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Mr. Spier
(for your files)
Segregation

Jerome Relocation Center
Denson, Arkansas
November 12, 1943

Chronology of Segregation

- 7-7 On July 7 a representative of the Spanish Consul met with residents of this center and at that time the question of segregation was discussed. The center newspaper in covering that meeting stated that no definite information was available at that time. The Project Director had previously stated to evacuee leaders that segregation was contemplated and in all probability would be undertaken. On July 16 the center newspaper announced that segregation on the basis of national loyalty or sympathy would be undertaken early in September. This statement indicated that the plan was in accordance with the will of the Senate. It included Mr. Myer's announcement that one center, to be named later, would be designated to accommodate all persons not eligible for leave, that the War Department would cooperate, that the first to be segregated would be those who had requested repatriation, and that all doubtful cases would be given individual hearings to assure justice. In the same article Project Director Taylor promised that further details would be released as they were determined.
- 7-16
- 7-20 The July 20 issue of the center newspaper announced the Denver meeting and stressed the fact that segregation was not a means of punishment. Mr. Taylor again promised full details when available and repeated that the segregation center had not been officially identified. At about this time newspaper clippings indicating the selection of Tule Lake as a segregation center filtered into Jerome, and just before this center's delegation left for Denver the Rohwer newspaper announced that Tule Lake had been selected.
- 7-25 On July 25 the Jerome delegation wired the center newspaper corroborating

8-2 this information and promising further details. Immediately after returning from Denver a general staff meeting was held, at which all personnel were charged with the responsibility of understanding and participating in the segregation program. It was stressed that there would be nothing secret about the program, that each appointed person should answer completely each question asked of him but that he must be sure that his answer was correct. It was also stressed that each member of the staff must tell exactly the same story and that if anyone had any doubt as to the correct answer to a question he should admit that he did not know and discuss that point no further. At the same meeting Mr. Taylor instructed the staff not to terminate any individual who was to be segregated until a day or two before the time of his departure.

8-3 On August 3 the Project Director issued a memorandum freezing center residence as of August 7.

8-3 On August 3 the Denver delegation met with a joint meeting of the council, block managers, and block monitors. The Project Director listed the members of the staff to whom he had assigned particular segregation responsibilities and outlined briefly the duties of each (see attachment No. 1). He also identified the four groups into which center residents had fallen by virtue of their own statements or actions. This grouping is outlined more fully in attachment No. 2, which was widely distributed about the center as an official signed bulletin and published in the center newspaper within two or three days after this meeting. At the same meeting a brief account of plans being worked out by the Welfare Department for individual problems of the segregates was outlined. The Project Attorney discussed the difference between Group II and Group III hearings, and it was again stressed that confusion and fear could be

kept to a minimum if appointed personnel and evacuee leaders were careful to answer all questions correctly or not at all. The group was promised complete information and told that an office for answering all questions would be maintained. A few questions came up for discussion and that night the block managers conducted individual meetings to explain and discuss the mechanics of segregation.

8-3

Also on August 3 the Denver delegation met with four repatriates: Rev. Shizuo Kai, George Kuratomi, Mitsuho Kimura, and Yukio Tanaka. These men were the established leaders of a large group of this center's residents which registered on the last allowable day according to set directions and with the definite indication that their sympathies were with Japan and that they desired repatriation. The Project Director dealt directly with this group as representatives and leaders of the great majority of those persons who could be expected to be transferred to Tule Lake. He and they realized that their group would conform explicitly to their directions and advice. Led by George Kuratomi, they promised him complete cooperation throughout the segregation movement. He assured them complete information on any question, suggested that one of them accompany each trainload to Tule Lake, and arranged for regular meetings to discuss future developments. This committee suggested that one of their group be assigned to assist, only within their own following, each of the appointed persons who had been given definite segregation responsibilities (refer to Exhibit I). This suggestion, welcomed by the administration, led to the presentation on August 9 of the following list:

8-9

Mr. R. E. Arne

Mr. Ichiro Hayashi

Mr. J. Lloyd Webb

Larry Kataoka

W. O. Melton	Tom Matsumoto
Charles R. Lynn	Mitsuho Kimura
Ulys A. Lovell	Sumio Kono
James H. Wells	Hideo Ito
John L. McCormick	Larry Kataoka
Guy B. Smith	Yukio Kobayashi
all hospital cases	Rev. Fujio

8-3 These men in each instance cooperated with the individual with whom they had been assigned to work. It was stated by this committee at this meeting that the residents could be expected to work with the administration but not with the block managers. This statement was generally accepted as accurate by those at the meeting.

8-6 On August 6 the Project Director posted an official and signed open letter to all residents of the center (see Exhibit III). This letter, which included all pertinent WRA thinking up to that time, was posted widely throughout the center. It included the Project Director's personal assurance that the program was being undertaken for the benefit of ALL the residents and published his request for centerwide cooperation and confidence.

8-9 On August 9 the Project Director called a meeting to be attended by one member from each family which thought it would be transferred to Tule Lake. For the benefit of the repatriate committee Mr. Taylor at this meeting stated publicly that he welcomed the cooperation of the repatriate group's established leaders, that he would furnish them with complete information, and that he had no reason to believe that they would not represent him among their group with integrity and energy. The meeting was well attended. George Kuratomi's

translations and a few remarks in Japanese by the Reverend Mr. Kai were checked by a member of the appointed personnel. The Project Director introduced this individual with the aboveboard explanation that he wanted assurance that his remarks were being interpreted correctly. Throughout the program there was no compromise between the Project Director and the repatriate committee. Each of them openly and publicly respected the other's attitude and purpose but neither made any pretense of taking anything for granted.

8-4

On August 4, another general staff meeting was held for the purpose of further educating appointed personnel. It was at this time that exhibit No. 2 was distributed. At this time the Project Director announced his assignment of individual responsibilities as recorded in exhibit No. 1. It

8-9

was announced at this meeting that a general information office would be open August 9 where any individual could get the answer to any question. This office proved of little value. There were few questions asked. This was due probably to two facts, (1) information already available was very complete and (2) members of the repatriate group asked their questions of their own representatives. The office finally was closed a few days before the first segregation train left the center. Following this meeting a group of key personnel discussed the mechanics of group determination and went into actual functional questions.

8-5

On August 5 six members of the appointed personnel were named to the

8-8

Board of Review for Segregation and a seventh was added three days later. On

8-5

the same day a meeting was held to go into the actual questions and education preparatory to conducting Welfare hearings. A definite training schedule was

worked out and nineteen persons were assigned to this work, which got under way immediately.

8-9 The segregation hearings were conducted by two-man boards simultaneously in three sections of the center, beginning August 9. The first few hearings were conducted by the entire board under the direction of the Project Attorney, and subsequent hearings followed Manual procedure minutely. Something more than fifty per cent of those called to segregation hearings were transferred to Tule Lake. The remainder were placed in Group III.

general From this point segregation became only a matter of mechanical detail. The entire period was without confusion or disturbances of any kind. Outside public relations were limited to casual and unprinted remarks to the effect that the center was "getting rid of its bad boys." The local press was told that actual train movements were under the control of the Army and for that reason papers were requested to print nothing beyond generalities. Although they were acquainted with minute details they cooperated completely with this request, printing little other than the President's segregation release.

9-25 The two trains arrived at this center, one very early in the morning and one about dinner time, on September 25. Each transferree had previously been assigned to a barracks room. Their apartments were ready for them. In most instances they had been cleaned with standard disinfectant and washing powder. Those which could not be ready because they were vacated on the same day were cleaned later. All blankets issued had been sterilized.

The newcomers walked from the train through warehouse No. 12 which had been converted into a reception center. There each one was told which apartment was his. All hand luggage was inspected at that time by members of the appointed personnel working under the supervision of Internal Security. The transferrees left the opposite door of the warehouse to be carried to their apartments by truck.

Within the next ten days probably 100 persons were moved between blocks.

The first trainload went directly into blocks 46, 45, and 44. The second trainload went into blocks 43 and 42 and scattered throughout the center. At the train each family received a letter of information prepared by the reports office and a copy of the center newspaper which had devoted considerable space to physical facts about the center. The letter (see exhibit No. IV) was designed primarily to explain the fact that an inspection of all baggage would be necessary.

9-28

An open letter to all new residents, dated September 27, from Project Director Paul A. Taylor (see Exhibit No. V) was attached to the September 28 issue of the center newspaper. This letter welcomed the residents and told them where they could get answers to whatever questions they had.

general

Prior to the arrival of the transferrees the various divisions, acting upon the suggestion of the project director, were careful to save evacuee positions on the theory that the newcomers deserved some employment consideration. Many of them were assigned to desirable positions within a few days. Key members of the administrative staff began soon after the first train arrived, and have continued since, to ferret out the leaders among the Tule Lake people for the purpose of obtaining information and advice. The group as a whole, it was evident, soon became very well satisfied with the physical aspects and the operational procedure at this center. A welcoming program was conducted by Community Activities soon after their arrival, which seemed to have a wholesome and lasting effect.

The segregation program has had some beneficial effect upon outside public relations but its benefits are more obvious within the center. Since

the mass movement was effected the proposed permanent community government charter has been unanimously ratified by the blocks and elections for representatives scheduled for this week are arousing unusual and very public-spirited interest. Since segregation has been completed, the center's U.S.O. program has flourished with a centerwide acceptance. Individual residents seem less serious and more ready to venture opinions about practically any subject.

The last chapter of segregation--the completion of leave clearance hearings--is being written slowly and without undue confusion or concern. The necessity for re-hearings before panels of the hearing board have created some individual concern but an effort is being made to counteract this through the medium of carefully explaining that such re-hearings are to protect the individual, the Authority, and the general public. It has become evident to most of the residents that there will be something approximating another trainload of segregees to leave this center. It is anticipated that complaints will be entirely personal and individual and that the last chapter of the program will not cause any particular unrest. Present conditions at the Tule Lake center as described by wire press stories and occasional radio broadcasts seemingly have had little effect upon the composure of this center's residents or upon those who at Group III leave hearings continue to maintain that they desire repatriation in the full knowledge that they in all probability will be transferred to the segregation center.

August 5, 1943

Runo E. Arne

1. Welfare Interviews (J. Lloyd Webb, Welfare Counselor)
2. Information Consultation (A.G. Thompson, Superintendent of Education)
3. Housing Census
4. Medical supplies and baby food
5. Handling of sick and aged

W. O. Melton
Assistant Project Director

1. Transportation of people and things to warehouses and trains
2. Loading trains

James H. Wells
Sr. Administrative Officer

1. Assemblage of records
2. Preparation and mailing of all notices to evacuees

Guy B. Smith
Chief, Public Works Division

1. Furnishing material for crating all freight
2. Checking to see that all crating is completed on schedule

Ulys A. Lovell
Project Attorney

1. Interview by Board of Review for Segregation
2. Leave Clearance Hearings

Charles R. Lynn
Reports Officer

1. Education of appointed personnel
2. General information to evacuee residents

John L. McCormick
Head, Employment and Leaves
Office

1. Reconciliation of repatriation list
2. Furnishing of registration information

Listed above are persons who have been assigned responsibility in connection with the carrying out of the segregation program in this center. Each person can be referred to for answers to any questions pertaining to his particular part of the segregation program.

Paul A. Taylor
Paul A. Taylor
Project Director

CLASSIFICATION GROUPS FOR SEGREGATION

Group I

This group includes all those persons who have applied for repatriation or expatriation and did not retract their applications prior to July 1, 1943. All persons in this group will be transferred to Tule Lake on the basis of available records.

Group II

This group includes persons who answered "no" to the general registration loyalty question who did not change such answer prior to July 15, those who failed to answer the loyalty question, and those who refused to register. This group also includes those who answered "neutral" and those who qualified their answer with a remark which clearly made the answer negative. All these persons will have an individual hearing to determine their exact intentions and understanding at the time of registration and their exact sympathies at this time. On the basis of this hearing, those who clearly prefer the Japanese way will be transferred to Tule Lake. On the basis of this hearing, those about whom there remains some doubt will be reclassified into Group III.

Group III

This group includes all those not eligible for leave clearance. This means:

- (a) Those who answered the registration loyalty question in the negative, failed to answer it, whose answer was "neutral", or who stated "I wish to be repatriated or expatriated," and changed such answer to an unqualified "yes" prior to July 15.
- (b) Those who answered the loyalty question with a qualification which was not obviously and clearly negative.
- (c) Those who requested repatriation or expatriation and retracted such request prior to July 1, 1943.
- (d) Persons about whom there is other information indicating loyalty to Japan or disloyalty to the United States.
- (e) Those reclassified from Group II on the basis of their individual hearings.

All those in Group III will be given an individual hearing before a Leave Clearance Board. Those denied leave clearance on the basis of their hearing will be transferred to Tule Lake.

Group IV

This group includes all those persons who are presently eligible for leave clearance. Members of this group may, by permission of the Welfare Section, accompany members of their immediate families to the Tule Lake Center.

* * *

NOTE: Those individuals included on the official Japanese list of persons acceptable for transfer to Japan on the next exchange vessel will remain in this center until time of sailing.

NOTE: Families of persons who are interned will be treated as individuals and will remain at this center or be transferred to Tule Lake according to their present status or the findings of their individual hearing.

NOTE: Persons who have applied for transfer to Crystal City can be transferred from this center or from Tule if they happened to be sent to that center before their induction at Crystal City is arranged by the Department of Justice.

NOTE: Children of persons to be transferred to Tule Lake will be treated as individuals. Theoretically, if they are old enough to talk they are old enough to make their own choice. Actually, the WRA is not set up to assume the guardianship of orphans. It is expected that there will be a relatively small number of real problems arising from this situation. Where all concerned agree to a separation of a family group, it will be necessary that satisfactory plans be agreed upon for the care and supervision of minors remaining in the relocation center.

Paul A. Taylor

W. RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Jerome Relocation Center
Denson, Arkansas

EXHIBIT III

August 6, 1943

Open Letter to All Residents of the Center

The Director's segregation announcement which I relayed to you through the center newspaper met with my full approval. The purpose of the program is to separate those who prefer to be Japanese from those who look to the United States as their country and their home. I think each individual will be better satisfied after segregation has been accomplished. I think the program will be of almost immediate value to the relocation policy which is the only long term solution to the evacuees' problem. I think all of you agree with me.

As previously announced, the Tule Lake Center in northern California has been selected as the segregation center. It will be administered exactly as this center so far as is possible with the notable exception that its population will not be eligible for leave. The Tule Lake Center is very definitely not a punishment center, nor is it a place for troublemakers. Leupp is our isolation center for those purposes.

After complete segregation has been accomplished, residents remaining at this center and those transferred here from Tule Lake will be eligible for leave. It is my hope that each of these people will accept the earliest reasonable opportunity to leave this center and accept the privileges and responsibilities of normal productive life outside. But I wish to assure you again, right here, that relocation will not be forced upon you.

The classification of individuals, necessary to the mechanics of accomplishing the segregation, has been published in the center newspaper, posted in official notices, and explained to several groups in the center. It is expected that four or five trains will carry some 1600 residents of this center to Tule Lake, the first train to leave some time after September 10, 1943. Because train schedules must conform to the requirements of ten centers, definite transportation needs must be determined before August 21. This gives us only a brief, but ample, period in which to determine exactly who from this center will be transferred to Tule Lake. For this reason, the wheels of the program already have begun to turn.

Letters have gone out to the first of those persons in Group I, asking that they appear for an interview with representatives of the Welfare Section. Others in Group I will be interviewed as rapidly as possible. The sole purpose of this interview is to determine what family members wish to accompany each to Tule Lake and what personal problem each individual is faced with. Other letters have gone out to the first of those persons classified in Group II requesting that they appear for a hearing before a Board of Review for segregation. Persons in Group II are those who have strongly indicated their preference for the Japanese way of life or a sympathy for that nation's war aims prior to July 15, 1943. The sole purpose of this hearing is to identify those individuals in whose mind there is no question. These will be transferred to Tule Lake. Wherever there is any doubt concerning the intention of any individual in Group II, he will be reclassified as a member of Group III. These persons will remain at this center for the exhaustive leave clearance hearing which sometime during the next few months will determine their status.

The above procedure and the other mechanics of the program, which will be published and explained as time passes, were worked out in the Washington office and handed to us in a "Manual of Evacuee Transfer Operations." This manual is open to any person on the center who wishes to study it. The authority for the segregation is established in Administrative Instruction 100. This document is open to any individual on the center. None of the plans, none of the purposes, and none of the facts of the segregation program will be withheld from anyone. So far as time allows, I or any member of my staff will be available to discuss this program with any individual or any group. In an effort to make all the answers more readily available, a Segregation Information Headquarters will be established in apartment 29-2-D. Please feel free to make use of this service. This office will be supplied with one of the limited number of operation manuals. It will keep a list of all persons classified in Group I and II. It will answer any question you wish to ask and direct you through any step in the program's mechanical procedure.

This is my official statement to each resident of the center. It will be posted in all prominent locations. I am sorry that I cannot repeat it personally to each of you. Please give me your individual cooperation, counsel, and confidence.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Taylor
Project Director



センター民への公開状

所 内新聞を通じて皆さんに傳へた隔離問題に関する
マイヤー局長の聲明には自分は賛意を表す。隔離
の目的は米國を自分の國と思ひ故郷とする者より、日本
と故郷とする者を分離する事にある。隔離が完了す水
全部の人は満足に思ふであらう。

此の隔離プログラムは所民の諸問題解決に残された
唯一の方法である所の外住方針に直ちに好結果を齎す
であらう。皆さんも同感だと信ず。

既報の如く、北加のツールレーキが隔離センターとし
て選定された。同センターは出来得る限り當センターと
同様に行政され、唯異なる所は同センター住民の外住が
許可されない事である。ツールレーキは決して懲罰及び
ソラブルマイカーのセンターではない。懲罰或はソラブ
ルマイカーを收容するのはアリゾナのルーペンセンターである。
隔離移動終了後の當センター民及びツールレーキよりの
移住者は全部外住を許可される者のみである。此等の
人々は出来得る限り早くセンターより外住し、外部で普
通の生活をされる様、自分は希望する。然し外住を決

して強制するのではないと
言ふ事は此所に再びはつき
りと申上げる。

隔離プログラム完成に必
要である住民の分類はセン
ター新聞紙及びポスターに
て發表され、且つセンター
内の諸團體の人々に説明し
た。當所よりツールレーキへ
約千六百人行く筈で、四五
列車で輸送され、最初の列
車は九月十日後の豫定であ
る。汽車のスケジュールは十
センター全部の移動スケジュ
ールと一致しなくてはなら
ぬ故、決定的な輸送上の細
目は八月廿一日までに決定
されねばならぬ。故に當所
よりツールレーキ行きの人
を決定するには短時日ある
のみであるから、隔離プロ
グラムは既に実行に移つて
居る。

グループ一の人々には既
に通知が發送されウエルツヤ
ー係員と引見する様要請さ
れて居る。此の引見の唯一
の目的は家族中の誰かがツ

ールレーキに行くかを決定
し、各個人個人の問題に付
き相談する為めである。

グループ二に分類された人
々にも通知が送られ、隔離
調査委員の所に出頭する様
要請されて居る。グループ
二の人は日本が好きであり
且つ日本の戦争目的に同意
すと七月十五日以前に表示
した人々である。審問の目
的は日本が好きとか、日本
の戦争目的に同意する者を
明白にする為めである。
然して之等の人々はツール
レーキに送られる。審問委員
会がグループ二の人々で真
意が判明せざる者は再分類
され、グループ三に入水られ
當所に送られ、嚴重な外住審
問を数ヶ月後受け、何れか
に決定される。今後次に発
表される前記方法細則は華
府で作成された退人の輸
送方法なる小冊子中に記載

一九四三年八月六日

されて居り諸君に公開され
てゐる。隔離プログラムの諸
事項は行政指令番号に発
表されて居り、之れも何人
も閲覧自由である。隔離計
画目的の事は何等秘す所
なく諸君にお知らせする。時
間の許す限り自分及び後
は個人及び團體と此の問題
に付き相談に應ずる。諸君
の便宜の爲め、CDに隔離
インターメーソン事務所を
設けた故同所を利用された
し、立退人の輸送方法は一
部同所にある。才、才ニケ
ループの人々のリストもあ
り、隔離の諸問題に就き詳細
に説明を乞へる。

以上は諸君に対する自分
の公式聲明書であり、センタ
ー内各所に掲示されて居る。
諸君に逐一申上げる事が出
来ぬのを遺憾に思ふ。諸君
が吾々と信頼し、何事も協調
相談されん事を希望する。

所長 ポール ニイラー

Jerome Relocation Center
Denson, Arkansas

Reports Office
September 23

INFORMATION FOR NEW ARRIVALS FROM TULE LAKE

Denson Tribune Copies of the September 24 issue will be available. Much information of interest to new arrivals from Tule Lake will be printed in that issue.

Assignments You already have been assigned to your apartment. It has been cleaned in the usual way, using standard powders and disinfectant. (Note: A few of the last to arrive from Tule Lake are assigned to apartments which will not be vacated until the day of their arrival. It will not be possible to clean all of those apartments in that short a time. These individuals are asked to cooperate with the Housing Section, which will clean their rooms as soon as possible.) In no case will a used blanket be issued which has not been sterilized.

Block Managers In all probability your block manager will call a block meeting in the near future where you may meet your neighbors and become acquainted with center regulations and practices. In the meantime see your block manager to report any obvious irregularity or oversight. Ask him for any lumber you may find necessary for shelving.

Inspection Incoming hand luggage, checkable baggage and freight will be inspected for contraband, for articles prohibited by center regulations and for government property issued at Tule Lake and missing from that center's inventory. This inspection is required.

Hand luggage will be left in the possession of the owners and carried with them from the train into Warehouse 12. It will be opened and inspected, in the presence of the owners, by a member of the Internal Security Section under the supervision of a member of the appointed personnel designated by the Project Director to assume that responsibility. After the luggage has been inspected it will be carried with the owner out of Warehouse 12 and to the block to which he has been assigned.

Checkable baggage arriving on the September 25 train will be placed under guard in the recreation halls of Blocks 44 and 45. It will be stacked there as nearly as possible according to check numbers, and soon after arrival of the train individuals may call at one of these buildings with their claim checks to claim their baggage. Proper inspection, again only in the presence of the owner, will be made

before the baggage may be removed to the apartments. Where necessary, transportation may be provided.

Internal Security has been directed to seize all radios, contraband, certain prohibited articles and any article which appears to be the property of the United States government. Proper receipts will be issued for all items seized. The radios will be inspected, all short wave coils removed or sealed out, and the radios returned to the owners within a short time. (Where the owner prefers, the radio may be stored at the center under supervision of Internal Security.) Other items will be handled according to center regulations, and the owner properly advised and consulted in each case.

Freight will be inspected accordingly. Details of its handling will be made public before its arrival at the center.

Later Arrivals Checkable baggage arriving on later trains will be placed in different warehouses, but the same general procedures will apply.

September 27, 1943

New Residents from Tule Lake,

The residents of this center join with the appointed personnel and me in extending to you a most cordial welcome. I hope your stay at this center is as pleasant as circumstances permit. I hope that soon you will find an attractive opportunity to relocate outside. You should be quick to accept that opportunity and so resume a normal productive life where you and your children may live the way you wish and where you may become a constructive part of that community's life.

I am sure you have noticed that trains run as fast in Arkansas as they do in other states, and that people here wear shoes exactly as do people in Maine and California. You have heard many ridiculous things about Arkansas and its people. In the same way the people of Arkansas have heard many ridiculous things about you.

There is this difference--the misinformation you came here with is dispelled quickly and naturally because you can not help but see that it was false. But the misunderstanding under which some people in Arkansas look upon you is something not so easily corrected. The answer is a program of education, which is slowly gaining momentum and which I consider an important part of my administrative responsibility. Its success depends greatly upon your patience and understanding. I ask that you work with me and with my staff members in helping to correct these false impressions.

When you have questions about the operation of this center, which I am sure will differ in some respects from the policies at Tule Lake, or when you have personal or neighborhood problems, see the block manager or the Council representative in your block. If you can not get the answer, my office and those of my staff members are always open to you.

My job here is to guide you in the operation of this center according to WRA policies. My purpose is to make your life here as normal as possible. My aim is to help you regain the confidence of the American public. With your trust and cooperation I am sure we may have a most pleasant association.

Paul A. T aylor
Project Director