the people here turned down.

Mr. Sakamoto:

We have no business to continue.

Mr. Kikoshima:

It is not very good idea to use big words or technical words. That causes more confusion to the people. If Mr. Stafford wishes to have Advisory Council why not do this way. First get a recommendation from Mr. Stafford, then elect one, two or three men from each block as representatives of the block. They will become a sort of Council. Then out of these people they can select or elect 7 men as Advisory Council or Negotiating Committee.

Mr. Townsend:

It might be wise to have just seven men as Advisory Council who can confer with the Project Director.

Mr. Sakamoto:

Election always creates factionalism. I suggest this method. Let us divide 35 blocks into 7 or 8 sections and each section elect one man as a member of Advisory Council.

Mr. Kanaya:

That way the persons only take interest of a section where he came from.

Mr. Sakamoto:

I don't think so. These seven are representing all the residents of the Center.

Mr. Urakawa:

Instead of using word Advisory Council why not use the term negotiating committee. This serves the purpose better and indicate function more clearly.

The block representatives felt that their duty was over so they decided to disband. The Organization Commission presented their resignation to Mr. Stafford effective immediately.

Behavior of the Crowd:

The meeting was conducted in very orderly manner. Only few persons made talk, although there were over 40 people present. 90% of speeches were carried on by Japanese. The block representatives had no definite idea or constructive plan to suggest. Only two constructive plans were suggested by the block representatives. The two block managers were very anxious to resign from the post as block representatives more than anything else. There were several good speakers at the meeting but they did not speak a word. Evidently, they were afraid to talk frankly, for fear they might get into trouble. The chairman was more anxious to hear the opinion from the floor than expressing his opinion.

This was the final meeting of the Organization Commission and the Block representatives since Organization Commission submitted their resignation to Mr. Stafford and the Block representatives dissolved the Organization.

(DTK)

MINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER
Community Analysis Section

Field Report No. 118

EVENT: Organization Commission Meeting with Mr. Stafford.
PLACE: Mr. Stafford's office.
TIME: June 24, 1943 2:00 p.m.
PRESENT: Organization Commission Members: Mr. Fujii; Mr. Kanaya; Mr. Chiujo;
Mr. Akiyama; Mr. Yukawa; Mr. Stafford, Project Director; George Townsend,
Chief Community Services; J. deYoung, Community Analyst in role of
observer.

This meeting had been called to discuss the election report on the Congress of Delegates meeting. Mr. Fujii (who acted as chairman of Congress of Delegate meeting) outlined what had happened.

Mr. Yukawa: (oldest Issei Member of Commission)

"We must remember that much of the viewpoint of some of the delegates is not that of the majority of the people. People are now coming back and saying they didn't understand what the charter was about. It is wise to call a block meeting again." (Note: Mr. Yukawa was evidently referring to Jimmy Sakamoto's statements that the majority of the residents were voting against self-government.)

Mr. Townsend:

"What do you, gentlemen, think? Did most of the delegates agree with Jimmy Sakamoto?"

Mr. Fujii:

"Some of the delegates there seemed to agree."

Mr. Townsend:

"Mr. deYoung, what is your idea on that?"

Mr. deYoung:

"As some of the commission members indicated the other day, the delegates even though they didn't agree wouldn't speak up because of the individuals who were agreeing with Jimmy Sakamoto. One of these individuals has the reputation of being an informer. Regardless of whether it is true here or not, you can be sure that people are going to be careful."

The Commission Members nodded in agreement to this.

Mr. Fujii:

"There is some evidence too, the residents felt they shouldn't take initiative until Mr. Stafford indicated what he wanted."

Mr. Stafford discussed how he felt about the situation and explained how he had wanted as simple approach as possible to the problem and that the administration had purposefully kept a strict neutral attitude as regards telling the residents how to vote. He indicated why he felt some kind of counseling group was necessary.

The letter from Mr. Myr re. Community Government at Minidoka was discussed and it was finally decided in light of the various factors which evidently had been at play in determining the outcome of the election that a revised charter would be resubmitted to the residents. Steps to be taken were outlined:

1. One man from each block to be appointed to act as special election chairman to elect new block delegates. (one from each block instead of 2)
2. Organization Commission to revise charter in light of suggestions from Washington.
3. New Congress of Delegates to meet with Organization Commission and Mr. Stafford to discuss revised Charter.
4. Residents to be fully informed as to importance of advisory council.
5. Block delegates to be given ample time in which to discuss the new charter with residents at block meeting.
6. Finally revised charter be presented to the people for vote for ratification or refusal.

Reaction and Attitude of group.

The group felt that since some of the block managers had taken an active part in the recent election, that some sort of control be placed on them. Since the block managers are WRA appointed, they (certain group) have been using this authority in ways that the Administration never attended. The Community Analyst who was present was asked his opinion in this respect. He suggested that the Block Managers be by-passed in this next election of new Block delegates and instead a special election chairman be appointed. Mr. Stafford as project director in appointing these special election chairmen instead of delegating this authority to the Block Managers would in effect be serving notice on the Block Managers and to the residents that the Administration has not given political authority to the Block Managers as many of them have tried to convince their residents. This suggestion was discussed and accepted.

The Organization Commission Members now only 5 out of original 7 feel they have accomplished their job. After seven months they are weary and somewhat disgusted. However, when Stafford asked them to carry on they agreed.

(jdy)

MINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER
Community Analysis Section

Field Report No. 119

EVENT: Congress of Delegates Meeting
PLACE: Dining Hall #23
TIME: June 23, 1943 8:00 - 10:00 p. m.

Note: (This is a supplement to Field Report No. 109.)

This meeting of the Congress of Delegates had been called to discuss the election. For the first hour and a half the meeting was conducted entirely in Japanese. (see Field Report No. 109). Mr. Fujii finally asked George Townsend, Chief of Community Services, if he had anything to say. Townsend replied that he had not been able to follow the discussion since it had been in Japanese. He asked how the delegates interpreted the vote.

James Sakamoto: (former JACL president and head of the Puyallup JACL political setup. This JACL group by their methods in Puyallup earned the enmity of both Nisei and Issei alike. Sakamoto who is blind was threatened and since his arrival in Minidoka has been very inactive. His own group here--the JACL, have apparently reputiated him except for a handful of old followers. Sakamoto as one of the block delegates has consistently spoken against any form of elective government here, predicting strife and factional trouble).

"Let's be honest about this. This wasn't a vote on the charter but a vote against self-government. I for one believe that the great majority of the residents were voting against any form of self-govern. When they rejected self-government, they rejected the charter. In view of the fact that the people have given a negative mandate, our job is finished." (Note: Sakamoto's claim that he believed the great majority of people were against self-government was wishful thinking. In his own block for example almost half of the residents voted for the charter.)

Mr. Urakawa: (Fair Labor Board representative and Election Chairman)

"To me the large majority might have been voting against Charter, but not against or for self-government."

Mr. Sakamoto:

"People here feel that there isn't any need for a new organization--want to leave well enough alone."

Mr. Townsend:

"Mr. Stafford would like to have a group that he can council with--we have been calling upon various groups in the community ie. the Organization Commission because since they were elected by you, they probably were representative of the people. The suggestion has been made to have Mr. Stafford appoint 7-8 members as an advisory group. He doesn't feel wise enough to pick this group. Sooner or later issues are going to come up that will need counseling with a representative group."

Mr. Sakamoto:

"Don't you think our job is finished?"

Mr. Townsend:

"If we look back, you'll remember Mr. Stafford asked that the blocks elect Delegates for purpose of setting up self-government. You elected the organization commission to act for you in preparing charter."

Mr. Sakamoto:

"What do you mean, that we should doubt the people's vote?"

Mr. Townsend:

"I've gotten the idea that people were voting on the charter not against self-government--still have to present something to the people."

Mr. Sakamoto:

"This seems to me the only feasible plan. If we vote for members of advisory council at large we will have factionalism and trouble--that's what we want to avoid. Why not divide 35 blocks into 7 sections--elect an advisory council member from each section--get away from project wide trouble.

The group finally decided that they would dissolve. The Organization Commission resigned and with the close of the meeting the Congress of 70 delegates ceased to be.

Behavior of Group.

The group was very quiet. Only a handful took part in the discussion. Sakamoto and one of his followers talked loud and long. Very significant was the fact that although probably not more than a few delegates agreed with him, there was very little outspoken disagreement. The group sat silent. This is probably explained in light of past assembly experience. There is anyone who disagreed or spoke against Sakamoto and his group were promptly disposed of. Several of the active leaders who bucked the JACL crowd were yanked out of the assembly center by the Army and scattered in Relocation Centers. While Sakamoto has little influence with the administration here, he has been seen frequently in the project director's office and many people believe he is an administrative 'stooge'. For example, it is common belief in the center that the head block manager (who is now very unpopular) was appointed by the project director acting on Sakamoto's recommendation.

Further, the other dominant speaker at the meeting seconded Sakamoto's arguments. This individual is regarded as an informer dating back to assembly center days and has the same reputation here. Thus the group would not (except for a few individuals who knew the setup here) publically go on record against these two individuals.

The Organization Commission felt that the delegates had let them down and the delegates in turn put much of the blame on the election committee. Over one-third of the delegates did not attend--many of these haven't bothered to attend the last few meetings of the Congress.

(JdY)

Employment and
Labor RelationsWAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY ANALYSIS SECTIONMINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER
Community Analysis Section

Field Report No. 121

EVENT: Residents Attitude towards Payroll Cut
PLACE: Block #22
TIME: June 28 to July 10

As long as 2 or 3 months before Mr. Myer's announcement of the Project payroll cut, people off and on rumored about a decrease in the number and an increase in wages. However, many people heard but thought nothing of it except that it was another rumor. There were a few people who considered the prospect of a raise as a pleasant one, but at the same time they felt they deserved it. Some people who were newer at their work than their fellow workers, mentioned that they might be the ones to be terminated because they were working the shortest period of time. Since nothing was definite people thought no more of it.

Three or four days before the Irrigator announced Mr. Myer's orders, people began to talk of a drastic cut in the payroll and of a telegram from Washington. Naturally, some rumored that it was not orders from Washington.

It was not, until the Irrigator published Mr. Myer's telegram and the article concerning the payroll cut that the people really believed what they had been hearing for 3 or 4 days.

It was only natural, that residents should wonder who were the ones to be terminated. Most of the people said this was the WRA's step towards forcing relocation. A number of young people "didn't care" because they were planning on relocating anyway. Older people said \$16 wasn't much anyway and that it would be a good vacation since they were fed, regardless of a job. There were some who had no other source of income, who had no bank account, and who had children, that worried about losing their jobs. On the whole, people thought "orders are orders and there isn't anything we can do, but make the best we can about it. Those who are able to relocate can do so and those that can't will just have to stay. Surely the WRA won't force us out."

A very small group of Dining Hall workers talked of a strike but realizing that the block was the only one to suffer and the orders were from Washington, no more was said about that.

Everyone agrees that "this cut is a step toward 'forcing' relocation, but how can some do so, when they won't be accepted by the community or there is a fear of not being able to make a living?" It is also to be expected that many people say "we didn't want to come here but were forced to, and now they deprive us of our jobs and try to force us out."

The people without means (in many cases widows, or women whose husbands are interned) do worry about being terminated as nothing has been said about what rules will be followed in determining who shall be terminated and who shall not.

Many people agree with Mr. Stafford in setting July 15 as a deadline to reach the quota. They feel it is better to get unpleasant things over with. Others feel that the deadline is too soon and since Washington allows till September 30, there is no reason why Mr. Stafford should shorten it since it allows 2 months more work otherwise.

Some people feared trouble and unpleasant feelings but on the whole I believe people have taken the situation rather well, and unless something unforeseen comes up, there will be no trouble.

(MSW)

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY ANALYSIS SECTIONMINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER
Community Analysis Section

Field Report No. 122

EVENT: Talk with the evacuee head of Placement Division employment cut.
PLACE: In front of Community Analysis Office
TIME: July 5, 1943, 11:00 a.m.

On Tuesday morning I met the evacuee head of Placement Division, outside my office. We talked for a few minutes about the new offices which moved into Block 22 and then he said:

"What is Mr. Stafford's idea in trying to meet the 2900 quota by July 15? People are already beginning to talk about that and many of them don't like it at all. They say that if Mr. Myer says that 3 months can be taken to make this reduction, they don't see why Minidoka has to do it in two weeks. Of course, we realize that if Washington says the cut has to be made that Mr. Stafford can't do anything about that but the people here don't like the way he and Mr. Beeson are going about it. Don't they have any idea of Japanese psychology at all? There was a meeting the other night in our block about this cut. This idea of a big labor pool isn't going to be liked very much. Then there ^{are} many people who will be terminated who need jobs very much. What is going to happen to them? Already people are coming into my office and asking me what is going to happen. You know, we have almost a hundred jobs on the farm still unfilled but people who have had certain jobs just won't go out there and work. I think that there should be information given out to the people to clarify where they stand."

I told him that this in all probability would be done but he seemed quite dejected over the whole affair. As evacuee head of the Placement Division, he is already bearing the brunt of all the terminations that have already come to his office and within the next two weeks with close to 1200 terminations, he is going to be under tremendous pressure. He knows that the residents will flock to his office for explanations and he can do or say nothing that he feels will reassure them.

(JdY)

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY ANALYSIS SECTIONMINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER
Community Analysis Section

Filed Report No. 127

EVENT: Attitude regarding Cut in Project Labor Force as expressed by Nisei girl --
College graduate
TIME: July 10, 1943

Saturday night I took a swing around east side of the camp to see what was afoot. There was a big high school dance and as I walked toward block 14 I continually met young couples or groups of couples headed for the dance. Many of the boys were dressed in slacks, sport coats and frequently sport shirts. There were few zoot suits in sight.

About halfway to block 14, I met Miss X, a young liberal Nisei girl who works in one of the social welfare offices. She is a graduate of the University of Washington and is very interested in social problems. We stopped and chatted for a few minutes about various mutual friends and then she mentioned the recent quota set for employment here at Minidoka:

"I can't understand the policy of WRA in making this kind of cut. It seems to me that they are just trying to shove us out of here as fast as they can. No one seems to take into consideration that many of us just can't go out. By next week, 1200 people are going to be cut off the payrolls here. Many of those people expected to go out? Then many of them either are too old or haven't any trade that they can apply. All this cutting down -- especially the Adult Education and trade schools just doesn't make sense to me. I was very pleased when NYA was started for some of these younger students, but now that's gone. Now many of them who have been getting some sort of experience here working in the offices and divisions won't even get that.

"A lot of people here can't understand why Minidoka has to make this cut in two weeks' time when Mr. Myer's telegram allows three months. Take our office, for example. In our little division we have six girls and now we have to terminate two. Yet if this cut is ^{to} speed relocation, we'll be busier than ever and yet we have to let some of the girls go. Z (evacuee office supervisor) and I were told to decide which girls were to go. We don't feel that we can do this and instead we have decided to resign ourselves."

Note: X and Z are quite upset about the recent happenings here at Minidoka and feel that the young Nisei group should protest against such treatment. Both realize that such protests would not change the picture but would at least indicate to the administration that the young group still has some spirit left.)

I asked her how she thought the majority of the residents were reacting to the announcement and she replied:

"There's a lot of talk going around and people are holding meetings, but so far that is all that has happened. Maybe it would be better if the residents here would show a little spirit. We always go around bragging about how the Northwest Coast people are so much better than the Californians and how we never have any trouble, etc., here in this center. Some of us are beginning to think, that the Northwest Coast group just doesn't have much backbone."

(Note: Miss X is an extremely mild and soft-spoken person and her words belie her actions and appearance. She is, however, deeply concerned about the future of the American-Japanese.)

"Another thing about us, we (Seattle group) really never had any leaders back in Seattle. Yes, we had a lot of prominent men, but they weren't leaders in the sense that are usually found. When you get down to it, there wasn't too much solidarity. That shows up here in the center. People are too busy worrying about their own affairs to be concerned about the group as a whole. Maybe this new negotiating council that the P.D. is asking for will be able to do some good." (Here she was referring to the P.D. announcement that he felt some sort of Advisory group was necessary in spite of the fact the residents had voted down a charter setting up such a group.)

(JdY)

From C.A. File
July 22.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

Myer, D. S.
Ade, Lester K.
Alexander, H.F.
Arnold, E. G.
Baker, John C.
Brooks, Earl
Buttedahl, O.J.
Byrd, Harold L.
Cahn, Seymour
Clear, John W.
Collins, H. F.
Collins, L. J.
Dixon, Charlotte
Dunbar, Oleta
Embree, John F.
Featherston, C. M.
Ferguson, E. E.
Gifford, Selene

Gilbert, Jack
Glick, P. M.
Harding, F. W.
Henderson, Nat
Hoffman, W. E.
Holland, T. W.
Howard, John
Jonscher, Glen
Kimball, Solon
Lechlitter, Irvin
Leflar, Robert
Marks, E. B. Jr.
McEntire, Davis
McMenamin, E. B.
Miller, Ray
Moore, Eleanor
O'Brien, A. E.
Powers, C. H.

Provinse, J. H.
Reed, E. F.
Richardson, W. G.
Robertson, Paul
Rowalt, E. M.
Scheidt, Melvin E.
Seltzer, Morris
Sigler, L. A.
Silverman, Maurice
Spector, M.
Stauber, R. R.
Stenz, Hall
Strieffler, Lt. P.M.
Thompson, R.
Tozier, M. M.
Utz, E. J.
Wilson, Col. Erle M.

Three field reports from Minidoka on reactions to pay-roll cut: Idea WRA is "forcing" resettlement is irrelevant -- also speed of reduction is criticized. --F.L.S.

MINIDOKA RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Community Analysis Section

Field Report No. 130

EVENT: Organization Comm. Meeting for purpose of revising Charter.
PLACE: Mr. Stafford's office.
TIME: July 8, 1943 2-5 p.m.

Present: Mr. H. L. Stafford, Project Director, Mr. Featherston, P. attorney, Mr. Dick Kanaya, Secretary, Mr. Fujii, Mr. Chiujo, Mr. Roy Akiyama, Mr. Yukawa, Mr. deYoung in role of observer.

This meeting had been called to discuss the suggestions made in Mr. Myer's letter concerning community government at Minidoka. Mr. Featherston had been asked by Mr. Stafford to take the role that Mr. Townsend had played. The meeting was opened by Mr. Featherston who suggested the Commission go over Mr. Myer's suggestion point by point. The first question brought up concerned the eligibility of people who had applied for repatriation or answered question 28 "No". The group was in agreement that these individuals not be allowed to hold office. Since the biggest issue appeared to be the question of a judicial commission, this was next taken up.

Mr. Stafford:

"As you know my idea was to have this charter as simple and brief as possible. Hence, I suggested that the judicial commission in the original charter either be simplified or cut out. Now it appears that Washington insists on some statement concerning such a commission."

Mr. Yukawa:

"I can't talk very well because I am having my teeth out but I have prepared my ideas on that and have written them down."

Mr. Featherston then read Yukawa's statement:

Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho
July 7, 1943

Mr. H. D. Stafford
W.R.A. Director
Minidoka Project

Dear Sir

In answer to the letter of June 25th relative to the judicial commission suggested by Mr. D. S. Myer, I take a pleasure to extend my opinion to you.

Whether or not the establishment of community advisory council is visualized, there is, by no means, self-government system at all in this relocation center. Consequently, no organization can have any power whatever. Alike with the character of the community advisory council which is nothing else but a liaison in between W.R.A. and the residence in the center, the arbitration commission should be established in accordance with the principle of "non-power." Though the activity of an organization with no authority is quite areuous, I am in a recognition of that some form of organization such as the arbitration commission is administratively indispensable for our large mixed residence quarter to harmonize the public disputes.

In the elapsion of one year of our evacuation, the aspect of the moral degeneracy has been growing ever more conspicuous, whereas the public sentiment is being reduced to the tranquility in comparison with Seattle-life, except personal freedom.

In anticipation of contingency, however, created from the morale-affair such commission as suggested by Mr. Myer is heartfully welcome with intent to cope with the troubles therefrom. To organize this commission here is an important question we should bear in mind, that is how we can find the person eligible for the commission. In recommendation of the commission, personality is more to be thought of than of education, not that I think light of education. People listen with more respect to the high personality than to admonition by educated person.

In case, therefore, it is hard to get person eligible for the position, it would be far better to go without organization. To establish arbitration commission by no ideal person would be all the worse, and be pregnant with dangerous consequence.

Yours respectfully,

/s/ J. Yukawa

Stafford:

"It seems to me that there is no way of getting around the fact that the P.D. in the final analysis must make the decisions. Here we have put off self-government, but now we are all agreed that some form of counseling is necessary."

Yukawa:

"Judicial commission is badly needed here. Such groups like police department cannot function properly unless it has something to back it. Now people don't pay any attention to the police."

Stafford:

"Probably what we mean to say is that some form of a formal group should be set. But I don't want to rile up all sorts of cliques and factions."

Fujii: (head of housing board and prominent young Issei Seattle business executive)

"This judicial commission should be separate body from Advisory Council. The Advisory Council is to be elected by people, but the judicial commission must be appointed by P.D."

Stafford:

"I interpret this as saying if the Judicial committee were elected, pressure

groups might try to influence them."

Fujii:

"Just how would this Judicial Commission function?"

Stafford:

"As I visualize it, some dispute might come up. Internal security will get a report and present it to Advisory Council and P. D. The P. D. after being advised by Council then might say, 'This case is being referred to Judicial Committee.' It seems to me that they would act on evidence presented to them and would recommend to P. D. what sort of action should be taken. They wouldn't interject themselves into disputes but would act as a tribunal. As I see it they could only have an advisory authority and the P. D. would be the one that would have to carry the ball."

Fujii:

"Could the P. D. delegate more authority to the Judicial Committee?"

Featherston:

"Probably could delegate final authority, but the P. D. would in most cases follow advice of Judicial Committee."

Stafford:

"The question that would arise if the P. D. gave Judicial Committee final authority the residents would still have right to appeal P. D. So P. D. would have to step in anyway."

Akiyama:

"You're going to have trouble if you get too many groups with authority will have conflicts."

Stafford:

"John, what do you think?"

deYoung:

"If as has been suggested, the Advisory Council recommends the Judicial Committee to the P. D. for appointment, the Advisory Council probably would not be in too much conflict with the men of their own choosing."

Akiyama:

"I don't quite understand."

Stafford:

"P. D. would sit down with his Advisory Council and say-- 'I've got to pick a Judicial Committee. Who are the best men for this job?' The men picked would be ones that all agreed on. If, however, the P. D. went out and appointed such a group without consulting the Advisory Council probably would have trouble. But a P. D. wouldn't be carrying out his duties if he didn't confer with his Advisory Council."

"As I see it then, a special Judicial Commission would be appointed by P. D. with advice and council of the Adv. Council. This Jud. comm. would counsel with P. D. on matters of law and order. The Adv. Council would confer with P. D. on all sorts of other things advise P. D. on community issues."

Chiujo:

"I agree with Mr. Stafford."

A discussion then followed on distinction between law and order and civil cases and problem arose whether an arbitration board should be set up.

Fujii:

"Is it possible for Adv. Council to function as this artibration body?"

Stafford:

"Could this be listed as one of the functions of the Adv. group?"

Akiyama:

"In principle that's all right but we have to cooperate with Mr. Myr. He compromised with us on the Issei not holding office and now he wants us to have a Jud. Comm."

(Note: Akiyama apparently not been following the meeting very closely for he had misinterpreted the discussion and thought that the Jud. Comm. was not going to be formed.)

Featherston:

"Could we, then, include as one of functions of Adv. Council the authority to act in this arbitration capacity."

The group agreed that this might be done. The rest of the meeting was devoted to making the minor changes suggested in Myer's letter. There was a heated discussion about the Amendment article but this was finally worked out. The Jud. commission number was set at 5 and the term of office at 6 months so that the Adv. Council which changed every 6 months could have a commission they could work with.

Behavior of Group

Mr. Akiyama arrived early and then when the group did not meet promptly at 2:00 disappeared for almost three quarters of an hour. He took very little part in the discussion. Stafford dominated the meeting as was to be expected since he had been asked especially to express his viewpoint regarding the Jud. Commission.

The group, however, seemed to think they had accomplished something. The secretary of the Comm. felt that all the discussion about the Jud. Comm. was rather unnecessary since if the Comm. functions as it has at other centers, it does not have much to do and could probably be dispensed with entirely. The group decided to call together the new Congress of Delegates and present the revised charter to them for approval at an early date.

(JdY)

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
MINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER
Community Analysis Section
Employment & Labor Relations

Field Report 132

EVENT: Evacuee expressions of opinion with regard to cut in labor force.

TIME: July 12, 1943

Various expressions of opinion with regard to the employment cut are now going the rounds of the center. There is some talk in the block manager group who were cut in half that the terminated block managers be given the jobs of mail carriers for the blocks and also act as assistant block managers. This would mean termination of the present mail carriers. This plan is being advanced by some of the block managers who were terminated.

In the Steward's division which has taken a cut of _____ or approximately 28%, many suggestions are being bandied about. For example, in the kitchens the dishwasher crew has been cut from 7 to 5. In some blocks it has been suggested that the kitchens get the dishwasher crews together and agree to keep these two terminated individuals on although they would not be on the payroll. The other members still on the payroll would then each contribute a certain amount to pay these individuals. This plan, however, is not being taken very seriously. One evacuee expressed his idea toward such a plan as:

"All these ideas are very idealistic but not very practical. The Japanese just won't get together and do things like that."

(JdY)

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MINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER
Community Analysis Section

Field Report No. 135

EVENT: Special chef's meeting called to discuss results of negotiating with Mr. Beeson, employment officer, re., cut in employment.
TIME: Monday, July 12, 1943 2:00 - 3:45 p.m.
PLACE: Dining Hall 22

Present: Kitchen supervisors and coordinators, chefs of dining halls (missing were 10, 14 and staff D.H. chef.) Mr. Akiyama, spokesman for group, Mr. Wilder, chief steward.

This meeting had been called by the delegation that had called on Mr. Beeson to present a demand that the kitchen supervisors be retained. This delegation had consisted of Mr. Hiraki, Mr. Kamei (both supervisors) and Mr. Akiyama, store-keeper of D. H. 39, who had been asked to act as spokesman. (See Field Report No. _____) Roll was taken and then the meeting was turned over to Mr. Wilder who explained how the termination of workers was being decided. Each member of the steward's division had been asked to fill out a blank which included age, marital status, number of dependents, previous occupation, plans for relocation, etc. Most of these forms have been turned into the steward's office and the procedure now is to determine as fairly as possible the individuals who will be terminated. As each kitchen is taken up, the head chef can be present if he so desires. There was some discussion among the group about the criteria used as basis of termination, ie., age, length of employment, family condition, etc.

Mr. Akiyama then reported on the talk with Mr. Beeson.

Mr. Akiyama:

"Mr. Hiraki, Mr. Kamei and I went to the Administration building on Saturday morning, to talk over the termination of workers in the Steward Department as a spokesman for the supervisors and chefs. The subject was termination, and the purpose was to find out whether the number could be adjusted because it was felt to be too large. Since Mr. Stafford was not present, they talked it over with Mr. Beeson. This order for reduction is from Washington, but the Administration has often asked before for our

opinions and recommendations on their actions. Mr. Beeson stated that the number can be adjusted, but it will be very difficult.

"As your spokesman I want to know your policies. There were four or five persons who went up to the Administration before me with their own suggestions. I don't want to oppose the Administration, but to cooperate with them, and the Administration to cooperate with us. I do not want to have individuals going up to the Administration to talk things over. At the housing meeting in Block #22, I was chosen as a spokesman to go up to the Administration to discuss about some adjustments. There were eight people before me who spoke against the policy decided upon at the meeting. Therefore, I was told that I represented the minority. I want to carry out what you decide upon. Although I work in the mess-hall I want to follow the orders of the chefs. I am only saying the truths.

"The Administration has ordered the Community Enterprise to close their movie houses, flower shops, fish shop, dry goods store, and newspaper delivery service. The Board of Electors decided that the motion pictures were not unnecessary. If it was, why did not the movie theaters in all the towns close. In this camp, the only thing that we can do in our leisure time is to read, so the board felt that we cannot do without any newspapers. The Japanese people have always loved fish, and they would like to eat some good fish sometimes besides the untasty perches. We can, however, do without the flower shop. The Board of Directors will have to negotiate. But negotiations are very hard to carry on, because the administration says that if you do not like it, then get out. The co-op is just an example of the relocation policy of the Administration.

"If you feel that just five or six persons from each mess hall can be spared instead of ten, I will negotiate with the Administration and get their cooperation and try to adjust the matter."

TALK BY MR. HIRAKI:

"On Saturday morning, we went to Administration Area, but we did not get any results. There is still a chance as Mr. Akiyama says to reach a compromise. The girls sitting here are from the Administration to take down notes of these meetings. Their Chief has sent them down. He feels that supervisors are causing all the trouble. I want anyone who will be willing to stand up and tell them how the group feels."

There was no response.

Mr. Hiraki then asked for a vote by count of hands of those who wanted a compromise in the number being cut and support for the retainment of the supervisors. The group by a unanimous show of hands indicated they were in favor. Mr. Akiyama then said he wanted to be sure that he was working with a majority group.

Mr. Wilder (chief steward) reminded the chefs that the quota was to be met by the 15th of July, and that he was following a quota in his own division given him by the Project Director. But he said it was their privilege to discuss the matter and present their ideas to the Project Director.

At a previous chefs' meeting, the chefs had voted that the maximum number of workers that could be spared from each dining hall was 4. Mr. Akiyama and Mr. Kumagai felt that the chefs should decide upon a more reasonable number of six in order that there would be some negotiating leeway. The compromise no. of 5 was decided upon as a starting point of negotiation.

A committee was appointed to approach Mr. Stafford. This committee consisted of the two supervisors who had been acting as ring leaders, Mr. Hiraki, and Mr. Kamei, Mr. Sugiura, chef representing Blocks 1 - 19 and Mr. Hayashi, chef representing Blocks 21- 44, and Mr. Roy Akiyama, as spokesman.

Behavior of group.

The chefs did not have much to say for or against the proposals submitted by the supervisors. However, none of them want to cut down their kitchen crews and hence if there is any possibility of changing the quota they evidently are ready to at least give it a try. Possibly the fact that the Steward's office had sent a secretary to take minutes in shorthand kept some of them from expressing themselves. (See Mr. Hiraki's statement above.)

(JdY)

RestrictedMINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER
Community Analysis Section

Field Report No. 137

EVENT: Meetings of Steward Division Employees in protest of Employment cut.
TIME: July 9 - July 12

On Friday afternoon, July 9, a meeting of the Dining Hall chefs and the kitchen coordinators and supervisors was held in Block 22. The meeting was called by two of the supervisors, Mr. Hiraki and Mr. Kamei, who wanted the chefs to back the supervisors in their demand that their jobs not be discontinued. Several members of the Stewards' office division attended the meeting. None of the Caucasian personnel were informed or invited to this meeting. Mr. Wilder, chief steward, when told of the meeting attended without an invitation.

Mr. Hiraki and Mr. Kamei took charge of the meeting and attempted to convince the chefs that the supervisors were indispensable in maintaining relations between the chefs and the Steward's office. Only one chef, Joe Sugiura, actively came to the defense of the supervisors although the rest either concurred or remained neutral in the resolution that was adopted to the effect that Mr. Roy Akiyama, storekeeper of Block 39, was asked to head a delegation to approach Mr. Beeson with respect to terminating the supervisors.

According to Mr. Wilder, the supervisors have caused more trouble than they are worth. They have never functioned as intended and have only created additional misunderstanding and trouble. They were originally set up to handle complaints between kitchen crews and steward's office but have failed almost completely in this task.

The two supervisors who called the meeting, Mr. Hiraki and Mr. Kamei, had approached Mr. Wilder earlier in the week and had tendered their resig-

nation saying that they did not want to be involved and responsible for the anticipated cut that was coming on July 15. However, they took it upon themselves to call this meeting of the chef's group to get support for the supervisors. Mr. Wilder so informed the chefs at the Block 22 meeting and the majority evidently did not know that the two organizers had already resigned. Possibly, however, since Mr. Wilder did not accept the resignations, the men felt that they were still part of the Steward's organization.

Mr. Wilder intends to call a meeting of the supervisors Saturday morning, July 10 and will then accept the resignations of these two leaders. The other supervisors will in all probability be terminated before July 15.

While I was talking to Mr. Wilder, Roy Akiyama came in the office and importantly strode toward the desk. He abruptly broke into the conversation and said, "Is it true that you are going to terminate the supervisors?" Mr. Wilder said, "In all probability that will eventually come."

Akiyama turned and went off and returned immediately to say very impolitely, "Are you terminating these supervisors on your own decision? Is this your own decision?" Wilder said, "Yes." Akiyama then turned and went off without saying another word.

Wilder then told me that Akiyama had come to see him about two weeks ago and had talked about how to best cut down the steward's division. Mr. Wilder could not agree with Akiyama's scheme and told him so. Akiyama then told Mr. Wilder that no one around the project would listen to his advice but that if they were smart, they would. He then told Mr. Wilder that once Phil Shafer had thrown him out of his office, but later came and apologized to him. Wilder told Akiyama that he didn't get himself into positions where he later had to apologize. Akiyama, then, said that if he wanted to,

he could make plenty of trouble around the project.

Mr. Akiyama and the two supervisors, Mr. Kamei and Mr. Hiraki met with Mr. Beeson, Employment Officer, Saturday morning, July 10. They were told at this meeting that their demands that the supervisors be retained could not be met. The group was quite disgruntled. The supervisors then changed their tactics. Another meeting of the steward's group was held and after prolonged discussion, the group decided that they couldn't function properly with as large a cut as was proposed. They then worked out several alternate proposals which they proposed to submit to the Project Director. The first proposal was that the cut be reduced to half. The spokesman, Mr. Akiyama, supposedly said that this was an impractical and almost ridiculous suggestion and would not^{be} accepted by the Administration. Finally, a compromise was worked out (see Field Report No. 135) in which the quota proposed by this steward's group was approximately 70 more than that set by the Administration. A delegation was appointed to meet with Mr. Stafford on Tuesday morning, July 13, to discuss this proposal.

(JdY)