E2.301

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C

Mr Myer

E2.30

TRAVEL TRIP REPORT
New York + Philadelphia
December 14 - 17, 1942

J C Baker

Left Washington 12 o'clock noon. Held discussion on train with Dorothy Ducas, head of the Magazine Section of the Office of War Information. She agreed to make contacts with the Writers' War Board and with Colliers.

Tuesday, accompanied by Miss Ducas, I called on Charles Colebaugh, Managing Editor of Colliers. He had seen the news stories about riots at Manzanar and Poston and was interested in an explanation, which I gave. After I had presented a general summary of the WRA program, he said he felt there might be possibility for a good story in the case histories of evacuees who have gone out of relocation centers on indefinite leave. I am to look through our reports of individuals receiving leave and let him know when they would be available to a writer. Prospects are pretty good if the kind and variety of employment suggests story possibilities.

Visited Dr. H. B. Summers, Public Service Director of the Blue Network, and Leon Levine, Assistant Director of Education, Columbia Broadcasting System. In both instances they were interested in the story of WRA activities, and stated that if we would prepare some background material on factors contributing to unrest in relocation centers, they would place it in the hands of commentators for use in the event of other uprisings comparable to the Manzanar and Poston incidents.

I called upon Mrs. Rita Halle Kleeman, a member of the Writers' War Board. The appointment was made by Miss Ducas of OWI and Mrs. Barach, secretary of the Writers' War Board. Incidentally, two other members of the board had indicated they were not interested in devoting their energies to this particular problem. However, Mrs. Kleeman was very much interested and asked me to outline the WRA program in general and the factors which have contributed to the Manzanar and Poston incidents. We discussed the matter for more than an hour during which time she made notes. At the conclusion she said she felt there were possibilities for three types of treatment: Articles, columns of editorial comment, and fiction. She stated that she would bring the matter before the Board for its consideration and would make the suggestion that certain writers be asked to treat the subject. I did not have an opportunity before leaving New York to check with her and learn the decision of the Board, but I expect to do this by mail.

Wednesday, December 16, visit with George Leighton, Associate Editor of Harpers magazine. Mr. Leighton is an ardent partisan to the cause of Japanese Americans (and other minority groups). He feels the problem is a tangible one and that it much resembles an advertising or merchandising enterprise. He proposes to run in an early issue of Harpers a brief statement making it known that evacuees are available

for permanent work outside the relocation centers. This statement should include an estimate of types of skills and experience included in the evacuee population. I promised to send her our best information on this subject.

Interview with Norman Thomas, Director of the Post War World Council. Mr. Thomas stated that he has been interested in the problem of Japanese Americans since before the evacuation, that he feels evacuation was wrong in principle but that he would like to know what is being done in WRA. He, too, had been concerned over the newspaper accounts of the incidents at Poston and Manzanar. I outlined our program and the "routine" explanation of the Manzanar and Poston incidents. Mr. Thomas said he felt that the present WRA program was the best step that could be taken to correct the earlier mistake of evacuation. He indicated that among the various groups with which he has contact over the country, there has been considerable interest in the relocation program and that he had received many comments and inquiries and so he was glad to be brought up to date on what WRA is doing.

Interview with Victor Keen of New York Herald Tribune. Mr. Keen was a newspaper correspondent in the Orient for 19 years, spending six years in Japan and 13 years in China. He was incarcerated by the Japanese in the Shanghai jail last spring and spent several months there before being repatriated. When he reached the United States he was granted a six weeks vacation, most of which he spent at his former home in Colorado and visited relatives in Lamar. He was interested in the relocation center near Lamar and made a brief visit there. Later he conceived the notion of writing a magazine article and the Editor of Liberty accepted the idea and asked him to proceed. He is being sent photographs taken at Granada. His ideas about what he planned to say were altered somewhat by the Manzanar riot, so again I attempted to explain the factors which contributed to the outbreak.

I found that he also was lacking some basic information on WRA policies governing operation of the centers and attempted to provide this information. The Editor of Liberty is not definitely committed to using the story but the chances seem to be fairly good. Keen said he would like for us to look over his manuscript when he got it completed, if time permitted.

Thursday, December 17. Conferred with M. Margaret Anderson, Editor, Common Ground, and her assistant, Miss Williams. Common Ground is published by the Common Council for American Unity, an organization which had its origin as a foreign language agency working with the Creel Committee of World War 1. For a number of years it concerned itself principally with the alien groups of the Nation and in more recent years has taken up the problems of the second generation, attempting to further their Americanization, and at the same time gain acceptance and understanding on the part of

other Americans. The magazine has a circulation of about 6,000. Its greatest circulation is in New York City, and the next greatest area of circulation is in the State of California.

Miss Anderson and Miss Williams have followed the evacuation program from the beginning, perhaps more closely than anyone else in the east. Among other things, they receive copies of papers from all the relocation centers, and previously had received papers from almost all the assembly centers. The day after the Manzanar riot was reported in the press, they wrote to leading newspaper and magazine editors and radio commentators transmitting three editorials out of the Manzanar Free Press, editorials which appeared on July 4, Thanksgiving Day, and immediately after the Poston incident, all of them tending to display the Americanization and loyalty of at least some of the evacuees at Manzanar.

They were interested in knowing what further information WRA had concerning the two incidents and the factors which led to them, and were very much interested in the program of relocation. They knew about the work of George Rundquist's committee, and are planning to ask either Mr. Rundquist or Mr. Holland of WRA for a story on attitudes as they have been observed in the various cities where local employment committees have been established. They want to be kept constantly informed on progress of the WRA program.

Philadelphia. Being unable to see John Bird, formerly chief of the Reports Division of WRA, now Associate Editor of Country Gentleman, I talked with Robert Reed, Editor of Country Gentleman, giving him the Manzanar-Poston routine and pointing out the farm labor which might be made available through the relocation of evacuees. He felt this would not warrant a full length feature but that a short article might be in order. He stated that the next major feature in which he would be interested would come at the close of the war in dealing with the post-war aspects of the relocation program.

Under the auspices of Mr. Reed, I had a brief conference with Ben Hibbs, Editor of Saturday Evening Post. I combined the Manzanar-Poston routine with an outline of the WRA program in general. Mr. Hibbs was familiar with the early stages of the relocation program through an article by Frank Taylor published in the Post in May or June of 1942. He seemed only mildly interested in the possibilities of an article but thought if any story were published by the Post it should be on the individual relocation. He said he wanted to give the matter more consideration and if the Post would be interested, he would let us know. He objected to treating any of the subjects by means of fiction.

John C. Baker
Chief, Office of Reports

File
Admin Notice

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

May 1, 1943

Alma K. Folda

TO: All Project Personnel

FROM: Joe McClelland
Reports Officer

Joe McClelland

SUBJECT: PICTURES

The following letter makes possible the supplying of pictures to staff members writing stories for publication regarding the Granada Relocation Center. Copies of such stories should be submitted to and pictures requested from the Reports Officer, in the Pioneer Building. A file of available pictures is on hand for your inspection.

April 24, 1943
Washington

REPORTS ROUNDTABLE NO. 9

RESTRICTED

Joe McClelland at Granada writes as follows: "There is some confusion concerning the policy of supplying pictures to writers only if their stories have been accepted by a magazine or newspaper. Does this apply to WRA staff members, particularly school teachers who are writing stories concerning their work and whose chances of getting such stories printed would be greatly increased if they could send pictures with their story?"

Here's an answer or an attempt at one. The ruling concerning free lance writers in general was inaugurated because we received a flood of requests from free lance writers, most of them unknowns, and most of them completely unfamiliar with the WRA program. We felt that supplying all of them with photographs would be a waste of photographic paper and time when both are scarce. However, in the case of WRA staff members, we think the rule should not apply. If staff members of all kinds can write interestingly about their work and have their articles carried in professional and trade publications, it will help to get the WRA story before more people. Pictures will help to sell the story to the editor; so let's supply them with pictures. It seems to me there is a difference between the two groups: one really has a story to tell and the other is trying to make five bucks.

Sincerely yours,

Signed by
John C. Baker
Chief, Office of Reports

1220 S. W. MORRISON STREET
PORTLAND, ORE.

121 SECOND STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.

124 W. FOURTH STREET
LOS ANGELES, CAL.

MILLER FREEMAN PUBLICATIONS
71 COLUMBIA STREET
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

October 6, 1943.

Captain Edw. M. Joyce
Chief Information Specialist
War Relocation Authority
Whitcomb Hotel
San Francisco, California

Dear Captain Joyce:

Referring to our discussion when you were here the other day, in which we touched on the colonization of the Japanese in Malheur County, Oregon, I will appreciate it greatly if you can inform me of the details, including the location of the lands, number of acres, terms of purchase or lease, and the number of Japanese to be colonized there.

I would like to know, also, the circumstances under which the plan was promoted. What was the total amount of money involved? From what source did the money come? Was it from the Japanese themselves? From Japanese syndicates? Or, is it the plan to have the United States government finance the transaction?

Who was the seller of this acreage? Was it the United States Bureau of Reclamation? Or private owners?

Does the plan include any contract arrangement covering the labor of these Japanese? Or production and sale of agricultural products of the colony?

In the past operations of this character were promoted, financed and directed by the Japanese government through the Japanese Embassy, the district Japanese consuls, and Japanese banks, or their affiliates. A special department of the Japanese government has been in existence for a good many years devoting itself to the establishment of Japanese colonies in all of the principal countries of the Pacific area.

A perfect example was the colonization of the Yakima Indian Reservation, which began about twenty-five years ago. At that time the then Secretary of the Interior, Albert Fall, pledged the American Legion of the State of Washington that under no circumstances would Japanese be allowed to colonize on the Yakima Reservation. The records show that, notwithstanding that solemn pledge, and over the

protests of our people, the colonization there proceeded until all the best lands were absorbed by the Japanese. In the opinion of the writer this could only have been done by the collusion of renegade whites who found it a profitable business to join hands with the Japanese government in its grandiose plans to establish colonies in the various countries of the Pacific with the ultimate aim of conquering them.

The writer is strongly of the belief that the Japanese problem is too big to be handled piecemeal or intermittently, as has been the case in the past. In order to adequately deal with the problem the complete facts must first be secured, and there is only one agency that can do this in any comprehensive fashion, and that is the United States Congress. The Dies Committee has proven itself unqualified to make such an investigation, because it is only seeking those things that make newspaper sensation rather than getting down to the true facts on which to base sound judgment.

Sincerely,

Miller Freeman

Miller Freeman

MF:lr

Reports

E2.30

OCT 20 1943

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FADO

10/20/43

Capt. Miller Freeman
71 Columbia Street
Seattle, Washington

Dear Captain Freeman:

I have delayed answering your letter of October 6 until such time as I could be sure that we were able to make a check of the records not only in Malheur County but in eastern Washington. I know that you want to deal with these matters factually and that your outlook is broad and fair. On that basis, I am very happy to cooperate with you in the factual presentation surrounding the whole subject.

Please be advised that there is no plan and no desire on the part of War Relocation Authority to colonize Japanese in either eastern Washington or eastern Oregon. The plan of relocation of Japanese from the Centers is really quite simple. If and when they find employment outside of the restricted area where they are acceptable to the communities and where they can contribute to the war effort, it is the policy of the War Relocation Authority to grant them leave for the purpose of accepting such employment. In fact, it has been determined in a Court case that the leave privileges of the War Relocation Centers cloakes the War Relocation Centers with a certain legality insofar as the retention of American citizens of Japanese ancestry in those Centers is concerned. It is also the policy of the Authority to make financial grants to those going out on leave to jobs in amounts equalling the actual cost of their transportation from the Centers to their places of employment, plus a very small additional amount for subsistence until such time as they can earn wages of their own. War Relocation Authority does not extend any further financial aid to people leaving the Centers for the purchase of land or business of any kind or anything else.

We do have in the field, where a shortage of labor exists, employment agents who assist these people in finding employment; and these agents work through and in cooperation with the United States Employment Service, farm and cannery associations and organizations; and, in addition, individual or group sponsors for these people are required so that in the event they complete the labor for which they were originally released, they immediately become available for other work in other sections.

In view of the state of war that exists between the United States and the Imperial Japanese Government, it is obvious that no participation, direct or indirect, on the part of the Japanese Government or any of its agents enters into the operations of War Relocation Authority policy insofar as relocating Japanese is concerned. In the case of Japanese of American citizenship, the prime consideration is purely the rights of a citizen under the Constitution of the United States.

To my knowledge, no contract arrangement covering the labor of Japanese is or has been entered into with any labor contractor. It is purely a matter of individual employment. Insofar as the production and sale of agricultural products are concerned in any area in which Japanese are employed as farm laborers, no arrangements, except the normal arrangements of supply and demand and sale on and through the regular markets, are involved.

Your comments on the Japanese problem as a whole are interesting. I think we are in accord that the problem should be dealt with without emotion and with full consideration for the Constitutional rights of Japanese Americans. Mr. Myer, the Director, has gone on record as being opposed to the thought of further concentrations of Japanese in what he termed "little Tokyos," and it is believed that you can appreciate the policy of the War Relocation Authority in relocating these people throughout the Middle-east and the Middlewest gives to them an opportunity to become acquainted with other sections of the country besides the West Coast and will no doubt result in creating desires among them to reside in sections of the country outside of the coastal areas.

As soon as other information is received, which should be within the next two or three weeks or as soon as a complete and factual check can be made, the information will be forwarded to you. Meanwhile, I will mail you from time to time any information that comes into this office bearing on the Japanese situation and that strikes me as meriting your interest.

Mr. Myer will be in Seattle for one day the first part of November. I hope at that time he will have an opportunity to visit with you and that you will discuss fully and frankly your observations and experience on the whole situation. It is suggested that, if you will be in Seattle during the first week of next month, you so advise Mr. McLean of our office there so that he can arrange for you and Mr. Myer to get together.

With kind regard and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Edward M. Joyce
Information Specialist

cc: Anna Roosevelt Boettiger
EMJoyce:AO
10/20/43

OEM-30
3-19-42

October 20, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: Victor L. Furth, Sr. Evacuee Property Officer

With reference to Mr. Poli's operations, the following information is desired from the Spokane area and the Malheur County area of Oregon. I am quoting literally questions that have been propounded by Miller Freeman of Seattle:

"I will appreciate it greatly if you can inform me of the details, including the location of the lands, number of acres, terms of purchase or lease, and the number of Japanese to be colonized there.

"I would like to know, also, the circumstances under which the plan was promoted. What was the total amount of money involved? From what source did the money come? Was it from the Japanese themselves? From Japanese syndicates? Or, is it the plan to have the United States government finance the transaction?

"Who was the seller of this acreage? Was it the United States Bureau of Reclamation? Or private owners?

"Does the plan include any contract arrangement covering the labor of these Japanese? Or production and sale of agricultural products of the colony?

"In the past operations of this character were promoted, financed and directed by the Japanese government through the Japanese Embassy, the district Japanese consuls, and Japanese banks, or their affiliates. A special department of the Japanese government has been in existence for a good many years devoting itself to the establishment of Japanese colonies in all of the principal countries of the Pacific area."

Naturally, some of those questions will not be answerable from the records that Poli may find there. However, he could inquire of Farm Security Administration, either locally in those areas or from Leland Fryer in the Portland Regional Office of FSA, and determine from them whether any FSA or FC loans have been made to any Japanese on farms they are operating. It is suggested that you inform him that a report from the Salt Lake City Employment Office is being mailed him in care of Claude Walker in Portland

covering some operations in Malheur County. This report may not be complete or comprehensive and may need rechecking. It would be well to advise Walker to see that Poli gets this report before he goes to Malheur County.

Edward M. Joyce
Information Specialist

EMJoyce:AO

File

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

319.31 ~~109~~

April 11, 1944

Mr. R. B. Cozzens
Field Assistant Director
War Relocation Authority
Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

Attention: Mr. Gibson

Dear Mr. Cozzens:

In response to your telephone request for a figure on the number of Japanese-Americans who have returned to Japan for residence or schooling, we are sending you a table prepared by our statistical section giving the results of a sampling of WRA-26 records. I hope that this will give you the information you need.

Sincerely yours,

M. M. Tozier

M. M. Tozier
Acting Chief, Reports Division

Enclosure

REFER TO

Date ans.

No reply nec.

To file (NAME)

APR 11 1944

Mr. John Baker Attention: Miss Peattie

Mrs. French

Appended is a table which I believe will give the information requested by Miss Peattie for Mr. Gibson of our San Francisco Office.

As is pointed out in the head note of the table, the numbers refer to a 25 percent sample of WRA-26 records obtained in the summer and fall of 1942. For this reason the actual numbers cannot be used unless they are multiplied by 4. The percents, of course, can be used as they now appear.

Inasmuch as relocation has been somewhat selective, caution should be used in applying these percents to either the group that has relocated or to the evacuees remaining at one or all of the centers at the present time.

Attachment

RESIDENCE AND SCHOOLING IN JAPAN, BY SPECIFIED PERIODS, OF EVACUEES AT TEN RELOCATION CENTERS
BY AGE AND NATIVITY, 1942

Note: Includes, by nativity, residence and education in Japan, number in 25 percent sample of WRA-26 records, percent of total sample, and percent of American Born by three selected age groups. N.A. indicates data not available, and * refers to figures less than 0.05 percent.

NATIVITY, RESIDENCE IN JAPAN, EDUCATION IN JAPAN	NUMBER				PERCENT OF TOTAL				PERCENT OF AMERICAN BORN			
	TOTAL	Under 20 yrs	20-39 yrs	40 yrs & over	TOTAL	Under 20 yrs	20-39 yrs	40 yrs & over	TOTAL	Under 20 yrs	20-39 yrs	40 yrs & over
RESIDENCE IN JAPAN												
TOTAL	27,100	10,323	8,578	8,199	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	-	-	-	-
Foreign Born	9,144	55	1,103	7,986	33.7	.5	12.9	97.4	-	-	-	-
American Born	17,956	10,268	7,475	213	66.3	99.5	87.1	2.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Never in Japan	13,059	8,913	4,046	100	48.2	86.4	47.1	1.2	72.7	86.8	54.1	46.9
Were in Japan	4,897	1,355	3,429	113	18.1	13.1	40.0	1.4	27.3	13.2	45.9	53.1
Less than 5 yrs	2,684	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	9.9	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	15.0	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
5 yrs or more	2,213	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	8.2	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	12.3	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
AMOUNT OF SCHOOLING IN JAPAN												
American Born-Were in Japan	4,897	1,355	3,429	113	18.1	13.1	40.0	1.4	27.3	13.2	45.9	53.1
No Schooling in Japan	2,583	1,139	1,389	55	9.5	11.0	16.2	.7	14.4	11.1	18.6	25.8
1-2 yrs Schooling	127	32	94	1	.5	.3	1.1	*	.7	.3	1.3	.5
3 or more yrs Schooling	2,187	184	1,946	57	8.1	1.8	22.7	.7	12.2	1.8	26.0	26.8
Elementary School Only	995	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3.7	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5.6	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Elem. & High School	1,013	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	3.7	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	5.6	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
High School Only	23	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	.1	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	.1	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Other	156	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	.6	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	.9	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
SCHOOLING IN JAPAN ENDING IN SPECIFIED PERIODS												
American Born-3 or more yrs Schooling in Japan.....	2,187	184	1,946	57	8.1	1.8	22.7	.7	12.2	1.8	26.0	26.8
Ending 1930 or later	1,405	184	1,219	2	5.2	1.8	14.2	*	7.8	1.8	16.3	.9
Ending 1935 or later	822	180	641	1	3.0	1.7	7.5	*	4.6	1.8	8.6	.5

Source: Individual Record, WRA-26
7-26-43
Rev. 4-7-44

War Relocation Authority
Washington, D. C.
Statistics Section

4

4010-44

Classification by nativity, residence and education in Japan	NUMBER Total	under 20 years	20 to 39 years	40 years or over	PERCENT Total	under 20 years	20 to 39 years	40 years or over	Percent that each entry is of Grand Total
Total	27,100	10,323	8578	8199	100	38.1	31.7	30.3	100
Foreign born	9144	55	1103	7986	100	.6	12.1	87.3	33.7
American born	17956	10268	7475	213	100	57.2	41.7	1.2	66.3
(c) Never in Japan	(c) 13059	8913	4046	100	100	68.3	31.0	.8	48.2
Visited Japan	(a) 4897	1355	3429	113	100	27.7	70.0	2.3	18.1
No schooling	2583	1139	1389	55	100	44.6	53.8	2.1	9.5
Some schooling	2314	216	2040	58	100	9.3	88.2	2.5	8.54
1-2 years	127	32	94	1	100	25.2	74.0	.8	.47
(b) 3 or More "	(b) 2187	184	1946	57	100	8.4	89.0	2.6	8.07
Ending 1930 or later (1930 - ~~1934~~) ← ~~Ending 1934~~	782	0	727	55	100	0	93.0	7.0	2.89
Ending 1934 or later (1930 ~~or later~~) ← ~~Ending 1935 or later~~	583	4	578	1	100	.7	99.1	.2	2.15
Ending 1935 or later	822	180	641	1	100	21.9	78.0	.1	3.03
		54.8%							45.2%

(a) Of the 4897, 2684 were ~~there~~ in Japan less than 5 years, and 2213 were there 5 years or more

(b) Of the 2187 who had 3 or more years schooling, 995 (45.5%) attended elementary school only; 1013 (46.3%) ~~had~~ attended both elementary + high school; 23 attended (1.1%) high school only; and 156 (7.1%) attended other schools.

(c) ~~48.1~~ 72.8% (~~48.1%~~ 26.6%) 13059 (17956) of all American Born Japanese have never visited Japan

54.1% (4046 / 7475) of " " " aged 20-39 " " " "

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      18
4046 ) 7475
       4046
       3429
       3236
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      54.1
7475 ) 4046.0
       37375
        3085
        2990
         950
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CONFIDENTIAL

May 20, 1944

Memorandum to the Director

From: John C. Baker, Chief, Reports Division

Subj: Organization and procedures for West Coast Reports Staff

The Reports organization on the West Coast, of course, must be an integral part of the total organization on the West Coast and administrative responsibility should be placed locally rather than have administrative lines stretching across the continent. A copy of the organization plan, worked out with Mr. Frayne, is attached.

It calls for Mr. Frayne to have general supervision of the Reports program covering information to the public and to evacuees in the center, documentation and preparation of reports to Washington. He would be administratively responsible to the Assistant Director in San Francisco. He would have under his immediate supervision a staff of four writers, two professional people in liaison work, one of whom would specialize in contacts with educational and religious groups, and five clerical workers.

At each of the area offices in Los Angeles, San Francisco and Seattle, there would be a Reports Officer at CAF-12. The positions in Los Angeles and Seattle should be filled at once. Each of these men would be at first administratively responsible to the Chief of the Reports Division in San Francisco, Mr. Frayne, because it is contemplated that they would be on the job before area Supervisors are appointed. After the area Supervisors are appointed, the area Reports men would be made administratively responsible to the respective Supervisors and would be subject only to technical guidance and advice from Mr. Frayne's office.

Functions to be performed in San Francisco office.

The functions to be performed in the San Francisco Reports Division would parallel in many respects the functions performed by the Reports Division in the Washington office. The Chief of the Division would be counselor to the Assistant Director on general problems of public relations and would be personally responsible for relations with the press, radio, and magazines in the San Francisco Bay area, as well for planning and general supervision of public information program.

The Division as a whole would be responsible for the following functions:

1. Preparing pamphlets and other informational materials appropriate for use on the West Coast, or stimulating the preparation of such materials by the Washington Reports Division;

2. Maintaining adequate supplies of published materials dealing with the WRA program and distributing such publications both to WRA field offices and to cooperating groups;

3. Distributing photographs and motion pictures to WRA field offices and cooperating groups;

4. Advising WRA field offices and cooperating groups on the effective use of both published and visual materials;

5. Summarizing press comments concerning the WRA program and distributing these summaries to the West Coast staff, to relocation centers, to the Washington office, and to cooperating groups;

6. Reporting current developments in the WRA program relating particularly to the West Coast in periodical news letters which would be circulated throughout the WRA organization and to the cooperating groups;

7. Assembling materials of a documentary nature and transmitting such materials to the central files in Washington where they may be made available to the WRA historian;

8. Preparing for signature of the Assistant Director important correspondence dealing with over-all policy of the agency;

9. Preparing a daily summary of San Francisco press comment to be telephoned to the Washington office for information of the Director and the Secretary;

10. Stimulating the preparation of periodic reports from West Coast field offices to the Assistant Director and preparing reports to be submitted by the Assistant Director in San Francisco to the National Director in Washington.

Liaison Work

In order to maintain contact with the area offices and with cooperating groups throughout the West Coast on public relations matters, we recommend that the Reports staff in San Francisco include two full-time liaison officers.

One of these men would be responsible for maintaining contact with the reports men in the area offices both through correspondence and through personal visit. His job would be to stimulate cooperation between the area reports officers and local cooperating groups on the public relations front; to provide the area reports officers with technical guidance on direct relation with the press, radio, and other media; and to guide the area reports men in establishing and maintaining a constant flow of administrative reports to the San Francisco office and of current information to the relocation centers.

The other liaison officer would be responsible for contacts with educational, religious, fraternal, and civic organizations throughout the West Coast area. He would be essentially a travelling lecturer and would also handle the distribution of WRA motion pictures and slides intended for group presentation. The obvious candidate for this position is Robert Gibson.

Clearance of Information Material.

In general, the West Coast organization should have autonomy in production and clearance of materials. The one exception should be printed publications prepared on the West Coast. Such items should be cleared with the Reports Division and with the Director in Washington. Press releasss, project news items, mimeographed statements, the Pacific Coast news letter, and other materials developed in the San Francisco central office should be cleared by the Chief of the Reports Division in San Francisco, the chief Solicitor stationed there, and the Assistant Director. Materials prepared in the area offices for release to cooperating groups, to the public, or to the projects should be cleared by the area supervisor.

Administrative Reports

We suggest that you may want to require of the Assistant Director in San Francisco a weekly report summarizing activities in all major fronts covering such items as: Progress of relocation, activities of cooperating groups, incidents tending to interfere with successful readjustment, information activities within the area (including copies of all stories released to the press or to projects), relationships with other government agencies and with state and local governments, summary of the movement of property out of WRA storage and other property problems.

In addition, there may be a need for less frequent (perhaps monthly) reports of a statistical nature to be submitted on regular forms, covering such topics as property assistance, transportation of household goods, handling of relocation adjustment cases, loans made by other agencies, arrivals, departures, and institutionalized cases. Each Division in the Washington office should be asked to indicate the types of information that would be most useful in its line of work which should be included in these statistical reports.

Important developments of a spot nature should, of course, be reported immediately to the Washington office from San Francisco over the tactical line.

Area Reports Officers

As indicated above, it is planned that the area Reports Officers should be appointed as soon as possible whether or not area Supervisors are designated immediately. Until area Supervisors are entered on duty, the area Reports Officers would be administratively responsible to the Chief of the Reports Division in San Francisco, but the administrative responsibility would be transferred to the area Supervisors when they are appointed. The area reports officers would be responsible within their respective area for relations with the press and other media concerning the WRA relocation and property programs, and would also be responsible for pointing out to the evacuees, to the press, and to cooperating groups the types of assistance available to the evacuees from agencies other than WRA. Another highly important function of these men would be to keep evacuees at the centers informed, through the medium of press releases for the project papers or special reports to the centers, on relocation opportunities in their areas, noteworthy examples of successful relocation, and other similar topics. After the area supervisors have entered on duty, such reports and releases should be sent from the area offices directly to the relocation centers. Prior to that time, all such materials should be cleared through the San Francisco Reports Division. Copies of all informational materials prepared in the area offices for the relocation centers should be sent to the San Francisco office and to the Washington Reports Division.

Photographic Services.

Photographs for release to the press, for WRA publication, for display in relocation centers, and for documentation should be made in the Pacific Coast area. We consider it more feasible to detail photographers from the Denver office than to attempt to establish separate photographic facilities in the West Coast area. However, appropriate arrangements should be made at strategic points within the Pacific Coast area where pictures of particular news value may be developed and printed quickly on a contract basis. Ordinary photographs, however, will be developed and printed in the Denver laboratory as at the present time. Reports Officers should have authority to contract for the services of commercial photographers in cases where WRA photographers are not available and pictures are urgently needed.

Personnel

In filling the positions which have been established in the West Coast offices, we are confronted with a dilemma of deciding whether it is more important to select persons familiar with the West Coast or persons familiar with the WRA program. Unfortunately, there are comparatively few persons in the information field who combine both desirable qualities. As a result, we concluded that the personnel needs can be met best by transferring some persons already in the WRA organization and recruiting others from the West Coast.

For the number two man in the San Francisco Reports Division, we believe consideration might be given to Harry Tarvin, now Relocation Reports Officer in Denver. For one of the writer jobs at CAF-7 or CAF-9, we had thought of Abe Fischler. The only clerical job in the San Francisco office which we believe it would be advisable to fill by transfer would be a CAF-4 position having immediate responsibility for assembling documentary materials and for distributing publications and press releases. We believe Madeline Perry, who has had experience in both types of work in the Washington office, might well be transferred to San Francisco.

To fill the area Reports position in Los Angeles, Mr. Frayne and I agree that Allan Markley would be well suited. In order that Tule Lake may not be left even temporarily, without a Reports Officer experienced in the WRA program, my suggestion would be to detail Frank Cross to Tule Lake to serve until the Department of Justice takes over that center.

For the Seattle position, we suggest Russell Bankson, who combines familiarity with the WRA program and many years of newspaper experience in the Pacific Northwest.

We anticipate that the major responsibility of the area Reports Officer in San Francisco would be for activity outside the city proper; Mr. Frayne has in mind several possible candidates among newspaper men in Sacramento and Fresno.

Sincerely

John C. Baker
Chief, Reports Division

JCBaker:jn

JOBS AND FUNCTIONS

REGIONAL OFFICE

1.	Frayne: Principal Reports Specialist CAF-13	General supervision...liaison with War Agencies, Press, Radio, etc. Initial contact with Motion Pictures Plan future program Supervise, direct preparation of all information.
2.	Writer CAF-12	Assistant to Info Chief in contact with Press, Radio, etc., in absence of Info Chief. Write news releases, pamphlets, speeches. Supervise duplicating and releases. Prepare information to projects.
3.	Liaison CAF-12	Contact with area offices. Contact civilian committees and groups. Report on local groups.
4.	Liaison CAF-12	Contact special groups, educational, religious groups, clubs and fraternal organizations. Handle WRA special motion pictures, slides for group presentation.
5.	Writer CAF- 9	Prepares information to projects. Clearing house for relocation progress information. Prepares administrative reports to Washington.
6.	Writer CAF- 9	Prepares news letter. Policy correspondence. Prepares press releases to public and to projects.
7.	Secretary to Frayne (Helen Bogert)	CAF-4 -- handle correspondence between Info Chief and War Agencies -- between info Chief and Area Reports officers -- reports to Washington office -- contacts with media of public relations and publicity.
8.	Editorial Clerk CAF- 4	Handle press survey; daily press summary to Washington
9.	Editorial Clerk CAF- 4	Documentation; distribution of publications and press releases; handles and captions and distributes photographs; supervise other clerical staff.
10.	Clerk-typist	Typing of correspondence and materials prepared by writers, duplication of materials.
11.	Clerk-typist	Same as above.

AREA OFFICES

12. Los Angeles - Bailey

13. San Francisco

14. Seattle - Bankson

FILES

2/6.1

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

December 9, 1944

Work Press rel.

AIRMAIL

[redacted]

Mr. Robert B. Cozzens
Assistant Director
War Relocation Authority
Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

Attention: Pat Frayne

Dear Mr. Cozzens:

Enclosed you will find three stories issued by field correspondents with the Seventh Army in France relating to Nisei soldiers who formerly lived in California.

These stories have been passed for publication by the Army Field Press Censor, and were made available to WRA by the War Department for any use we might wish to make of them, including release to the press. They should be of interest to the local papers in the boys' home towns.

Arnold Serwer discussed use of these releases with Pat Frayne over the tactical wire Thursday. We are sending carbon copies to the centers where the Nisei soldiers lived before joining the Army, or where they have relatives, for possible use in project papers.

Sincerely yours,

M. M. Tozier

M. M. Tozier
Chief, Reports Division

REFER TO

Date ans.

No reply nec.

To file

(NAME)

War Dept-PRO

NEWCOMERS RECEIVE BATTLE INSTRUCTION FROM VETERANS OF ITALIAN CAMPAIGN

WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY IN FRANCE --- Veteran members of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team recently instructed new replacements in the use of rifles and automatic weapons in battle, on a hillside near Marseilles. These Japanese American soldiers, most of whom are from the mainland of the United States, joined the unit at Bagnoli, Italy, and have been questioning the old timers about the finer points of fighting.

Private Isamu Hironaka, 2903-B, Tulelake, California, a rifleman, was sprawled on the ground, hidden from view by scanty camouflage, while his platoon sergeant barked instructions.

His friend, Private First Class Robert H. Ikei, 212 Huale Street, Honolulu, Hawaii, said, "You look okay to me. I imagine the final polishing up you'll have to pick up at the front." Ikei, a newcomer in the unit, was looking at his comrade with Private First Class Roy Ideda, Block 6, Building 11, Topaz, Utah, also a newcomer.

Private First [redacted] Class Masami Ishige, Block 28, 40F, Rohwer, McGehee, Arkansas, was letting controlled bursts of two to five shots go from his machine gun at a target four hundred yards away. Beside him, Private First Class Thomas Hanawa, Route 1, Ordway, Colorado, sprayed [redacted] bursts of five bullets from his BAR at a gully entrance five hundred yards away.

"Just keep firing as [redacted] accurately as you are doing now at the front --- at the Germans--- and you'll come up on top." Sergeant Richard F. Hosaka of Honolulu, Hawaii, commented to his two pupils.

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111

PASSED FOR PUBLICATION

DS

FIELD PRESS CENSOR

MERCONEES RECEIVE BATTLE INSTRUCTION FROM ATTORNEY TO SUPERVISE TO RIVERSIDE CAMPATCH

"Because the rights of the right "Because" ---- Attorney Ernest M. Kasmy in the Riverside Camp Patch Center, Merconess received instructions from Attorney Ernest M. Kasmy in the new of rights and the right of the Merconess Center to be the Riverside Camp Patch Center. Kasmy said that the Merconess Center is

West Digh - PRO

CONCORD SOLDIER HACKS DOOR WITH AX AND CAPTURES EIGHT GERMANS

WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY IN FRANCE --- Private Hatsumi Furukawa, P.O. Box 27, Route 1, Concord, California, recently incensed at the stubborn Germans positioned in a French farmhouse, hacked the door down and took eight prisoners. He captured, in addition, two machine pistols, one American BAR, five rifles and more than 20 hand grenades.

Then ~~unit~~ platoon that Furukawa is in had one day attempted to take the house, but the Germans forced the platoon to turn back. Early the following morning, the platoon sneaked up when a thick mist lay on the ground, and surrounded the house. It was then that Furukawa, who had brought an ax especially for this mission, chopped the door open, and saw a frightened Frenchman appear before him.

"You have an 'Allemand' in this house?" Furukawa demanded.

"Yes, yes," the Frenchman replied in his tongue.

Furukawa then boldly entered the house with two of his friends following. In one corner he saw eight Germans, who upon seeing the Concord soldier, quickly raised their hands and surrendered.

Later on checking the hayloft, the American BAR and the other weapons were found.

Furukawa is a member of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team, and joined the [redacted] outfit in Italy. There he took part in the Belvedere-Sasseta action and received with his comrades, the Distinguished Unit Badge from the War Department. In addition he holds the Purple Heart Medal, the Bronze Star and the Combat Infantryman Badge.

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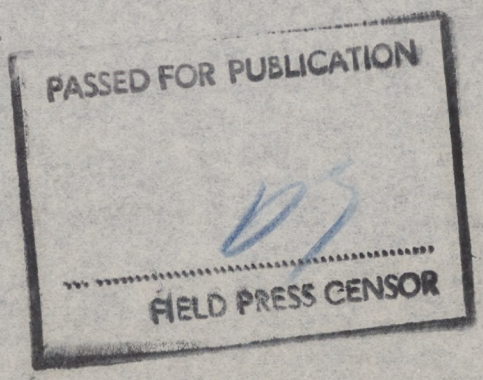

CONCORD SOLDIER HOME BACK FROM AF AND CELEBRATES EIGHT BIRTHDAYS

WITH THE SEABEES VERY IN ADVANCE --- Private Herman Takeuchi, R.D. Box 51, Concord, California, recently promoted at the Southern Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, celebrated his eighth birthday and took stock of his accomplishments. He captured a French Lieutenant, knocked the good guys and took eight prisoners. In addition, one machine pistol, one American BAR, five rifles and more than 50 hand grenades.

Then Mike Brecon found Takeuchi is in hard one yet surrendered to take the house, but the Germans forced the Brecon to turn back. Early the following morning, the Brecon crawled up near a brick wall lay on the ground, and surrounded the house. It was then that Takeuchi, who had promised to six seconds if not duty mission, chopped the door open, and was a frightened Frenchman cabbed before him.

"Now have as Allemand, in this house?" Takeuchi demanded.

"Yes, yes," the Frenchman replied in his house.

Takeuchi made herded relatives and house with 20 and duty shouts following.

In one corner he was eight Germans, who now became the Concord soldier, dripping frightened Frenchmen who in the house.

Takeuchi made no checking the prisoner and the Americans BAR and the other weapons were found.

Takeuchi is a member of the 1st Marine Reconnaissance Company based at Camp Lejeune, and joined the Marines in 1941. He was in the Pacific campaign for 18 months before being transferred to the Reconnaissance section.

Received with his commission, the lieutenant bars from the War Department.

In addition to medals the Purple Heart Medal, the Bronze Star and the Combat
Infantryman Badge.

FILES 216.3

FORMER STOCKTON JAPANESE AMERICAN RECEIVES
BATTLEFIELD COMMISSION

WITH THE SEVENTH ARMY IN FRANCE -- Because he proved his worth as an officer candidate in directing artillery fire against German positions, Staff Sergeant Susumu Ito, formerly of Stockton, California, today wears the gold bar and crossed cannons of a second lieutenant with a field artillery battalion of the 442nd Japanese American Combat Team.

Lieutenant Ito proved himself praticularly adept in selecting the best possible sites for battery emplacements and in acting as a forward observer in directing artillery fire, thereby meriting his combat appointment as a second lieutenant.

When his Fieldm Artillery Battalion first went into action north of Rome, in direct support of their Japanese American Infantry Regiment, Sergeant Ito was in charge of selecting possible locations for his battery, Time and time again, though subjected to intermittent enemy artillery fire, he carried out his reconnaissance for news sites with vigor and sound judgment. Batteries placed in position by him were able to place highly effective and destructive fire on the enemy.

Later, when casualties among forward observers necessitated the use of non-commissioned officers as replacements, Sergeant Ito was sent forward to direct artillery fire upon enemy concentrations. He had to advance with the troops and to share in their dangers. The infantry company commander under whom he worked commented favorably on his ability to adjust artillery fire under any circumstances. At one point, for example, he sighted approximately 100 Germans forming for a counterattack. He quickly called for artillery fire and so successfully directed it that the counterattack never materialized as the enemy was routed. Later, he adjusted fire on three enemy machine gun nests, neutralizing all of them. On numerous other occasions, he brought effective fire on enemy troops, vehicles, mortar and gun positions, and strongpoints. His almost uncanny judgment of distance and his knack of ferreting out enemy concentrations were topics of comment among the infantryman.

As an officer with the field artillery he is now serving as a forward observer with the Japanese American Combat Team as they participate in the Allied drive in the Vosges Mountains of Northeastern France. He directed artillery fire during the Combat Team's dramatic rescue of the Lost Battalion of World War II in the woods near Belmont, France.

Lieutenant Ito is a graduate of Stockton High School and attended Stockton Junior College for a year. He worked as a mechanic in Lodi, California with the Krieger Motor Company until he volunteered for the Armyin February 1941 in Stockton.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Sohei Ito, are residents of the Rowher Relocation Center, McGehee, Arkansas.

-30-

reviewed Kiyoto's case as an injustice from at so critical a time and then rather as an officer with the Army's Military Intelligence Service and in the Pacific theater as most qualified because of his knowledge of the Japanese language and his experience in Japan and the Orient.

Kiyoto's brother, Masaji, was killed in action in the Pacific theater while serving with the Army's Military Intelligence Service. He qualified because of his knowledge of Japanese language and his experience in Japan and the Orient.

Kiyoto's family, consisting of his father and mother, two sisters and a brother, Masaji, who was killed in the Pacific theater while serving with the Army's Military Intelligence Service, lived in Los Angeles, California.

Kiyoto's father, Kosaku, was a prominent Los Angeles businessman and a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce. Kiyoto's mother, Kosaku's wife, was a graduate of the Los Angeles Normal School and a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Kiyoto's sister, Masako, was a graduate of Los Angeles High School and a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Kiyoto's sister, Kazuko, was a student at Los Angeles City College and a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Kiyoto's brother, Masaji, was a student at Los Angeles City College and a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Kiyoto's father, Kosaku, was a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Kiyoto's mother, Kosaku's wife, was a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Kiyoto's sister, Masako, was a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Kiyoto's sister, Kazuko, was a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

Kiyoto's brother, Masaji, was a member of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

2/6.1

FILES

REFER TO

December 21, 1944

Date ans.

No reply nec.

To file

(NAME)

Mr. R. B. Cozzens
Assistant Director
Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco, California

Attention: Mr. Frayne

Dear Mr. Cozzens:

The two enclosed stories from the 7th Army were made available by the War Department to the War Relocation Authority to put to any use we see fit. No doubt you will want to release them to papers in the former home towns of the two Nisei featured in the stories.

The releases concerning Staff Sgt. Arata Kimura, formerly of San Jose, who received a field commission, and Pfc. Paul K. Takahara, formerly of Olympia, Wash., who was awarded the Silver Star for gallantry in action, are not being given general outside circulation, although they will be sent to the projects.

Sincerely,

M. M. Tozier

M. M. Tozier
Chief, Reports Division

Enclosure

WRA - Reports Officer
Wash

File Army

Room 5516, 350 Fifth Avenue
New York 1, New York

April 21, 1945

BY MESSENGER

Rm 704

Mr. Walter Winchell
New York Daily Mirror
235 East 45 Street
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Winchell:

In accordance with Miss Miles' request during our telephone conversation this afternoon, I am glad to send you the following information regarding the resignation this week of Nisei Legionnaire Harley Oka from Hollywood Post No. 591, composed entirely of Second World War veterans.

In a letter to Post Commander William Schneider, Oka said: "If we veterans of this war had not been disturbed by outside influences, we could have carried on harmoniously together. But as soon as some of the veterans of the First World War in high places in the California American Legion learned the post had enrolled me as a member, we became the object of a malicious attack. The district commander forced the post to listen to a speech of hatred against Americans of Japanese ancestry. He accused you and other officers of our post of being Communists and made other false charges. Now that the World War I members of the executive committee of the American Legion of California have approved of the district commander's action and condemned our post, I feel that an American like myself is not wanted in the American Legion of California."

Oka's resignation from the Hollywood Post has been followed by those of Commander Schneider and William Kent, chairman of the Post's Committee on Americanism.

In his letter of resignation, Commander Schneider wrote that the action of his Post in admitting Oka to membership had been "followed by severe censure by the World War I veteran (P.A. Horton) who happens to be our 24th District Commander. He humiliated us and our new comrade by forcibly seizing control of one of our Post meetings and insisting that we listen to a vicious speech inciting us to race hatred against fellow citizens and comrades of Japanese ancestry. To us World War II Veterans who had no idea of the intolerance of some of the older Legion leadership in California, it is a challenge to either accept that kind of leadership or get out. Personally, I wish no other course than to resign as Commander of this Post. . . ."

The text of these letters has been relayed to us from our Los Angeles reports officer, Earle O'Day. We are also informed that District Commander Horton had threatened to expel Post Commander Schneider because of the publicity over Oka's induction and because Schneider's Post had condemned the Hood River, Ore., Post for removing from its honor roll the names of 15 Nisei soldiers.

We are calling this information to your attention because of your interest in fair play for loyal Americans regardless of race, creed, or color.

Sincerely yours,

Hyman Sandow
Reports Officer

April 23, 1945

During the week of April 16, 1945, Harley Oka, a World War II veteran of Japanese ancestry, resigned from Hollywood American Legion Post No. 591, which is composed entirely of Second World War veterans, because of acts indicating discrimination against Americans of Japanese ancestry on the part of officials of the Department of California of the American Legion. Later William Schneider, Commander of the Post, and William Kent, Chairman of the Post's Committee on Americanism, also resigned over the same issue.

Below [redacted] is the text of the letters of resignation from Legionnaire Oka and Commander Schneider.

District Commander P. A. Norton had presumably threatened to expel Post Commander Schneider because of the publicity over Oka's induction as a member of the Post and because the Post had condemned the Hood River, Ore., Post for removing from its honor roll the names of fifteen Nisei soldiers.

Following is the text of Legionnaire Oka's letter of resignation:

"If we veterans of this war had not been disturbed by outside influences, we could have carried on harmoniously together.

"But as soon as some of the veterans of the First World War in high places in the California American Legion learned the Post had enrolled me as a member, we became the object of a malicious attack.

"The District Commander forced the Post to listen to a speech of hatred against Americans of Japanese ancestry. He accused you and other officers of our Post of being Communists and made other false charges.

"Now that the World War I members of the Executive Committee of the American Legion of California have approved of the District Commander's action, and condemned our Post, I feel that an American like myself is not wanted in the American Legion of California."

(more)

Post Commander Schneider indicated in his letter of resignation that he had done everything in his power to uphold the letter and spirit of the mandates of the American Legion which specifically prohibit discrimination against any citizen because of race, creed, or color. The following is quoted verbatim from his letter:

"In line with that policy our Post recently admitted to membership a World War II Veteran of Japanese ancestry, an action that was highly commended by enlightened Americans in all parts of the United States, but that action was also followed by severe censure by the World War I veteran (F. A. Horton) who happens to be our 24th District Commander. He humiliated us and our new comrade by forcibly seizing control of one of our Post meetings and insisting that we listen to a vicious speech inciting us to race hatred against fellow citizens and comrades of Japanese ancestry.

"This shocking behavior on the part of our District Commander has just been approved by the Executive Committee of the American Legion, Department of California. To us World War II veterans who had no idea of the intolerance of some of the older Legion leadership in California, it is a challenge either to accept that kind of leadership or get out. Personally, I see no other course than to resign as Commander and member of this Post and to seek to continue my comradeship with enlightened veterans in some organizations whose leadership is less hostile to the principles we have been fighting for than the Executive Committee of the American Legion Department of California.

"I want to thank those members of the Post and also those Legionnaires of World War I who have supported us in our fight for tolerance against race hatred."

The person who delivered the "speech of hatred" to which Oka and Schneider refer is Mr. John R. Lechner of the Americanism Educational League in Los

(more)

Angeles and who in recent years has been actively associated with the California Department of the American Legion in its campaign against Americans of Japanese ancestry. Dr. Lechner's activities are described on pages 236 and 237 and on page 243 of "Prejudice Japanese-Americans: Symbol of Racial Intolerance" by Carey McWilliams.

Reports Div

Department of the Interior

War Relocation Authority

Washington, D. C.
May 26, 1945

STRAIGHT WIRE

Mr. Walter Winchell
~~St. Francis Hotel~~ The Beverly Wilshire
~~San Francisco~~, California
Los Angeles

An article titled "Japanese American Soldiers Make Good," printed in June American Mercury and slated for July Readers Digest pickup, features on page 700 the remarkable battle exploit of S/Sgt. Kazuo Masuda, killed at Cassino on August 27, 1944. His brother Takashi was wounded in France in the rescue by the all-Nisei 442nd combat team of the Texas Lost Battalion of World War II in the Vosges Mountains. A third soldier brother, Masao, is on the West Coast awaiting Army assignment to the Pacific, and a fourth brother, Mits, has an Army medical discharge.

Several weeks ago, Mary Masuda, the sister of these heroes and soldiers, returned from a war relocation center to her home town, Talbert in Orange County, California. Her first night back, while staying with a white family, she was visited by five men who sought to terrorize her into leaving. She told them of her brothers in service, including the one killed in action and the one wounded. They were not impressed.

Miss Masuda states that one terrorist said to her that "as long as I had come out in a taxi, that he would get me a taxi to go back to Los Angeles in, but that maybe I wouldn't get there alive."

Miss Masuda states one of the gang "called us those damned Japs and worse," and that there was drinking and loud talking by the men in an attempt to terrify her. When she said to one of the leaders that shecwanted to seek help from the nearest WRA office and from the local sheriff, to be taken to see her family's unoccupied ranch, this man "advised me not to, saying the Santa Ana Register prints

everything." (The Register is a local paper which would have blown this gang out of the water, if it had known of their threats.)

She kept quiet until last week. Finally she told her story first to the WRA and later to the sheriff. Accompanied by Masao, the soldier brother who got back last week on furlough, she gave a complete statement of the incident to the sheriff, including names of the terrorists. In another statement received here today, Miss Masuda describes the brushoff the sheriff gave her. (Copies of both statements are being airmailed to you.)

Here are some excerpts from her statement on her visit to the sheriff:

"I gave the Sheriff the statement which I had made and he read it through. After the Sheriff got through reading it, he said it was not a threat of violence, there had been no overt act, and there was nothing he could do about it...

"He said again that there has been no actual threat of violence and that he has nothing to work on. I told him that if anything happens, then it will be too late for him to do anything about it...

"The Sheriff stated in a nice way, that we have all the rights of American citizens, that we should be able to return. That the people here are just trying to discourage us. The Sheriff said the only time he could help us was when these people violated the peace...

"The Sheriff thinks we have all the right to return. He said that the people who are against the return of the evacuees are the ones who are gaining by it. He mentioned that some members of the Farm Bureau, the Native Sons, the Grange and the American Legion are against them returning. He said not the American Legion as an organization, but a few of the Legion are against the return. Masao asked the Sheriff, "'Don't you think the Native Sons are the most active against the evacuees

returning?'" He said, "'There are some individuals in that group.'"

"We both asked the Sheriff if he would make a statement to the Register, and he said it was not necessary because there had been no overt act. The Sheriff said there was not much he could do. He continued that the men were pretty smart and would just go so far...

"He stated that, if we were bothered after we returned, to tell the people who came to threaten us, in a nice way, that we are American citizens and that they have no right to threaten us...

"The Sheriff asked what theatre of war Naeao was going to, and wished him luck..."

This Orange county case is cited because it explains in part why in 20 California shooting attempts against Nisei since January 2 there has been only one arrest, and no arrests in nine similar cases of threatening visits, and three arson cases, all directed against loyal Nisei and their parents, in 10 California counties.

Some members of the Orange county gang have threatened three other families since early May. The names of the terrorists are known and have been provided to the sheriff, but they go their hoodlum way unmolested, until they actually commit an act of violence.

As in your other defenses of minorities, you have been eloquent in your support of the rights of loyal Japanese Americans, recognizing that if they are subjected to brutal treatment without the law's protection, other minorities will suffer next, and the whole structure of law and justice built upon the Bill of Rights will crumble away.

Whatever you can say to the public will bring about corrective action, and

will make up for some of the wrong done to the heroic Sergeant who died fighting Nazis at Cassino, never believing Nazis at home would molest his sister. The American people too, would like to think that when her other brother Masao goes off to battle Hirohito's gangsters, Mary Nasuda will be protected in California.

It will please you to know that after leaving the first family she stayed with at Talbert, because her host turned out to be in cahoots with the terrorists, Miss Nasuda at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Roy A. Corry of Santa Ana moved to their home. Their son, Lt. Roy A. Corry, Jr., Marine Corps pilot, has been missing in action at Guadalcanal since August 26, 1942, almost two years to the day before Sgt. Kazuo Nasuda's death at Cassino.

Arnold M. Serwer
Acting Chief, Reports Division

AMSerwer:ln

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

WASHINGTON, D.C.
MAY 28
10-PM
1945

PEN VOID

AIR MAIL

Mr. Paul G. Robertson
Relocation Supervisor
1031 South Broadway
Los Angeles 15, California

Attention: Earl O'Day

WRA

file

See RA #32 - 5/24/45

TELETYPE MESSAGE

MAY 24, 1945
5:00 PM

MR. M. M. TOZIER
CHIEF OF REPORTS DIVISION
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
BARR BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

REURTEL SGT. MINORU MASUKANE ARRIVED TODAY. ACME, INTERNATIONAL AND ASSOCIATED PRESS ALONG WITH TIMES, EXAMINER, DAILY NEWS, HERALD EXPRESS AND CITY NEWS SERVICE COVERED. HOWEVER NO DEFINITE SYNDICATING OF STORY INDICATED SO MADE AIRMAILING NEGATIVES AND HERE IS DATA:

TECH SGT. THIRD GRADE MASUKANE HONORABLY DISCHARGED MAY 14 FORT BLISS TEXAS AFTER RETURN FROM PACIFIC THEATRE ON FURLOUGH. PRESUMABLY FIRST DISCHARGE GRANTED ANY NISEI ON POINTS. HIS POINTS WERE 42 FOR 42 MONTHS IN ARMY, 25 MONTHS OF WHICH WERE PACIFIC OVERSEAS SO CREDITED WITH 25 POINTS MORE, AND ALSO 20 POINTS FOR FOUR DECORATIONS AS FOLLOWS: THREE BRONZE STARS FOR ASIATIC PACIFIC CAMPAIGN MEDAL AND ONE BRONZE STAR FOR PHILIPPINE LIBERATION RIBBON. TOTAL POINTS 87. ALSO HAS GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL AND AMERICAN DEFENSE RIBBON WHICH DO NOT COUNT TOWARD POINTS. HE WAS UNDER ENEMY FIRE ON PHILIPPINE INVASION D-DAY PLUS FOUR AND WAS ALSO IN ACTION IN NEW GUINEA. WAS INDUCTED NOVEMBER 4, 1941 AND TRAINED AT CAMP WARREN WYO THEN FORT LEWIS, CAMP CROWDER FINALLY CAMP SAVAGE, MINN. ON APRIL 18, 1943 WENT OVERSEAS FROM SAN FRANCISCO TO PACIFIC THEATRE UNDER SECRET ORDERS. ATTACHED TO GEN KRUEGERS SIXTH ARMY WHERE HE

SERVED WITH INTELLIGENCE SECTION AT HDQS. HE IS 25 SINGLE NOT ENGAGED AND FIRST THOUGHT AFTER SEEING PARENTS AT POSTON IS TO GET NEW CIVILIAN CLOTHES. FATHER SETSUICHI NASUKANE AGE ABOUT 60 MOTHER KUMI. NO SISTERS, BUT BROTHER TAKENOBU, 24, WHO LEFT CALIFORNIA SUMMER 1939 AND WENT TOKYO ATTEND SCHOOL WHEN LAST HEARD OF WORKING IN TOKYO PRESUMABLY BECAUSE AMERICAN NOT SUBJECT JAPANESE ARMY. BOTH BROTHERS BORN BRAWLEY CALIFORNIA. PARENTS OPERATED LEASED ACREAGE NEAR EL CENTRO FOR VEGETABLE FARM BEFORE EVACUATION. SERGEANT WOULD LIKE TO GO INTO SAME WORK AGAIN BUT HAS NEITHER LAND NOR MONEY EXCEPT MUSTERING OUT PAY. AMBITIOUS RESETTLE SOMEWHERE WITH PARENTS. NOW STAYING TEMPORARILY EVERGREEN HOSTEL LOS ANGELES WILL VISIT PARENTS THIS WEEKEND. PARENTS ADDRESS 59-13-F POSTON. DISCHARGE CAME AS WELCOME SURPRISE SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL AT ARMY RECEIVING STATION FT. BLISS. TWO YEARS JR. COLLEGE BUT NEED OF SUPPORTING PARENTS MAKES FURTHER EDUCATION DOUBTFUL. FUTURE PLANS INDEFINITE.

PAUL G. ROBERTSON
Area Supervisor

I certify that this message is sent
on offical government business.

E.O'D:fj