



Date 5/21

from **W. G. HERRON**

Washington Representative

Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce

900 17th Street, N. W.

Washington, D. C.

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To CALIFORNIA DELEGATION

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Subject RETURN OF JAPANESE TO PACIFIC COAST

Attached recommendations from Los Angeles Chamber Board of Directors is submitted for your consideration.

We hope you will concur in our opinion.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
LOS ANGELES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

*n.a.* **71.76**  
*file*

Recommendation as to the Return  
of Japanese to Pacific Coast Areas

RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, pursuant to a study and report of the Special Committee on Japanese of the Chamber of Commerce, recommends the following policy by the Federal Government with respect both to alien and non-alien Japanese, excepting only those regularly enlisted in the armed service:

1. That permission not be granted the Japanese for return to the Pacific Coast States during the continuance of the war between this country and Japan.
2. That the Japanese who have indicated their loyalty to Japan, or have refused to pledge their loyalty to the United States, be interned under strict military control.
3. That Japanese, other than those included under Proposal No. 2, above, be given every reasonable opportunity to demonstrate their loyalty to this country, through productive labor in non-military areas to the extent that the attitude of the communities where they are to be employed is not prejudicial to the personal welfare of the Japanese.
4. That schools, entertainments, and other individual projects promoting loyalty to Japanese culture not be permitted.

COMMENT

In February of 1942, on recommendation of its Agricultural Committee, the Chamber went on record favoring the movement of Japanese to an area beyond fifty miles from the Pacific Coast and the Mexican border, and the employment of the Japanese thus removed to the fullest possible extent. This recommendation was fulfilled somewhat later under orders from General DeWitt, acting on authority granted by the President.

While the area from which the Japanese were barred by the General's order was more extended than that suggested by the Chamber, it is believed that it would be



nothing less than tragic to now permit return to this area. While the attempt made by the War Relocation Authority to determine the loyalties of the Japanese was an honest and comprehensive one, we are not convinced that the results are sufficiently accurate to give such assurance as justifies return of any of these people to vital military areas in the Pacific region.

Loyalty difficult to determine. The difficulty of an accurate determination of Japanese loyalty to the United States is perhaps emphasized by that portion of the report by the Chandler Committee, which states that 19,963 Japanese citizens of military age were registered by the Army in ten of the relocation centers. Of these 1181, or approximately 6% volunteered; 4783, or 24% answered "no" to the loyalty question. The highest number answering as disloyal was something over 50% at Manzanar, and the lowest, approximately 2%, at Minidoka. While this difference may be accounted for, in part, by different groups of Japanese having been sent to different centers, it seems quite probable that there would not actually be as much difference. There can be little doubt but that at least the 50% indicating their disloyalty are not trusted American citizens, and there is a grave question that 2% represents the total, or anything like the total disloyalty in the other camp.

Effect on war effort. One of the important factors influencing your Committee to recommend against return of the Japanese to the Coast is their probable treatment. It is not at all improbable that should they be permitted to return, occasions would arise where they would be subjected to personal attack and abuse, possible bodily injury and even bloodshed. This would have a more disturbing influence in working out their postwar situation than could possibly result from restricting them from this area while the war is on. Furthermore, such disturbances would be used by Japan as an excuse for additional brutalities against our people who are prisoners. Also, our large population of other Orientals here on the Coast would be placed in an embarrassing and perhaps dangerous situation, since too often they are not readily distinguished from the Japanese. At best the return of the Japanese to these coastal areas where strong hatreds are known to exist, would result in resentment which would be destructive to our war effort. Such resentment would not be a matter of the moment but would be a continuing influence throughout the war.

Farm labor but one consideration. While the employment of Japanese in farm labor would add to our total available manpower, those who have formerly engaged in such work and would be available, represent a very small proportion of our total needs. While we are, and will probably continue to be



short of total manpower required for farm work in order to meet increased food needs, we have already demonstrated our ability to produce in excess of our output before the Japanese were interned.

Sabotage, subversive activity, etc. The recommendation in paragraph No. 2, for internment of disloyal Japanese, is desirable, not from a standpoint of placing them under strict military control to prevent espionage or sabotage but, also, to put a stop to their subversive influence on other Japanese.

Recommendation No. 3 is consistent with the proposal in the action of the Chamber in February of 1942, for utilization of Japanese labor.

Disloyalty fostered. Recommendation No. 4 is prompted by reports that the Japanese in the relocation centers, conforming to their prewar practices, are conducting schools, entertainments and other activities which tend to build up loyalty to the Japanese Emperor, which, of course, means disloyalty to this country.

It is reported that certain religious groups, the American Civil Liberties Union, conscientious objectors and racial agitators have visited the camps and possibly have had considerable influence on the Japanese in the camps, as well as influencing public opinion on the outside.

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May 13, 1943



RESOLUTION  
FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION, CALIFORNIA STATE SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION  
SACRAMENTO, MARCH 18, 19 & 20, 1943

WHEREAS, following the cowardly and unprovoked attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese on December 7, 1941, it was deemed necessary in the interest of national safety to place the Japanese residents of California in various relocation centers, and

WHEREAS, it appears that there is a movement afoot to have all these Japanese returned to California, and thus reestablish the admittedly dangerous concentration in a single State, Therefore  
Be It

RESOLVED, by the California State Sheriffs Association in convention assembled at Sacramento on March 18, 19 & 20, 1943, that we are unalterably opposed to any proposal having for its object the reconcentration of Japanese in the State of California, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we are also most emphatically opposed to the transfer of any part of the Japanese population of Hawaii to California, or any other State of the United States.

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Copy of resolution adopted by the California State Sheriffs Association, in convention assembled, at Sacramento, California, on March 18, 19 & 20, 1943.

CALIFORNIA STATE SHERIFFS ASSOCIATIONS

By A. A. Ross, President

By (Signed) A. C. Jewell

A. C. Jewell, Secretary



RESOLUTION  
FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION, CALIFORNIA STATE SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION  
SACRAMENTO, MARCH 18, 19 & 20, 1943

WHEREAS, the infamous conduct of Japan in the World War and the realization of the fact that the Japanese residents of the United States can never be fully assimilated, has created a popular demand that all Japanese residents of the United States should be denied the right of citizenship even though born in this country, Therefore, Be It

RESOLVED, by the California State Sheriffs Association in convention assembled at Sacramento on March 18, 19 & 20, 1943, that we heartily concur in the proposal to amend the Constitution of the United States so as to deny American citizenship to all Japanese, including the native-born.

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Copy of resolution adopted by the California State Sheriffs Association, in convention assembled, at Sacramento, California, on March 18, 19 & 20, 1943.

CALIFORNIA STATE SHERIFFS ASSOCIATION

BY A. A. Ross, President

By (Signed) A. C. Jewell  
A. C. Jewell, Secretary



COMMITTEE:

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON JAPANESE  
W. S. Rosecrans, Chairman

SUBJECT:

Return of Japanese to  
Pacific Coast Areas -

STATUS:

FOR STUDY - TO BE ACTED UPON

RECOMMENDATION

That the following policy be urged upon the Federal Government with respect to both alien and non-alien Japanese, excepting only those regularly enlisted in the armed service:

1. That permission not be granted for return to the Pacific Coast States during the continuance of the war between this country and Japan.
2. That the Japanese who have indicated their loyalty to Japan, or have refused to pledge their loyalty to the United States, be interned under strict military control.
3. That Japanese other than those included under item #2 be given every reasonable opportunity to demonstrate their loyalty to this country, through productive labor in non-military areas to the extent that the attitude of the communities where they are to be employed is not prejudicial to the personal welfare of the Japanese.
4. That schools, entertainments, and other group/<sup>or</sup> individual projects promoting loyalty to Japanese culture not be permitted.

DATE

May 11, 1943

#2

Las Angeles  
C. O. C.



STATEMENT

On February of 1942, on recommendation of its Agricultural Committee, the Chamber went on record favoring the movement of Japanese to an area beyond fifty miles from the Pacific Coast and the Mexican border, and the employment of the Japanese thus removed to the fullest possible extent. This recommendation was fulfilled somewhat later under orders from General DeWitt, acting on authority granted by the President.

While the area from which the Japanese were barred by the General's order was more extended than that in the Chamber's recommendation, your Committee feels that it would be nothing less than tragic to now permit return to this area. While the attempt made by the War Relocation Authority to determine the loyalties of the Japanese was an honest and comprehensive one, we are not convinced that the results are sufficiently accurate to give such assurance as justifies return of any of these people to vital military areas in the Pacific region.

The difficulty of an accurate determination is perhaps emphasized by that portion of the report by the Chandler Committee, which states that 19,963 Japanese citizens of military age were registered by the Army in ten of the relocation centers; 6%, or 1181 of these volunteered; 24%, or 4783 answered "no" to the loyalty question. The highest number answering as disloyal was something over 50% at Manzanar, and the lowest, approximately 2%, at Minidoka. While this difference may be accounted for, in part, by different groups of Japanese having been sent to different centers, it seems quite probable that there would not actually be as much difference. There can be little doubt but that at least the 50% indicating their disloyalty are not trusted American citizens, and there is a grave question that 2% represents the total, or anything like the total disloyalty in the other camp.

One of the important factors influencing your Committee to recommend against return of the Japanese to the Coast is their probable treatment. It is not at all improbable that should they be permitted to return, occasions would arise where they would be subjected to personal attack and abuse, possible bodily injury and even bloodshed. This would have a more disturbing influence in working out their postwar situation than could possibly result from restricting them from this area while the war is on. Furthermore, such disturbances would be used by Japan as an excuse for additional brutalities against our people who are prisoners. Also, our large population of other Orientals here on the Coast would be placed in an embarrassing and perhaps dangerous situation, since too often they are not readily distinguished from the Japanese. At best the return of the Japanese to these coastal areas where strong hatreds are known to exist, would result in resentment which would be destructive to our war effort. Such resentment would not be a matter of the moment but would be a continuing influence throughout the war.



Re: Return of Japanese to  
Pacific Coast Area

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The proposal in paragraph numbered two, for internment of disloyal Japanese, is desirable, not only from a standpoint of placing them under strict military control to prevent espionage or sabotage but, also, to put a stop to their subversive influence on other Japanese.

Recommendation numbered three is consistent with the proposal in the action of the Chamber on February of 1942, for utilization of Japanese labor.

Recommendation numbered four is prompted by reports that the Japanese in the relocation centers, conforming to their prewar practices, are conducting schools, entertainments and other activities which tend to build up loyalty to the Japanese Emperor, which, of course, means disloyalty to this country.

It is the Committee's information that certain religious groups, the American Civil Liberties Union, conscientious objectors and racial agitators have visited the camps and possibly had considerable influence on the Japanese in the camps, as well as influencing public opinion on the outside.



AMERICA'S TOWN MEETING OF THE AIR

Transcript of a radio broadcast over the Blue Network on Sunday, July 18, 1943

Subject: SHALL ALL JAPANESE BE EXCLUDED FROM THE PACIFIC COAST?

ANNOUNCER: Before we go ahead with this discussion, let's see how this audience stands on this question. Now, how many of you feel that the Japanese should be excluded from the Pacific Coast for the duration of the war? --Shout "Aye".

(Chorus of ayes.)

Well, that is about half of the audience.

(Chorus of Nos)

Well, wait, how about those of you who feel that the Japanese should not be excluded for the duration of the war?

(small chorus of ayes)

All right; there you are. Quiet, please, and stand by for America's Town Meeting of the Air from Coast to Coast on the Blue Network. "Shall all Japanese Be Excluded from the Pacific Coast." Town Meeting Tonight.

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ANNOUNCER: Good evening, neighbors, this is your moderator, George Tenny, inviting you to join with us here tonight as we are discussing the subject out of which civil and national wars are made. Never mind the title which states, "Should all Japanese Continue to be Excluded from the Pacific Coast for the Duration of the War"; what we really want to know is why the feeling runs so high against certain American citizens of Japanese descent whose citizenship and loyalty has been established beyond question. Why some citizens of Japanese descent refuse to take the oath of allegiance to the flag of the United States, and how we should deal with all citizens of Japanese extraction, native born, naturalized, and not citizens. We want to know what conditions are responsible for bringing about a situation where one American-born citizen of Japanese descent is serving loyally with the American fighting forces as a staff sergeant in New Guinea and why his brother is confined in a relocation center in Arizona; who is, or was responsible for conditions reported from Hawaii to the effect that native-born Japanese took the oath of allegiance there in the morning and in the afternoon take an oath on bended knee to the Emperor of Japan.

Congressman Costello, you and Mr. Carey McWilliams have a mighty big problem to discuss and your associates, Doctor Max Radin, professor of literature of the University of California, and Mr. Robert Gros, former debate coach of the Stanford University, will keep you in a hot spot as we want you to go into this topic just as honestly and capably as you can. Now, Congressman Costello will you and Mr. McWilliams come up here for a moment -- I want to state to the audience, if possible, exactly what the situation is out here now, Congressman, are Japanese, or American-born Japanese allowed in the Pacific areas?



COS: Well, at the present time, under the orders of General DeWitt, only those Japanese who are in the army and in uniform are permitted here on the Pacific Coast. The only exceptions to that are a few who are connected with the O.W.I. or the Federal Communications Commission as interpreters.

McW: I would like to add as an exception to that, there are 40,000, or 20,000 in California at the present time, about 10,000 in Manzanar and about 10,000 at Tule Lake. There are also several hundred who are institutionalized cases and there are also a few persons of Japanese descent, married to Caucasians and where there are children in the family, who are permitted to reside here. Is that understood, Congressman?

COS: Well, of course, when I answered the question, I felt that those in Tule Lake and Manzanar, being confined, were not in California, or at liberty.

TENN: Now, the Honorable John M. Costello, Democrat and Congressman of the State of California, will address you. Congressman Costello.

COS: In my opinion, all the Japanese should be excluded from the West Coast for the duration of the present war (applause). The same considerations which justified the evacuation of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast, will continue in effect throughout the period of the war. The original evacuation of the Japanese was not a hastily conceived program, brought on by any sudden hysteria caused by the treacherous attack on this country at Pearl Harbor. At that time, the possible threat of attack by the Japanese on the West Coast, or attempted invasion, was quite real. The possible landing of saboteurs from submarines was equally imminent and the danger of sabotage and the threat of espionage were all factors considered by the military authorities. The precarious position in which persons of Japanese ancestry found themselves following Pearl Harbor, indicated that only through their evacuation from the danger areas could the safety of the Japanese, themselves, as well as the safety and security of the Pacific Coast area be fully guaranteed. As long as any of these original considerations continue in effect, there can be no justification for permitting persons of Japanese ancestry to return to the Pacific Coast. While the Japanese, in peace time, have proven to be a law abiding people, unquestionably there are, amongst them, many who are loyal to the Japanese government, who also have relatives still residing in Japan, and who adhere to the worship as God of the Emperor of Japan. These people undoubtedly are anxious to see Japan victorious in this war and would stop at nothing to aid in a victory. While sabotage may not be carried out, my fear is of espionage. The sabotage of an aircraft plant, or power line, might not result in the loss of life, but only a slow-down in a war production. The dissemination of news of military value to the enemy might mean the loss of a troop transport, or a defeat in a vital battle, thereby causing the loss of a great number of lives of our American youth. The espionage risk to the Pacific Coast is a danger we cannot tolerate because of the danger to internal security. The military authorities, under a partial application of martial law, have directed the evacuation of those persons of Japanese descent, and various aliens and citizens alike, only because their presence on the Pacific Coast was the prime source of danger. For that reason, the loyal Japanese Americans had to be excluded along with the



known disloyal. Because of military necessity, the constitutional rights of these persons were not violated any more than the rights of any citizen are violated in denying them access to any restricted military area, such as areas of war industries, military fortifications, or naval shipyards. The only persons on the Pacific Coast urging the return of the Japanese at this time are those who feel that their individual servant problem might be solved, or the price of vegetables might be reduced. The fact is that the manpower shortage would not be materially changed by the return of these people, nor would the cost of foods be reduced since there is today a greater production of agricultural crops produced in Southern California than existed prior to Pearl Harbor. Unfortunately, there is not known at this time, whereby the loyalty of Japanese persons can be definitely ascertained. In fact, today, Japanese are being released from the relocation centers without a thorough effort being made to determine their loyalty in every case. The names of Japanese to be released have been submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The FBI does not have file under the name of the Japanese, showing some subversive affiliation; then they notify the War Relocation Authority -- the Japanese American Joint Board was created as a special committee to determine the loyalty of Japanese, as far as it might be possible to do so. The office of Naval Intelligence, Military Intelligence, the Provost Marshal, and the War Relocation Authority are the members of this Board; at their direction, the Japanese at relocation centers fill out questionnaires, indicating their history, background and their loyalty to the United States. Surprisingly enough, more than five thousand admitted definitely that they would not forswear allegiance to Japan. Many indicated that they would not serve in the United States Military Service wherever they might be sent. In Washington, recently, the former secretary of the Japanese American Citizens League, a presumably patriotic organization, definitely admitted that at least ten percent of the members of this organization were not loyal. Despite investigations of every kind, one still is left in considerable doubt as to the genuine loyalty of any large group of Japanese people. (applause) The failure on the part of the War Relocation Authority to assure the American people that only those Japanese who are believed to be loyal are being allowed to leave relocation centers has created a feeling of uncertainty and of mistrust regarding all Japanese. Since no genuine effort has been made to guarantee that only loyal Japanese are being released in certain sections of the country, how can we tolerate the return of the Japanese to the Pacific Coast. Under such conditions, we must not lose sight of the fact that the United States is at war with Japan and the first effort of every person in this country should be to effectively win that war. Nothing should be permitted that will, in any way, jeopardize the internal security of the country for our total war effort. To return the Japanese to the Pacific Coast would unquestionably be a very definite threat to our conduct of the war. I can only say that the Japanese can best contribute to the war effort by not seeking to return to the Pacific Coast at this time, (applause) and we can contribute more to our democratic principles by guaranteeing that Japanese while gathered together in relocation centers, or re-settling in new communities throughout the country, are being given, and will continue to be given full and fair treatment as well as every consideration for their general welfare. Thus we can assure all persons of Oriental extraction that our restriction of the Japanese in this country has been purely a matter connected with our internal



security and not a racial prejudice, but that, on the contrary, we can afford even a Japanese alien the same democratic freedom that we wish to have accorded to our own citizens. (applause)

TENN. Thank you, Congressman Costello. Now, before we hear from Mr. McWilliams, let's hear from his prosecuting attorney. This gentleman has written a book that sounds like the Day of Judgement, because it is the "Day of Reckoning", but I guess that is not on tonight's program. Doctor Max Radin of the University of California and author of this book. Dr. Radin, you have a question for Mr. Costello?

RADIN: Mr. Costello, it is my misfortune that I am generally on the unpopular side, I mean, I represent the small minority here, but I am not so certain that I represent so small a minority in the entire State of California. Mr. Congressman, let me say one thing, or ask one thing first. I think asking and saying, unfortunately, is often confused. When you say "all", you don't quite mean "all", you mean, "all with the exceptions noted."

COS: Yes, that is, all but these that have been specifically permitted by General DeWitt to return, by order of April 19th and those who are hospitalized or otherwise have been permitted to return.

RADIN: And then, in order to determine who shall go and who shall stay, we are more or less confined to the determination of the Military Authorities in this Command Area.

COS: As far as those who come into the Pacific Coast area at the present time, the authority of General DeWitt is supreme. However, those in charge of the relocation centers, naturally, the War Relocation Administration, are anxious to try to have that authority changed and to have the Japanese return to the Pacific Coast.

RADIN: Now, when you speak of the loyalty of some of the Japanese, and also say that the loyalty of some is undoubted, you speak of the difficulties of determining who are and who are not loyal, isn't this difficulty at least as great in the case of the Germans, the Italians, the Hungarians, and the Rumanians, with whom we are also at war?

COS: No, I don't believe that is true.

RADIN: I don't mean the question, I mean the difficulty of discriminating.

COS: I don't believe that is true. The Japanese who professes loyalty the loudest and waves the flag the most is usually the one who is attempting to conceal his subversive activity. In fact, there was a case or two here in Southern California where Japanese informed to the FBI, telling them he was sure another Japanese was disloyal -- for what reason? To take out of competition with him in business this Japanese, and also to remove him to an internment camp because he was loyal to America and wasn't being loyal to Japan, and those things are awfully hard to determine with the Japanese, and that is not true of the other races.



RADIN: Well, I imagine that a great many of the Germans who are charged with having sympathized with the Bund have also proclaimed their loyalty, in fact, I know that the greivous Mr. Kuhn shrieked out that he was a loyal American citizen and waved his flag even at the Bund meeting. The question of discrimination is a difficult one. Now, let me get down to that other point you raised. You spoke, and this is apparently just an incidental matter, and I'm sure you don't mean it quite that way, that only persons who wanted Japanese servants, and more cabbage and lettuce, wanted to let them back. You don't mean only those --

COS: I think that might be a pretty good estimate of the general population's feeling here in the State of California.

RADIN: Well, if I were to say that only those realtors who have already provided themselves with Japanese property wanted the Japanese out, you wouldn't make that statement, would you?

COS: No, I'd agree with you on that. This fact is quite evident that there was mistreatment of the Japanese in regard to sales of their property and things of that kind at that time. As a matter of fact, much of that was done by the Japanese themselves, preying upon other Japanese, but I think the general concensus of opinion of the people of the State of California and all the Pacific Coast states, including Arizona, is that the Japanese should not be returned to this coast and can use as an indication the fact that my own Congressional mail indicates very definitely only three out of a hundred, possibly out of two hundred, urging that any Japanese be permitted to return to the Pacific Coast.

RADIN: Now, let me ask you this. You show evidence of the fact that so many are disloyal that 5,000 refused in their questionnaires -- did you ever see the questionnaire, by the way?

COS: Yes, I have looked at it.

RADIN: I was for two years, head of a draft board. We sent out questionnaires and you'd be surprised how many distinguished gentlemen, members of my faculty, -- don't spread that abroad, incidentally -- couldn't understand the questionnaire. Now, of those 5,000, assuming that they all signed that, knowing what it was, is that so large a proportion out of 126,000 or so, who were in relocation centers, evacuated?

COS: The questionnaires were only submitted to those who are 17 years of age and older, and that gives a total of 76,000 questionnaires. I say, in excess of 5,000 definitely answered question no. 28 with a "no".

RADIN: Well, one of those persons who answered "no" obviously misunderstood the question as further investigation showed when he was asked if he would serve in the army of the United States, he thought that meant volunteer. Now, he wanted to be drafted. A great majority of our boys prefer to be drafted.

I think you must have misread the question. The question was 27, and the way it read was, "are you willing to serve in the Armed Forces of the United States wherever you may be sent," and a great many of the Japanese answered that question "no". Question 28 was whether they were willing to pledge allegiance



to the United States of America and foreswear allegiance to any foreign government, and they answered that question "no". Well, now all the aliens who had a questionnaire submitted to them were given a special question no. 28; in view of the fact that they were aliens and could not become citizens, the question 28 was re-written for them and asking them whether they would, - I forget the exact wording that was used, but they were not asked to foreswear allegiance to a foreign country and they were not asked to pledge allegiance to this country as long as they would not do anything against the United States. They said "no" to that, but I don't think that meant very much because the way the question was worded was quite innocuous. Now, as a matter of fact, no. 27 was misunderstood, and is a question much more clearly read. Now, I wanted to ask one thing further.

TEN: Would you mind holding that next question until the affirmative side has been expressed by Mr. Carey McWilliams.

RADIN: Do you mean that I am through now?

TEN: No, we will give you ample opportunity later to make yourself heard. Mr. Carey McWilliams of Los Angeles, author of a recent book, "Brothers Under the Skin". Mr. McWilliams.

McW: My answer to this question is no, with, however, some qualifications. For example, there are about 2,000 Japanese who were taken into custody immediately after Pearl Harbor and who are now held in defense camps. Each of these individuals is being held for good cause and for full investigation by an impartial hearing. There are also several thousand Japanese in relocation centers who have expressed a real desire for repatriation, or have indicated a disinclination to renounce all allegiance to Japan. Obviously, neither of these groups should be released. It is equally obvious that no person should be released from a relocation center without a searching and thorough investigation. Once investigation has been made, then those that are suspected of being potentially dangerous should be held in separate relocation centers for the duration, but those whose records are approved, should be released as rapidly as they can be relocated. The longer their release is delayed, the more complicated the entire problem becomes. This is particularly true of the third generation, made up of children born in this country of parents born in this country. These children have already been made far too conscious of the fact that they have Japanese faces. Whether any of those released should be permitted to return to the West Coast is primarily a military question, since the area has been declared a theater of war. There are especial hazards in a theater of war which it would be folly to minimize. Only the military can appraise these hazards; they alone have the required information, since it is their responsibility, they should make the decision. If and when the authorities relax the ban, as they have already done in the case of furlough soldiers, then these Japanese should be permitted to return to the Coast, if they so desire. As a citizen, I express the hope that the ban may be relaxed before the war is over, and for the following reasons: Hawaii is certainly no less important strategically than the West Coast. Our policy of not removing persons of Japanese descent from the Islands has been entirely successful. While there were only 126,000 persons of Japanese descent on the West Coast on December 7, 1941, approximately 1% of the population, there



were 157,000, constituting 37% of the population in Hawaii. No actions of sabotage have been reported in Hawaii, either before or after Pearl Harbor. The conduct of the Japanese has, in fact won official commendation of General Emmons. That there was less race prejudice in Hawaii, and therefore less political agitation of the question, merely indicates that political and not strictly military considerations may have played too large a part in the present agitation against the return of any Japanese. In fact, being conducted with primary regard to more than military consideration, no attempt is made to disguise the fact that this agitation has for its real purpose the permanent exclusion of all Japanese from the West Coast. It is a foul purpose to include such objectives as stripping the American-born Japanese of their American citizenship, establishing rigid economic barriers against them and laying the foundations for their eventual deportation. If this emerging pattern is permitted to take form now, it is likely to result in the indefinite postponement of the restoration of full citizenship, even to those who have never been suspected. Since this was not our intention in ordering mass evacuation, we should either promptly restore full citizenship rights, or give an immediate guarantee of such restoration the moment the military emergency terminates. We can not ignore the fact that this current agitation is being largely predicated now on the Pacific Coast upon dangerously irrelevant, so-called racial considerations, entirely unsupported. I am certain as to that. To make a race issue of this problem is to do precisely what Tojo is trying to do, namely, to convince the colored people of the Far East that this is a race problem. How we handle the Japanese problem is therefore one measure of our intention to apply the four freedoms to all people, regardless of east. The people of India, of China, as well as our own colored people, are watching the development of race feeling in the United States with the deepest concern. There can be no doubt but what the manner in which the evacuee problem is being discussed on the Pacific Coast today has heightened race tension in a dangerously irresponsible fashion. Since race agitation tends to be cumulative in its scope, any attempt to appease can only result in similar further agitation, not merely against any particular minority, but against all minorities. As a nation, we stand firmly committed to the great ideal that the distinctions based upon race, color or creed have no place in our American life in peace or at war. (applause) If we permit the concept of citizenship to be brought out at one point for one group, we are undermining the very structure of American citizenship. We have never tolerated the notion that there could be different levels of citizenship, withheld from certain groups and guaranteed others. As I recall, there are 48 states in this Union, not 45 and certainly not 47. Once investigated and released by the authorities, no cloud of suspicion should follow the evacuee until it is imperative in the War Effort. There are now men who are veterans of the World War in relocation centers. Today, also, several thousand citizens of Japanese descent who are serving with the Armed Forces of this Nation. When on furlough, these soldiers are now permitted to visit the West Coast on military passes. They are to me, as I am sure they are to most Americans, living symbols of the greatness and strength of the American democracy. To suggest that race can be a test of loyalty is as insulting to these soldiers and their families as it is to some sixteen million other American citizens whose skin happens to be red, or black, yellow, or brown. Such a suggestion is utterly at variance with American ideals and is well calculated to jeopardize America's magnificent opportunity for world leadership in an unprecedented crisis in human affairs. As President



Roosevelt has repeatedly told us, Americanism is a matter of the mind, Americanism has never been a matter of race or ancestry. (applause).

TEN: Mr. McWilliams, now it is time for you to subject yourself to the district attorney on the other side, Mr. Robert Gros, publisher and public relations expert, former debate coach of Stanford University. Mr. Gros, the victim is yours.

GROS: Mr. McWilliams, Congressman Costello and I are delighted that you concede that this is a military matter, but deny emphatically your statement that the present agitation is conducted toward non-military considerations. This is not a racial issue. It is, to us, primarily a military issue and we propose to treat it as such. (applause) We, as loyal Californians, and we certainly don't impugn your loyalty as a Californian, we immediately take issue with you in your indictment of the people of California for your arrogant assumption that our political subdivision can set up its own concept of citizenship. You say that there are 48 states and not 47. To me, you have created a 49th one, the state of confusion. To 45 American states, this is a highly theoretical problem. To the peoples of California and of Oregon and of Washington, it is a very grimly realistic problem. Why, I have got friends all over the United States who don't know a Jap from a jeep, and we do here, very emphatically, and I ask Mr. McWilliams, do you deny the fact that the 110,000 of American's 126,000 people of Japanese ancestry, the fact that 110 of the 126 thousand are from the West Coast, gives us a right to be more intimately concerned with the problem than the rest of the country.

McW: No, I shouldn't deny that, not for one moment. Naturally, we are more intimately interested in the problem than other sections of the country, but other sections of the country have an equal interest in this problem, just as we may have an interest in their problems. For example, if the good citizens of New Haven, Connecticut, one day should get it into their heads that they couldn't live in peace and quiet with the Italian-American citizens and should prevail upon the Federal Government to evacuate all the Italian citizens from New Haven, westward, we might become very interested in their problem.

GROS: Well, with the legitimacy of the interest of the people of any state in the problems of another state, I heartily agree with you. I disagree in the assumption, however, the attempt to accept or cancel citizenships.

McW: Well, if it isn't a race issue, Mr. Gros, we will. How do you account for the differential in treatment between German nationals, Italian nationals and Japanese nationals?

GROS: Well, basically, Mr. McWilliams, it seems to me it goes back to a question raised by Congressman Costello a minute ago. He said, in effect, how can you distinguish, without taking a grave military risk, between the loyal and the disloyal Japanese. Now you say the like question applies to the Germans and Italians. It does, to a lesser degree, but there are certain facts which we must take cognizance of, and how do you answer it in view of these facts, Mr. McWilliams.



What about the Kibei, for example, that is what we call the American born Japanese who have been educated in Japan and indoctrinated with Japanese ideologies; how do you account for the fact that over 20% of the Japanese in relocation centers today have indicated in their own signed statements that they want repatriation to Japan? How do you account for the fact that before the Costello Committee, within the last two weeks, 75% of the Japanese in the country hold dual citizenship, registered as Japanese citizens as well as American. In the light of these facts, then, I ask how you can distinguish, without taking grave military risks, between the loyal and the disloyal Japanese?

McW: That is three questions in one. About the Kibei, some 76% of all Japanese in the United States have never been in Japan and, now, with respect to the Kibei, Kibei is a word -- it refers to the Japanese, but I would like to know how many Germans in this country returned to Germany, and since 1933. We don't have a word for them. How many Italians have returned to Italy since Mussolini came to power, some of whom, by the way, have been excluded from the West Coast by name. Now, with respect to your second question, how do I account for the fact that some 20,000 have expressed a desire for repatriation, that is fairly easy to account for. After all, some 36,000 of this group happen to be enemy aliens; they are expressly declared to be ineligible to American citizenship. I therefore feel that it is quite natural that a fairly large percentage of them should want repatriation to Japan and they should be repatriated. Now, for your third question -- I have lost the third question.

TENN: 75% of the Japanese hold dual citizenship; I think that was it.

McW: I challenge that declaration as not being a statement of fact. Now, with respect to dual citizenship, we can discuss it all evening. The facts are that there are some 23 nations in the world that follow a rule of citizenship precisely similar to the rule of citizenship followed by Japan. The people you are talking about as dual citizens, then you may not realize the fact, Mr. Gros, but you are calling dual citizens, several million people in the United States, who come from such nations as France, Lithuania, and many other countries who follow substantially the same rule of citizenship.

TENN: Well, that is a question of nationalism.

ANNOUNCER: Pardon me, Mr. Tenny, but this seems like an appropriate time to tell your citizens about next weeks program \*\*\*\*.

TENN: To continue our discussion of this thing, we have just heard from Congressman Costello, Mr. McWilliams, Doctor Max Radin, and Mr. Robert Gros on the subject, "Shall all Japanese Continue to be Excluded from the Pacific Coast for the Duration of the War." Now we are ready for the questions from the audience. If you have a question, please raise your hand and state the name of the person to whom your question is directed. This gentleman right here. To whom, please?

Q To Mr. Costello. Japanese of Santa Barbara were very popular in schools, colleges, churches and business. If they return, who will mob them?



COS: I might state in reply to that, that some of the best liked Japanese have turned out actually to be the least loyal. Who will mob them? I wonder who did the mobbing in Chicago just the other day. What happened was simply this: Three Filipino sailors in the uniform of the United States Navy met some Japanese and were insulted by them and the riot began. The same thing would happen here; maybe Filipinos in your own community would attack the Japanese because of Japanese atrocities committed in the Philippines.

TENN: Thank you, Congressman Costello. Next question.

Q Mr. McWilliams. Now that men from our colleges have been drafted to fight the Japanese, how can you expect them to feel, that the Japanese are allowed to return to our Western Colleges?

McW: I don't quite get the question.

TENN: The lady wants to know how you could expect the Japanese -- you state the question, please.

Q How do you expect our men in the services and drafted from colleges to feel when they know that Japanese would have been allowed to return to our universities on the West Coast?

McW: Are we at war only with Japan, or are we at war with Germany and Italy? We have, I daresay, German nationals in our colleges and universities. We have Italians in our colleges and universities, and I take it that we have at least the good common sense as American citizens, to realize that we are fighting fascism in Japan and the military power of Japan and we are not fighting 70,000 people of Japanese descent who are citizens of the United States by reason of birth and pursuant to the 14th Amendment to the Constitution.

TENN: Thank you. Here, a question for Mr. Costello.

A What do you think of the proposal which Mr. McWilliams mentioned as recently being made in this State to strip Japanese of their American citizenship?

COS: That is entirely a subject that has no part in this debate. The only question is whether they should be allowed to return. Now, I will say in reply to your question that I do not believe that we should take away from the Japanese in this country, rights which they enjoyed prior to Pearl Harbor. In other words, they are entitled to the same rights afterward as they had before the war, but their detention at the present time is something that is absolutely necessary if the security of this nation at home is to be protected.

Q Mr. McWilliams. In view of the mistreatment of prisoners of war, the killing of aviators who were prisoners there, the treachery on the battlefield by the Japanese, what do you consider would be the relationship between the Japanese if they return here and the soldiers returning, the American soldiers returning from the South Pacific?



McW: We have Japanese here on the Coast today on furlough; they wear the uniform of the United States Government. Those individuals have been protected, there has been no trouble; I don't think that there will be any trouble with respect to the other and I will tell you why. The other day in Detroit, some thirty negroes were killed in connection with a mob violence that took place in Detroit. No one suggests, as I understand it, that all negroes should be removed from Detroit. I think the result, if we have recourse to the anomalous doctrine that where a threat of mob violence exists, we are going to take people into custody, then we are certainly acting on a principle that is incompatible with my conception of what American democracy means. There is not a negro in the South today who isn't in daily danger of mob violence. No one suggests their evacuation from the deep south.

(At this point the program was interrupted for a newscast)

TENN: This lady over here, please.

Q Congressman Costello: Why do you feel that the Japanese are more to be feared as espionage agents than are the Germans and German-Americans on the East Coast?

COS: I might attempt to clear that question once and for all. Everybody wants to know what is the difference between a Japanese and a German and an Italian.

Let me here tell you this. The FBI can go out and get a German who they know is absolutely loyal to the United States; they can get an Italian who is absolutely loyal to the United States; they will send them to a German and Italian meeting; he will come back and report, word for word what took place. But I defy the FBI, or anybody, to get a Japanese and send the Japanese to a Japanese meeting, and have him come back and be absolutely positive he told you the truth. (applause)

McW: Mr. Costello, isn't the difficulty there, the incompetency of our officials in distinguishing the loyal Japanese from the disloyal? Now, among the people that came before your committee, for example, was a man, Mike Matsucko. Do you remember him? Now, I imagine that Mike could go to a Japanese meeting and would come back, of course, you might not believe him.

COS: Let me make this statement, now that you brought Mike up. I Don't think I would be able to believe Mike, because the word "confidential" was written at the top of some of the papers he had; the word "confidential" was written in the middle of it. He had written "this is absolutely on the q.t." and further on, he had the statement "don't print a word of this", and when we asked him, what does this mean, he said, "Oh, I exaggerate. You know, you put down the word 'confidential' and then you want them to publish it." The fact was, he didn't want a word of that breathed to anyone and when questioned about it, in order to get out of it, he said he didn't mean what he said. So I don't think I could trust Mr. Mike Matsuko very far, but Mike is supposed to be a real loyal Japanese.

McW: Well, maybe that particular person.

COS: But Mike is supposed to be a real loyal Japanese. He is in our Army.



McW: Well, let me say one thing. Isn't it a fact that it would be easier for a German to spy than for a Japanese? After all, in any war industry, or in any cases, you can tell a Japanese a mile away while a German might look something like us -- not like you, but like me.

COS: Well, in Hollywood, you can make a German out of an Irishman, and it isn't very difficult, but it is the information you get that is of real value to the enemy. You don't have to go out into an armed camp to get it, you don't have to walk into the ship yard, all you have to do is to watch and listen to what is going on, and you will get this information, and the Japanese can get it out, without going near the place from which they were to receive it. But after they get it, all they have to do is short wave it and it will land in Tokio just as easily as the messages from Tokio have landed in this country at short wave receiving sets.

TENN: Thank you. This lady right here.

Q Mr. McWilliams. Have the Japanese in California raised or lowered the standard of living?

McW: In retrospect, look back over the last forty years in this State, and I wish I had the time to recite the evidence to you in detail -- it cannot be said that they have lowered the standard of living; in this state, on the contrary, they have definitely increased it. They have brought new crops into production and increased the existing production potentialities. Now, for the time, that is a fact.

Q. Mr. Costello: What is to become of the thousands of our former school mates who feel as American as I do, but now who are behind barbed wires?

COS: Might I say, as to barbed wires, there are a couple of strands to mark off the limitation of the camp area from the rest of the country round about. As a matter of fact, I don't think they are going to be very badly treated, they're getting just as good food as they would have gotten any other place; they are living in better houses, better constructed than they had out on the farms, and as to their education, they are actually building school buildings of adobe bricks, done in order to give them cooler buildings where they are in a warm country. Their schooling is being taken care of; the only thing they are not free to do is to wander about the country as they will, but that will come back to them after the war is over.

Q Do you believe that many influential people are urging the return of the Japanese merely for selfish economic interests, rather than their interest in winning the war?

COS: I am sorry, but that is an inferential, personal question that would involve an awful lot of people who are not able to be here and defend themselves and I am afraid we will have to leave it out.



Q. Mr. McWilliams: You said that there was practically no sabotage in Hawaii by the Japanese. On what authority?

McW: I made that assertion upon the authority of the Chief of Police of Honolulu, upon the authority of the Congressional Delegate from Hawaii, Sam King, upon the authority of the FBI in Honolulu, upon the authority of Colonel Kendall J. Fielder, Assistant Chief of Staff of Military Intelligence for the Hawaiian Department, and, if you are interested, take a look at Blake Hart's book on "Remember Pearl Harbor" and you will see an abundance of proofs that there was no sabotage at Pearl Harbor.

COS: I would like to make one comment on the answer and that is this: There was no sabotage at Pearl Harbor according to all the evidence, but it is to be remembered that there was no invasion of Pearl Harbor, merely a bombing raid. Had there been an invasion, there would have been the same story you had at Burma, throughout the Philippines, and Hong Kong.

Q. Mr. Costello: With war industries scattered throughout the country, isn't it dangerous -- a dangerous policy to release Japanese at any section of the country as well as in California?

COS: Personally, it is my opinion that the Japanese would have been better off had they been brought into these relocation centers and retained there. Unfortunately the WRA, in handling these centers, decided that they should not be kept in the relocation centers, therefore did not provide industries or places of agriculture for them so they could be occupied. I feel that had they been given adequate means of employment, the Japanese would have been satisfied to remain there for the duration of the war and it would be easier then to relocate them at one time, rather than trying to scatter them all over the country, in communities where the people have never seen them, and only know of them as our enemies.

Q. Mr. McWilliams: Are you aware that many Japanese have stated in letters, or in papers published in relocation centers, a wish not to return to the Pacific Coast for the duration?

McW: Oh, I'm quite sure that that is true. If you were to release the ban against returning to the West Coast tomorrow, I doubt if more than a handful would return. They have little to return to, they have suffered severe economic losses and I wouldn't anticipate that many would return.

GROS: Mr. McWilliams, If I were a Japanese in a center here, I wouldn't want to return either. There is another very important point here, completely aside from military, and that is personal safety. It is not a nice fact to face, but we might as well face facts as they are and not as we'd like to have them. I have been in 143 different camps since America went to war, talking with people like you and myself, and I say, very frankly, that within the last two weeks, I have written to a Japanese former nurse girl, I have written to a Japanese college mate of mine, and I told them that with public feeling as we have it here, we might as well face the fact, that it is not safe for them to come back. A gentleman



asked who would beat the Japanese. There are boys who have fought the Japs over at Guadalcanal who would beat the silk ring, while I am on the radio, out of them if they come back here today, and for the very safety of the Japanese, that is a point that can not be ignored.

TENN: Do you want to make a comment on that, Mr. McWilliams?

McW: I would like to comment again, that I don't believe in yielding to a threat of mob violence here in California, in Nevada, in Mississippi, in Detroit Michigan, or anywhere in the United States.

Q Mr. Costello: Even though the military ban were lifted, should the Japanese continue to be excluded from the West Coast?

COS: I would say, for the duration of the war. It would be better for them to be kept off the West Coast throughout the duration of the war, regardless of the military ban that has existed. However, it was because of military necessity that the original evacuation was ordered, was put into effect.

Q. Mr. McWilliams: What is the purpose of the Dies Committee, of which Mr. Costello is a member, I believe, in investigating the resettlement problem?

McW: I can only say that I can infer from my point of view what that intention is; I think it is to create national disunity. I think that the Chairman of the Committee believes, - the only kind of democracy in which he believes is the rotten poll tax democracy in his own constituency. Frankly, I am really not here to discuss the Dies Committee, but, Congressman, if you discuss your relations to it in relation to tonight's subject, all right, go ahead..

COS: In view of the fact that I was Chairman of the special subcommittee that investigated this subject, I think I ought to be able to answer that particular question as to why we investigated this for several years. The Dies Committee has conducted an investigation of the subversive activities of the Japanese, German and Italian groups of this country. The sole purpose of the investigation was to determine to what extent subversive activities were continuing today, conducted by the Japanese Government, and we found that the Issei and Kibei, which were the people who were dominating the thing and its activities within each of the relocation centers, and it was our feeling that what should be kept going is a definite program of Americanism, promulgated and fostered by the WRA, and we regretted that we did not find it.

Q Mr. Costello: Why do you feel that the return of 126,000 Japanese to the Coast should not materially add to the Coast labor supply?

COS: I said they wouldn't add materially to the manpower situation, is the way I think I put it, for this reason: The Japanese were not engaged in those industries in which we really need manpower. Our agricultural farming is being taken care of in this state to a great extent. It would help that somewhat, but as far as aircraft industries and ship building industries, or munitions and war industries, the Japanese generally did not engage in those directions, and so



their return would generally aid them.

Q. Mr. Costello: Since the Dies Committee's purpose is to investigate un-American activities, what cases have been investigated of race discrimination, based on race prejudice?

COS: The question of investigating racial discrimination cases has been brought up by the Chairman of the Committee himself, and he has suggested the possibility of making a definite and particular study of that. Prior to this time, the study has been limited to the activities of foreign governments in this country, subversive activities of that character.

Q. Mr. McWilliams: Are American citizens now in Japan, being treated any better than we are treating the Japanese here?

TENN: Mr. McWilliams, I wish we had time for that answer. You have noticed that we have not attempted to come to any conclusion, but we have covered enough angles to indicate to all of you that it is not a simple problem we face and if we hope to emerge from this war really victorious, at the time of cessation of hostilities, we will have to give this question, this race question and the question of nationalism, the most honest and careful consideration of which we are capable. I wish to thank Congressman Costello, Carey McWilliams, Dr. Max Radin, and Mr. Robert Gros for their cooperation this evening. \* \* \* \*

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# SACRAMENTO COUNCIL of CHURCHES

208 YMCA Building

Telephone 2-2886

Sacramento 14, California

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Christian Youth Fellowship

September 2, 1943

Addressed to each member of U.S. Congress,  
copies to President, Vice President, Dillon S. Myer,  
and to city, State, and Federal Councils of Churches with  
a covering letter

Since reported efforts by certain West Coast individuals and groups  
are being made to persuade members of Congress

- (1) that practically all evacuated people of Japanese birth and  
ancestry are untrustworthy and disloyal, and should be  
dealt with as such, and
- (2) that the Caucasian population of the Pacific Coast States  
is almost to a man opposed to the whole mass of persons of  
Japanese origin who have resided in these States,

I respectfully call to your attention the fact that on two previous  
occasions the Executive Board of the Sacramento Council of Churches  
has officially expressed itself relative to this matter, and that  
there has been no change in the attitude of the Board.

The first of these communications, dated March 18, 1943, was addressed  
to the Governor of the State of California and to certain members of  
the California State Legislature, with a copy also sent to the  
President of the United States. It petitioned the Legislature "to  
oppose any and all discriminatory actions against racial minority  
groups," lest by such actions "the very principles...now at stake  
across the world" be jeopardized and seriously impaired. ✓

The second communication, of May 12, 1943, addressed to President  
Roosevelt and certain California Representatives and Senators,  
emphasized that, contrary to statements reflected in prejudiced news  
reports, "there are large numbers" of Caucasians on the Coast not  
'vigorously opposed' to persons of Japanese birth and ancestry, indeed,  
not opposed at all. This communication pointed out that the charge of  
'pampering' the Japanese in the Relocation centers is not taken seriously  
by those who know by first hand experience the actual situation. Nor  
has any adequate investigation been reported up to the present moment  
which would give basis for such claim. The President was petitioned, ✓



in the face of possible "unrest among other racial minority groups" in our country and adroit "anti-American propaganda in the Orient," to exercise his good offices to the end that "the high principles of brotherhood, justice, and freedom, whose violation we indignantly condemn in others, be firmly upheld in our own favored land - lest in this moment of crucial test we ourselves fail and be condemned."

The policy of relocation which the WRA Administration now has under way seems to be sound from the standpoint of good Americanism - helping to remove suspicion and discriminatory restrictions from persons of Japanese origin without due process of law, and opening the way for the more complete assimilation in our American society of those who are loyal to America.

The seriousness of violating the constitutional principles of our country is matched only by the importance to demonstrate that our American Democracy can successfully survive this period of test. For over 150 years America has eminently withstood threats which for the respective periods were fully as serious, as the present one is to our generation. We should welcome these tests as further opportunities to prove the strength of our foundations, and should, therefore, more warmly and resolutely uphold these principles.

The Christian Church has been one of the strongest protagonists of the ideals and principles of American Democracy, and it sees no reason to change its position now.

Your consideration and thoughtful action in the light of our best American heritage is respectfully urged.

Very sincerely,

*Alfred Tonness*

Alfred Tonness  
Executive Secretary



## THE CHURCH AND RACIAL SEGREGATION

### WHAT MUST THE CHURCH DO?

Christians in America, more than ever before, honestly desire that quality of Christian fellowship which strengthens brethren of one racial group through the mutual helpfulness of brethren of all racial groups. Efforts directed toward such mutual helpfulness are frequently confused and ineffectual because of the segregation pattern which defeats goodwill. Men of God will find themselves frustrated and defeated when they attempt to live out their Christian impulses within a racially segregated society.

### THE CHURCH MUST CHOOSE

The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America hereby renounces the pattern of segregation in race relations as unnecessary and undesirable and a violation of the Gospel of love and human brotherhood. Having taken this action, the Federal Council requests its constituent communions to do likewise. As proof of their sincerity in this renunciation they will work for a non-segregated church and a non-segregated society.

The Church, when true to its higher destiny, has always understood that its gospel of good news has a two-fold function, namely:

To create new men with new motives

To create a new society wherein such men will find a friendly environment within which to live their Christian convictions.

The churches of America, while earnestly striving to nurture and develop individuals of racial good-will, have at the same time neglected to deal adequately with the fundamental pattern of segregation in our society which thwarts efforts of men of good-will. This must be corrected. Churches should continue a comprehensive program of action in fulfillment of the second function. This is imperative now.

### THE CHURCH MUST ELIMINATE SEGREGATION FROM ITS OWN LIFE

In order that we may remove the validity of the charge which the world makes when it says, "Physician, heal thyself," we urge our constituent communions to correct their own practice of segregation. With this end in view, it is recommended that each communion take steps to ascertain the facts concerning the practice of racial segregation within its own life and work, and formulate a plan of action in the following areas: (1) Membership, (2) Fellowship, (3) Worship, (4) Service, and (5) Employment.

We have outlined what we believe to be certain glaring defects in the ideals and purposes of our Protestant churches in the matter of race relations, calling special attention to the unChristian character and unfortunate results of the segregation pattern. We are not unmindful of the heroic services done by the churches through their schools, colleges and other institutions in improving the condition of Negro and other minority groups, but we believe that these efforts will not accomplish their full results unless the Christian church again accepts as a definite goal the practice of the early Christians in accepting all racial groups into the same religious society on the basis of equality.



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# LOOSE LEAVES

FROM A  
CHINESE NOTEBOOK

By EARL H. LEAF

30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA  
NEW YORK, N.Y.  
COLUMBUS 5-2063  
EARL H. LEAF  
6886 IRIS CIRCLE  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIF.

May 27, 1942

Dear Friends:-

## REPEAL THE ASIATIC EXCLUSION ACT NOW.

The Asiatic exclusion legislation was enacted by Congress at a time of stress and was the result of conditions which have long since ceased to exist.

Today there is every reason for repeal of the legislation at least insofar as Chinese are concerned. The Chinese have been fighting democracy's battle against the Japanese for five long years and they are now our allies, loyal and worthy, still fighting the Japs almost with bare hands.

Without any further delay we should pass a law granting Chinese the same rights of citizenship and immigration as enjoyed by other nationals and races. A simple law specifying these two objectives and declaring that all laws in conflict therewith are automatically repealed would be sufficient to remove the present offensive and discriminatory legislation against the Chinese people and to cement the two United Nations in a stronger union than has ever existed between East and West.

Removing present restrictions and granting the equality to Chinese would still permit the entry of a mere handful of Chinese -- actually less than 200. Any one of our great cities could absorb them without a ripple. Chinese, unlike the Japanese, have never concentrated in California and there are Chinese communities in every large city of the land. Los Angeles or San Francisco alone could absorb 200 Chinese annually and the rest of the city's population wouldn't even know they had arrived.

The chief source of irritation in the old days was the importation of "coolie" labor which aggravated American labor here. Anti-Chinese legislation started as early as 1880 and by 1904 Chinese exclusion had been made perpetual. Chinese were singled out by name for categorical discrimination and exclusion.

Later the Japanese became more of a national problem as they were still being given preferential treatment over the Chinese as late as 1924. The Japanese Government had entered into an agreement to prevent immigration of Japanese laborers but, like any other agreement they have ever made, they broke it repeatedly and wilfully. Hence the act of 1924 which put all Asiatics beyond the pale.

On several occasions during the past decade movements were started to modify or repeal the exclusion laws as affecting all Asians but each time the Japs started on a new aggression so that the repeal movement came to naught. In early September 1931, Secretary of State Stimson pledged his effort to repeal the offensive laws but on September 18, 1931, the Japanese invaded Manchuria, thus killing any possible efforts



toward that end. China suffered on two counts: the Japanese attack on her territory and the US decision to continue the exclusion act which affected them even more than Japan. It is possible that Secretary of State Stimson might have done something in that direction if the Japanese had not invaded Manchuria in September 1931.

### THE MORAL ISSUE.

This country, even more than the other United Nations, should know how to treat its Chinese allies, to show them the respect and brotherhood they have so richly deserved.

Our nation is "....conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal," according to Abe Lincoln, and even our Declaration of Independence sets forth the same principle, declaring, "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal...." This principle of equality is ill-served by our unjust and discriminatory laws against the splendid and loyal people of China.

America has fought for human liberty and democracy and equality before and is waging the good fight for the same cause once more. We are telling the peoples of the world and the peoples of Asia in particular that we are fighting to defend the principles upon which the nation was founded, but our words ring false and our hearts appear insincere when the Chinese compare our fine-sounding words with our odious laws against them.

Under these laws Chinese are being drafted for active duty with the American armed forces at home and abroad. We are saying to them, in effect, "We conscript you for the fighting services and will send you overseas to fight and die for America but we won't accept you as a citizen of the country. You are entitled to none of the privileges of citizenship but you have all the duties and obligations of citizenship even to the sacrifice of your life." This is a challenge to the sense of fair play which every American possesses.

Today the world is divided into two warring camps. One obeys the Hitlerian credo that there is a superior race of people and all others are inferior. The other is the democratic principle that all men are created equal. We must choose between the two. Our anti-Chinese laws are grotesquely Nazi.

It is well to remark in passing that the Chinese during their long residence in the United States have proven themselves worthy of American citizenship. Of all the nationals which comprise this great melting-pot of a nation, Chinese have the lowest crime record. A recent New York survey showed there had not been a case of minor delinquency among the Chinese in five years, the only national to enjoy such a record. The nation with the highest criminal record among its members in this country enjoys an annual immigration quota of over 5,000.

Morally, if for no other reason, the stigma of inferiority applied against the Chinese and the Nazi principle of inequality among peoples should be removed from our statute books. The case was aptly put by another great American, Wendell Willkie, who, speaking on human relations among the peoples of the world, said:

"It will be a new idea to many Americans that the United States may in the future need help from other nations. But we do need help if our ideas of personal liberty, of justice, of equality, of hope and growth and expansion are to survive.

"We can keep America to ourselves though I doubt if the America we keep to ourselves would be free. We cannot keep freedom to ourselves. If we are to have freedom, we must share freedom..."



"On Bataan the Filipinos and Americans, fighting side by side, learned the real meaning of equality. We know now, in a way that we could never have known before, the real equality between the races. We know, too, that in that idea of equality lies the hope, and the only sure hope, of the future.

"The day is gone when men and women, of whatever color and creed, can consider themselves the superior of other creeds or colors.

"The day of the vast empire is past. The day of equal peoples is at hand.

"Let us keep that aim shining before us like a light -- a light for the people of Europe, for the people of Africa, for the people of Asia, for the people of South America and for the people of our own beloved land."

#### THE ECONOMIC ISSUE

All the old conditions which aroused men's passion against the Chinese immigrants have passed into history. Not one remains the give excuse for maintaining the exclusion laws, now obsolete.

Thoughtful labor leaders are fully aware of the altered situation and have no desire to retain existing legislation. They respect and admire the valiant Chinese as much as any other class or organization and more than some.

Firstly, it is well understood by now that there would be no immigration of Chinese laborers, farmers, peasants and others to compete with American labor. Immigration would be on a highly selective basis. American laws as they now stand, affecting all immigration, require standards of education that the so-called "coolie" class in China could not meet. The laws are so strict as regards education, moral character, physical fitness, financial resources and other qualifications that would assure a carefully measured intake of men and women who would be a credit to this or any nation.

Granting Chinese equality with European, South American or African countries would in no way adversely effect American labor. If the time ever comes -- and perhaps it will in the post-war period of depression and readjustment when there are millions of Americans unemployed -- then immigration from all nations can be stopped until conditions have improved. Nothing would be gained by excluding 150 to 200 Chinese annually whilst admitting annual quotas of 27,370 Germans, 5,802 Italians, 2,712 Russians, 6,524 Poles, 17,853 Irish, 65,721 Britons, 2,874 Czechs or 3,153 Dutch. The simple fact is that the granting of equal privileges to Chinese cannot be considered a labor issue any longer.

The only people benefitted by the present laws is the army of public officials, bureaucrats, immigration officers, inspectors and others who cost the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars yearly to administer these obsolete and offensive laws. Those people could and should be put into war work where they are really urgently needed.

On the positive side of the economic picture there are many good reasons for extending the hand of equality and brotherhood to the Chinese. America must look forward to the time after the war when our great war plants and munitions factories must close down and be reconverted into industrial plants engaged upon a mammoth peace-time reconstruction program of world-wide dimensions. Europe, already over-industrialized, may be our competitor for the vast and immeasurable markets of the Orient. By permitting an insignificant number of Chinese to enter this country now, we can earn the good will of the 450,000,000 Chinese consumers and assure our markets for the post-war period of readjustment and reconstruction.



## THE WAR ISSUE.

Repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Acts is a war issue as well as a moral and economic issue. Today every intelligent American knows and appreciates the value of the Chinese to the United Nations' death struggle with the totalitarian powers. They know they need the help of the Chinese to win the war.

In the Battle of the Pacific, Chinese morale is second only in importance American morale. We must keep the Chinese in there fighting with every last ounce of energy and every last drop of blood.

Repeal of the exclusion acts, granting our Chinese allies full legal equality with other peoples, would provide a tremendous upsurging of morale which would be equal, Chinese have told me, to ten mechanized divisions of troops on the fighting line. It would give them a new sense of brotherhood with America and a greater stake in the future peace of the world. Repeal of these odious laws is inevitable but to delay until the peace conference would be to lose the full impact upon Chinese morale and fighting spirit at this critical period in the war.

The Big Four among the Allies today are Great Britain, Soviet Russia, the United States and China. Our statutes discriminate only against the Chinese. Is it any wonder they sometimes ask each other about our sincerity. Some shallow souls have tried to explain our exclusion laws on the basis of the theory of non-assimilation with the "white" skin pigmentation of the average American. This argument falls flat, however, when it is pointed out that immigration privileges and citizenship rights are granted to the black men from Africa, red Indians from Patagonia, brown men from Egypt or the Philippines, mulattoes from the West Indies and other so-called "non-assimilable" peoples and races.

Every alert American today understands the importance of propaganda in this war. The U. S. Government maintains an expensive and efficient propaganda service which, day and night, broadcasts by short wave radio to all the peoples of Asia in a score of tongues and dialects presenting to them American news, information and the American "viewpoint."

The Japanese are doing the same from their short wave broadcasting stations in Japan, occupied China, Philippines, Indo-China, Burma and elsewhere. Battle is being waged in the air-waves as well as the air-lanes. The keystone of all Japanese propaganda is the poisonous idea that the Battle for Asia is a racial war between the whites of the Occident and the yellows and browns of the Orient.

Invariably and constantly they point to the Asiatic Exclusion Act as the incontrovertible proof of America's "superiority complex" and her disrespect, disregard and insulting attitude towards Asian people. There is no answer we can make to it so long as those laws stand as a fixed part of American foreign policy.

The United States must remove that blot from her statute books so that we can convince the Asian peoples with deeds instead of honeyed words that we consider them our allies, our equals, our brothers. We must repeal the act at once so we can bely the vile Japanese propaganda which is poisoning the minds of the Asians against us.

There is no need to hem and haw any longer. Let not our show of friendship and esteem to the valiant Chinese be "too little and too late." Give the Chinese a new inspiration while they are fighting and dying on the field of battle shoulder to shoulder with us. Remove once and for all the stigma of racial prejudice and discrimination from our law books and make a mockery of Japan's evil propaganda among the people of the Orient.



Dear Sir -

Re. Resolution  
of Watsonville  
Defense Council.

I am sorry that your letter of December 27, 1944, has so long remained unanswered. The fault is due to a long and serious illness with which I am yet suffering and recovery from which may not come for many more months.

The resolution respecting the return of the Japs, adopted by the local Council of Defense was adopted by a considerable number of Councils, by numerous Boards of Supervisors, by state organizations of farmers and by a great many fraternal organizations. I have no accurate data, since I did not participate in circulating it or the accompanying article over my signature. Interested citizens had about 10,000 printed and distributed the same all over the state as well as into the Northwest & to members of Congress. Inquiry from the various counties would get you the information as to adoption of the same or similar resolutions.

In addition to the one of which you have a copy, some half a dozen others - one earlier & the others later - were published in the Register-Pajaronian, of Watsonville & one or two in The Grizzly, the N.S.P.W. publication.

Sorry circumstances are such that I cannot be of greater service to you at this time.

Unless the study being made by the University shall be made with the active participation of those who have lived among, employed, and done business with the Japs for 40 years, it will be worthless. With the president of the University serving as an executor of an



organization specially provided to serve the interests of the Japs, it is not to be expected that any very realistic picture of the landscape will be presented. Possibly - I certainly hope that - I may be wrong.

If it should be desired, I should be very glad to elaborate my "Comments on the post war position of the Japanese on the West Coast" as soon as my physical condition is sufficiently improved to permit the effort.

Respectfully yours,

J. E. Gardner

R F D 5 Box 138A

Watsonville, Calif

11/11/44.



Following is the resolution adopted Tuesday night by the Pajaro Valley and Watsonville Defense council:

Whereas it has been announced through the press:

1. That the Secretary of War contemplates that some 28,000 native-born Japanese shall be incorporated into the United States army in separate combat units; and
2. That the Federal authorities contemplate the release of from 25,000 to 40,000 Japanese from Relocation camps where they are now restrained, with no announced provision for adequate surveillance or control; and

Whereas, the Pajaro Valley and Watsonville Defense Council, the membership of which is made up of representatives of all civic organizations in the community, at a meeting held for the purpose of considering these matters, has officially expressed its opinion that such contemplated action would be inimical to the best interests and to the welfare and effective defense of our country;

Be it resolved that we most vigorously and earnestly protest against the above proposed actions and each of them; that we convey this protest to the Secretary of War, to the War Relocation board, to our congressmen and senators and to the President of the United States.

That we urge upon these authorities the following reasons, based upon an extensive experience with the Japanese, for more than 40 years, an intimate knowledge of their character, and our observation of what occurred on December 7, 1941, and immediately thereafter:

- (1) Following Pearl Harbor and for the defense of the West Coast against attack and sabotage the Army wisely moved the Japanese from



the Pacific Coast. NOW TO PERMIT THEM TO RETURN TO THEIR FORMER HABITAT WOULD SUBJECT US AGAIN TO THE DANGER OF SERIOUS SABOTAGE AND DIFFICULTY IN DEFENDING OUR SHORE LINE IN THE EVENT OF ATTACK.

(2) DUE TO THE TEMPER OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC SINCE THE DASTARDLY ATTACK AT PEARL HARBOR we feel that IT WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE JAPANESE THEMSELVES TO ALLOW THEM TO RETURN FOR RESIDENCE ON THE WEST COAST, and that difficult additional policing problems would be presented thereby in effecting their safety.

(3) IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN LOYAL AND DISLOYAL JAPANESE. We are in no position to judge the emotions of the Japanese inasmuch as they have maintained their own schools and religion, and in many cases, dual citizenship with their main allegiance to the Emperor of Japan.

(4) IF JAPANESE WERE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO THIS AREA WE COULD NOT EXPECT THE COOPERATION OF PRESENT AGRICULTURAL OR INDUSTRIAL LABORERS ALREADY ENGAGED IN THE WAR EFFORT IF THEY WERE CALLED UPON TO WORK WITH JAPANESE EVACUEES.

(5) TO ALLOW YOUNG JAPANESE TO LEAVE RELOCATION CAMPS FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES IN OUR COLLEGES WOULD BE UNJUST AND INEQUITABLE AS IT AFFECTS OUR OWN AMERICAN BOYS WHO HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT OF COLLEGE AND ARE SO LOYALLY SERVING THEIR COUNTRY in the armed forces to the detriment of their education and employment.

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## R E S O L U T I O N S

WHEREAS, it has been announced through the public press:

1. That the Secretary of war proposes to enlist many thousand native born Japanese in the American armed forces; and
2. That many thousand Japanese native born are being released weekly from relocation camps and in some instances have reappeared upon the Pacific Coast; and

WHEREAS the Northern California Peace Officers Association in regular assembly at Marysville, California, this 17th day of June 1943, have in connection therewith considered the following facts:

1. That we as officers of the law have become very well acquainted with the Japanese - both aliens and native born.
2. That we are familiar with their mode of life and their customs;
3. That they are very intelligent when it comes to the absorption of knowledge.
4. That they are very suave, but equally deceptive. The Pearl Harbor episode is an excellent example of their racial duplicity.
5. That almost one hundred per cent of the native born are not only citizens of the United States but also they are registered citizens of Japan.
6. That the native Japanese are when young made to go to Japanese schools and the Japanese Church where they all are taught to believe the Mikado is a direct descendant from heaven.
7. That we believe the action of Gen. DeWitt in concentrating them immediately after Pearl Harbor was one of the most intelligent war efforts manifested by our armed forces in this war.
8. That we as peace officers would not under any circumstances place any confidence in their loyalty to the United States at this or any other time when the welfare of Japan is concerned.



NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northern California Peace Officers Association do vigorously protest the release of Japanese from their relocation centers and their appearance on the Pacific Coast either in or out of uniform, and furthermore that we seriously caution those officers who would permit their enlistment to our armed forces to consider and investigate the matters referred to herein before they make what would be in our humble opinion, a serious mistake.

Dated: June 17th, 1943.

Adopted by unanimous vote this 17th day of June, 1943.

A. H. WILLARD.  
President

W. E. LANGDON  
Secretary



C  
O  
P  
Y

Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison  
Attorneys at Law  
one eleven Sutter St.  
San Francisco 4

February 24, 1944

Mr. A. I. Esberg  
703 Market Street  
San Francisco, Calif.

My dear Mr. Esberg:

Answering yours of February 21, putting the question what our attitude should be toward problems affecting the Japanese, the following suggestions occur to me:

1. As to the admission of immigrants from Japan:  
For many years our policy has been not to permit any immigration from Japan. I see no reason why we should change this policy. It is possible, of course, that post war conditions may develop which would make it wise for us to revise our whole attitude toward immigration from the Orient. But it seems to me that post war conditions, insofar as they affect this problem, are so unpredictable that no purpose would be served by discussing these possibilities at the present time. Interesting fields of speculation might be opened, but calm consideration of long-range possibilities would be almost impossible in wartime.

2. As to the treatment of Japanese nationals already in this country: the treatment of enemy aliens during wartime is a matter which is entirely within the control of the Executive. The Department of Justice has provided a hearing for each enemy alien before a local board of citizens and after such hearing and a recommendation of the board, the Attorney General has ordered either (1) internment, (2) release on parole, or (3) absolute release. The same procedure has been followed with Japanese nationals as with German and Italian nationals. It is my view that aliens should be interned where there is any reason to believe that there is any danger of disloyal action or sabotage. In the case of many of the Japanese nationals, both in Hawaii and on the West Coast, there is no particular need for internment; and this is especially true in the case of parents of soldiers who are fighting in the American army, where the alien has had no connection with Japan by way of contact with consular office, visits to Japan, sending the children to Japan, to be educated or otherwise. In the case of German and Italian nationals a suspicion of disloyalty may arise where no application has been made for naturalization over a long period of years; but this consideration does not apply to the Japanese, who cannot be naturalized. My knowledge of conditions in Hawaii and in some localities in this country leads me to believe that many of the older Japanese are not at all dangerous and that their agricultural labor would be of real service in the war effort. However, each case should be



judged on its own merits.

As to post war treatment of Japanese nationals, the suggestion has been made that they be deported to Japan after the war. This does not appeal to me as being necessary. Most of them are people of advanced years and nature will solve this particular question before very long, without the necessity of taking these people from their children and grandchildren. It may well be that some of these elderly people may wish to return to Japan after the war, in which event they should be allowed to do so.

3. As to the treatment of American citizens of Japanese ancestry: This presents the problem as to which there is the greatest difference of opinion. All persons of Japanese ancestry were evacuated from the West Coast by military order about two years ago. It would be futile now to discuss whether or not the action was justified. They were detained in concentration camps at various interior points and thereafter (except in the case of those whose records indicated a disloyal attitude and who have been segregated at Tule Lake Camp) were given opportunities for employment at various inland and eastern points where they are gradually being resettled.

The charges made by the Hearst press and others that the Japanese have been coddled in the concentration camps and given better food than other civilians enjoy is in my opinion wholly without foundation. Many young men from these camps have volunteered for service in the American army and these American soldiers of Japanese ancestry have given an excellent account of themselves, particularly in Italy. I see no occasion to change the present governmental policy with respect to the Americans of Japanese ancestry. The responsibility is upon the War Department to decide when, if at all, during the war the return of these people to the West Coast would be safe from a military point of view; I don't see how the War Department's judgment in this respect can be very well questioned by civilians unacquainted with all the facts. If the War Department should decide that some of these men and women might safely return to the West Coast during the war and accordingly permitted them to do so, it would undoubtedly result in quite a storm in the columns of Hearst and McClatchy newspapers and also among Congressmen, state Senators, Assemblymen and other politicians, and as a result of all of this there might be considerable ill feeling on the West Coast and a possibility of rioting, disorder and personal violence. To me it is rather terrible to contemplate the possibility that the right of an American citizen to travel about the country should be denied because of the apprehension of race prejudice, or that the peace authorities should not be willing to go to any length to prevent rioting and murder. It seems to me that the result of submitting to this outbreak of race prejudice might be very serious in its effect upon other minority groups. However, I realize that others may not agree with my point of view in this regard.

So much for the treatment of these people during the war.



At the conclusion of the war it may be expected that efforts will be made to deprive these people of their citizenship and to deport them. Except in the case of those who voluntarily express a desire to expatriate themselves, I believe that any such movement ~~would~~ strike at the fundamentals of what we conceive to be our system of personal rights. It might have been better if there had never been any negroes in this country at all. But here they are; they have been recognized as citizens; they have attended our public schools, have voted, have generally been law-abiding and in many instances have participated as Americans in community activities. It is true that general intermarriage of these people with white Americans is not to be anticipated nor is it desired by our people, or, as far as I know, by the Japanese; but the same considerations apply to Chinese, Koreans and other Orientals, and no one suggests that they be deprived of their citizenship because of their racial extraction. Altogether, the solution of the problem, in my opinion, can best be worked out by extending decent treatment to these people without attempting to penalize them for the cruelties and barbarities of the Japanese military. The hatreds produced by war, however bitter and violent they may be, pass away before many years of peace if a sane attitude on the part of the mass of the people is encouraged. Current misstatements about the Japanese residents of the United States should be corrected, as, for instance, the statement that they were guilty of sabotage in Hawaii, which can be shown to be an absolute lie by the statements of the police authorities and others in Honolulu made shortly after Pearl Harbor. The problem, in my opinion, can be readily solved if a decent and calm attitude on the part of our people is fostered and preserved. In that event, the Japanese-American problem will not present one tenth of the difficulty that the negro problem is likely to.

All of the foregoing represents only my personal view of the situation.

Yours sincerely,

Maurice E. Harrison



File  
Reinforced  
222

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington, D. C.

Project Press Release No. 111  
For Publication in Project Newspapers

Release Upon Receipt

The Friends of The American Way made public this statement on December 17, the date on which the lifting of the mass exclusion orders was announced:

"We are relieved that America will no longer banish people on a racial basis.

"To our returning Pasadena neighbors, we offer friendship and help in finding housing and employment.

"To the Army and to local law enforcement agencies, we promise every assistance in apprehending criminals who intimidate or harm these loyal people.

FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY

(Signed) By Wm. C. Carr, Chairman"

The statement was released not only to the War Department and the War Relocation Authority, but was made available to Pasadena and Los Angeles newspapers.

OM-1911



*Resolution*  
*File*

# FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY

*222*

~~1360 WEST COLORADO STREET~~ • PASADENA 2, CALIFORNIA

305 Kensington Place

3

December 17, 1944

## STATEMENT

We are relieved that America will no longer banish people on a racial basis.

To our returning Pasadena neighbors, we offer friendship and help in finding housing and employment.

To the Army and to local law enforcement agencies, we promise every assistance in apprehending criminals who intimidate or harm these loyal people.

FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY

By *Wm. C. Carr*, Chairman  
Wm. C. Carr

This statement released to: Pasadena Post  
Pasadena Star News  
Pasadena Independent  
The Daily News (Los Angeles)  
The Los Angeles Times  
The Los Angeles Examiner

cc - The Commanding General - The Presidio, San Francisco  
The War Department, Washington, D. C.  
W.R.A., Washington, D. C.  
W.R.A., San Francisco  
W.R.A., Los Angeles  
Pacific Citizen



# FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY

305 KENSINGTON PLACE • PASADENA 3, CALIFORNIA  
SYcamore 21790

July 27, 1945

Mr. Galen M. Fisher  
11 El Sueno 2  
Orinda, California

Dear Mr. Fisher:

Mr. Seaman has given us your request for information regarding the progress of resettlement in Pasadena, for your article for Common Sense.

We are glad to report that things are still going very smoothly here. There are now somewhere between 125 and 150 returned evacuees in the Pasadena area. There have been no expressions of antipathy toward them beyond an occasional sign painted on a wall. There was one short series of such signs last spring, and there was one sign last month in South Pasadena. Practically all the returnees have had only pleasant experiences, and there have been a minimum of unfriendly or insulting remarks.

One of the best things about the Pasadena situation is that so many groups are interested in the problems of relocation. The American Friends Service Committee and the Pasadena Federated Mission together support the Pasadena hostel. Miss Sarah Field and Miss Katherine Fanning, formerly missionaries in Japan, are supported in their work with the Japanese here by the Congregational Church (national). At least two churches here have welcomed Nisei to membership, and various church leaders have been helpful in problems of finding schoolboy jobs, and other jobs for returnees. Our own organization operates a job and house placement service here at 305 Kensington Place.

There are some signs of discrimination in employment, but we have talked recently with several employers who are personally willing to employ Nisei as soon as they can educate their other employees. We have supplied such material as "What We're Fighting For" to these employers.

In fact, if it were not for the huge problem of housing, there would be ~~very~~-little difficulty. But that remains nearly impossible to find. Two families here have bought moderate-priced homes, but they are difficult to find at a fair price. A few more families have been lucky enough to find rentals--possibly half a dozen in all. And some families have returned to their own homes. A number of couples and small families have gone into domestic work for the sake of housing. The same thing is true of single girls. Single men are in the main doing gardening, and it is a little less difficult to find a room for a single person than to find a house or apart-



ment for a family. One Nisei family has been able to get an apartment in Ramona Gardens housing project in Los Angeles, and there will be room for others later. These are limited to essential war workers or service men's families within a low income range.

There are eight Nisei students at Pasadena Junior College, and we expect that there will be a number of new ones this fall. The newly organized interracial committee of the Pasadena Council of Churches may take up the project of finding more board-and-room jobs for students in homes, through local churches.

The enclosed letters sent to Pasadena Nisei service men will give you some details about individuals who have come, and a few things that have happened. If you need further information on any points covered in this or the mimeographed letters, or if there is some point that I have omitted, please let me know. I hope to get out another letter to the service men soon, and if it is done within the next two weeks I shall send you a copy.

One thing further should be mentioned, since we believe it is unique to Pasadena. The Friends of the American Way have a monthly evening meeting with a number of returned evacuees, for the discussion of problems of relocation and to get their suggestions for making our work more effective.

With appreciation for all your good work,

Sincerely yours,

*Marjorie Noble*

Marjorie Noble  
Executive Secretary



FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY  
305 Kensington Place  
Pasadena 3, California  
June 4, 1945

Dear Soldier,

New arrivals during the past two months have brought the Japanese American population of Pasadena (including Altadena, South Pasadena and San Marino) to over a hundred. Here's a list of some that you might know:

Mr. Kea Sato is back to stay, and has been fortunate enough to find a house where he and the Koyamas can live.

Mr. and Mrs. Peter Shinoda are here. He is part owner of the San Lorenzo Nursery.

The Maruyamas have returned to their place on South Lake, but do not plan to reopen the Lucky Florist Shop yet. Mr. Maruyama is doing gardening work. Living with them is Tom Miyasaki, a surveyor who is working for the Hopkins company on North Raymond--a job which he got by the simple technique of walking in and applying for it.

Grace Sato has come to live with one of our Friends of the American Way members in Eagle Rock. She is doing office work this summer, and plans on PJC in the fall.

Ted and Setsuko Tajima are here. They are looking for a place where they and Mr. and Mrs. Itow can live, and Ted will go to Occidental College.

Mr. and Mrs. T. Noguchi spent last week here. And T/5 Mas Fujimoto was here the other day from Ft. Snelling. Another visitor was Joyce Itow, Fumio's wife, who now lives in Los Angeles. Mr. Seichi Yamane visited from Rivers, and expects to bring his family if housing can be arranged. His son Tad is at Fort Knox, Kentucky.

A second Japanese family has bought a house in Pasadena--the Koides, formerly of San Diego. Henry Koide was here to buy the house, will return to a Cal. college.

Francis Uyematsu and Elsie Morita were married recently at the First Congregational Church in Sierra Madre. They were assisted in the wedding plans by Mr. and Mrs. Remington Stone, who took Elsie into their home for a short time before her marriage.

Katherine Fanning sends her special greetings to all of you. If you could see how busy she is these days, helping connect returnees with people who are anxious to have them work for them, you would understand why she doesn't get much time for letter-writing. Suggesting items for this was the closest she could get to writing.

The Evergreen hostel in Los Angeles continues to be very busy. One night last week they had 93 people, although their official capacity is somewhere around 65. A Buddhist hostel has recently been opened on 36th Place, but neither hostel is limited to either Buddhists or Christians. The Pasadena hostel is a busy place, too. Some of the returned gardeners have been kind enough to give some Sunday time to improving the appearance of the yard here. The church is in good shape, with no damage except such as would be expected of any vacant building.

Something new on the returnee scene is the A-O Radio Shop, the first new business to be started in Pasadena. Satoru Akutagawa and Jiro Oishi are the owners, and they will be doing some small manufacturing, as well as operating a radio repair service.

Most of the girls who have returned to Pasadena so far have gone into domestic work or are students at J.C. One nurse, Elsie Inouye, has a job at a rest home in Duarte. A few girls have gotten office jobs in Los Angeles. We hope that before long more of them will be able to get into skilled work of various kinds.

I think it should be emphasized that there have been no unpleasant incidents connected with the return to Pasadena. The little sign-painting episode which some of you read about last winter was a unique occurrence, and did not represent real community feeling at all. If you could see how calmly and happily those who have returned go around to their jobs, you would be much encouraged.

There are 115 names on our Honor Roll now. We were sorry to have to add two more gold stars recently--for Joe Hayashi and Minoru Ishida, who died in Italy. Until that time we had only one, for Henry Kondo.

With good wishes to all of you....

P.S. Mr. Carr got the enclosed clippings for you.

Sincerely,  
*Margie Noble*  
Executive Secretary



### Pasadena Highlights

One Nisei ate regularly at a little restaurant near where he worked. Ordinarily nothing happened, and there was no comment on his being there. But one day a man came in and glared steadily at him, with the kind of a look that makes you think maybe looks can kill.

The next person to come in was a doctor, and the glaring man said to him, "Is that a Jap over there?" The doctor said, "I guess so. So what? Those boys are doing a good job over there in Europe." And a soldier a few seats away said, "You're darn right they are."

Then the waiter volunteered some information about our Nisei friend-- "This boy is a veteran." By this time the man who had been so unfriendly decided he'd made a mistake, and he came over to the Nisei and saluted him.

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At the A-O Radio Shop everything is going very well. Everyone who has come in has been friendly, and more people stop in every day. According to Set and Jiro nobody has asked if they are "Japs". In fact they haven't noticed any feeling of racial difference. They say, "Everything seems so natural, as if evacuation had never happened."

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The gardeners who have come back are so busy that they can't keep up with the jobs that are available. It is a common occurrence for a gardener to have a neighbor of someone he is working for come by and say, "How about coming over and working for me, too?"

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Three Nisei joined the Holliston Methodist Church Easter Sunday, and one joined the First Congregational Church. Other Nisei are attending several other churches in Pasadena, and are finding ready acceptance.

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One recent returnee said, "It's not what they say, it's what they don't say--the way they act, as if nothing had happened." At a filling station on South Lake they got the best service they had had anywhere on their trip from Ohio.

At one California border town they stopped for gas at a station where someone had persuaded the manager to put up a sign "No Jap Trade Wanted". They got friendly service, took time to go in and get a coke, and heard no comments at all on their ancestry.

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June 1945



## ON INDEPENDENCE DAY

LIEUTENANT KEI TANAHASHI was killed in action in Italy on July 4, 1944.

He was born in Los Angeles 25 years ago. From Lincoln High School he went to the University of California at Los Angeles. There he was president of the Bruin's Club, a member of Scabbard and Blade, and a captain in the Reserve Officers Training Corps. He graduated in 1939.

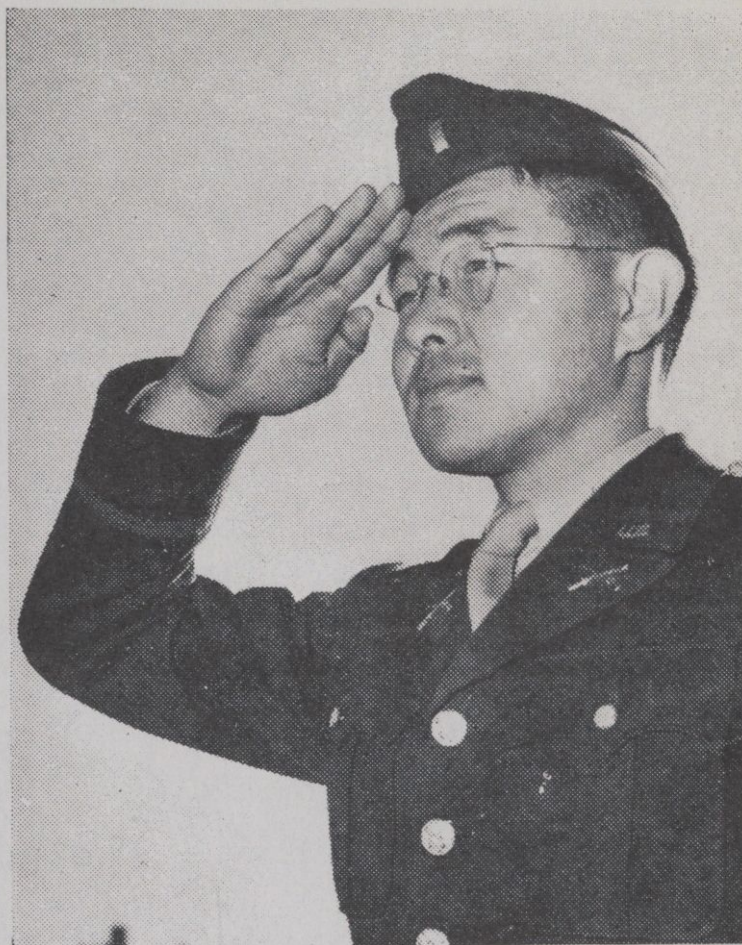
He was assistant scoutmaster of the famous Troop 379 of Los Angeles which was presented to President Roosevelt during the Scout Jamboree of 1935.

With his family, Lt. Tanahashi was evacuated first to the Pomona Assembly Center and then to Heart Mountain Relocation Center, where those dearest to him are now. They have been held for over two years without charge and without trial--something new in American justice. Of this evacuation Justice Murphy of the United States Supreme Court said, "It bears melancholy resemblance to the treatment accorded the Jewish race in Germany and other parts of Europe."

Shortly before his death, Lt. Tanahashi wrote:

"WHEN THIS UNFINISHED BUSINESS IS TAKEN CARE OF, WE SHOULD ALL BE ABLE TO LIVE TOGETHER AS GOOD AMERICANS. MY FERVENT HOPE IS THAT THE SLANT OF THE HEART WILL DETERMINE A MAN'S LOYALTY."

## Nisei Officer Killed in Italy



LIEUTENANT KEI TANAHASHI of Los Angeles, Calif., whose parents now reside in the Heart Mountain relocation center in Wyoming, was killed in action in Italy on the Fourth of July, according to the War Department.

### NOTICE

Memorial services for Lt. Kei Tanahashi, who was killed in action in Italy on July 4, will be held at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, July 29 at 2-27 mess hall.

Joy Tanahashi, wife  
Soji Tanahashi, father  
Kin Tanahashi, mother  
Yasaku Hirano, father-in-law  
Chiye Hirano, mother-in-law  
Kiyoshi Tanahashi, brother  
Fusaye Tanahashi, sister-in-law  
Masako Fujii and Hanako Cho, relatives  
Boy Scout Troop 379  
Block 2 residents

### Camps Hold Kin of 45 Nisei Soldier Dead

WASHINGTON, Sept. 7. (AP)—Forty-five American soldiers of Japanese ancestry with next-of-kin living in relocation centers have been killed in action in Italy, W.R.A. Director Dillon S. Myer reported today to Secretary of Interior Ickes. Other casualty telegrams received in the centers have told of 92 wounded and two missing.

### Earned by Japanese Americans in Italy:

Over 1,000 Purple Hearts  
46 Silver Stars  
31 Bronze Stars  
9 Distinguished Service Crosses  
3 Legion of Merit medals  
The Distinguished Unit Citation



NOTICE OF AN AMERICAN MEMORIAL SERVICE TO BE HELD BEHIND THE BARBED WIRE OF HEART MOUNTAIN RELOCATION CENTER, WYOMING.

JUSTICE DELAYED IS JUSTICE DENIED — GLADSTONE  
This tribute is by FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY - 305 Kensington Place - Pasadena 3



RESOLUTIONS FAVORING IMMEDIATE RETURN OF EVACUEES  
AS PASSED BY THE PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD OF CALIFORNIA  
(San Jose, California, July 25-27, 1944)

According to the military authorities, persons of Japanese descent were evacuated from the Pacific Coast for reasons of military necessity, at a time when invasion threatened. Assurance was then given that this suspension of the constitutional rights of personal liberty and freedom of action was but temporary. Thus the President and other high authorities have repeatedly promised to "restore to loyal evacuees the right to return to the evacuated areas as soon as the military situation will make such a restoration feasible".

The highest military authorities have now asserted that the danger of invasion is past and that "the Japanese enemy is not coming to our shores". And the progress of the war in the Pacific supports this conclusion. Thus, it would appear that the time has come to again grant to loyal persons of Japanese descent the same freedom of movement, including return to their homes on the Pacific Coast, allowed to Americans and aliens of other countries. However, all efforts of our government authorities to fulfill their solemn promise are being impeded by the agitation of ill-advised persons who aim to secure the permanent abridgement of the rights of all persons of Japanese extraction, and who threaten to attack the evacuees who do return.

In spite of the experience of the evacuation, Japanese Americans in the armed services have faithfully discharged their duties and have made fine records for heroic conduct both on the European front and in the South Pacific. Furthermore, no proven case of espionage or sabotage has been recorded on the part of the 45,000 persons of Japanese extraction living in free communities west of the Sierras, many of whom are active in war work of various kinds. While a number of individuals have been permitted to return to the Pacific Coast under special circumstances, none of them have suffered violence at the hands of local Caucasian residents.

Be it therefore resolved:

1. That the Synod of California petition the War Department to take immediate steps to restore to loyal persons of Japanese descent the right to return to their homes on the Pacific Coast; that it holds that further delay in thus giving full justice to this minority of American citizens and loyal aliens, many of whom have sons and daughters in the armed services, is contrary to the principles of democracy which we are fighting to establish in the world.

2. The Synod deprecates the persistent distortion of facts regarding this minority in our press and over the radio which aims to create prejudice and hatred against innocent people; and it holds that those who threaten the safety of persons of Japanese descent should be properly dealt with under our laws, and full protection of our law-enforcement agencies should be given all evacuees who choose to return to their homes on the Coast.

3. That the Synod assures the War Department, the Department of the Interior, and its agency the WRA, of our continued co-operation, especially in the carrying out of such measures as are calculated to restore full rights to loyal persons of Japanese descent.

4. That the Synod urges the members of our churches to exemplify the spirit of Christ by fostering a favorable public opinion towards returning evacuees, and helping to insure a welcome back to our communities, our schools, our churches, and our homes; to write letters to the War Department and WRA offering to assume sponsorship for returning evacuees and cooperate in providing work, shelter and other needed help; to encourage evacuees by personal letters and other assurances of good will.



Brookside Hotel  
Kansas City, Missouri  
July 26, 1943

*Copy*

*M. Holland*

To: Honorable John B. Gage  
Mayor of Kansas City  
City Hall  
Kansas City, Missouri

From: Alexander Bisno  
Real Estate Broker  
5401 Brookside Boulevard  
Kansas City, Missouri

Subject: The employment of United States  
Citizens of Japanese descent.

Dear Mayor Gage:

I am prompted to write you because of an article that appeared in yesterday's Kansas City Star relative to the activities of Messrs. Dillon S. Myer, Director of the War Relocation Authority in Washington, D. C., and Vernon R. Kennedy, in charge of the Relocation office in Kansas City, as well as various committees. They are endeavoring to bring about the orderly employment of those citizens of Japanese ancestry who have been investigated and approved by the proper Federal and military authorities.

I represent a substantial number of owners of hotels and apartment buildings here, and because of the critical shortage of personnel to operate these properties the thought occurred to me about four months ago to employ such citizens of Japanese descent.

Accordingly, I sent a memo to the various managers of these housing accommodations asking for their reaction and comments to such a proposal. The replies were uniformly and unqualifiedly in the negative, and the consensus seemed to be that the public reaction would be:

*71.100*



1. To hold the owners up to contempt and ridicule;
2. Perhaps to bring accusations of disloyalty or treason; and
3. To subject the ownership to boycott and unfavorable comment.

Because of such uniform reaction of our managers I reluctantly abandoned the idea, though I knew if it could be successfully accomplished the benefits to all concerned would be great and manifold. It would be calculated to relieve the serious shortage both in quantity and quality of clerks, telephone and elevator operators, maids, janitors, house men, decorators, painters, and others so necessary for the orderly and adequate maintenance of housing accommodations. It might even relieve the deficiencies in laundry facilities, for with adequate help, facilities could often be improvised on the premises to take care of the limited needs of the particular hotel or apartment building.

Housing would not be much of a problem because quarters are usually available for such help in the basements or first floors of the buildings in which they work. In the properties under our management we have always been able to provide adequate living quarters for our personnel.

We, and I am sure I speak for most private housing managers, would not be interested in exploiting such help. Not only would we pay the highest current wages for the various categories of work, but we would grant prompt promotion and increases in compensation for meritorious efforts.

Another heartening result of the utilization of this new source of labor would be the elimination of friction and complaints between tenants, property owners, and the rent section of the O.P.A. The tenants cannot be blamed for complaining against patently inadequate service, and the O.P.A. cannot be criticized for endeavoring to enforce its regulations. However, the landlord with the best of intentions and motives is confronted with an impossible task, principally because he cannot obtain the proper help. The nervous tension of trying to satisfy tenants with inadequate help has been so great that many of our



Page 3.

managers have been made ill and some have been forced to resign.

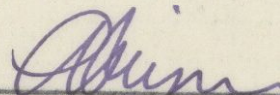
The hotel and apartment buildings of Kansas City, Missouri could easily use several thousands of these workers. And what a blessing it would be to the tenants, landlords and the O.P.A.

However, before this laudable undertaking will work it will be necessary to curb the hostile opposition of those of mistaken patriotism, ignorance or malice. A public announcement by you and other authoritative citizens, backed perhaps by favorable publicity in the Kansas City Star to the effect that people employing these citizens are doing the proper patriotic thing and acting in furtherance of our war efforts, might turn the trick, and it would be calculated to encourage persons like myself to start the ball rolling, mindful of the fact that we would be backed by the authorized local, Federal and military officials.

With assurances of my highest consideration, I am

Sincerely yours,

AB/ed



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Alexander Bisno

- cc - Dillon S. Myer, Director ✓  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.
- cc - Vernon R. Kennedy, in Charge of  
Relocation office  
Kansas City, Missouri
- cc - Clarence R. Decker, President  
University of Kansas City  
Kansas City, Missouri
- cc - M. Tippy, Chairman and General Secretary  
Council of Churches  
Y. M. C. A. Building  
Kansas City, Missouri



Page 4.

cc - Max Bretton, Executive Director  
Jewish Welfare Federation  
1600 Linwood Boulevard  
Kansas City, Missouri

cc - James Robertson, Rent Director  
Office of Price Administration  
New York Life Building  
Kansas City, Missouri

cc - R. F. Jarmin, Assistant to  
Rent Director  
Office of Price Administration  
New York Life Building  
Kansas City, Missouri

cc - Kansas City Star  
Attention: Editor  
Kansas City, Missouri





Inside the News  
Jan. 15, 1945

COPY

Thrifty Drug Stores  
KFI 4

ROD: A much better solution, even for us, for then we can sell what we've been giving away, which is much closer to my mercenary heart. On to Berlin, then.

Jose: Well, I do agree that the time is opportune to commence conferring those symbols of our approval or disapproval on individuals who appear in the daily news. Maybe I ought to explain to our new listeners, that the doghouse collar goes to anybody whose contribution to the war effort you and I regard as, shall I say, not exactly, constructive or helpful to our side. While the spray of mistletoe, which of course rates the traditional kiss, is awarded to anybody who says something or does something which we believe Hitler or Hirohito would disapprove, because it helps our side.

S.: I notice that since you and I started this system of awards last year, a lot of our colleagues have appropriated the idea....Well, that's fair enough---we borrowed it from Walter Winchell, whose orchids and scallions really originated the gag....Anyway I'm back from the weekend on my little ranch with a whole truck-load of doghouse collars I want to distribute. And I'm going to hang the first one around the neck of Dillon S. Myer, head of the War Relocation <sup>Board,</sup> ~~Authority~~ which has charge of the concentration camps where the army--as soon as it could after Pearl Harbor---locked up all the bow-legged little termites that used to infest the Pacific Coast. I've never seen Dillon S. Myer---and like Gelette Burgess' purple cow, I never want to see him, although, like the same heliotrope bovine, I'd rather see than be him....But I've followed Brother Myer's career from the unfortunate moment he was picked for the job of custodian of the 100,000 runts we thought oughtn't to be running around loose while



Inside the News  
Jan. 15, 1945

2

we're righting the land they came from. And I've yet to see or hear a single thing that Dillon S. Myer has ever said or done that he's as much concerned for his white bosses as for the suspects he's supposed to guard.

JOSE: Well, I'm not as vehement as you are on the subject of Mr. Myer. But I'm perfectly willing for you to drape the doghouse collar on him, in view of his undeviating habit of resisting almost with ferocity, the fact that some people on the Pacific Coast don't want the interned Japs flooding back here, at least while we're fighting Japan. Mr. Myer's hot-headed quarrel with Al Cohn, our Police Commissioner, is typical of the arbitrary, bureaucratic manner in which Mr. Myer answers everybody out here who even dares question his omniscience.

SAM: The only thing the able and patriotic Al Cohn asked Myer was, if the Japs which Myer vouches for as 100% pro-American will be given some sort of identification card, so our white citizens can distinguish them from any Jap saboteurs who might be landed from submarines or get here in other ways. Why, the way Dillon S. Myer jumped on Mr. Cohn---and the way he excoriates anybody who dares to criticize him or his policies---you'd think we white people who happen to own this country----and who happen to distrust any human being who even looks like a Jap--were committing sacrilege or lese majesty or treason.... I don't like Japs, foreign born or born here. I don't like the way their countrymen at home chop the heads off Australian aviators---torture and murder our own fliers---jab bayonets in Chinese babies--and I don't think it safe for them to run around freely among our military establishments on this coast.

JOSE: A very dangerous collateral condition in connection with their return to the Pacific Coast, lies in the fact that hot-blooded Americans



can very easily start a racial war that would have regrettable repercussions against our own men and civilians who happen to be prisoners of the Japs. For any Jap, no matter if born here and vouched for as harmless, to return and start dispossessing a white family from his previous home or farm, means trouble, sudden and very bad.

SID: Dillon S. Myer savagely denounced as "red-faced patriots" anybody who might not care to live next door to a Jap while his people at home are staging death marches of our men who fall into their hands. I have yet to learn of one single instance of Dillon S. Myer ever showing any consideration for the feelings or opinions of the white citizens of this country who're paying his salary. And if the time has come when we can't criticize our own political servants when they go diametrically opposite to our wishes---to the wishes of the vast majority of the West Coast inhabitants---then we're fighting this war in vain, and there isn't much point in fighting one set of foreign dictators merely to have to live under the heels of the domestic brand. I don't like to live under the heels of any nationality. And here's another doghouse collar for whoever's responsible for the incredibly atrocious bad taste involved in that story out of Washington about Falla. With our casualties in France now reaching 340,000, I don't like to believe the people of this country are thrilled to death about Falla having gone to the country to enjoy his first honeymoon.



COPY

THRIFTY DRUG STORES  
KFI

INSIDE THE NEWS

COPY  
YH00  
Tuesday-January 16, 1945  
10:30-10:45 PM

SID: In considering a subject as packed with dynamite as the return to the Pacific Coast of the Japs now in our concentration camps, we can shed a lot of light on the problem if we'll take a look at some of the individuals who're behind the scheme. Behind Dillon S. Myer, head of the War Relocation Board, is Harold Ickes. Well, most of the country's allergic to Ickes, so we don't have to waste much time on him.....As for Myer, from the minute he got the delicate and dangerous responsibility of guarding the missing links the army corraled, he hasn't failed to be the most consistent politician in office that I've heard of in a long lifetime of dealing with politicians as a newspaperman...I mean he's never said anything or done anything that hasn't furnished unvarying proof that he's absolutely unfit for the job. He has always proceeded on the principle that the rights of the interned Japs---either constitutional rights or such imaginary rights as Myer has preferred to bestow on them--were paramount to the rights of the Caucasians who happen to own this country, and whose safety might be endangered in time of war by a mob of Japs running around at large. In other words, instead of always first considering our welfare and interests, he has paced the floor at nights worrying over the welfare and interests of the internees.

JOSE: I remember one priceless contribution to a solution of the difficult question that Mr. Myer made about a year ago. He told a Seattle reporter that the real solution to the problem consists of



JOSE:  
(cond) assimilating the Japs in this country. Now the only possible meaning of the word "assimilation" in this context is to absorb them into our bloodstream. Well, we'll have to try it somewhere else, because it's against the law for a Jap and a white person

SID: to marry in California.

SID: At the time Myer came up with that cosmic crack, Jose, I said what I'd like to repeat now---that personally I must decline to mingle the Scotch blood in my veins with whatever flows through the veins of a Jap. I'm perfectly willing for Brother Myer to make the experiment, because I'm quite convinced that that's one adventure in the biological laboratory that is bound to be successful, since both bloodstreams would be diluted.....Another classic crack that Dillon S. Myer made about the same time was in connection with the riot the bowlegged runts staged at Tule Lake. They beat up Doctor Petticord, camp physician. But instead of denouncing the rioters, much less punishing them, Myer declared that the doctor probably wouldn't have been beaten if he'd kept his hands in his pockets.....And you remember, of course, Jose, the philosophy expressed by a couple of Myer's stooges in Ohio.

JOSE: Certainly I remember Harold Weiss, editor of Midwest Frontier, a sheet printed in Cleveland for distribution among the internment camps. The taxpayers, by the way, had to dig down to support this publication.... Well, one issue of Midwest Frontier contained this advice to the Jap prisoners: "You should leave these camps



JOSE:  
(cond)

and settle in the middle west. Believe it or not some few tenants and seasonal workers do not bathe. They think it unhealthy.

We need you people to change our ideas about this. You have a lesson to teach Ohio and Michigan farmers in sanitation."

SID:

Another paragraph said: "You must teach American farmers who are not as careful painstaking and accurate as you are, your faithfulness to your task, your willingness to work, your appreciation of a job well done." Now who penned those immortal words? A bird by the name of Everett L. Dakin, who ran the Dillon S. Myer office in Columbus, Ohio.....And what were Mr. Dakin's qualifications for the job of watching a stockade full of Hirochito's offspring? Well, he had a job on the faculty of Ohio State University. And what chair did he adorn? Why the teaching of poultry... I wonder why it never occurred to Dillon S. Myer and his brace of Ohio yes-men to suggest to the intered Japs that they were not only qualified to teach American farmers to bathe, and how to run their farms, but were even more qualified, by nature and by training, to teach Americans how to murder their sons at Pearl Harbor---how to behead Australian aviators--how to torture Doolittle's fliers--how to plunge bayonets into American prisoners on Bataan--how to run caterpillar tractors over their bodies when they collapsed from beatings and starvation on the Death March--how to ravish and then murder British nurses at Hong Kong---how to dash a Chinese baby's brains out against a stone wall.



Inside the News  
Jan. 16, 1945

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JOSE: Well, Sid, it's true that American-born Japanese are American citizens and thus have the same constitutional rights the rest of us have. But all legal rights are suspended even for our Caucasian citizens in time of war if the emergency demands. We lock up anybody concerning whom we have the slightest doubt. And the fact that some Japanese-Americans are fighting in Italy has nothing to do with the danger and harm that one Jap saboteur roaming around the Pacific Coast might commit. The important thing is the safety of this nation.

SID: I get tired of Dillon S. Myer and his ilk pointing to that Jap unit in Italy as vindication for every atrocity the missing link are perpetrating in Asia. Why, those Japs on Italy would be the first to advise against the indiscriminate mingling of the internees with returned soldiers or white parents who learn every day how their sons are being treated in Japanese prison camps---as opposed to the way we pamper and pet them in the comfortable--well-provisioned--idleness of our concentration corrals... Just as sure as the prisoners are released and start streaming back to this part of the country there'll be trouble---and our own men now captives of the sub-human enemy we're fighting in the Orient will pay a frightful penalty for the dreamy-eyed, dewey-lipped philosophy of Dillon S. Myer, if he gets away with it.

COPY

COPY



COPY

THIRTY DRUG STORES

INSIDE THE NEWS

Wed. January 17, 1945  
10:30-10:45 PM

SID: As long as I got started on the explosive subject of the Japs in the concentration camps returning to the Pacific Coast---at the very moment that we are stepping up the savage, pitiless, war against their relatives and their ancestors in the Far East---I might as well run the vacuum cleaner of comment over a few odds and ends and turn to other pressing topics of the day... The fact that thousands of wounded and permanently crippled American soldiers are crowding our streets after years of killing Japs in the South Pacific--the fact that to an American youth whose life has been irretrievably wrecked by Japs, all Japs look alike---the fact that millions and millions of our citizens don't want them back here--all this means nothing to the people behind the move to bring them back. Los Angeles is warned that every Federal agency, both civilian and military, would uphold the rights of the Japs to return.

JOSE: I've always believed that the principal argument in behalf of the returning Japanese was not absolutely sound---that now the danger of a Japanese invasion of the Pacific Coast has practically disappeared it is perfectly all right for Japanese-Americans to come back....Well, let's examine the converse of that argument. It's the equivalent of saying: "As long as there was danger of a Japanese invasion we kept Japanese-Americans away from the Coast because evidently you couldn't trust them absolutely."

SID: Which proves you're as logical and level-headed as ever, chum. A couple of minutes after Pearl Harbor, General DeWitt began to round up all Japs in the three western states. He didn't bother to ask if they were born here---if they were loyal to America---if we could



depend on them in case the Japs from the home islands began to swarm ashore in an invasion. To DeWitt a Jap was a Jap, and he didn't want another Pearl Harbor. Now the fact that General DeWitt's successor has decided that Japanese-American citizens properly vouched for by the FBI and other investigators might come back, only means that the military authorities have the situation under such control that they can take care of it. It also means that the minute they start swarming back here the civilian authorities are going to have to be alert 24 hours a day to head off trouble between them and Chinese, Filipinos and our own American citizens. Police Commissioner Al Cohn was denounced because he thought it would be wise to furnish these Japs with some sort of identification card, so petulant citizens might distinguish between them and any Japs that might be landed by submarine or by other means, to commit sabotage right here among us.

JOSE: I can't see why anybody should have objected to that precaution, and I'll wager that any Japanese-Americans who do come will demand some such card or other means of identification purely as a matter of self-protection. I see no sense in the attitude that such credentials would be offensive to the pride of the returning evacuees. My pride isn't hurt, and I have to carry a number of credentials including a draft board registration card right this minute.

SID: And what good, in the name of the common sense would such a card do? When any real Jap saboteur would naturally carry a set of forged credentials... the police won't be furnished with either the names or addresses of such Japs as come back here. The authorities will be told the number of those who come back---but they're evidently to be spared the humiliation of having to report to the police, or ~~even~~ even notify them of their names and places of residence. Can you



imagine a human being with one drop of American blood in his veins running around Tokyo under that set-up? Can you imagine what would happen to Americans in a Japanese prison camp who staged a riot and beat up their guards and doctors, as those Japs did up at Tule Lake? Has anybody forgotten what the Jap general replied, when he was asked in Tokyo how they were treating American captives? He said: "Whenever Americans refuse to work, on the pretext that they are too weak because of the food we supply them, the guards lash them with a blacksnake whip." Well, every American who has escaped a Jap prison camp recites a nightmare horror tale of what happens to our men. And it's just 180 degrees different from the way those Tule Lake rioters were treated.

JOSE: Well, the Attorney General's office doesn't seem to share 100% these feelings about the internees. Over a year ago it energetically demanded that Congress pass a law depriving Japanese-American citizens of their citizenship if their disloyalty is either admitted or proved against them...And that couldn't happen to any other citizen, no matter what ancestral blood flows in his veins.

SID: Well, after the mess at Tule Lake, the army finally had to move in here. And now, our citizens believe it's dangerous to have any Japs at all in our midst---possibly dangerous to our war effort--most certainly dangerous for the Jap, himself.... I wonder if anybody detected the reprimand in the statement contained in the Atty. General's office---that the Jap internees could be handled with firmness and discipline and justice---and still not be abused. Tokyo understands what that meant. And it likewise understands, and probably gets a terrific diaphragm laugh, out of the maudlin sentimentality



Inside the News  
Jan. 17, 1945

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displayed toward the Japs in this country by the dreamy-eyed bleeding hearts who're going to be responsible for a terrible and regrettable incident before this thing's over.

oOo



Memo: To Judson

COPY

From: Daily News Reporter on Gardena Meeting, March 1, 1945,  
addressed by Al Blake and John Lechner.

Re: Anti-Jap Meeting.

The meeting held under auspices of "Citizens Emergency Committee" last night at 8 at Gardena Council Chamber was attended by 100-120 people. First speaker was Al Blake who went into his song and dance about his pre-Pearl Harbor counter-Japanese Navy Intelligence work. At the end he invited questions (as though he expected unpleasant ones).

First question by Rev. S. Martin Eidsath, new pastor of Moneta Presbyterian Church, Phone, Menlo 4-1064, Residence, 1720 Gardena Blvd: "Understanding that intelligence agents, if they are thoroughly qualified cannot resign in time of war, were called back to active duty at time of Pearl Harbor. Would you mind explaining why you were not called back to duty?"

Blake replied that his picture had been printed in papers, Japs would know him. He'd therefore lost his usefulness. Said he was transferred from navy to Coast Guard intelligence.

Another customer asked: "Were you engaged in any governmental activity at the time you ran a nudist picture gallery at the San Francisco World Fair?"

Blake laughed it off by remembering the questioner was one of his customers at the Fair, but admitted the show, said it was "artistic".

Another asked: "I have seen you quoted in print as identifying yourself as a Chief of Coast Guard Intelligence. Is this statement correct?"

Blake said he'd never claimed such a title.

Warren Smith: (World War II Veteran) "What was your main source of income during prohibition?"

Blake said, "I was in the wholesale liquor business."

Others wanted to question Blake but he claimed a pressing



engagement elsewhere and as he left rostrum said in a coy aside to the audience "That's what they'll do with your dirty past!"

Recess: About half of audience got up and walked out.

Rev. Eidsath made impromptu points: "13,000 Japanese-Americans in service, a higher proportion to population than with caucasians. 700 were dead."

"Dangerous to draw citizenship lines because of race - that's what the Nazis did."

"I speak for fairness - and have no brief for disloyal Japanese."

Rev. added don't judge them by race "but judge the innocent by the innocent and the guilty by the guilty - that's only fair."

A VFW man then read attached Lomita Post corny anti-Jap resolution. Followed a session of one race hater shooting off his face in the usual line after another - usually with the Rev. or the W.W. II Veteran making an answering and effective plea for tolerance. The audience was befuddled and on the defensive.

Even the good Dr. Lechner was unusually tamed down when he got up to talk. He looked as though he was a little puzzled. He just didn't say anything worth while for ten minutes except that he criticized Lomita Post for their resolution said it would do more harm than good. He was on the defensive in his talk on racism. Said it "Was not a question of race prejudice but good common sense to keep the Japs out."

No fist fights. Meeting got pretty hot right after recess then calmed down.

I'll be at TWinoaks 9825 until 8:30 tomorrow if this needs further clarifying.

Harmer

P. S. VFW Man was hostile because press hadn't used resolution, dared them to use it.



## BERKELEY INTER-RACIAL COMMITTEE

DAVIS McENTIRE, Chairman  
JANE DAVIS, Executive Secretary

Loyal Japanese-Americans may now return to the west coast. Many lost their homes and businesses in the haste of the evacuation, yet all complied with few complaints, hoping thus to show their loyalty.

No mass return of evacuees is expected. Government authorities have stated in all probability not over fifty percent of the pre-war Japanese-American population will return, and these gradually over a period of many months. Discharged veterans and University students will probably be among the earliest returning. In order to ease the problems of their return, planning by community agencies is essential.

The Berkeley Inter-racial Committee has been asked by various community leaders to co-ordinate the activities of their organizations on this problem. Undoubtedly housing, especially for families, will be the greatest need. This committee and co-operating organizations are therefore making a community-wide survey of available housing. Employment opportunities are also being recorded. This information will be sent to the War Relocation Authority. The committee is not soliciting sub-standard housing or employment at less than prevailing wages. It is important for the welfare of the community that returning Japanese-Americans neither be exploited nor placed in the position of depressing housing or wage standards.

Will you assist in this effort in reporting any aid you may be able to give in offering housing, permanent or temporary, or employment, even in part-time jobs, on the enclosed post-card, and sending it as soon as possible to Jane Davis, Executive Secretary, 2634 Le Conte Ave., Berkeley. If you have no room or job to offer, or if you have already received this inquiry from another organization, please pass this along to someone else who may be able to help.



734.8

ADOPTED BY THE GRANGE CONVENTION.

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Legis. 20

Opposing Return of Japanese to Pacific Coast  
ORANGE COUNTY POMONA GRANGE

Whereas, the government of the United States of America and the government of Japan are now at war, and that soon after war was declared between the two governments, the Government of the United States removed all Japanese from California and the Pacific Coast, thereby demonstrating to us that our Government and the people had no faith or confidence in the patriotism of any of said Japanese; and

Whereas, there is now a movement by some people advocating the return of said Japanese to California and the Pacific Coast; and

Whereas, we believe that such people are uninformed as to the real and true nature of the Japanese people and of their race, their creeds and teachings, and if they were rightly informed, would not advocate the return of said Japanese to California and the Pacific Coast; and

Whereas, we are unalterably opposed to the return of the Japanese to California and the Pacific Coast at any time, and we advocate and recommend that the Government of the United States take proper steps to deport all Japanese from the United States as soon as possible, either before or at the close of the present war;

Be it Resolved that we are opposed to the return of the Japanese to California and the Pacific Coast at any time, as they have demonstrated themselves to be unworthy of trust to live or mingle with American citizens;

Be it further Resolved that we urge the proper authorities to take proper steps to amend our constitution and laws, and deport all Japanese from the continental United States and all United States possessions, as soon as possible.



Received at Conference of Religious Executives at Y.W.C.A.

221.1 file  
2705

SAMPLE LETTER TO EDITOR OF RELIGIOUS PAPER

I have appreciated your support of constitutional treatment for the evacuees of Japanese stock, and am writing now to ask your cooperation in order to ensure decent treatment for such of the evacuees as may return to this Coast. The situation is summarized on the enclosed sheet, "If the Evacuees Return to the West Coast."

Also enclosed you will find President Sproul's pungent speech on "The Test of a Free Country". Numbers of thoughtful religious and civic leaders share his convictions, but many other citizens, including active churchmen, do not. The prevalent race-baiting propaganda leads them to lump all evacuees indiscriminately with our enemies in Japan itself. Only the mobilization of a very influential body of supporters of order and constitutional rights is likely to avert the danger of boycotts and even violence against the returning evacuees. I earnestly hope you will back our efforts in that direction by dealing in your columns with the issues involved. To be most effective, editorials and notes should appear at intervals during the next few weeks.

Dr. Sproul's address furnishes stimulating material, especially pages 2-5, and the items below, as well as those in "Soldier and Civilian Nisei" may be useful. If you desire more materials from time to time, please let me know. One caution: we do not wish any specific publicity regarding our intensive campaign.

Sincerely yours,

---oo0oo---

An American officer in the Southwestern Pacific area, recently at home in California on furlough, expressed this opinion on the Nisei service men:

"On our Pacific fronts the large body of Nisei in the Intelligence Radio, and other units, are uniquely valuable. I say deliberately that they can contribute ten times as much per man as any other racial group to our victory over Japan. They have proven their loyalty by risking or giving their lives. Because of their language qualifications, these American citizens of Japanese ancestry are playing a part in winning the war against Japan far beyond that being played by those non-combatants, safe here at home, who have glibly assailed the loyalty and Americanism of all Nisei and would deny them the rights we are all fighting to preserve. It would be un-American and shameful if these men were to return from the victory they are doing so much to win, only to be cold-shouldered in this State, when they will deserve as glorious a welcome as any white veterans."

The Purple Heart was awarded to 1,000 of the 1,400 Nisei in the 100th Battalion in Italy, and General Mark Clark gave the whole Battalion a Distinguished Unit Citation.

In Hawaii, where Japanese-stock residents were treated without discrimination, 10,000 men of draft age besieged the Draft Boards when the Army asked for volunteers, - the highest ratio offered by any racial group in the U.S.A.

Leave out for



Mr. Jeff Beavers, Editor

Foreign Language Press of S.F.  
About 20 different papers.





Volume LIV

Ojai, California, Friday, June 1, 1945

Number 22

# Soldiers Protest Japanese Treatment on West Coast

## SERVICE NOTES

A group of GI Joes in the 40th Infantry Division in the Philippines with MacArthur, have composed the following letter to the magazine "Yank" for publication and the boys are sending copies of it to their home town newspapers asking them to print it also. As Pfc. Frank Kilbourne Jr. of Ojai has been with this outfit all through its invasions of Luzon, Mindanao, Negros and other of these islands, he has sent his copy of the letter home requesting publication in Ojai.

Philippines  
May 3, 1945.

Dear Yank:

In "Time" magazine for March

nineteenth, there appeared an article entitled "American Fair Play?" which indicated that intolerance toward American-born Japanese is still rearing its ugly head in the United States, especially on the West Coast.

The action of the Hood River, Oregon American Legion Post in striking from its roll of honor the names of Japanese-American servicemen shows that many people intend to make returning Japanese-American veterans into what could be called "men without a country".

The person who takes part in or tolerates such persecution is not worthy to be called an American or to enjoy the privileges of American democracy. They more nearly fit the pattern of a country such as Hitler's Germany where intolerance and per-

secution of unfortunate minorities was encouraged.

These Japanese-American servicemen are doing as much any other in the service of their country. For example, take the 100th Infantry Battalion serving in Italy. This unit is composed entirely of Japanese-Americans and has an enviable combat record. No American soldier, worthy of the name, would say they aren't loyal Americans.

The above mentioned article in "Time" also stated that a group of citizens of Gresham, Oregon circulated a petition that all people of Japanese blood be deported to a Pacific island. It would be much more fitting if the people who sign such petitions or indulge in any similar un-American acts be placed on the island. In that way Ameri-

ca could continue to be the broadminded nation she has always been.

We are supposedly fighting for those principles of democracy, while at home intolerance and even violence usually greets loyal Japanese-Americans who are trying to return to normal life. Can returning Japanese-American veterans expect any better treatment than their families are receiving?

This intolerance toward loyal Japanese-American citizens must cease. They have been released to return to their homes because their loyalty has been proven and all they want is to be allowed to live the American way of life in peace. It's practically certain that intolerance toward Japanese-American veterans and their families will neither be

practiced nor tolerated by the other veterans of this war.

Signed:

Pfc. Frank E. Kilbourne, Jr.  
Pfc. Robert B. Well  
Pfc. H. W. Park  
Cpl. Harold R. Flinn  
Pfc. Julius Bersong  
Cpl. Melvin Christenson  
Pfc. Claude L. Dugas  
Pfc. Clifford Anderson  
Pfc. Albert Slack  
Pfc. Leonard A. Pokarski  
Pfc. Don McCleister  
Pfc. Albert K. Walter  
Pfc. John J. Harkema  
Pfc. Michael V. Mochak  
Pfc. Robert R. Nelsen  
Pfc. Frank D. Bowcutt  
Pfc. Jack M. Gavin  
Pfc. Robert C. Newton  
Pfc. Edison Westbury  
Pfc. Edwin R. Steele  
Pfc. Terrall White  
Cpl. Guy Eutsler



*Puffery*

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

July 5, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: Project Directors  
Assistant Field Directors  
Relocation Officers

Attached for your information are copies of an exchange of correspondence between Mr. William G. Merchant, of the Down Town Association of San Francisco, and Assistant Secretary of War McCloy concerning the return of Japanese to the West Coast, and a letter to Miss Alice Burks, Chief Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, from Colonel William P. Scobey, General Staff Executive in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of War, stating the War Department's attitude on the release of Japanese from relocation centers.

Excerpts from Mr. McCloy's letter were published in the Chicago Herald-Tribune of June 16, 1943, and in some West Coast papers. It is my understanding that excerpts from Colonel Scobey's letter also appeared in West Coast papers. It occurred to me that you would be interested in having the full text of the letters.

*H. S. Meyer*  
Director



DOWN TOWN ASSOCIATION

85 Post Street

San Francisco

Office of the President

May 26, 1943

Hon. Henry L. Stimson  
Secretary of War  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The Down Town Association of San Francisco, an old established organization representative of property owners and business interests of San Francisco, has been deeply concerned about the threat to release certain Japanese from detention centers and to permit them to return to the Pacific Coast area. Most earnestly we endorse the policy which General DeWitt has adopted and put into effect, excluding all persons of the Japanese race from this critical combat area during the war emergency.

Respectfully, but with all the forcefulness of language that we can command, we protest against any sentimentality or impractical idealism that would permit Japanese to return to the Coast communities. We of the West know the Japs better than do theorists and self-styled humanitarians of the East whose contacts and impressions of the Japanese have been gained at long distance.

We do not believe it possible that not a single American born Jap had knowledge of the elaborate preparations made long in advance for participation by Honolulu Japs in the organized sneak attack on Pearl Harbor. Neither have we forgotten that there is no record made known to the public, so far as we are informed, that any American born Jap came forward to warn our government of the impending treachery.

It would, in our opinion, be foolhardy and a policy utterly lacking in realism to permit any Japanese to return to the coast areas during the war. Our highest Army and Navy officers continue to warn and even to alarm us into a realization that our coast area -- Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles -- will be raided and bombed by the Japs, if for no other reason than to lift Japanese home morale and to save face.

We would be the last to countenance violence or reprisals upon Japs within our borders. Any violence shown to Japs would probably have the horrible result of bringing torture and death to our men of Bataan and of the South Seas who are prisoners in Jap hands. The execution of our Tokyo fliers has shown the total savagery of this enemy.

C-0289-P3-BU-COS-WP



It would be a tragic lack of realism to think that the lives of any Japs loose in our coast area would be safe if there was a Jap air raid over our cities, with death, conflagration and destruction rained down upon our people from the skies. We are too close to Pearl Harbor and Corregidor and to the awful ordeals our men have endured on Guadalcanal, to expect that our people will be complacent and loftily idealistic about pure humanitarianism, if members of this race are at large in our midst while their compatriots are bombing and maiming and killing our people.

Any official or group of officials or citizens responsible for the return of Japanese to the Pacific Coast would have upon their heads the tragic consequences that might follow from such an ill-considered policy.

We urge upon you in the best interests of our Nation, not to permit this grievous mistake to be made.

Yours very truly,

Wm. G. Marchant, President  
Down Town Association of San Francisco



June 4, 1943

Dear Mr. Merchant:

The Secretary of War has asked me to acknowledge your letter to him of May 26, on the question of the return of certain Japanese evacuees to the West Coast. This will also acknowledge your letter to General Marshall on the same subject.

In view of your expressions I feel it only fair to give you some information as to the War Department's policies in regard to the people of Japanese descent in California and elsewhere on the West Coast.

The War Department participated in and is responsible for the decision to move the Japanese descended people of the West Coast on military grounds and the suggestion that the views of the Department and of General DeWitt are at variance on any important particulars is entirely false. The War Department is aware that many of the evacuees, both citizens and aliens, are disloyal and in some instances even potentially dangerous. On the other hand, it is just as clear even after the experiences they have gone through that many of these people are entirely loyal to the United States. These people are still going through a rather severe test of their loyalty, and steps are being taken which should give us far greater information on this subject than we have ever had in the past. It seems entirely unnecessary and unjust to retain loyal citizens and others in restrictive custody when they could do their part toward the war effort. The War Department policy, therefore, is to afford to loyal Japanese every opportunity to make their contribution. This they have asked for, and it is not proposed, when they have demonstrated loyalty and adherence to this country, to prohibit them from doing their part. In line with this policy the War Department on January 28 announced its plan to organize a Japanese American unit for combat service. The personnel of this unit are all volunteers, and each individual has been carefully scrutinized as to loyalty and cleared for service in the Army. I think they will prove to be a real military asset to the country. Once they have taken the oath of a soldier and have been placed in uniform, these soldiers are to be accorded the privileges extended to any other soldier in the Army. This includes the privilege of returning on furlough to any part of the United States he desires. Certainly your organization would not feel that these people who have volunteered to face the enemy in battle should not be accorded this privilege and opportunity. There are very few individuals who will be covered by such regulations but the Army in any case, must and will afford its soldiers equal treatment. Such steps have been taken after consideration

C-0289-P5-BU-COS-WP



by the Army and in the light of advice from many officers who are entirely familiar with the Japanese, their language and their country.

I am no expert on Japanese matters but I am in a position where, from time to time, I see absolutely unmistakable evidence of loyalty to this country and hatred for the Japanese military system on the part of many of those of Japanese descent in this country. Such loyalty has been evidenced in many cases in the face of physical beatings and other duress. The Department is aware of the attitude of many people on the West Coast; the danger to the Japanese themselves, etc. which might result from a sudden letting down of the bars, but the War Department is merely charged with the military security of the country. The relocation of the Japanese is a social and national problem and only to the extent that it really affects our military security does the War Department presume to express any opinions on the subject. It is my hope that organizations similar to yours will give careful thought to the problem and lend their efforts to a sensible and fair solution of it. California and the other Western Defense States must certainly share in the solution.

While the War Department does support a recognition of the loyalty of many Japanese Americans, it retains its prime consideration for the security of not only our coasts but of all expeditionary forces. There is no immediate plan to return for residence on the Coast of any large number of evacuees. There are certain mixed marriage cases that after proper screening probably will be handled on an individual basis with a view of correcting an unnecessary separation of man and wife. There may be certain other steps taken to alleviate hardships in individual cases or to recognize the full responsibility of the country to a soldier in uniform, but this is all for the moment we are considering so far as reintroduction of Japanese American citizens into the Western Defense Command is concerned.

I hope these facts will give you an understanding of the War Department's attitude in the matter and will afford to you an opportunity to explore the matter further if you so desire.

Sincerely,

(signed)

JOHN J. McCLOY  
Assistant Secretary of War

Mr. William G. Merchant, President  
Down Town Association  
85 Post Street  
San Francisco, California



May 5, 1943

Dear Miss Burks:

Your letter of April 29 and the attached action of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, relating to the War Department's action on the release of the Japanese from relocation centers, has been transmitted to this office for acknowledgment and reply. The Board is thanked for its interest in the matter and for furnishing the Secretary with a copy of its resolution.

It seems appropriate in replying thereto to inform the Board that the facts stated in its resolution have not been correctly determined. The War Department does not contemplate incorporating 28,000 native born Japanese into the armed service. It does have a current plan for organizing a combat team of American citizens of Japanese extraction which, when complete, will give to the Army approximately 9,000 Japanese.

The War Department was the agency responsible for the evacuation of the Japanese from the West Coast. Undoubtedly, you are aware that it was not intended that this mass evacuation imply disloyalty on the part of all Japanese. The occasion for the evacuation was the lack of information as to the individual disposition of the Japanese on the West Coast and the exigencies of the military situation then existing. Assuming that many of these Japanese are loyal, of which the War Department is convinced, it does not appear either right or in accordance with the American conception of democracy to retain these loyal Japanese in restricted custody, and it is not believed that your council would so subscribe. Certainly, the War Department does not concur in any action which would jeopardize the security of the West Coast, any other coast of the United States, or the safety of its military expeditions. It might be interesting for you to know that among the Japanese American soldiers now in the Army, many are in theaters of operation, and only recently three of these Japanese Americans were decorated by their theater commander for meritorious service.

It is hoped that this will give you some concept of the existing situation and the policy of the War Department on the matter.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM P. SCOBEEY  
Colonel, General Staff  
Executive

Miss Alice Burks, Chief Clerk  
Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
Los Angeles, California

C-0289-P7-Final-NOBU-COS-WP



COPY

V.F.W.

Received from Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.  
Post, NO. 3261 1580 Market St., Gardena, Calif.

Jan. 22, 1945

Pfc. H. A. Curry  
445 West 165th Street  
Gardena, California

Dear Pfc. Curry:

In regards to the controversy over the omission of Kiyoshi Muranaga's name from the Honor Roll of the Gardena Post, VFW, we wish to inform you that the original plaque was taken down over four months ago for repainting. At present, a new board is being constructed to include all the names of the boys from our locality. In the first place we had no information as to this DSC winner who lost his life in Italy. The first knowledge of this appears in the press mentioned.

We regret that this matter has placed us in such an unfavorable light with the public, and trust that our action assures you that we are real Americans after all.

The National organization will not permit any one post to have racial prejudices, and we want you to know that our Post never intended that these Japanese-Americans who are loyal to our country would be left off of this Honor Roll. We feel that these boys are entitled to the same recognition as any other American who is serving in the Armed Forces.

Please feel free to call upon us whenever we can help you in anyway. With kindest regards, I am

Yours sincerely,  
Joseph C. Ferro, Commd.  
Commander



COPY

22 January 1945

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Cardena, California.

Dear Sirs:

I have before me an article that appeared in the New York newspaper "PM" 17 December 1944 stating that your Post has refused to carry the names of Japanese-American soldiers serving in the U.S. Army on the Cardena Honor Roll.

As I am in the Army myself, I resent bitterly the action taken by your Post against fellow servicemen. It also disturbs me because I am a member of your democratic and progressive community (though I now use the words skeptically) and I still call Cardena my home, but after reading this news item I am ashamed to admit to my friends that I every heard of "Our Fair" city.

I am fortunate enough to be in a position where I see the results of most of the Japanese-American soldiers, and for the record I'd like to inform your organization of a few of their achievements. These quotes are from official War Department Bureau of Public Relation Releases.

"The Japanese-American 100th Infantry Battalion has recently received a Presidential Unit Citation presented by Lt. General Mark W. Clark, U.S. Army, Commanding General of the Fifth Army, in which he said: 'You boys have always been thinking of your country before yourselves. You deserve the approbation of the United States Army and the gratitude of the American People.'"

"The Japanese-American unit is the only one in the army to have fought on two hemispheric fronts; the unit of 1300 troops has more than 1020 Purple Hearts, 44 Silver Stars, 31 Bronze Stars, 9 Distinguished Service Crosses, and 3 Legion of Merit Medals. Fifteen enlisted men have received battlefield commissions after displaying outstanding leadership in combat."

"In this unit there has never been a case of desertion or absence without leave, although there have been two cases of "Reverse AWOL". Before their battle wounds were completely healed in a field hospital behind the lines, two soldiers left the hospital and hitch-hiked back to their companies on the battlefield."

And that's more than the Army can say about many other outfits.

"The Japanese-American outfit in Italy is highly respected by other American troops. This bunch wanted to fight the Japs and was keenly disappointed when they learned that they would not be sent into the Pacific Theater of War."



One Japanese-American soldier summed it all up when he said of his fellow soldiers; "Japanese-American soldiers realize their battlefield performance must refute for all time questions of Japanese-American disloyalty. Because of this, they go far above and beyond the call of duty."

I feel that any Japanese-American soldier fighting for our country in view of the prejudice against him and his family is proving that he is a much better citizen than most of us. It's hard to understand how anyone can forget that he is not only fighting for "our" country, but for his own freedom from racial prejudice; and he will even give his life to prove the point so that his children can grow up without the stigma of prejudices.

Your attitude and actions make me realize how small the human mind really can be in some people. It destroys one's faith in humanity when you see how unappreciative they are. When one of their fellow citizens, and one with the cards all against him, joins their sons in a fight to make a free world, they are not fighting so that stupid promoters of Anti-Racism can thrive and spread their hatred far and wide. It is surprising how Nazi-like some of our "righteous" citizens can be.

If any of your members have sons in the Army I imagine they would feel deeply ashamed of their fathers' thoughts and deeds as they themselves go through the mill of war to free other nations of racial hatred.

I don't imagine that these brave men that won the last war and lost the peace would admit that they have racial prejudices, for that would be admitting that the fundamental rights of American citizenship are no longer recognized, but that is still one of the reasons why we are fighting this one. Won't it be nice for these sons to come home and find they have failed because their fathers sabotaged their efforts behind their backs.

In closing I wish to say that I am disappointed that my name is not on your so-called Honor Roll, because if it were <sup>there</sup> I would certainly request its removal. In the Army one learns what the word "Democracy" means and in "My Democracy" I would be mighty proud to have my name on a Roll with all the Japanese-American soldiers.

Maybe you've forgotten that loyalty to your country is a matter of the heart and mind, not of race, creed or color.

Very sincerely yours,

Pfc. H. A. Curry  
Signal Corps, U. S. Army  
Home address - 445 West 165th Street,  
Gardena, California



COPY

Adjutant  
Eugene Beckman  
24301 Lomita Drive  
Lomita, Calif.

Commander  
Harry W. Carragher  
2209 Pacific Coast Hwy.  
Lomita, Calif.

Quartermaster  
Norman M. Gardiner  
1800 Pacific Coast Hwy.  
Lomita, Calif.

LOMITA POST NO. 1622  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States

Meets every 3rd Sunday  
7:30 P.M. in V.F.W. Hall  
2206 W. Lomita Blvd.  
Phone Lomita 499

Office of

Lomita, California.

V.F.W.  
Organized 1899  
An Association of Men  
Who have Fought  
American Foreign Wars  
on Land and Sea

---

Mr. Stuart Hamblen,  
c/o Radio Stn KFWB.  
5833 Fernwood Ave  
Hollywood, California.

Dear Mr. Hamblen:

As chairman of the Jap Problem Committee of this Post, and in behalf of the members of this Post, I take pleasure in writing you this letter of commendation for your stand taken previous to January 15, 1945., regarding the Jap problem which confronts us in this country today. This letter is the result of action taken by the members of this Post at their regular meeting held January 11, 1945., by an unanimous vote of the members present.

Your action and words spoken over the radio prior to January 15, is in accord with our stand on this Jap problem. Your words spoken on and after this date, leads us to believe some sort of pressure was brought to bear upon you which caused you to apologize as you did on January 15, and we feel this apology was not your honest opinion. We are very much interested to know, if possible, where this pressure came from. Of course, we realize your position on the radio, and what could ~~xx~~ happen to your program if you failed to comply with certain people, no matter how you felt about the matter in question.

We know that these 'front organizations' of Pacifist Groups in this country, who are fighting for the return of the Japs to the West Coast, and who by no means are helping the War effort, nor the morale of our Boys fighting the Japs; are only too happy to put on the pressure when they get a chance. They believe that we MUST, believe their way of thinking, and not our own.

It is our opinion, without a doubt, that such people have a motive for their actions, which is to create a negotiated peace with the Japs, who will be only too glad to accept with everything in their favor. This kind of peace treaty with the Japs will be the results, if these 'brotherly Love people' have their way about ending this war, and which will cause, in not a too distant future, a worse bloody war with the Japs.



Mr. Hamblen-

-2-

Did you know that all Japs born in this country hold dual citizenship? Did you know that our immigration laws make no provision to cancel the American citizenship of a Jap, or anyone else who was born here and holds dual citizenship; one here and one in his own country?

All honor to anyone fighting for us in Europe. But second generation of German-Americans are fighting against Germany, as was the case in the last War. Yet no second generation of Jap-Americans can be trusted to fight against Japan, which is plain reason why the Japs must be given preferential treatment.

The Jap-American unit of 1200 over in Europe are being lauded far beyond purely all-American units performing the same tasks, and no mention is ever made that the unit contains many Korean-Americans. Nor is it ever mentioned in the War Relocation Authority 'propaganda', that Jap-Americans numbering many times the number of drafted Jap-Americans in our Army, responded to Japan's conscription call just before the War, and are now fighting in the Jap Army against us.

The Jap Problem Committee of this Post have the real and logical solution regarding this Jap problem in this country, which is as follows:

1. Keep all Japs, for their own protection as well as our own, in the relocation centers under exclusive Army control. Also, treat all other known subversive minded aliens in the same manner.
2. At the close of the War, immediately send all Japs, Male and Female, back to Japan who have shown any sign of loyalty to that country. Also, treat all other subversive minded Aliens in the same manner.
3. Take all so-called loyal American-Japs, Male and Female, and send them all back to Japan to take over the entire Government and education of that country under American supervision. This, they would be only too happy to do, IF, they are sincerely loyal to this country.
4. Take away the citizenship of all Japs, and pass immigration laws to eliminate anyone from holding dual citizenship in this country.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Capt. Frank A. Keidel  
Lomita Post No. 1622, V.F.W.  
Lomita, California





COPY

LOMITA POST 1622  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States  
Lomita, Calif.

September 14, 1944

Major General. Charles Bonesteel  
Western Defense Commander  
United States Army  
San Francisco, California.

It has come to our attention through recent items in Los Angeles leading newspapers whereas certain Japs from various relocation centers, have petitioned the U. S. Federal Court in Los Angeles to enjoin you from further excluding them from Coastal Areas.

We further understand that an Army hearing board is considering these cases, with recommendations to be made to the Court. And if this Army board does not approve of the return of these Japs, a court trial will be the result, with you and other Officers as defendants.

We know that this Mr. A.L. Wirin, counsel for the American Civil Liberties Union is behind this movement, as well as others of his kind. We know that his organization and others of its kind, are merely "Front Organizations" for 'Pacifist Groups' in this country, and whose activities should be curtailed immediately if we expect to bring this War with the Japs to a quick and victorious end.

For many years we have watched with apprehension the various activities of the Jap groups in this state, and we cannot subscribe to the theory there are any loyal Japs, nor can anyone else. They are all the product of teachings inculcated in them at Jap Schools, and their manifestations of loyalty are superficial.

We men who have fought America's battles on Foreign soil and on hostile waters, cannot by any ~~xxxxx~~ stretch of imagination be called race mongers, nor do we favor any bestial or inhuman action against the Japs in relocation centers. But we do favor them being kept where they are until the ~~the~~ close of this War with them, and at which time they all be deported back to Japan where they will not be in a position to jeopardize our National Security again, and especially the West coast States.

The overwhelming majority of the people in this State do not want the return of the Japs, and their wishes should be granted. These are the facts which can be substantiated by the State Senate Fact-Finding Committee and the State Assembly Interim Committee on Jap re-settlement, which Committees have for several months made extensive investigations thruout the State, and held many hearings regarding the Jap problem which confronts the people of this State.

The members of our organization do not tolerate subversive minded people or organizations, violence, race riots or its kind. To eliminate race riots, violence and bloodshed; the Japs must be kept where they are for their own protection, as well as for the people in this State.

We urge you to do all in your power to prevent the return of any Jap to this State, and if necessary, to stand trial in Federal Court and show cause why no Jap should be returned to this State at this time. To call for witnesses in your behalf; the chairmen of the State Senate Fact-Finding Committee and the State Assembly Interim Committee; the district attorney and Sheriff of Los Angeles County; the President of the State Peace Officers Assn; the President of the Native Sons of the Golden West; the Mayor of Los Angeles; the State Commanders of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion.

Harry W. Carragher. Post Commander

Capt. Frank A. Keidel. Post Advocate

Leslie E. Lahr. Past Post Commander

OFFICIAL: Eugene Beckman  
Post Adjutant



COPY

NOTE: The following is the answer received from General Bonesteel.

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND  
Office of the Commanding General  
Presidio of San Francisco, California

19 September 1944

Lomita Post No. 1622  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.  
Lomita, California

Gentlemen:

This acknowledges receipt of your letter dated 14 September 1944 to the Commanding General, Western Defense Command, pertaining to the exclusion of persons of Japanese ancestry from military areas of the Western Defense Command.

The Commanding General has directed me to inform you that the contents of your letter has been noted, and to express to you his sincere appreciation for your interest in this problem.

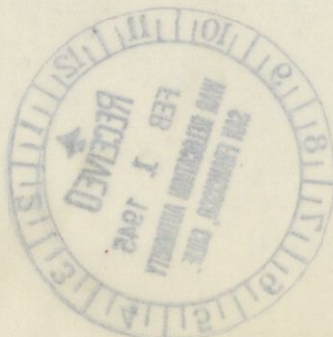
Very truly yours,

CHAS A. MIDDLETON,  
Major, AUS  
Actg Asst Adjutant General

NOTE: You will remember, the General shortly after receiving our letter, started to get a little tough on the Japs about letting them loose. Well, who is in Command now? It is not General Bonesteel. It is General Pratt, who no doubt was put in Command on orders to turn the Japs loose, which orders came from the WRA in Washington through the War Department. You know, Generals take their orders from higher-ups. If they stand on their own, they are removed for someone else who will take orders.

You are at liberty to broadcast, or publicize and comment, on our letter to General Bonesteel, and his answer. Also, the same goes for our personal letter to you as attached hereto.

/s/ Capt. Frank A. Keidel  
Chairman Jap Problem Committee





RESOLUTION UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED BY  
LOS ANGELES POST NO. 8, AMERICAN LEGION  
DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA  
AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD DECEMBER 21, 1944

WHEREAS, there has been considerable controversy and agitation since Pearl Harbor regarding the rights and status of American citizens of Japanese descent; and

WHEREAS, included among such Americans are those who have served in the American armed forces in World Wars I and II and those who are now serving America in various combat areas with heroic distinction; and

WHEREAS, among that group are those who have served actively and patriotically for many years as our comrades in the American Legion; and

WHEREAS, we have personally observed their conduct and activities as members of our own Legion Post and as members of the 17th District of California; and

WHEREAS, there have been grave assaults upon the rights of these fellow Americans and there has been and now is being waged a persistent campaign of intolerance, prejudice and hatred against them; and

WHEREAS, our attitude toward Americans of Japanese ancestry is of transcendent importance not only to them but to all Americans of whatever ancestry since it concerns a preservation of our constitution and the maintenance of the rights guaranteed thereunder; and

WHEREAS, the order of evacuation issued by the military authorities has now been vacated and the return of a number of the Japanese to our community is anticipated; and

WHEREAS, we are of the conviction that the time has come for a fair, honorable and American expression regarding this so-called Japanese problem:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE members of the Los Angeles Post of the American Legion, do hereby declare:

1. There must be no discrimination whatever against any American citizen based solely on his Japanese ancestry. We are deeply concerned over the widely disseminated expressions of certain groups and individuals which seek to deny these Americans their rights as such and attempt to establish a distinction between them and other citizens solely by reason of their race in disregard of the constitutional provision that there be no distinction between any person because of his race or color.

2. We particularly deplore any expression emanating from an American Legion source which refuses to accord any American ex-service man or service man the same rights, privileges and honors as any other citizen solely because of his ancestry.

3. We urge our comrades in the American Legion to see to it that the persons and property of the Japanese returning to our community are safeguarded and protected and that they be accorded their full rights and privileges under the constitution without reservation.



Department of the Interior  
War Relocation Authority  
461 Market Street  
San Francisco 5, California

The following editorial from The Washington Post of July 13, 1944, analyzes the issues involved in singling out only those Japanese and Japanese-Americans living on the west coast for evacuation, relocation and continued exclusion from their homes.

#### EXCLUSION TEST

"No one, we think, will seriously contend today that the west coast of the United States is in imminent danger of invasion. Yet some 70,000 American citizens, who were evacuated from their homes in that area because they happened to be of Japanese descent, are still forbidden to return, by military decree, on the pretext that a danger of invasion exists. A case testing the validity of this continued exclusion has at last been brought in the Superior Court of the State of California. All Americans, we believe, ought to know the facts in this case and ought to ponder its implications for their own freedom.

"One of the plaintiffs, an American citizen of Japanese ancestry, is a woman named Shizuko Shiramizu. She happens to be widowed. Her husband, Koyoshi Shiramizu, also an American citizen, was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds incurred in service with the United States Army in Italy and subsequently died from these wounds. Two of her brothers are now serving in the armed forces of the United States. Mrs. Shiramizu herself has been carefully investigated by the War Relocation Authority and has been adjudged completely loyal to this country. She has been tried by no court and has committed no offense, save that her name has an odd sound and is spelled in a peculiar, foreign way.

"Mrs. Shiramizu would like to go home. Home, in her case, happens to be California, where she was born and lived all her life (until she was evacuated) and earned her living and was married. This attachment to the neighborhood of her birth and her marriage seems neither unnatural nor unAmerican. But the commanding general of the Western Defense Command says that her presence in California -- or the presence of any persons with names like hers -- would endanger the security of the United States. He has acknowledged an improvement in the military situation on the west coast by canceling all the dimout restrictive orders which were once in force. Still, he does not feel that he can safely permit Mrs. Shiramizu to return to her husband's house.

"It is one of the functions of the courts of the United States to protect Americans against arbitrary acts of this kind by military officers. We hope, therefore, that Mrs. Shiramizu will be given her day in court and that the real issues of this case will be studied and assessed. A year ago, the Supreme Court upheld an order by the commanding general of the Western Defense Command imposing a curfew on all persons of Japanese descent. In doing so, however, it made clear that it justified a racial discrimination of this sort only on the ground of an emergency situation



and an urgent national danger. 'Except under conditions of great emergency,' said Mr. Justice Murphy, 'a regulation of this kind applicable solely to citizens of a particular racial extraction would not be regarded as in accord with the requirement of due process of law contained in the fifth amendment . . . When the danger is past, the restrictions imposed on them should be promptly removed and their freedom of action fully restored.'

"From this and from other opinions written by his colleagues in the same case, it appears patent that the Supreme Court would not countenance the continued exclusion of Japanese-Americans from the west coast in the absence of any real and present danger. If the exclusion is based on nothing more than racial hostility, then it raises an ugly threat to the fundamental principles of American life. It bears, as Mr. Justice Murphy pointed out elsewhere in his opinion on the curfew case, 'a melancholy resemblance to the treatment accorded members of the Jewish race in Germany and in other parts of Europe.' If the freedom of citizens can be restricted because of the spelling of their names, then none of us can claim more than a temporary and illusory hold upon freedom.



IVANHOE CITIZENS ASK EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE

RANCHERS AND VILLAGERS JAM BALL PARK, PETITION CONGRESS TO ENACT  
EXCLUSION LEGISLATION

With few exceptions, the entire community of Ivanhoe turned out last night to vehemently protest the return of Japanese-Americans to the area, and through petition, called upon the Congress to enact legislation making exclusion of Japanese-Americans lawfully possible.

Ranchers and villagers, their wives and children filled the grandstands in the Ivanhoe school yard ball park and when all the seats were taken stood up or sat in parked automobiles. They were augmented by many residents of the Woodlake and Lemon Cove districts.

Throughout the crowd were scattered numerous soldiers, home on leave, and as the meeting progressed, some of the servicemen were hoisted onto a truck, which served as a speaker's platform, and added their voices to the discussion.

The sentiment was strong--very strong--against the return of the Japanese and demands for their exclusion "as long as determined by the citizens of the community in a procedure duly ordained and established by constitutional law," were specific and firm.

A. B. Boswell, presiding, announced a list of committeemen to work with Attorney J. A. Chase, retained by the group in an advisory capacity, and members were unanimously approved. They are: Chas. Crockett, secretary, A. W. Strine, W. F. Peterson, F. V. Mills, M. F. Daggett, Wm. Winton, C. M. Teeters, H. L. Endicott, Don Hopper, Dan Davis, Ray Enlow, Joe Garner, G. R. Kitchens, C. M. Harlan, J. Dittenbir, J. W. Ward and Lon Scott.

Boswell's first words, "we are working men, ranchers and neighbors, gathered to protest the return of the Japanese," were drowned out by a resounding cheer. "We want to go about it in a lawful way," he said. Then he introduced Attorney Chase who explained "the committee wanted the law arranged so it would be possible. I told them I would have no part in it if there was any violence. I recommend that an oath be taken to uphold the constitution and to resort to no violence.

O. L. Anderson of Fresno, representing the War Relocation Board was asked to speak. He pointed out that the Japanese-Americans were excluded from the Coast by the Army, moved to 10 centers and placed under the supervision of the WRA. "The Army has now lifted the exclusion order and the Army has screened every individual released from the camps," said Anderson. "We are a service organization, assisting the returning property owners and residents."

District Attorney Speaks.

District Attorney Walter C. Haight called as the next speaker said: "I thought it unfortunate that the Japanese were returned to the Coast at this time. It is putting a strain on the patience I admit. But I also know we are law abiding citizens. We know if there is any violence in Tulare County, if even one Japanese is killed, that by the time they get through with the news in Tokyo they will have a mass massacre here. We fear for our soldiers who are prisoners of the Japanese. We are soldiers here, too, serving under the Stars and Stripes just as our soldiers are serving overseas. We must be good soldiers and obey. I am sure Tulare county will cause no reflection to be cast upon this country. And we certainly do not want to cause trouble here which will cause us to receive a panning across the country, although sometimes I consider the wrath from Secretary of the Interior Ickes a compliment. While the petitions are being presented in due form we have to be patient."



## 2--IVANHOE CITIZENS ASK EXCLUSION OF JAPANESE - Cont'd

W. F. Peterson, a member of the committee, drew several rounds of applause when he said, "I don't believe we can depend too much on Congress. Congressman Elliott is in favor of the Japanese, he said so in Porterville several years ago. Some of us in this area tried to keep the Japanese out years ago. That was when Leroy McCormick was district attorney, but we were hauled into court and fined \$100 each. I didn't want to pay my fine, but the rest of them talked me into it. I don't want to plead guilty. When some Visalia attorneys who owned land in the district leased the land to the Japanese we protested again but it didn't do any good." Peterson retired from the microphone with the crowd shouting "give it to them Bill," and "You tell 'em Windy."

### Soldier's Viewpoint.

Said John Matthews, a soldier: "I never stood up and talked before. But I have just come back from 34 months of service. I know how the boys feel. They are sticking with the Japs over there now and when they come back, they will stick with them here if they have to."

Charles O. Carrier, a Woodlake merchant said: "This is my sentiment. I am the father of three sons in service. One of them, a Marine, has spent several years against the Japanese. He said to me, when he came home the second time in two years, "Dad, I hope I never have to walk down a street and meet a Jap. Thank you."

M. D. Davenport, soldier, said: "What will you do if you are turned down by Congress? It merely occurred to me, what will you do then".

Attorney Chase was called upon by the committee and replied: "I'm not sure I can answer, but there has to be a beginning of everything. This is the beginning of the League to exclude Japanese residents from our communities."

Boswell then announced: "If there is anyone at all who wishes to make a speech for the Japanese, let him come up now." No one responded.

When the meeting adjourned, the crowd jammed around two long tables on which were placed 10 petitions and signatures were affixed.

### Pledge of Allegiance.

Copies of the pledge of allegiance were also on the tables and after the crowd thinned down and small groups of people started homeward, a check revealed that more signatures were affixed to the petitions than to the pledge of allegiance.

### The pledge read:

#### Pledge of Allegiance and non-violence:

State of California, county of Tulare: The undersigned, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That I will support the Constitution of the United States of America and the State of California, and all laws, rules and regulations emanating therefrom; that I will commit no act of violence nor participate in any course of conduct contrary to the purposes and intent of such laws.



1 STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
2 - County of Tulare - ) ss

3 The undersigned, being first duly sworn, deposes and  
4 says: That I will support eh Constitution of the United  
5 States of America and the State of California, and all laws,  
6 rules and regulations emanating therefrom; that I will com-  
7 mit no act of violence nor participate in any course of  
8 conduct contrary to the purposes and intent of such laws.

9 Subscribed and sworn to before me  
10 this day of June, 1945

11  
12 Notary Public in and for the Coun-  
13 ty of Tulare, State of California.  
14



PETITION TO CONGRESS.

To the Congress of the United States of America:

WHEREAS, a state of war now and at all times since the 8th day of December, 1941, has existed between the United States of America and the Empire of Japan, and

WHEREAS, citizens or subjects of Japan, prior to the commencement of said war, had been permitted and allowed to locate and become residents of communities within these United States of America without the right of citizenship and have not in any manner been required to nor have they expressed or declared allegiance to the United States but have remained subjects or citizens of Japan, and while so located, many children have been born to such persons who by training and precept, have remained and now are loyal to Japan, though born within such communities, and

WHEREAS, while said state of war existed, as aforesaid, and during the year 1942 the Department of War of the United States of America removed all of such persons from such communities and caused them to remain away from such communities for a period of time but now are permitting and allowing such persons to return to their former places of residence and occupations without regard to the wishes or protests of the duly qualified citizens of such communities, and

WHEREAS, the government of Japan and its duly authorized officers and agents have prosecuted such war with such ruthlessness and utter disregard of established international law, and human decency, causing needless torture, starvation and death to prisoners of war and civilians in a manner without precedent in the history of the



1 civilized world, and by such conduct, have created and  
2 there now exists a feeling of hatred for those responsi-  
3 ble for such atrocities and all persons loyal to Japan  
4 and its authorized officers and agents, and

5 Since there is now no established law or pro-  
6 cedure whereby citizens of a community may exclude from  
7 residence within such community, persons who by their  
8 presence, disturb the peace of the community and provoke  
9 unrest and disorder, due to their nationality and the ex-  
10 istance of a state of war between the United States, and  
11 the Government of which they are citizens or subjects or  
12 the children of such citizens or subjects, and

13 Since acts of violence have occurred due solely  
14 to such conditions which said acts have been given publi-  
15 city by the radio and press throughout the United States  
16 and to such extent that a member of the president's cabinet  
17 is reported to have suggested the use of military force  
18 against citizens of these United States, a state of emer-  
19 gency exists which requires the immediate attention of  
20 congress, and

21 Since the exclusion of such citizens or subjects  
22 of Japan and their children from such communities for the  
23 duration of the war and for such time thereafter as condi-  
24 tions require, would remove the cause of such emergency,  
25 some action is now required, and

26 Since the will of the people may be expressed  
27 and adopted as the law of the land by popular vote, the  
28 right of self determination of the issue of who shall and  
29 who shall not be residents of communities within these  
30 United States may be determined by a vote of its citizens.

31 NOW, Therefore, we citizens and residents of  
32 such communities, do hereby respectfully petition the



1 Congress of the United States of America to formulate and  
2 adopt such laws, rules and regulations, or amendment to the  
3 Constitution of the United States if necessary, so that  
4 citizens of a community may, by popular vote, or other or-  
5 derly and lawful procedure, prohibit from residing in such  
6 community, those who are citizens or subjects or descendants  
7 of such citizens or subjects of a country with which we are  
8 at war for the duration of such war and for such period  
9 thereafter as may be determined by the citizens of such  
10 community, in a procedure duly ordained and established  
11 by constitutional law.

12 WHEREFORE, we the undersigned, citizens of the  
13 United States of America and of the state of California,  
14 and duly qualified as electors therein, respectfully pray  
15 that the Congress of the United States of America, act with-  
16 out delay to provide appropriate law and procedure to ac-  
17 complish the object and purpose of this petition.  
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*Trayne* 234.8  
April 13, 1944 11-6-44

To the Officers and Members of Tyler Branch Grange:

This letter is rather long and it might provoke a long and heated discussion in the grange but since the application which has backfired so unpleasantly, I feel that the grange would be doing a great service to itself and to our country by bringing up this question for frank discussion.

When we presented Richard's application for membership, we felt that he would make a desirable contribution to the grange and that his application would be and should be considered the same as that of any other person.

When with him in my presence, I approached another supposed friend at a large church meeting, this person, a member of another grange, said, "I don't like your company." But I supposed that Enosburg was composed of people of a better sort -- folks of a bigger, finer type and point of view.

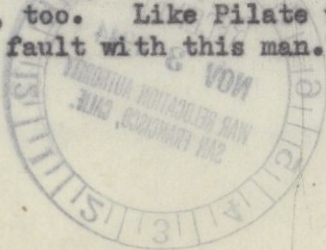
I feel that to raise this race issue in the grange or to raise a religious issue here in our midst is not only in opposition to the spirit of the grange but is both unpatriotic and unChristian. It is more. It is an attack upon the four freedoms that we are supposedly fighting for and a cheap insult on the sacrifice of the lives of our friends and relatives. There are no words in my vocabulary strong enough to expose the hypocrisy of people who would indulge in such a thing. "It is Blasphemy against our Lord."

As we farmers ~~all~~ well know, whether we are judging livestock or human beings, it isn't the breed but the breeding that counts and there's a vast difference between those two words.

What good is going to do for us to sit in church on Sunday and hear fine sermons on race relations and world brotherhood and blackball so fine an ideal, when we could have chosen to be constructive and Christian when the issue must be decided in our own community. It isn't much use for us to become angry with the southern white's attitude toward the Negro somewhere down in Alabama or the British treatment of the people of India, if we who are the salt of the earth here in Enosburg are going to cold shoulder fine Christians of other races in our community.

Mark my word. Somebody is raising a dangerous issue in our midst. That person is not the one who presented the application but the one who will discriminate against his fellowmen for reasons which have no weight. Someone ~~who~~ has well said that the race relations problem is not the colored problem -- it's pretty largely the white man's problem.

Regarding Richard's fitness for admission, none of the members who are not acquainted with him have ever asked or investigated. I have lived with him more closely than any of you. I have worked with him, laughed at him, eaten with him, not once, but three times a day, seven days a week for six months and more. We have worshipped and prayed together, too. Like Pilate when Christ was on trial before him, I could say, "I find no fault with this man."



*TRC*



But one opponent to his application says, "Did you ever know him before then?" Of course, I didn't. But how many of you here were well acquainted with these other applicants six months ago? Is that an important factor? How many of you will guarantee with your hand on the Holy Bible that they are all better than he? I dare say that he is just as good and fine as the average person here. Isn't that enough? If not, I might say that before he ever came to Vermont, he gave me four references from outstanding white people, and I have in my pocket all four outstandingly fine replies from these people to my inquiries. Hard work on the farm, I insist, gives a farmer a pretty good opportunity to judge his fellow workers. Surely after these six months, I have not acted in haste in presenting his application -- neither has the grange acted in any great haste in balloting on his name.

From my point of view, Richard has been an outstanding and valuable farm worker. He has been very helpful to us and we have appreciated it. We have enjoyed associating with him far better than with the grade of other hired help we have been able to obtain.

When we were married and settled down to raise our family, we didn't have a cent to buy our farm with. We had no livestock or equipment or tools and our buildings were pretty badly run down. In these times under such circumstances, poor help can very easily break a man and wreck his hopes of ever paying for his farm or making a good home for his family.

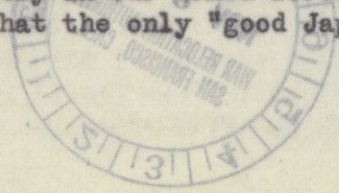
But it is not because of our appreciation that we would feel very badly were he denied admission to the grange; rather, we feel that such a denial would be gross thoughtlessness toward the majority of our grange membership and thoughtlessness of the basic principles for which we are all struggling and fighting in these terrible days.

The winning of the kingdom of God does not usually come in some spectacular way. It comes from little deeds done--almost unnoticed, here and there, in perhaps some unimportant parts of the world. A little friendly word here, a kind deed there, a little encouragement and sharing of the load with someone who has a heavy cross to bear. That is how it is.

The kingdom of God is the building of a Social Climate where kindness, justice, mercy and love will grow and thrive everywhere, among all peoples and all races. Every word and thought and deed of ours, day and night, either hastens or delays its coming. Christ has no hands but ours and He is depending on us.

What are the basic issues of this War? Are we fighting for the four freedoms, or are we not? Are we willing to accept the aid of the colored man and the sacrifices of another ally like Christ? If so, where are we going to draw the line? Are we going to ask them to give their lives for us, then blackball the Negro or the Asiatic from our society when we don't need them?

Some have opposed this application because the fellow is Japanese. We feel that this is pretty weak ground for opposition. In the first place, he is not Japanese, he is of Japanese ancestry. His family was a prominent Tokyo family, Christianized before they came to America! Do you realize that there are 4000 boys of Japanese ancestry in our armed forces! Are we fighting the whole Japanese race? Do we believe that the only "good Japanese is a dead one"? Are we going





to follow the lead of a fanatical minority group of Americans and turn this into a "race" war? And slaughter 180,000,000 people because they are Japanese, who live in an area smaller than the state of California? NO! We are not fighting the yellow race or any other race, nor even the Japanese as a people. We are fighting the military regime of Tokyo, the war lords of Germany. The German and Japanese governments have their ideas of military power and race superiority. We have to fight those same tendencies, whether in Berlin or Tokyo, Washington or Enosburg. Our ideal is to build a post-war world where Christianity and democracy can hold sway for every race and nation, large or small. And we ask for the support of every race, every people, every group, and every individual to help build this better world.

To those of you who have relatives in the armed forces, I might say, "We have a sister with the U. S. Army somewhere in Europe and a brother-in-law, a splendid fellow, who is a gunner on a battleship somewhere in the Pacific; also several cousins are scattered around the world -- any or all of whom may be called upon to give their lives." And yet, we do not hesitate to tackle this problem.

Yet, I have been told by several that I would be doing the grange a great service by withdrawing his name and a prominent state grange official said that it was a pretty careless thing to do.

But I protest. I think the careless thing is for anyone to raise an issue where there is no issue; to carelessly act without humbling himself before his God and asking for His guidance.

Don't forget that the white race is a pretty small thing in comparison with the rest of the world's population. We have two choices before us. We can make friends with these others and instill in them our Christian ideals and our American conception of fair play and of political democracy or we can start in and kill them all off. One thing is certain--when this is all over, we must sit down to the peace table and talk things over with representatives working in behalf of every race if we are going to prevent WORLD WAR III.

When we hired Richard to come to work for us, we were very specific about the character, loyalty and Religion of the person we considered employing. We followed up four outstanding references he gave us and received four outstanding replies. I felt that in hiring a person such as he I would be helping to solve a difficult American problem as well as obtaining an outstanding farm worker.

Imagine yourselves in his shoes. How would you feel about being expelled from your community and state, constantly open to disgrace for something you could not help - denied even the most fundamental privileges of American citizenship and no hope for a safe, happy future regardless of how hard you worked, how well you were educated or how good a Christian you were. I am not sure that the first issue of this war began with the "xx tragic perfidy" and wickedness of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbpr. I feel very sure that our scornful treatment of other races - the white business man's methods in Asia, if you please - were decided factors in furthering the designs of Tokyp's government long before the first bomb was dropped/

If any members of our grange are looking for someone to hate, why not consider some of the people in our own and allied countries who sold us out before Pearl Harbor? Business men made heaps of money selling scrap iron to the Japanese government



government with which to build armaments. We laughed when they were killing the Chinese with it. Many a Vermont farmer sold his worn out plow and harrow with the sly remark (the humorous sort we Vermonters are noted for) - "The Japs will be shooting it all back to us some day."

Let us put the blame for this killing where it belongs. Mr. Ballou, the recently returned missionary, spoke in Vermont several years ago - before we were involved in Asia. He said that the Japanese army was fighting the Chinese with American equipment. Many, Many General Motors and Ford trucks rolled through his locality toward the front lines where they were overpowering the Chinese army and people. Yet, today who ever mentions these evil facts, or who considers our share of the blame for the slaughter of people of countries like China and who are now our allies? Do you think that the Japanese people who were Christians and opposed to such things ever got the encouragement from us which they should have had?

These are burning questions. They ought to sear our souls.

No. We would not be doing the Grange a service by encouraging race discrimination.

Let us fight the Axis governments - not each other, not the down-trodden who are on our side or who would be on our side if we would declare our noblest aims and honestly stick to them. Let us not unthinkingly hand out some fine propaganda for the Axis to use against us. Let us not aid the Axis forces in trampling down further those already down-trodden and who are on our side in their opposition of those evil factions now in power in their ancestral lands.

To those of you in the Grange who sit on the fence in the issue, may I address you in the words of the Methodists' Missionary Hymn, "Come over and help us? The battles are hard and often discouraging. We often lose. He who is not for us is against us. The day is far spent, more laborers are needed in the field." The harvest has been delayed too long because of the cruel storms of Hypocrisy and Selfishness and Hatred.

We cannot sit on the fence of smug self-righteousness or in the shade of sweet complacency and get this hard work done.

Let us be up and doing and declare ourselves without hesitation.

To you who oppose this application I feel badly to learn that at least one member came to the last Grange meeting with the expressed intent of casting a black ballot. I am sorry for that point of view. But I have no personal issue with that person except to say that such an attitude seems like pretty poor spirit toward his obligation to the Grange.

Why do you want to exclude him? Do you dislike the shape of his face? Listen, we are all mortal. We won't live here very long. "A few more days and we all, the beholden sons, shall see no more". We are all going to be dead together for a long, long time. When from our midst God selects the membership of His heavenly society he isn't going to be swayed in his choice by the color of our skins or the shape of our faces. If he were swayed I don't think either you or I would have a ghost of a chance. God is not going to blackball anyone from his kingdom for so superficial a reason.



At the present time we have two rather divergent religious creeds in our Grange which, in other days, were often arrayed against each other. Yet who among you will say that we are not a stronger fraternity because of this fact? Diversity of religion, or of race or nationality, create disharmony. By creating understanding and cementing friendship it can have a very beneficial contriution. Almost all of you grangers are church members, and I think that in the last analysis it is from the religious point of view that we should determine what our duty is. Perhaps I am only echoing what someone else said long ago - said far more appropriately than I.

Matthew 25: 31-46

We've a story to tell to the Nations. What is it? Race superiority? Race discrimination? Race exclusion? Or instead, do we believe that God is our father and that all men are brothers?

We ask none to join our fraternity who cannot see good in their fellow men, but to all interested in agriculture, who have generous hearts and open hands to help the needy, rais the fallen and aid in the labors of this life cheerfully, we say, "Welcome to the Grange."

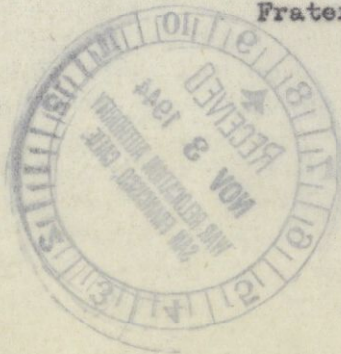
No, we would be doing the grange a terrible disservice by withdrawing this application. A Grange or a church should never be ashamed to speak out for the "despised abd rejected and forsaken of men." We should, as individual Christians, as church members, as Grangers, welcome being put to the test. To fail to let our ght shine for the good is what we must avoid at all costs.

Our light is the light of brotherhood and fraternity, of friendship and understanding. Ours is a place where we can gather together from our scattered households, our busy lives, our diverse interests and backgrounds, to seek those things we have in common and mingle as one large happy family. No family worthy of its name will deny its shelter to any good and needy traveler who has no place to lay his head, nor will it deny any good worker shelter and fellowship when there is work to be done if he is willing to help - with a hand marred by honest toil and the proper password which is "Christian."

Let us have more faith in the first lesson of our ritual which is FAITH. Faith that seeds of friendliness and understanding for the needs of others, when planted in good grange soil, will yield a hundred-fold.

Brothers and Sisters, let us remember the words of our Master when he said, "I was a stranger and ye took me not in." "Inasmuch as ye did it unto the least of these ye did it unto me."

Fraternally yours,





IMPERIAL COUNTY, UNITED, MASS MEETING  
Brawley High School Stadium,  
December 7, 1944

3

30/5

Master of ceremonies, whose name was never mentioned, opened by saying he was gratified to see so many present to consider an immediate problem. That it indicated this was still an American locality, strictly American. (Man near me arose and yelled "No"). That there had been a number of meetings held in the past few days and this was the result of them. That it was evident the community was to be kept American. That all knew the events which had led up to it. Said that if any overt act should occur the people of Imperial Valley would be blamed--that they had been called Fascist at the time of the labor trouble a few years back, and that this meeting had been called to protest any such happening as would bring that about.

He called for applause to thank the five-or-six piece dance band (sailor) which had come from the <sup>Naval</sup> base at Holtville, then announced the invocation would be given by "our chaplain, Bill Sullins". (Sullins must be an American Legion chaplain. He was not in uniform, and is about World War I age. A William Sullins is listed in the Brawley phone book.) Sullins stumbled through his prayer, clearing his throat several times to give him opportunity to look at a paper he drew from his inside coat pocket, evidently a prepared prayer which he had not memorized sufficiently.

The master of ceremonies then called for national anthems, and announced Frank Pierce as leader. Pierce led out bravely and sonorously on the first few bars, but after "twilight's last gleaming" lost a half line, picked up the words to another verse, and before it was through had woven in parts of three verses, to the evident confusion of the audience, most of whom seemed to know the words of the verse he was supposed to lead. "God Bless America" was then announced and Pierce ~~xxx~~ seemed to know the words to that. However (perhaps to retrieve his blundering leadership of the National Anthem) he dropped out at the end of one or two lines, letting the audience carry it without him, in a fashion often used by community sing leaders.

The MC then introduced the ~~Secretary~~ of this organization, our well-known Chamber of Commerce secretary, Charlie Nice". Nice, after a few preliminary words of gratification etc., said: "Two weeks ago a former Japanese resident of Imperial Valley returned here, and said he intended to return to farm the land he had been farming before he was taken out of here. He also told residents that 2,000 to 2,500 Japanese now living in the Poston Concentration Camp would be released in the next two weeks, to return here. As ~~xxx~~ you all know, most of the Japanese in that camp were residents of Imperial Valley before they were taken out of here." He went on to say that the residents of this valley did not feel they should return here and this meeting was organized to register their protest.

Elmer Sears, mayor of Brawley, was then introduced as president of this organization (Imperial County, United) and chairman of the meeting. Sears expressed his pleasure at the size of the crowd and said it showed the sincerity of purpose with which they were meeting this immediate problem. Said that he had never been one to take issue with anyone's principles or ideals or their right to expression, and that for that reason he wanted to comment briefly on a certain article which had appeared in last night's local paper: namely that of the action of the ministerial association urging tolerance etc., then quoted the resolution published by the ministerial association: "In the event of the return of the Japanese to Imperial Valley by the War Relocation Authority, we would urge the people of the valley to act concerning the matter in a Christ-like manner and as American Citizens". Sears then said: "We are American Citizens, American



citizens of the Washington, Lincoln and Jefferson variety. We believe we can ~~unanimously~~ protest the return of the Japanese and still be American. We believe we can protest their return and still be Christian. (applause from audience). I do not know of an Un-American person in this group. If so they have come to the wrong meeting. I do not know of a conscientious objector in this group. If so they have come to the wrong meeting. We are law-abiding citizens and intend to remain such and protest this return under the banner of Americanism." He then said that after the ~~last~~ speaker of the evening had finished, he wished the audience to remain to consider a resolution which would be presented.

"Dr." John R. Lechner was introduced as an outstanding speaker and authority on the Japanese problem, their activities in Imperial Valley before Pearl Harbor etc. ad infinitum, ad nauseam. (No mention was made of the fact that Lechner was born about 100 miles away from where the "prince" of all race-baiters, Hitler, was born; or that he had been repudiated by the American Legion for his lobbying activities ~~for~~ in which he had wrongfully claimed to be representing the Legion; or that he was paid by the American League, composed of coast vegetable and floral men.)

Lechner seemed to have been thoroughly indoctrinated with the methods <sup>at first</sup> used by his fellow-countryman, Hitler, since by innuendo, pseudo-humor, and flattery, he contrived to pit Imperial Valley against all of California; against Northern California; against Los Angeles; against the Middle West and East; in fact, against the world. His inference in all these cases, which were brought up humorously in most instances, that only Imperial Valley was right.

He expressed his pleasure to be back in Imperial Valley. Said it had been said that California was divided into two parts, ~~namely~~ Imperial Valley and the rest of the state. Inferred--but I do not have his exact quotes--that only here were the people cognizant of what is going on, and hardy enough to combat it. Brought in Los Angeles by telling the story credited to ~~someone~~, now dead, saying that there were 20 different ways to pronounce Los Angeles, and none of them right. Los Angeles was the City of the Angels, but that was a devil of a long time ago. Then he said he wanted to discuss the Imperial Valley as related to the rest of the world---that he wanted to speak very frankly about an immediate problem, "one of utmost importance and least understood by the Middle West, East and South." Related how he personally had "tried to awaken their leaders to a consciousness of the problem" but whether through stupidity or "innate jealousy of the state of California, ~~which many~~ which many of them consider as a state of crackpots" he had failed. Then said that he had run into some crackpots, in fact many of them in the last 20 years. Related how on his way To California in 1924(?), they (family, I presume) were camped en route in a tourist court. (Were there tourist courts at that time?) That he had heard many tales of how difficult it was in California, how dry it was in Southern California, that even water was rationed, and were undecided whether to come on. That he would get up each morning and watch several cars go by before they would start out from the tourist camp on the rest of their journey, and that one morning he had been amazed to see a little Ford so loaded down that he was amazed at the ingenuity of Henry Ford to produce such a small car which could carry so much, headed away from California, with a huge sign tacked on the back: "Goodbye, California, land of lemons, prunes and nuts." (This produced the desired laugh, but it also produced, I'm afraid, a deepening of the feeling he had set out to create, that California and particularly the Imperial Valley, ~~was~~ was the only intelligent spot in the U.S. He then went into a few raptures over the Imperial Valley, speaking of the "wondrous fertility God gave us here" with complimentary



reference to the foodstuffs it produces.

He referred to the resolution of the Ministerial Association, "passed with all the feeling of ministers to try to do something right." Said he ~~very~~ heartily agreed with men representing the ministry, to in a world of turmoil.....bring a message of peace, and love and harmony. BUT there comes a time contrary to feeling, when we dare not turn the other cheek. We MUST define reality in terms of facts."

*Sentences  
H/H* Lechner then told of attending a Community Chest luncheon---if he mentioned the place, I didn't catch it---four years ago where the "beloved dean of the University of California", whom he did not call by name, turned to him and said: "Dr., I 'm worried...so worried I cannot sleep", and in his best ministerial manner, Lechner said, "I asked him what the trouble was, perhaps I could help if he cared to confide ~~in~~ in me". And the dean said that every day he had boys coming to him asking him about enlisting --what he thought about their joining the Army or the Navy, or submitting to the draft. "Now, I have taught those boys that killing or taking human life in any way is unChristian. Putting on the uniform will eventually lead to shooting, and killing. But, if they do not submit to the draft, they will be called unpatriotic. I don't know which way to turn or what to tell them." Lechner said he pointed out to him that wonderful story as related in Mark, of Christ and the money-changers in the temple, then leaving the dean stranded he shouted: "And what did He do? NOT what the ministerial association might advocate--placate them--He threw them out! And unless we continue to follow His example, throw them out, it will be the end of Christianity".

(I'm sorry the audience did not know Dr. Lechner was there at the behest ~~and was~~ of and was paid by the "moneychangers" in the form of the Vegetable growers and like interests. Even they would have gotten a chuckle out of his reference.)

Lechner, still wrapping the robe of righteousness and religion tightly about him, then told of the action of Dr. Poling "that dynamic Christian, who in addressing the National Baptist Association at Atlantic City four or five months ago, analyzed the results of war for that great denomination in this fashion: 'War, itself, is unholy.... ~~but~~ we have no alternative but dedicate in defense of our nation and its principles, our lives, our treasure, and what is dearer than life, the lives of our sons.'"

Then "We must look resolutely, wisely, at this question, and carry on at home the same firm principles which prompted them to offer their lives for the preservation of this nation and those things for which it stands. We do not, dare not, take advantage of those who are facing the battle in the far flung corners of the earth and those who have gone to their reward fighting for it."

He then told of a recent meeting he addressed in Denver where 150 top leaders among the Japanese were in attendance and where he "permitted" Joe Masaoka of the JACL to follow him on the platform. And of all the things he had said, there wasn't one which Joe Masaoka declared untrue. (Delayed applause).

"We are facing a hard war in the Pacific. Strategists say it will take at least three more years to beat the Japs. There is on the Pacific coast today the biggest concentration of manpower and material the coast has ever seen. ~~ammunition~~ warehouses are bulging and there is not place to put that already assembled there. Recently in San Francisco, I found that there were 10,000 PT boats ~~and~~ stores of ammunition, guns, trucks, some of it stored outside--and the number will be doubled, trebled. ~~ammunition~~ We owe it to Tom, Jim and Harry to play square, and not jeopardize one single round of that ammunition or any of that equipment by inviting into our midst those who want to



destroy it so that it <sup>cannot</sup> could not be used in the destruction of our enemy, Japan. Said again he had tried to awaken the government to this danger, but without avail.

He related how that March 15, ~~1/4/1~~ 1941, from his Los Angeles office, there had gone out a translation of Matsumoto (name uncertain) instructions to the Army and Navy (Japanese) on conduct of the war. Those instructions had included a time table, and had mentioned the plans for an attack on Pearl Harbor. (Lechner was very positive in his statements here, my recollection being that he said "outlined the plans for the Pearl Harbor attack", but since he interjected so many loosely related statements and references to other things he had already gone into before, I was unable to ~~xxx~~ take down his exact words with ~~xxx~~ complete accuracy.)

He ~~xx~~ talked about the Japanese language schools in the United States which "every Japanese child attended" (I can find several in Poston who never attended Japanese language school, even though most of them did in order to keep their ability to talk with their parents and ~~xx~~ correspond with them. A part of the USO's duties in Poston is to write letters in English for Issei parents who write only Japanese, and their sons cannot read it. Likewise, letters from soldiers serving overseas with the 442nd are translated into Japanese by USO and other groups, since the parents cannot ~~xxxx/xxxx/xxxx/xxxx~~ read English, the only language their sons can write.) Lechner said that when the Japanese schools were investigated, ~~xx~~ the instructors showed the investigators harmless little books, similar to English readers and grammars and cultural books. But that he had information that above the sixth grade, they were to be taught obedience to Japan and the Shinto faith. Also that in 1941, the Imperial Japanese government had decreed that every Shinto priest and every Japanese language teacher be recognized as officers of the Japanese government. He had asked (or it was asked) that they be forced to register, under the newly enacted law ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~, but it had not been done. So, most of the 96,000 Japanese, which went under the jurisdiction of the WRA had been ~~informed~~ given the indoctrination of Japan.

At this point he brought in the large number of American born Japanese returned to Japan for education, ostensibly "cultural only but really for indoctrination". Then said "I was SO disappointed that Dillon Myer ~~xxxx/xxxx/xxxx/xxxx/xxxx/xxxx~~ deliberately told his group at Pasadena an untruth" a short time ago. Said Myer claimed there were only 2,000 Kibei in the United States when actually there are more like 18,000.

Said that in 1938 there were so many Japanese kids of American birth attending school in Japan that under an order in August, 1938, a halt was called....that there were 25,000 in Japan at the expense of the Japanese government, attending their military and indoctrination schools. That the Second Generation Association had become interested in getting them back, because people in the United States were beginning to cast suspicious glances at the ~~x~~ "Little Tokyos" because so many of the young people were going to Japan for schooling.

Then he shouted, "Even Dillon Myer admits they (the Kibei) are ~~xxx~~ trouble makers, but in his last announcement, he poohpooked the idea, contrary to his previous statements. Now 'they are not so bad...just misled youngsters'." Said Five members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation working for WRA have been working at Tule Lake for months to get these Kibei to change their statements. "Now, Dillon Myer wants to open the gates of Tule Lake--I have nothing against men like the one just returned to Los Angeles under War ~~xxxx/xxxx~~ Department permit or the poor little girl down at Pasadena--but NO, Myer wants to unload ALL the Japs, AND THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA ARE NOT GOING TO TAKE IT! (Applause and shouts of pour it on".)

Said that during a 10-day period of instruction, attended by 900 American citizens (of Japanese ancestry), Sugiyama outlined his 5th col-



umn plans to take over the Dutch East Indies and the ~~Philippines~~ Phillipines, and the Hawaii attack. "But there is no single indication in the archives that any one of that 900 American citizens (sneeringly) ever told any government official anything about that plan."

"I tell you it is a mistake to confer American citizenship with all its privileges and rights upon a person only because he was born here. Here we are in an all out war which is bankrupting the nation--- (quoted figures to show that we actually are already bankrupt) ---then "we must look objectively...we must not cheapen American citizenship, or soon American citizenship will not mean anything." (

~~He has not made an accurate and thorough examination of the Japanese and Japanese-Americans in the United States~~ "WRA has not made an accurate and thorough examination of the Japanese and Japanese-Americans in the United States" (Perhaps he failed to see the statement of responsible Army or War Department officials published a week or 10 days ago that they were satisfied with the thoroughness of the WRA examination. Certainly he failed to mention it.) He said the American Legion, whom he described as a great body of patriots who had offered their lives to their country, had demanded that a responsible body be placed in charge of the Japanese. And that if a responsible body had investigated a Japanese and found that he had always been loyal there was no person in the Imperial Valley but would extend his hand to him and say "Boy, you've had a tough time of it these past few years. But now we know you're worthy of our friendship. You're welcome back"

Then he shouted "But with the sentimental, silly, willy-nilly attitude of the people in WRA, it's a different story!" And said you couldn't tell anything about the persons who would be coming back. Related a conversation he had had with a representative of the Office of Naval Intelligence who was investigating the "shipping question" a few years back, who had to have Japanese working with him since the Japanese were involved. Quoted the Commander as saying, evidently in response to a question from Lechner, "I really have an awful time. I can trust one in 10, but the hell of it is in knowing which one ~~to trust~~ of the 10 to trust."

Lechner then took on the church groups blasting in turn the Federal Council of Churches, the Southern California ~~Conference of the~~ Methodist Conference, the Quaker Church, the pastor of the Santa Maria Methodist church, a Methodist pastor in Salt Lake. Said derisively that one of these groups (the Federal Council, I believe) had said that if the Japanese army should land on these shores, they would meet them "in the spirit of Christ". He spoke of the "unwarranted attacks upon me" by the pastor of the Santa Maria Methodist Church, adopting a ~~hurt~~ hurt, misunderstood attitude. Then he ~~mentioned~~ told of the Methodist minister in Salt Lake who wouldn't buy War Bonds because he felt that to do so was condoning war. Said this minister got his young people together in an Epworth League meeting and spent five minutes telling them why it was wrong to buy war bonds ...then spent 25 minutes telling his young men how to be conscientious objectors and how to evade the draft. Then he shouted "I call that treason!" In neither case did he mention the ministers by name.

Lechner told of being in Philadelphia a few months ago, and being down town about 2:30 a. m. Said the lights in the stores were ablaze, the stores open and thousands of people on the street. Said he asked someone in one of the stores why the crowd or the open stores at this hour of the morning, and was told that there were thousands of service men in this area, and no place for them to go, so the stores were kept open. (Didn't mention what should have been obvious--that it was probably a money-making venture for the stores, as well). Said the hotels were jammed, all USO facilities were overtaxed....but that a few blocks from that spot was a large hotel, taken over by the Friends Church



which was more than half empty at the time---but that NO serviceman could get into it, "No Sir, you had to be Japanese to lay your head on a pillow in that hotel."

He then again made a plea, or demand, that some responsible body take over the Japanese problem in the United States, mentioning the War Department as proper authority. Then shouted, "If anything happens to any Japanese..if someone takes their vent out on one--someone who has lost a boy in the Pacific or someone whose loved one is in the cruel hands of the Japs, IT WILL BE THE FAULT OF DILLON MYER AND THE WRA, because of their nincompoop attitude in this ~~the~~ whole program!" (Applause and cries of "pour it on".)

Then "We don't want vigilante action...we don't want force or to take the law into our own hands. To condone that would mean the spreading of lawlessness into other areas, and jeopardize our boys held as prisoners by the Japanese even further." ~~His next statement~~ The gist of his next statement, which I cannot quote verbatim, was that we must depend upon justice and law administered by a proper authority. (The effect of his whole statement here seemed to me to place in the minds of his audience the idea of vigilante action and lawlessness, pointing out that the "lawlessness" would probably spread, that Imperial Valley would be the leader and other sections would follow. That, of course, was not said, but from a comment I heard as I left the stands, I'm sure at least some of the people gleaned that idea from it. Two men walking ahead of me were complimenting his talk "sure a good speaker--knows what he's talking about--etc." Then one said to the other, "What we'd ought to do is run that one guy that's here out of town". The other said "Are you sure there's one here?" The answer was "hell, yes. I saw him trying a coat on in the store today." The other man was not particularly receptive to starting something at the moment, and before I let them get away from me, they had started to talk on other subjects.)

Lechner then started in again on Dillon Myer saying that Myer "completely denies to some, things on which he takes an entirely opposite attitude to others". Said he had on War Department stationery, a letter saying Higa was released to make a speaking tour"at the request of WRA". That Myer had said he was released by the War Department, and he had nothing to do with it. Also said Myer said release of the Japanese was entirely a function of the War Department and WRA had nothing to do with it. Then he shouted, "That's an unmitigated lie!". I'm sorry not to have obtained ~~all~~ all of what he said, verbatim--but whenever he took occasion to speak of Mr. Myer he became so vehement and talked so rapidly and loudly that it was sometimes impossible to get all he said word for word. Also, the crowd responded to his frenzy so that confusion around me made it difficult. However, whenever a quotation mark is used, those are his exact words.

He wound up his talk by saying we were not going to adopt an appeasement policy, threw an irrelevant reference to the Mischa Auer case. Hit a new high in patriotic appeal saying "The very foundation stones of Americanism, the freedom of our children and their opportunity for a productive life---these things are at stake. People all over the nation must awaken!" And that we were not going to sell out, for the sake of Imperial Valley and the entire nation.

~~His next statement was taken from the WRA resolution which was read~~

Lechner said we are not being told the truth by the people in Washington...that we should demand that we are told the truth...we haven't been given the facts and we must see that we are given them.

The meeting closed by reading of the resolution to be sent WRA, the War Department, President Roosevelt and other agencies. Asked for all those in favor to indicate by rising. Although , so far as I could see



## 7-Mass Meeting

everyone rose, it is not necessarily indicative of 100 per cent approval, since the crowd had been sitting for almost two hours on the hard bleacher seats, and it was definitely time to go home.

Although the meeting was held on the day set aside for the sale of War Bonds and the completion of the drive--in which Brawley had dropped behind quota---no mention of bonds was made except at the very last, when the master of ceremonies said, immediately after the reading of the resolution and while the crowd was beginning to disperse: "And now, bye, bye, buy bonds". And the sailor orchestra ~~sw~~ swung into "Remember Pearl Harbor". The 20-30 Club--men of military age who are not in uniform--had two booths for the sale of bonds, one on either side of the football field, close to the stands. No appeal was made, ~~no~~ other than the members "hawking" them and approaching individuals in desultory fashion. I stood by the bond booth for a time before finding a seat and noted that those approached seemed to be personal friends of the persons attempting to sell them. I didn't see a single bond sold.

I believe the crowd was not larger than 3,500, perhaps a bit under that. This in spite of valley-wide circulation of newspapers carrying the ads for several days in advance (several full page ads) and continuous plugging by the El Centro radio station. It was a bit incongruous to hear a program of Christmas music, followed by an announcement on this order: Do you want the Japs to return to Imperial Valley? Don't fail to attend the mass meeting at Brawley High School stadium at 7:30 o'clock Thursday evening.

Following the meeting, B.L. Swearingen, manager of the Brawley J.C. Penney store and an old friend, fell into step with me as I returned to my car, parked almost two blocks away--the nearest I could get. (Evidently many of the cars carried only one or two to the meeting, since there was not the crowd the cars would indicate.) Swearingen asked me what I thought of the meeting, and after chatting a few minutes about inconsequentials..the size of the crowd, the beauty of the street decorations in the center of town and the fact that OPA had granted them special permission to use the electricity for Christmas tree decorating in the public square and street decorations, etc.....I said I might have been more impressed by the meeting had I not known the speaker was sponsored by an organization composed of Southern California vegetable and floral growers, which led me to believe he might be somewhat influenced by economic reasons rather than patriotic. I also said I found it a bit ironical that a native of Hitler's own homeland, Austria, should be telling American citizens how to conduct their affairs, particularly in regard to native-born citizens. I told him of the two Brawley boys who have been killed in action and the other Brawley boy, wounded in Italy who had returned to duty, been given the bronze star for gallantry on another occasion, and who is now missing in action. Also that Imperial Valley had nine other casualties in action among its Japanese-American population, that I knew of and could name. He seemed impressed and thoughtful about the whole deal, much interested to learn of Lechner's background. Said he had never paid much attention to the question until the mass meeting came up, but that in his opinion formed from hearing people who came into the store and that he met casually other places, at least 90% of the residents did not want the Japanese to return. Said as manager of the J.C. Penney store, he knew he could not take any active



part, even if he wanted to...that the stores (Penney) did not participate in any strictly local action nor permit their managers to take part in any strongly controversial matter. After we had talked for some half-hour, Swearingen said "Pauline, you wouldn't be telling me you're WRA would you?" I answered "Well, I wouldn't be telling you I'm not, but as I see it, this question is bigger than any ~~minimum~~ ~~minimum~~ agency or economic interest. It is a question that involves the basic rights of citizenship, and one that every citizen should consider carefully, in the light of the constitution." I also told him I was there for personal reasons and he assured me he would say nothing of having talked with me...that he felt sure WRA would have some one there, or that they should have...and that he imagined the military would have someone there too. However, there is one possible leak on our being represented there, even though I don't expect it.

I feel that it is vital that we get information on Lechner's background widely disseminated in that area. Reverend Sears, with whom I talked at length Friday morning after the meeting, feels also that it is very important. He is doing his utmost to pass it on by word of mouth, but we need wider dissemination than he can possibly give it, try as he will.

Sears feels ~~very~~ rather optimistic over the fact that the football stands were not crammed---and they were not, one complete section on either side of the field being completely vacant, and all the others not completely filled. He feels the meeting was a pop-off for the Farm Bureau Federation, the Associated Farmers and The Flax seed growers, and that it will simmer down from now on. He feels that if the Japanese are not permitted to come back in an avalanche, but rather a few at a time, with the enforcement agencies apprised of their coming beforehand, there will be no trouble.

Sears had staked much on his official board meeting, set for the same evening of the mass meeting, as a barometer of public feeling. He seems to have many of the most influential people in his church and some on the official board who are members of the farm bureau and ~~kindred~~ kindred groups. He was elated Friday morning to ~~be~~ be able to tell me he had the largest attendance at his meeting that he had ever had since coming to El Centro. He named John DuBois and a Mr. Brock as two he was particularly glad to see. Du Bois is on the school board. P.L. Moore, mayor of El Centro is in his church, and he told me that Moore had told him his own son who is in the Pacific had changed his mind (Moore's) about the Japanese-Americans by telling them of the wonderful help the J-A had been to the Army in the Pacific. However, Moore had been quoted to him as saying he'd take a pot-shot at any Jap he saw. He told his informer that if Moore would say that in front of him or where he could get it substantiated, he would start a movement to impeach him. However, it developed the statement was made prior to his becoming mayor and before he had told Sears about his son's experience. Through proper handling, Moore might become a help to us. Sears says he has had no censure from any of his official family for his stand for the rights of the Japanese. He feels that it is not the desire of many that they return, but sees it as a matter of principle to make certain that they will be given decent treatment, if they return.

Since the papers in El Centro and Brawley are not off until very late afternoon, I did not wait for them, but headed in to Los Angeles around three, after talking with Earl Barton, Earl O'Day and Duncan Mills.



Citizens for Victory  
68 Post Street  
San Francisco 4, California

Saturday, December 23, 1944 T 1.76  
K G O  
4:15 - 4:30 P.M.

ANNCR: "Win the war...win the Peace!" The Citizens for Victory program, broadcast as a public service by Station KGO. How will California and the Pacific Coast welcome our returning American citizens of Japanese ancestry? The subject of discussion a few weeks ago on this program, Citizens for Victory again throws the spotlight on this moot question today. Participants will be Miss Teiko Ishida, a Nisei who has already returned to San Francisco and Mr. A. McKie Donnan, Radio Chairman of Citizens for Victory. Mr. Donnan....

DONNAN: At this time of the year, when everyone is talking and singing about Good Will toward men, the people of California and the Pacific Coast have the opportunity of demonstrating whether they mean the things they are saying...or whether their words are a hollow mockery. How we act...how we treat our returning American citizens of Japanese origin a week from next Tuesday is the real test of our sense of courtesy, our sense of moral values, our sense of citizenship. A few weeks ago, on this program, the Executive Secretary of the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, whose roster of membership includes scores of leading citizens, stated that the problem of the return of our Japanese-American citizens was a matter for the War Department to decide. Well, the War Department has made that decision. The date of the return of the first groups has been set for January 2nd. However, since last May, it has been possible for Japanese-Americans evacuated from the Pacific Coast area to make application for return to the Coast...and several of them have been living here for some weeks or months. One of these...here under permission granted through General Bonesteel...is here in the studio today and I am going to ask her a few questions. First, Miss Ishida, can you describe the feelings of the Japanese-Americans when the evacuation order was carried out?

ISHIDA: Well, Mr. Donnan, I believe you could call it a time of mixed emotions. First of all, there was the terrific shock at the stab in the back of Japan against our country...America...by the attack at Pearl Harbor. Every American resented this perfidy of Japan, at the time that her representatives were in Washington pretending to be talking peace, but, I don't think any American resented the under-handedness of Japan as much as did we Nisei. Try to imagine the shock you would feel if you found out suddenly that some relative of yours was a thief or a murderer. Well, that's the way we felt. And it wasn't a nice feeling. Then, on top of that, came the shock of being ordered out of this area...pulling up stakes suddenly...leaving our homes...selling or storing our possessions...and, worst of all, severing ties of friendship with our friends of all racial groups. In a way, it seemed unjust that we had been singled out to be evacuated, while citizens of Germany and Italian origin were allowed to remain. But we recognized the needs of the emergency and the great majority, I am proud to say, instantly decided that the best way we could show our loyalty and love of America was to evacuate without any disturbance or protest. In the years to come, I am sure that we can always look back with pride at the orderliness of the evacuation.

DONNAN: Were the conditions at the camps pretty awful, Miss Ishida?

ISHIDA: Well, they were pretty much of a contrast to our previous homes, Mr. Donnan. But everything possible was done to make the people comfortable. Naturally, in the short time of preparation, the facilities were pretty primitive. And, added to that was the mental suffering caused by the knowledge of why the move was being made. I know that this combination of physical and mental hardships shortened the lives of many of the older people. Yet, even in that regard, there was a bright side.

DONNAN: Just how do you mean that, Miss Ishida?



ISHIDA: Well, it's hard to put into words, Mr. Donnan. But, especially since I have returned to California, I have a greater appreciation of the feelings of the older Japanese pioneers. I don't know whether I can put it into words, but my father often said something like this to me, "I know that we people who were born in Japan cannot become citizens of the United States as long as we live. You, who were born here in America, are already an American, and I want you always to be proud of it. But when we older people pass on, then we too become part of America." Now that both he and my mother are buried here in California, I have the very real feeling that both of my parents are now a part of America.

DONNAN: I think that is a very beautiful thought, Miss Ishida...a heritage that can well be a real inspiration to you always. And to your brother, too, for, if I am not mistaken, you have a brother in the United States Army, do you not?

ISHIDA: Yes, I have, Mr. Donnan. George was in the University of California before the evacuation order came out, and he transferred from there to the Engineering Department of the University of Utah. He was in his junior year there when he volunteered for the Army.

DONNAN: And, in doing so, he followed the example of many thousands of other Japanese Americans who have become fine soldiers. There are some 13,000 of them in the armed forces, of whom over half were volunteers, just like your brother George. They have won distinction on battle fields all over the world, and the 100th Battalion was recently cited for heroic bravery in Italy by General Mark Clark, who said, "Your record in battle has been marked by one outstanding achievement after another. You are always thinking of your country before yourselves... you have written a brilliant chapter in the history of America's fighting men." And, speaking of fighting, Miss Ishida, what is the attitude of the Nisei regarding Japan?

ISHIDA: Well, Mr. Donnan, to use one of our American slang expressions, we want to "lick the tar out of them." I think the majority of the Japanese-American soldiers in our armed forces feel the same way as Sergeant Ben Kuroki, who spoke here at the Commonwealth Club some months ago. At that time, he said that while he had been glad to have made more than a score of missions over Italy, what he really wanted to do most was to get a chance to bomb Tokyo.

DONNAN: Well, that's the proper spirit for a fighting man. Now, as to the spirit of we home front people. How have you found us since you came back? What has been your reception?

ISHIDA: It's been wonderful, Mr. Donnan--truly wonderful. Everybody has been so cordial and natural that I have come back and fitted right into life here almost as though I had never been away. People just take me for granted, the same as they would anyone else, which is what I like because I don't feel self-conscious or conspicuous, which, I guess, I was somewhat afraid I might be before I came back here to live. Only occasionally does anyone seem to even notice me and always favorably when they do. For instance, I was Christmas shopping last week and the gentleman who was waiting on me in one of the big department stores said, "By the way, are you Chinese or Korean?" He was so friendly and nice about it that I came right back and said, "Neither, I am Japanese-American!" "Oh, you are," he replied, "Well, I'm glad that you're being allowed to come back here." It was just a simple conversation but it gave me a real feeling of belonging.

DONNAN: Well, I think that all real, patriotic Americans will continue to give you, and all the other returning Japanese-Americans, that same feeling. And that goes, too, for those most patriotic of all Americans--the men who have been out there fighting the Japanese. Let me quote a letter which appeared in the Los Angeles Herald-Express a few days ago:



"An article in your paper has been brought to the attention of 25 United States Marines who were at Saipan and are now back in the United States for certain reasons...It stated that the citizens of Altadena had refused to put the names of several Japanese-American soldiers on their newly erected Honor Roll.

Now don't get us wrong, but listen! Please!

We HATE the Japs we've been fighting. We fought them to kill them. We fought them that our American way of living might be upheld. I'm no Jap lover. I killed them. But as I sat through a newsreel, shown today to my 25 buddies at a convalescent show, I saw 500 Japanese-American soldiers give their lives in France in order that 250 American soldiers might gain their freedom from the "Lost Battalion." This has not been released to the public yet.

The public seems to think that those of us who have been fighting in the Pacific will return to hate every Jap we see. They are wrong. Many Japanese-Americans enlisted. Let us remember we are Americans, tolerant people--or have I given an arm in this war in vain?"

(Signed by a Sergeant of the U.S. Marines)

Now, Miss Ishida, what, if any, would be your message to the people of California regarding the return of our Japanese-American citizens?

ISHIDA: Simply this, Mr. Donnan....please think of us and treat us simply as citizens of this wonderful country of ours. Let us just come back and fit into the picture in whatever useful way we can, each of us, to help win the war and then take our places in the days of peace that are to follow.

DONNAN: And I feel sure that your wish will be granted, Miss Ishida. Editorial comment up and down the coast has been decidedly favorable. It seems to me that an editorial in the San Francisco News of the 19th covered the subject in a splendid manner...so I asked the editors of that newspaper if we might use their editorial today. They said:

"The military order of Maj. Gen. H. C. Pratt, the U. S. Supreme Court's ruling and Governor Earl Warren's forthright statement combine to make return of loyal Japanese citizens to California much less a dreaded prospect than it was in the beginning.

There is no reason whatever for apprehension or distrust. We are now assured by the highest authority that these citizens are within their constitutional right, that there no longer is any military reason for excluding them, and that their return will be managed in such a way as to cause minimum friction and inconvenience. Indeed, it would be reassuring and appropriate if the state officially, through Governor Warren, took steps to assist the Federal Government in their orderly and peaceful return.

Persons and groups, if there be any, who undertake to prevent or interfere with execution of the Army order and the Supreme Court's decision will themselves be subject to suspicion of disloyalty.

The News felt the original exclusion order of General DeWitt was wise and proper. There was serious apprehension in the public mind then that Japanese forces might achieve a landing on our coast and that sabotage by the resident Japanese population might prove disastrous to our military and industrial installations. There was neither time nor means of ascertaining which Japanese were loyal and which were not. The only alternative was to remove them all.

Furthermore, there was actual danger to the Japanese residents themselves from emotional outbreaks in sections of the state where feeling ran high early in the war. Their safety was secured by taking them out of the combat zones.

Meanwhile, our armed forces have made good use of the time also. The battle frontier has been pushed all the way across the Pacific. Only by some monstrous turn of fate could the chance of enemy action upon our own shores return. Every advance of our Army and Navy units makes ultimate victory more certain.



In short, there no longer exists the least reason for discriminating between citizens of Japanese ancestry and those of other enemy ancestry who dwell within the borders of our state.

In meeting this new turn of events, California and the other coastal states are confronted by a great responsibility to the nation as a whole as well as to themselves. These states are respected members of the union of states that constitute our great liberty-loving nation, the nation that was founded upon 'the proposition that all men are created equal.' How the people of California react to the return of the loyal Japanese will be a test of their belief in the fundamental principles of justice and human rights that have made us the envy of the world. Those who desire to keep their own constitutional rights inviolate will make sure to protect the constitutional rights of the returning internees.

Governor Warren exhibited real statesmanship by his prompt issuance of a statement to the effect that the order should be received in a spirit of absolute compliance, and calling upon the population to join in protecting the constitutional rights of all concerned. Likewise Department Comdr. Bolt and Adjutant Fisk of the American Legion gave instant patriotic support by calling upon all Legionnaires to support Governor Warren's stand and adding, 'If there be any among you who would bring shame and disgrace on the American Legion by violating the principles of the Legion, by denying to a citizen the rights which are his, then by those acts you forfeit your right to be considered a good Legionnaire.'

If the wise leadership expressed by the governor and these Legion officials is followed there need be no fear whatever about return of the loyal Japanese to their former homes."

If every Californian will carry out the principles given in this editorial from the San Francisco News, a new chapter will be written which will form a glorious part of California history.

Now, just a word about Citizens for Victory. At its office at 68 Post Street, you will find booklets, pamphlets, and other information about many of the great national and international questions of the day. Much of this material is free for the asking. Also, Citizens for Victory maintains a large Speakers' Bureau, which supplies speakers on timely subjects to clubs and other organizations.

ANNCR: Ladies and gentlemen, you have been listening to another Citizens for Victory program, broadcast as a public service by KGO. Heard on today's program were Miss Teiko Ishida and Mr. A. McKie Donnan. Tune in again next Saturday at 4:15 for another "Win the war...win the Peace" broadcast.



RESOLUTION

Pro-Resolute  
Grange

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Resolution passed by the Western Yolo Grange listed with other resolutions on the Japanese question, but unconsidered by the delegates on the floor of the convention.

WHEREAS: The Constitution of the United States guarantees citizenship to every person born in the United States, and,

WHEREAS: Every citizen has the right not only to die for his Country (as our Japanese-American boys are doing), but the guaranteed rights of liberty and the pursuit of happiness, and,

WHEREAS: The American Japanese we knew in Capay Valley were peace loving, law abiding, splendid American citizens,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the resolution passed by the Masters of the five Western States is in direct violation of the spirit and words of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States, those documents most dear and sacred to the hearts of all Americans,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the said resolution is entirely opposed to the teachings of Christ's law of love and brotherhood for all men. Therefore, we the members of Western Yolo Grange protest the passing of the aforementioned resolution.

/s/ John McCants, Guinda, Calif.  
Richard Blum  
James Brandt  
Claude Petty  
Doug. Oliver  
W. E. Smith, Brooks, Yolo County, Calif.



File Resolutions

# GROUPS SPONSORING RESOLUTIONS FOR JAPANESE-AMERICANS

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1. General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches -- June, 1942
  2. Western Yolo Grange --
  3. Southern California Baptist Convention -- October, 1944
  4. Southern California Council of Protestant Churches -- September, 1944
  5. The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church -- May, 1944
  6. Southern California-Arizona Conference of the Methodist Church -- June, 1944
  7. The Catholic Interracial Council of Los Angeles -- September, 1944
  8. The American Newspaper Guild -- August, 1944  
(Resolution proposed by William Oliver, President, Los Angeles Newspaper Guild)
  9. The Synod of California -- July, 1944
  10. McGill University Student Body -- November, 1944
  11. Northern California Baptist Convention -- October, 1944
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## LOS ANGELES CITIZENS ON THE ADVISORY BOARD OF THE FAIR PLAY COMMITTEE.

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1. Bishop James C. Baker -- Bishop of the Methodist Church
2. Homer D. Crotty -- Lawyer
3. Most Rev. John J. Cantwell -- Archbishop of Los Angeles
4. Rufus B. Von KleinSmid -- President of U.C.L.A.
5. Walter Wanger -- of Universal Studios
6. Rabbi Edgar S. Magnin
7. Irving M. Walker -- Lawyer
8. P.G. McDonnell -- Businessman
9. Dr. E.C. Farnham



RESOLUTIONS ON THE JAPANESE QUESTION  
Adopted by the Synod of California, July 25-27, 1944

According to the military authorities, persons of Japanese descent were evacuated from the Pacific Coast for reasons of military necessity at a time when invasion threatened. Assurance was then given that this suspension of the constitutional rights of personal liberty and freedom of action was but temporary. Thus the President and other high authorities have repeatedly promised to "restore to loyal evacuees the right to return to the evacuated areas as soon as the military situation will make such a restoration feasible."

The highest military authorities now have asserted that the danger of invasion is past and that "the Japanese enemy is not coming to our shores." And the progress of the war in the Pacific supports this conclusion. Thus, it would appear that the time has come to grant again to all loyal persons of Japanese descent the same freedom of movement, including return to their homes on the Pacific Coast, allowed to Americans and aliens of other countries. However, all efforts of our government authorities to fulfill their solemn promise are being impeded by the agitation of ill-advised persons who aim to secure the permanent abridgement of the rights of all persons of Japanese extraction, and who threaten to attack evacuees who do return.

In spite of the experience of the evacuation, the Japanese-Americans in the armed services have faithfully discharged their duties and have made fine records for heroic conduct both on the European front and in the South Pacific. Furthermore, no proven cases of espionage or sabotage have been recorded on the part of the 45,000 persons of Japanese extraction living in free communities east of the Sierras, many of whom are active in war work of various kinds. While a number of individuals have been permitted to return to the Pacific Coast under special circumstances, none of them have suffered violence at the hands of local Caucasian residents.

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED:

1. That the Synod of California petition the War Department to take immediate steps to restore to loyal persons of Japanese descent the right to return to their homes on the Pacific Coast; that it holds that further delay in thus giving full justice to this minority of American citizens and loyal aliens, many of whom have sons and daughters in the armed services, is contrary to the principles of democracy which we are fighting to establish throughout the world..
2. The Synod deprecates the persistent distortion of facts regarding this minority in our press and over the radio which aims to create prejudice and hatred against innocent people; and it holds that those who threaten the safety of persons of Japanese descent should be properly dealt with under our laws and full protection of our law enforcement agencies should be given all evacuees who choose to return to their homes on the Coast.
3. That the Synod assures the War Department, the Department of the Interior, and its agency the War Relocation Authority, of our continued cooperation, especially in the carrying out of such measures as are calculated to restore full rights to loyal persons of Japanese descent.
4. That the Synod urges the members of our churches to exemplify the spirit of Christ by fostering a favorable public opinion towards returning evacuees, and helping to insure a welcome back to our communities, our schools, churches, and homes; to write letters to the War Department and the War Relocation Authority offering to assume sponsorship for returning evacuees and cooperate in providing work, shelter, and other needed help; to encourage evacuees by personal letters and other assurances of good will.
5. That the Stated Clerk be empowered to transmit these recommendations to the President, Secretary of War, Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the War Relocation Authority, the Governor, and to all members of Congress from the States of California and Nevada.



Gibson  
FBI  
File  
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SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA BAPTIST RESOLUTION

More than 800 delegates to the Southern California Baptist convention meeting in Pasadena on October 12, 1944, the fourth day of their convention, adopted the following resolution:

"Sharing as we do with our fellow Christians the firm conviction that individual human personality and intrinsic worth of Christian character transcend all barriers of class, creed or race, now therefore be it resolved by the Southern California Baptist convention that we individually and as a community co-operate in every way possible with the War Relocation Authority and with all other government agencies by receiving with true Christlike spirit those persons of Japanese ancestry whose return to the Pacific Coast has been duly and regularly authorized and whose return to their homes in this area will not, in judgment of those authorities, be inimical to the best interests of our State or nation."



Pro-Resolution

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BULLETIN ON  
THE CHURCH AND THE RETURNING JAPANESE-AMERICANS  
issued by  
THE RACE RELATIONS COMMISSION  
of the  
CHURCH FEDERATION OF LOS ANGELES  
and the  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES  
October 5, 1944  
- - - - -

REV. CLARENCE GILLETTE, OUR REPRESENTATIVE

Arrangements have been made whereby the Rev. Clarence Gillette of the Congregational Conference of Southern California will serve as the representative and field worker of the Southern California Council of Protestant Churches and the Church Federation of Los Angeles, in aiding church leaders to set up their efforts on behalf of returning citizens of Japanese ancestry. The plans being presented by Mr. Gillette have been worked out with much care by well informed persons. He should have the cordial response of our Christian people.

. . . . .

LEADERSHIP IN INTER-RACIAL EDUCATION

Dr. Stewart G. Cole is setting up a series of Institutes and Workshops for the training of persons who are to help provide the kind of education we need along racial and inter-cultural lines in church and school. Here is a marvelous opportunity to develop both attitudes, methods, and skills in this acute area of social life. We urge all who can arrange to attend the Institutes and Workshops to apply for admission. **LET THE CHURCH BE PREPARED TO ACHIEVE GREAT VICTORIES FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD THROUGH ADEQUATELY TRAINED LEADERSHIP.** Prevent World War III by resolving racial conflicts intelligently.

**ADMITTANCE BY APPLICATION:** Sessions will open on the first Friday in October and continue over 5 weeks, from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Jefferson High School. The office of Dr. Cole is at Room 329 Chamber of Commerce Building, in the name of Bureau of Intercultural Relations.

We commend these series of Institutes to all pastors.

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"DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT"

You can have a share in doing something about it! We know you are busy-- but at least read "Now is the Time to Act" on the first page of the Federation material.

The address by Robert Cozzens enclosed is packed with some of the best and most recent information available:

How many Japanese will return?	Read upper part of page 5
For facts on evacuation	Read lower part of page 1 and 2
For colored movie	See lower part of page 5

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RACIAL UNDERSTANDING RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED  
by the  
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES  
September 28, 1944

The Assembly of the Southern California Council of Protestant Churches, at its regular meeting in Los Angeles on September 28th, adopted the following resolutions:

RESOLVED: That the Assembly of the Southern California Council of Protestant Churches in regular meeting go on record commending public officials who have stood firmly in support of the constitutional rights of American citizens of Japanese ancestry, as in the recent case of the Pasadena School Board, and that it urges all citizens, public officials, and churches to do likewise as the number of returning evacuees increases, and that this be done in recognition of the fact that the protection of citizenship rights is of utmost importance at a time when we are fighting totalitarianism which would deprive citizens of their individual liberties, and of the fact that our conduct now in the treatment of these citizens of another race does have a vital effect upon the cooperation of friendly Oriental people in our war efforts, and of the further fact that our treatment of these Americans with Japanese faces will have a vital bearing upon future international cooperation, goodwill and working relations.

FURTHER, that we commend our churches and their members as they recognize the Christian aspects of this matter and engage actively in assisting the creation and encouragement of right attitudes for the reception of these people into community life.

VOTED that we rejoice in a growing evidence of public support of measures looking to greater understanding and that we commend our churches as they deal with questions of racial attitudes as spiritual issues upon which the teachings of Jesus Christ have a vital bearing.



RESOURCE MATERIAL AND RECOMMENDATIONS  
for  
LOCAL CHURCH ACTION IN BEHALF OF JAPANESE AMERICANS  
issued by  
THE CHURCH FEDERATION OF LOS ANGELES  
and  
THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COUNCIL OF PROTESTANT CHURCHES  
OCTOBER 1944  
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The return of Ester Takei, nineteen year old Nisei, to the West Coast, and her admission into Pasadena Junior College, heralds the day when others of the exiled American citizens and Issei will again reside in the Pacific Coast states as free people. We rejoice in the part played by Christian groups in this instance and we recognize with appreciation the joint concern and cooperation of the principal of Pasadena Junior College, the college Student Christian Association, the Friends of the American Way, the War Relocation Authority, the Western Defense Command, and the Friend's family where she is now staying. We commend the cooperation of church, family, school, state, and military in thus preparing the way for those yet to return.

NOW IS THE TIME TO ACT

A testing time of our Christian faith regarding human brotherhood has arrived. A tremendous task of education of attitudes and action needs to be done in our local churches. We should be ready to receive the returning evacuees without discrimination and with friendliness. You can help; your leadership is needed in:

1. Helping procure hospitality, housing, and jobs.
2. Being a good neighbor, yourself, and promoting friendly neighborly relations.
3. Assisting in re-integration into the community; welcoming them into our church fellowship and social life.
4. Seeking information and printed material that can be passed on to others; and discussing these problems with some of your laymen. As you see their viewpoint, help them to see some of the larger issues.
5. Setting up local committees especially concerned in this area of service to help with the above and to begin at once a broad educational program for the total community in preparation for reception of evacuees.

Acquaint people with and urge support of the work of the Fair Play Committee, 2234 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley 4, California, and the Friends of the American Way, 305 Kensington Place, Pasadena 3. Both of these groups are close to the center of the problems.

Inform the War Relocation Authority of your interest and willingness to help. They will send you late news releases. Address: 1031 S. Broadway, L. A. 3.

Mail us a card letting us know which things you will do. Special literature and perhaps speakers are available.

CIVIL RIGHTS

There are many aspects to the matter of returning Americans with Japanese faces to the West Coast. One of these is the civil rights problem. Nisei generally, and the Japanese American Citizens League and the American Civil Liberties



Union specifically, seek the immediate establishment of the right of loyal American citizens to come back to the Pacific Coast. Churchmen and educational leaders throughout the nation are giving the JACL appreciative consideration. Among the national sponsors of the JACL are Dr. Monroe Deutsch (Berkeley), Bishop W. Bertrand Stevens (Los Angeles), Dr. Ray Lyman Wilbur (Palo Alto), Dr. Edwin R. Embree (Chicago), Dr. C. C. Morrison (Chicago), Dr. Albert W. Palmer (Chicago), Dr. Ralph Barton Perry (Cambridge), Dr. Harry Emerson Fosdick (New York), Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr (New York), Bishop Henry St. George Tucker (New York), Pres. Frank P. Graham (Univ. of North Carolina), Mr. Charles P. Taft (Ohio), Dr. Rufus M. Jones (Haverford), Pres. Homer P. Rainey (Univ. of Texas), and Mr. Raymond Gram Swing (Washington, D. C.)

The program which the Japanese American Citizens League is now pursuing includes the following points:

- "(1) to restore to citizens of Japanese descent all citizenship duties and rights, consistent with national security;
- "(2) to secure equal employment opportunities for such Americans so that they may contribute their utmost to our nation's war production program;
- "(3) to correct un-American discrimination against these citizens through defeat of discriminatory laws, bills, ordinances, and proposals and participation in test cases to clarify citizenship rights;
- "(4) to present the true facts about the Americans of Japanese descent, and their activities; and
- "(5) to prepare Japanese Americans for the post-war era of adjustment and rehabilitation by encouraging early resettlement from relocation centers, occupational re-training, and systematic savings."

The general intent of these objectives is consistent with the policy already adopted by the Church Federation and by individual denominational groups.

Ministers and laity alike should follow with care the progress of civil rights cases now in the courts. In August the ACLU initiated injunction suits in behalf of Mrs. Shizuko Shiramizu, widow of an American born Japanese killed in action on the Italian front, Masaru Baba, a Nisei honorably discharged from the United States Army, and Dr. George Ochikubo, an Oakland dentist who volunteered for service in the Army two days after Pearl Harbor. The Western Defense Command granted "certificates of exemption" from the Japanese exclusion orders to the first two persons and stated: "The pending civil action recently commenced in your behalf, to enjoin the military authorities from interfering with any effort you may wish to make to return to California, has resulted in an investigation and an examination of your case. As a result of this inquiry it appears that if you had made a written application to this headquarters for permission to return to California, it would have been granted. Accordingly, there is enclosed herewith a certificate of exemption from the exclusion order."

Attorney General Biddle has recently stated that the government would permit the return eventually of the persons involved in the evacuation, with certain exceptions. The United States Attorney, Charles H. Carr, has announced that the "government does not intend to oppose the return of Japanese-Americans whose records are cleared by the military authorities." A hearing has been held for the case of Dr. Ochikubo (cited above). The ACLU has filed a test case asserting the absence of military necessity for the continued exclusion of persons of Japanese descent in behalf of five others, naming General Bonesteel and a number of subordinate military officers as defendants. It is interesting and significant to note that among the attorneys in the case are representatives of the National American Civil Liberties Union, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and the Japanese American Citizens League.



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President Roosevelt's message to Congress of September 14, 1943, may be regarded as a statement of official policy on the relocation program. It is quoted here for the convenience of local churches. "With the segregation of the disloyal evacuees in a separate center, the War Relocation Authority proposes now to redouble its efforts to accomplish the relocation into normal homes and jobs in communities throughout the United States, but outside the evacuated area, of those Americans of Japanese ancestry whose loyalty to this country has remained unshaken through the hardships of the evacuation, which military necessity made unavoidable. We shall restore to the loyal evacuees the right to return to the evacuated area as soon as the military situation will make such restoration feasible. Americans of Japanese ancestry, like those of many other ancestries, have shown that they can, and want to accept our institutions and work loyally with the rest of us, making their own valuable contribution to the national wealth and well-being. In vindication of the very ideals for which we are fighting this war, it is important for us to maintain a high standard of fair, considerate, and equal treatment for the people of this minority, as of all other minorities."

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## IMPORTANT CHURCH PRONOUNCEMENTS

Nearly all the larger denominations have made formal pronouncements. The 1944 Atlantic City Northern Baptist Convention included the following items in its resolution regarding Japanese-American citizens: "RESOLVED, that we commend the War Relocation Authority of the Department of the Interior for its considerate and humane adjustment of a complex human problem in the evacuation of Japanese from the Pacific Coast. Furthermore, be it RESOLVED, that the churches of our denomination recognize their responsibility to the Americans of Japanese origin, as they are resettled in our various communities, and that we welcome them into the fellowship of our churches without discrimination, Furthermore, be it RESOLVED, that the Americans of Japanese origin, whose loyalty has been established, be granted the right of movement to return to their homes. Furthermore, be it RESOLVED, that we assert with conviction and practice with diligence the eternal truth, "God is no respecter of persons", and face this human issue on the Christian principle rather than on the basis of pagan prejudice."

A committee of Southern California Baptists urge their people (1) to write Secretary of War Stimson to release the evacuees, particularly the families of men in the armed services of the nation (over 10,000 of them now); (2) to assure Secretary Stimson of their cooperation in the problems of housing, work, and general adjustment; and (3) to build attitudes, quietly and persistently, among fellow churchmen, neighbors, and friends favorable to the early return of these honorable citizens.

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The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in May, 1944, adopted two reports which are relevant to the matter here discussed. The Report of the Board of Social Education and Action said: "That the General Assembly, noting the changed status of the West Coast from a theater of operations base to a service command, commend the War Department for granting permission to Nisei soldiers to visit the West Coast and for granting other rights to persons of Japanese descent; and that the General Assembly affirm its support of steps taken in furtherance of the government's announced policy of restoring in full to these evacuees their rights of domicile and other civil liberties when consonant with military necessity."



The Report of the Committee on National Missions stated: "That the General Assembly strongly approve the ministry which has been extended by the Board in cooperation with other Christian bodies to our Japanese American brethren; that our churches be urged to do everything within their power to facilitate the resettlement of the Japanese Americans in such communities as they may choose, and to receive them into the fellowship of the churches....."

The General Assembly commended the general work of the War Relocation Authority in its treatment of evacuees and in the task of resettlement.

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At the Annual Conference of the Southern California - Arizona Conference of the Methodist Church, meeting June 1944, it was resolved:

"The upsurge of demands for the restoration of full Constitutional rights to citizens of Japanese ancestry reveals a healthy Americanism in the midst of war. A poll of the Southern California-Arizona Conference of the Methodist Church shows 95.6% of the ministers and lay members replying to the questionnaire, as supporting President Roosevelt's insistence on the maintenance of 'a high standard of fair, considerate and equal treatment for the people of this minority as of all minorities,' and his solemn promise to 'restore to loyal evacuees the right to return to the evacuated areas as soon as the military situation will make such a restoration feasible.'

"In view of the assurance of Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson and the late Secretary of Navy Frank Knox that the Japanese enemy is not coming to our shores -- assurance fully buttressed by facts revealed on current Pacific war maps -- we hold that the time has arrived for the removal, by the War Department, of 'the unprecedented, quasi-martial law, suspending a small minority's Constitutional rights of personal liberty and freedom of action.' (See April issue of FORTUNE MAGAZINE.) We, therefore, concur in the recent action of the California Conference of the Methodist Church declaring that 'democratic justice will be best served by granting freedom of movement to loyal Japanese, anywhere in the United States, on the same basis as other Americans and aliens of other countries. This would include the right to return to the Pacific Coast. If this right is abridged by political, economic, or racial groups, we hold that such action will be destructive of essential democracy and Christian relations...To continue to delay the justice due this minority of American citizens and loyal aliens (denied the privilege of becoming citizens) is contrary to every principle of fairness and in direct opposition to the basic rights guaranteed by the Constitution of the United States.' Here, surely, apply the words of Gladstone: 'JUSTICE DELAYED IS JUSTICE DENIED.'

"We urge our people to exemplify the way of Christ by welcoming to our communities, our schools, our churches, and our homes, these victims of organized discrimination and wartime hysteria, and we call upon our members and friends throughout the Conference to make preparation for, and to write to Secretary Henry L. Stimson, offering to provide work and shelter for returning evacuees, sending copies of the letter to the Commanding Officer of the Western Defense Command, the Presidio, San Francisco, and to the Director of War Relocation Authority on the Pacific Coast. In so far as we are able we shall support such movements as are designed to aid evacuees in readjusting themselves to new coast conditions, and to insure for them the full protection of American law.

"We hereby request our delegation to the Western Jurisdictional Conference to endeavor to secure action by that body in keeping with the position of this Conference."



RESOLUTION NO. 2 - September 6, 1944  
A. M. D. G.

A RESOLUTION OF THE CATHOLIC INTER-  
RACIAL COUNCIL OF LOS ANGELES ON THE  
SUBJECT OF AMERICAN CITIZENS OF JAPA-  
NESE DESCENT AND ALIEN JAPANESE

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WHEREAS, in 1942 the government of the United States forcibly removed some 110,000 persons of Japanese descent - two-thirds of whom were American citizens by birth and one-third of whom were aliens forbidden by law to be citizens - from the Pacific Coast states, principally California, on the basis of war-time emergency decision; and

WHEREAS, this group of citizens was forcibly deprived of their liberty for a long period of time, many of whom are still imprisoned and but a few of whom have been permitted to return to their homes; and

WHEREAS, this is the first time in the history of this country that any group of citizens has been punished solely by reason of racial origin; and

WHEREAS, responsible leaders of our government, including Secretary of the Interior Harold W. Ickes, have repeatedly and publicly stated that there has not been one proven case of sabotage on the part of a Japanese-American, not even in Hawaii; and

WHEREAS, some 10,000 Americans of Japanese descent are serving with the armed forces of the United States, their number including some of the first troops on the beaches of Salerno and intelligence officers and interpreters with our units in the Pacific and India; and

WHEREAS, Americans of Japanese descent have fallen in battle on foreign soil in defense of our constitutional guaranty of racial equality and others of them have been awarded citations and decorations for valiant service; and

WHEREAS, they include a great number who were thus forcibly removed from their homes by the government and imprisoned and thereafter volunteered to fight in defense of that same government; and

WHEREAS, the parents of many of them are of Japanese birth, ineligible by law for citizenship, and who likewise were removed from their homes and imprisoned; and

WHEREAS, the government of the United States created the War Relocation Authority in a valiant effort to accord to this class of citizens the justice which has long been denied them by assisting in their re-establishment in the communities from which they were taken or other communities in this country of their own choosing; and

WHEREAS, many patriotic citizens have been innocently misled into supporting the continuation of those exclusions and penalties; and

WHEREAS, in 1938 Pope Pius XI condemned racism as a paramount evil of the day, saying that he regarded racism and exaggerated nationalism as barriers between man and man, between people and people and between nation and nation, and



WHEREAS, the Catholic Interracial Council of Los Angeles deeply regrets the hysteria which possesses many people, Catholic and non-Catholic, in this community in their evaluation of this class of citizens and the treatment to be accorded them and is convinced that this hysteria is contrary to natural justice and should and can be abated by an intelligent and Christian approach;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Catholic Interracial Council of Los Angeles in regular meeting duly assembled this 6th day of September, 1944, hereby resolves;

(1) That citizens of the United States of Japanese descent are entitled to be allowed to return to the communities from which they were taken, or other communities of their own choosing, at once, except such of them who have formally and finally upon due reflection and without coercion, disavowed loyalty to this country and except such of them who are proven guilty of disloyalty to this country beyond a reasonable doubt in a court of law under the provisions of the fifth and fourteenth amendments of the constitution; and

(2) That former residents of this community of Japanese birth who satisfy the government of their loyalty to the United States should likewise be allowed to return to the communities from which they were taken or other communities of their own choosing, subject to such regulation as the exigencies of war reasonably demand under international usage;

(3) That the War Relocation Authority be commended for its American, constitutional, valiant and intelligent efforts for the re-establishment of Americans of Japanese descent and in their opposition to the evils of racism;

(4) That the executive committee of the Catholic Interracial Council is hereby authorized to initiate or participate in any program consistent with this resolution;

(5) That copies of this resolution be transmitted to such newspapers, publications, federal agencies, organizations, officials and persons as may be directed by the executive committee.

DONE at Los Angeles, California, this 6th day of September, 1944.

APPROVED:

DANIEL G. MARSHALL  
Chairman, Executive Committee

LEONARD J. DOYLE

DR. ROBERTHEGER-GOETZL

TED LeBERTHON

RUTH W. SMITH

LANDON MORRIS

STANLEY H. CHAN



August 24, 1944

The following text on loyal Japanese-Americans, was taken from the Eleventh Convention of the American Newspaper Guild, August 1944:

"WHEREAS, American soldiers of all ancestries are fighting and dying on war fronts throughout the world to preserve the human rights and institutions of this country; and

"WHEREAS, These American soldiers of all ancestries are fighting and dying to eradicate for all time the blot of racial and religious discrimination and persecution which helped to foment the present global catastrophe, and to restore to all men the dignity of freedom; and

"WHEREAS, Seventy-four thousand American citizens of Japanese ancestry -- many of whom are still behind wire fences -- were removed from their Pacific Coast homes to War Relocation Centers because of a military necessity; and

"WHEREAS, The Fourteenth Amendment to our Constitution guarantees full rights of citizenship to every person born in this country; therefore be it

"RESOLVED, That the American Newspaper Guild request the federal government to reexamine its position with regard to loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry with the view of returning them to their homes at the earliest possible moment."



FRANK M. JORDAN  
SECRETARY OF STATE



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
OFFICE OF THE  
*Secretary of State*  
SACRAMENTO

1/24/44

MEMORANDUM --

Mr. Grodzins:

Herewith the photostatic copy of the articles of incorporation of THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR EXPULSION OF JAPANESE requested in your letter of the 19th.

Your office will receive a bill in the amount of \$0.75 on or around February 10th. This is figured at "state rate" of 15 cents a page.

FRANK M. JORDAN  
SECRETARY OF STATE



Restriction of right  
to amend articles

Yes

No

Secretary of State

Corporation Number  
193868

A R T I C L E S   O F   I N C O R P O R A T I O N

O F

THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR EXPULSION OF JAPANESE.

We, the undersigned, all of whom are residents of the State of California and all of whom are citizens of the United States of America, do voluntarily associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a non-profit Corporation under the Laws of the State of California,

AND WE DO HEREBY SET FORTH, CERTIFY AND DECLARE THAT:

FIRST.

The Name of the Corporation is "THE AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR EXPULSION OF JAPANESE"

SECOND

The purposes for which said Corporation is formed are:

(a) To expel every person born in the Empire of Japan or the Islands adjacent to the Empire of Japan, from the State of California and the United States of America.

(b) To oppose every person bringing to or landing within the State of California or within the United States of America any person born in the Empire of Japan or the Islands adjacent to the Empire of Japan without said person or persons first bringing to the Commissioner of Immigration evidence satisfactory to such Commissioner of Immigration that such person desires voluntarily to come into the State of California, and is a person of good character, and obtaining from such Commissioner of Immigration a permit describing such person and authorizing the landing in the State of California and the United States of America.

FILED

in the office of the Secretary of State  
of the State of California

DEC 28 1943

FRANK M. JORDAN, Secretary of State

Deputy



1  
2 (c) To extend such pecuniary aid to the needy members of the organi-  
3 zation as the finances of the Corporation will permit, and to promote beneficial,  
4 educational and professional relationships of the members of this Corporation.

5 (d) To establish and maintain a Club House for the use of its members  
6 and to that end to hold or acquire by purchase or lease real property, improved  
7 or unimproved, and to issue bonds in exchange therefor, and to manage and dis-  
8 pose of such real property.

9 (e) To establish and maintain branches of this Corporation throughout  
10 the State of California and the different states of the United States of America  
11 as well as in the Philippines, China and Korea and any other part of the world.

12 (f) To make additions to any Club House or Club Houses so established  
13 and maintained, and to purchase, lease or otherwise acquire and to hypothecate  
14 personal property in furtherance of the purposes hereinabove set forth.

15 (g) To enter into any and all contracts; to do any and all things nec-  
16 essary to carry out the purposes above specified; to study oriental affairs and  
17 treaties which have heretofore been entered into and which may hereafter be entered  
18 into by and between the United States of America and any foreign country main-  
19 taining diplomatic and commercial relations with the United States of America.

20  
21 Pecuniary profit is not the object of this Corporation, but on the con-  
22 trary, it is expressly formed and will be conducted as an organization for the  
23 furtherance of helpful professional cooperation among its members, and to main-  
24 tain a library of treaties entered into by the United States of America with  
25 other oriental countries or empires, and in order to achieve greater economic sta-  
26 bility for the State of California and the United States of America by providing  
27 employment for men and women released from the Army services and Defense indus-  
28 tries after the termination of the present war, and provide greater happiness  
29 and a more abundant life for the laboring classes of California, and the labor-  
30 ing classes of the United States of America.



1  
2 THIRD.

3 The County in the State of California where the principal office for  
4 the transaction of business of the Corporation is to be located is the County  
5 of Los Angeles, State of California.  
6

7 FOURTH.

8 The Articles of Incorporation may be amended or the name of the Corpora-  
9 tion changed or the principal place of business changed in the manner prescribed  
10 by law.

11 FIFTH.

12 The private property of the members of the American Foundation For  
13 Expulsion of Japanese shall not be subject to the payment of corporate debts  
14 to any extent whatsoever.

15 SIXTH.

16 The number of Directors of the Corporation shall be nine, and the names  
17 of the Directors who are appointed for the first year and to serve until the  
18 election of such officers, are as follows:-  
19

20 EULA BUCHANAN,	541 North Western Avenue, Los Angeles (4) Calif.
21 ANN FISHER,	1607 North McCadden Place, Hollywood (28) Los Angeles
22 OLLIE M. BALDWIN,	1301 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles (15) California
23 MARSHALL JOHNSON,	145 South Harvard, Los Angeles (4), California
24 RUDOLFO H. FERNANDEZ,	646 South Main Street, Los Angeles (14), Cal.
25 Willedd Andrews,	967 South Manhattan Place, Los Angeles (6), Cal.
26 E. N. LUNDY,	4116 Dalton Avenue, Los Angeles (37) California
27 John C. Porter,	1104 South Longwood Ave., Los Angeles (6), Calif .
28 Zella R. MUSSEN,	722½ E. Kensington Road, Los Angeles (26), California

29  
30  
31  
32



1 SEVENTH.

2 This Corporation is to have existence during a period and in the  
3 manner provided by the Laws of the State of California.  
4

5 EIGHTH.

6 The American Foundation for Expulsion of Japanese is not to be authorized  
7 to issue shares of stock and is not formed with a view of penuniary gain or profit  
8 to its members.

9 NINTH.

10 The membership shall be limited to five million members.

11  
12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hands this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
13 of December, 1943, at Los Angeles, California:

14  
15 Eula Buchanan

16 541 North Western Avenue, Los Angeles (4) Calif.

17 Ann Fisher

18 1607 North McCadden Place, Hollywood (28) Los Angeles.

19 Ollie M. Baldwin

20 1301 West Olympic Boulevard, Los Angeles (15) California

21 Marshall Johnson

22 145 South Harvard, Los Angeles (4), California

23 Rodolfo H. Fernandez

24 646 South Main Street Los Angeles (14) Cal.

25 Willie Andrews

26 967 South Manhattan Place, Los Angeles (6) Cal.

27 E. N. Lundy

28 4116 Balton Avenue, Los Angeles (37), California

29 John C. Porter

30 1104 South Longwood Ave., Los Angeles (6), Calif.

31 Julia R. Massien

32 722½ E. Kensington Road, Los Angeles (26), California.



1  
2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA )  
3 ) SS.  
4 COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES. )

5 On this 13th day of Deember, 1943 before me, Zella R. Mussen, a  
6 Notary Public in and for said County, residing therein, duly commissioned  
7 and sworn, personally appeared Eula Buchanan, Ann Fisher, Ollie M. Baldwin,  
8 Marshall Johnson, Rudolfo H. Fernandez, Willedd Andrews, E. N. Lundy, and  
9 John C. Porter, personally known to me to be the persons whose names are sub-  
10 scribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged to me that they executed  
11 the same.

12 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my  
13 official seal the day and year in this certificate first above written.  
14

15 Zella R. Mussen  
16 Notary Public in and for the  
17 County of Los Angeles, State of  
18 California. My commission ex-  
19 pires April 18, 1947.

19 STATE OF CALIFORNIA, )  
20 ) SS.  
21 County of Los Angeles.)

22 On this 13 day of December, 1943 before me Chas D Munro  
23 a Notary Public in and for said County, residing therein, duly commissioned  
24 and sworn, personally appeared Zella R. Mussen, personally known to me to be  
25 the person whose name is subscribed to the within instrument, and acknowledged  
26 to me that she executed the same.

27 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my offi-  
28 cial seal the day and year in this certificate first above written.  
29

30 Chas D Munro  
31 Notary Public in and for the County  
32 of Los Angeles, State of California.  
My commission expires Feb 9, 1945



PACIFIC LEAGUE  
A non-Partisan, Non-Profit Calif. Corporation

Suite 931  
Rives-Strong Bldg.

112  
West Ninth Street

Los Angeles, California

May 27, 1943

Mr. Clyde C. Shoemaker  
600 Hall of Justice  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Shoemaker:

Under authority of the Resolution passed at the Pacific Coast Japanese Problem Conference, held yesterday, I am appointing the following committee to effect a permanent organization:

Frederic T. Woodman  
Everett W. Mattoon  
Clyde C. Shoemaker  
Henry Kearns  
Walter H. Odemar

Because of the fact that the War Relocation Authority is already beginning the process of scattering Japanese internees throughout the country, I feel it necessary that our work be undertaken immediately.

To that end, I am inviting this committee to take luncheon with me at the University Club at noon on Tuesday, June 1st, and will appreciate it if you will advise me either by mail or telephone, of your acceptance of this appointment and presence at the luncheon next Tuesday.

Under the leadership of the men above mentioned, I feel sure that we can accomplish definite results. With kind personal regards and best wishes I am,

Sincerely yours,

RUSS AVERY, President

RA:HP



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Sincerely yours,

RUSS AVERY, President

RA:HP



Interview with Jack Rollins, L.A., July 23, 1943

Mr. R. operates a public relations bureau at 112 W. ninth st., Los. Angeles. For the past three years he has been the publicity agent for the Pac. League, under whose guidance the Pac. Coast Jap. Prob. League was formed. He now handles publicity for the League. He apparently has more than the professional publicity man's interest in his job. He promised to send me all future releases of the League and to keep me posted on the League's activities. It is noteworthy that the League has the interest and the finances to engage a high-powered professional public relations man.



jap

August 4, 1943

Leo V. Youngworth, Esq.  
917 Bank of America Building  
650 South Spring Street  
Los Angeles, California

Dear Mr. Youngworth:

In the absence of Congressman Costello it is a pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of recent date in which you comment on the Japanese problem and advise the Congressman of your proposed organization, "Pacific Charter, Incorporated".

Upon the Congressman's return to Washington I shall present your letter to him and I know that he would want me to thank you for having written him relative to this very important issue.

Assuring you of the Congressman's best wishes,  
I am

Very sincerely yours,

SECRETARY

SNC/pab



LAW OFFICES  
**LEO V. YOUNG WORTH**  
917 BANK OF AMERICA BUILDING  
650 SOUTH SPRING STREET  
LOS ANGELES

(14)

July 26, 1943

PERSONAL

Honorable John M. Costello, M. C.  
House Office Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear John:

The undersigned is President of what is known as the Anti-Alien League of Americans. This corporation was duly organized under the laws of the State of California on July 1, 1938, and as the name implies, this organization has been active in matters having to do with the unpatriotic activities of certain elements of our population and particularly in matters having to do with the restricting of the activities of the Japanese in the State of California.

For many years and particularly as Grand Trustee of the Native Sons of the Golden West, I participated in activities having to do with the restricting of the Japanese ownership and/or occupancy of our agricultural lands, and their encroachment on our fishing industry and other commercial activities.

In this effort, I cooperated with and enjoyed a very fine friendship with the late V. J. McClatchy who was, at the time, Secretary of the Immigration Committee; an organization sponsored by the Native Sons, American Legion, The Grange, and the American Federation of Labor.

I have often discussed our so-called "Japanese problem" with Mr. McClatchy and particularly the serious situation that would undoubtedly result if there was not devised some plan that would prevent the threatened increase of Japanese population in the United States.

BY WAY OF ILLUSTRATION -- IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT IN 1812 THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 150,000, NEGROES IN THE UNITED STATES; THERE HAS BEEN NO ADDED IMMIGRATION OF



Page Two.

NEGROES SINCE 1812, IN FACT, A VERY CONSIDERABLE NUMBER EMIGRATED FROM THIS COUNTRY TO LIBERIA. THIS NEGRO POPULATION OF 150,000 IN 1812 HAS MULTIPLIED UNTIL TODAY, IN 1943, OR IN A PERIOD OF 130 YEARS, WE HAVE IN THE UNITED STATES APPROXIMATELY 13,000,000 NEGROES.

APPLYING THESE FIGURES TO THE JAPANESE SITUATION -- WE HAVE IN AMERICA UPWARDS OF 300,000 JAPANESE, AND IT IS NOT UNREASONABLE TO SAY THAT IF THESE 300,000 JAPANESE ARE PERMITTED TO REMAIN IN THE UNITED STATES FOR A PERIOD OF LET US SAY 100 YEARS, THERE WILL BE UPWARDS OF 25,000,000 JAPANESE IN THE UNITED STATES IN 2043.

THE NEGRO IS A LOYAL AMERICAN CITIZEN; HE HOLDS ALLEGIANCE TO NO FOREIGN NATION. HE HAS BEEN AND NOW IS 100 PERCENT AMERICAN. Nevertheless, the Negro problem is a serious one for the reason that the Negro is unassimilable. It is, I am sure, unnecessary for me to discuss the seriousness of the so-called Negro problem, as you are undoubtedly familiar with the conditions that prevail in the Southern States and also the large Negro population in the populous Northern States and particularly cities like New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and even Los Angeles, including smaller communities.

THE JAPANESE IS LOYAL TO HIS EMPEROR AND DISLOYAL TO THE UNITED STATES. EVIDENCE IN SUPPORT OF THIS STATEMENT IS AVAILABLE FROM MANY RELIABLE SOURCES. Today, as you undoubtedly know, the Japanese dominate and control the best agricultural lands in California, the fishing industry in California and in the Pacific Area, and are making rapid progress in many commercial activities to the exclusion of the loyal citizens of the United States and particularly citizens of our Pacific Coast Area.

Ample evidence is available that the activities of the so-called "Japanese Association of America" an affiliated Japanese organization as reported in "California and the Oriental", (a report by the State Board of Control of California at pages 127 and 128) and the so-called "American Leaders of Japanese Ancestry", (as reported in the "Report of the Joint Fact-Finding Committee to the Fifty-fifth California Legislature", at page 337) were dominated and controlled by the Japanese Government through its Japanese Consul in San Francisco.

There is a very interesting document entitled "Japanese Exclusion, a Study of the Policy and Law", by



Page Three.

John B. Trevor, M. A., which was submitted to the Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, House of Representatives, on January 8, 1925, being numbered House Document No. 600.

The above referred to report of the State Board of Control of California as revised to January 1, 1922 entitled "California and the Oriental" together with the report of the Fact-Finding Committee, recently submitted to the California Legislature brings the Trevor document down to date. A careful consideration of these documents coupled with my observations and investigations covering a period of more than 40 years convinces me that there is but one solution to our so-called "Japanese problem" namely: THE ABSOLUTE EXCLUSION OF THE JAPANESE FROM THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Article XIV, Section 1 of the Constitution of the United States reads as follows:

"All persons born or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

At a recent meeting of the Grand Officers of the Native Sons of the Golden West, a resolution was adopted recommending the amending of Article XIV, Section 1 of the Constitution; the amending phrase consisting of the insertion after the opening phrase: "All persons born", of the words "of citizens", so that the section would read:

"All persons born of citizens or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

While this is an admirable amendment, in my opinion, it does not go far enough.

What I have in mind is one of two amendments to Article XIV, Section 1 of our Constitution, namely:

1. I would adopt the amending phrase suggested by the Native Sons, so that the first part of Article XIV, Section 1, would read:



Page Four.

"All persons born of citizens or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside."

To this I would add the amending phrase, to-wit:

"excepting and excluding as citizens of the United States, all persons of Japanese ancestry."

So that Article XIV, Section 1, as amended would read:

"All persons born of citizens or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside, excepting and excluding as citizens of the United States, all persons of Japanese ancestry."

This amendment, I admit is drastic and would undoubtedly meet with serious opposition.

2. My second amendment would be less drastic and, in my opinion, would not meet with serious opposition, to-wit: by adding the following amending phrase, namely:

"excepting and excluding as citizens of the United States, all persons born in the United States, who on December 7, 1941 were citizens of a foreign state and the descendants of such persons."

So that Article XIV, Section 1, as amended would read:

"All persons born of citizens or naturalized in the United States and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside; excepting and excluding as citizens of the United States, all persons born in the United States, who on December 7, 1941 were citizens of a foreign state and the descendants of such persons."

This second amendment is aimed primarily at what is known as the Nisei (second generation, American-born Japanese).



Page Five.

I have not been able to ascertain the exact number of Nisei Japanese in the United States, but I would say that they number approximately between 150,000 and 200,000.

Several years ago in discussing with Mr. McClatchy, the so-called "disclaiming of the Nationality of Japan" I was advised by Mr. McClatchy that while it was difficult to arrive at any exact percentage, it was his (Mr. McClatchy's) opinion that 75 percent of the Nisei Japanese in the United States had failed to "disclaim the nationality of Japan".

It is important to have in mind the law passed by the "Japanese Diet" on July 8, 1924, some two months after our Congress had enacted the so-called Japanese Exclusion Act; by this law Nisei Japanese would be permitted to declare their Japanese citizenship by making such a declaration before the Japanese Consul and it is my understanding that many thousands of Nisei Japanese took advantage of this law and declared themselves to be citizens of Japan.

These Nisei Japanese would be excluded from citizenship under my proposed Constitutional amendments. However, it is a question as to when this so-called Japanese Act of July 8, 1924 became effective. The following is quoted from Japanese Exclusion by John B. Trevor, House Document No. 600, at page 19:

"It may perhaps be well to point out that Japanese procedure in respect to promulgation and putting into effect legislation is vague . . .

In any event, as indicated elsewhere, the amendment does not seem to have as yet been put in force."

It would appear that if my second amendment to Article XIV, Section 1 of the Constitution of the United States were adopted, we would deprive at least 100,000 and possibly 150,000 of the so-called Nisei Japanese of American citizenship. Certainly there can be no serious opposition to this amendment. THE NISEI JAPANESE WHO FAILED TO "DISCLAIM THE NATIONALITY OF JAPAN" COULD NOT COMPLAIN. HIS LOYALTY TO AMERICA CAN BE SERIOUSLY QUESTIONED. I believe this amendment would be acceptable to a large majority of the people of America.



Page Six.

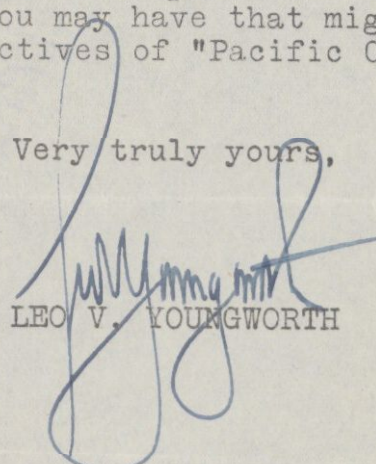
It is my purpose to organize and incorporate under the title "Pacific Charter, Incorporated". Under this new organization I plan to send out approximately 5,000 condensed statements of the information contained in the three pamphlets above referred to, to a select group of citizens of the State of California enclosing a questionnaire. If favorable response is received, it is proposed to mail additional thousands of these condensed statements to the end that the entire citizenship of California be advised and their reaction noted.

If favorable, we will prepare and propose an initiative measure which would include, of course, one or both of the suggested Constitutional amendments. If the response is favorable, we will immediately initiate like activities in the different states of the Union having for our objective the approval and adoption of the proposed Constitutional amendment by the various states.

I, therefore, earnestly request that your very careful consideration be given to this communication and that at your earliest convenience you give me the benefit of your reactions, suggestions and advice. I would particularly appreciate your careful consideration of the proposed Constitutional amendments as it is important that they be properly drawn.

I cordially invite you to participate and become an honorary member of "Pacific Charter, Incorporated". I would also appreciate any suggestions you may have that might be included in the purposes and objectives of "Pacific Charter, Incorporated".

Very truly yours,



LEO V. YOUNGWORTH

LVY/c

P. S. NEWSPAPER REPORTS INDICATE A FAILURE ON THE PART OF CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES TO UNDERSTAND AND APPRECIATE THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE JAPANESE SITUATION. I AM CONVINCED THAT IT IS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY THAT THE AVERAGE AMERICAN CITIZEN BE GIVEN AN OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS HIS OPINION AND I AM SURE THAT THE METHOD ABOVE SUGGESTED WILL AFFORD HIM THAT OPPORTUNITY.



Mr. Frank  
5109  
5111

1-5676 ~~th~~



PACIFIC LEAGUE  
A non-Partisan, Non-Profit Calif. Corporation

Suite 931  
Rives-Strong Bldg.

112  
West Ninth Street

Los Angeles, California

May 27, 1943

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600 Hall of Justice  
Los Angeles, California

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Under the leadership of the men above mentioned, I feel sure that we can accomplish definite results. With kind personal regards and best wishes I am,

Sincerely yours,

RUSS AVERY, President

RA:HP



**OFFICERS AND  
DIRECTORS**

**PRESIDENT**

**JUDGE RUSS AVERY** Attorney  
Industrialist - Rancher

**1ST VICE PRESIDENT**

**FREDERIC T. WOODMAN**  
Former Mayor City of Los Angeles

**2ND VICE PRESIDENT**

**R. F. INGOLD** President  
Los Angeles Investment Co.

**SECRETARY**

**R. C. HANNA**  
Coast Federal Savings and  
Loan Association

**TREASURER**

**ANDREW J. MEADE** Retired

**DIRECTORS**

**A. C. BERGHOFF** Past President  
Southern California Hotel Assn.

**T. B. COSGROVE**  
Cosgrove & O'Neil, Attorneys

**E. E. DUQUE** President  
California Portland Cement Co.

**JUDGE WILLIAM HAZLETT**  
Hazlett & Plummer, Attorneys

**HARRY G. JOHANSING**  
Cass & Johansing, Insurance

**WILLIAM A. JOHNSON** President  
American Pipe & Construction Co.

**J. A. H. KERR** Vice President  
Security-First National Bank

**BEACH D. LYON** Owner - Manager  
Homer Laughlin Estate

**HARRY W. MCLEOD** Manager  
Hammond Lumber Co.

**JOSEPH MESMER** President  
St. Louis Fire Brick &  
Insulation Co.

**ARTHUR J. MULLEN** Attorney

**GEORGE O. SMITH**  
Metal Trades Manufacturers Assn.

**FRANK R. STRONG**  
Rives-Strong Building

**W. P. WHITSETT** Chairman of Board  
Metropolitan Water District

**ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

**CHAIRMAN**

**CHARLES K. BLECH** Mayor  
City of Manhattan Beach

**MEMBERS**

**ALPHONZO E. BELL**  
Bel-Air, Los Angeles

**R. A. BROOMFIELD**  
Barnsdale Oil Co.

**D. F. CULVER** President  
Los Angeles Property Management Co.

**A. J. GOCK** Chairman of The Board  
Bank of America

**WILLIAM A. HOLT** Vice President  
Bullock's

**LEON SPINKS**  
Pershing Square Building

**PACIFIC LEAGUE**

A NON-PARTISAN, NON-PROFIT, CALIFORNIA CORPORATION

SUITE 931  
RIVES-STRONG  
BUILDING



112  
WEST NINTH  
STREET

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

TELEPHONE  
TRINITY  
0955

Na

May 12, 1943

Honorable, John H. Tolan, M. C.  
Washington,  
D. C.

Dear Congressman Tolan:

Recently we had the pleasure of sending you  
a copy of our letter to Honorable, Harold L.  
Ickes, with reference to his employment of  
Japanese individuals on his private farm.

Because of the widespread discussion of this  
Japanese problem, both here on the Pacific  
Coast and in Washington, D. C., we feel sure  
you will be interested in the enclosed editorial  
page from the Los Angeles Examiner of May 10,  
1943.

We of the Pacific League, are much gratified  
with the active interest being taken in this  
important situation by the members of Congress -  
particularly those from California.

Trusting that an equitable solution of this  
entire Japanese problem - including the post-  
war situation - may soon be reached and with  
best wishes, we are,

Very truly yours,

PACIFIC LEAGUE

*Russ Avery*  
Russ Avery, President.

RA:HP

"Cherish the Spirit of Our People and Keep Alive Their Attention"

—Jefferson, The Price of Liberty.



## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

**PACIFIC COAST JAPANESE PROBLEM LEAGUE**

Suite 931, 112 West 9th Street

Los Angeles (15), California

\_\_\_\_\_, 1943

GENTLEMEN:

I am heartily in accord with the purposes and objectives of

**PACIFIC COAST JAPANESE PROBLEM LEAGUE**

and desire to cooperate with you.

Please enroll me as an ASSOCIATE MEMBER of the organization and find enclosed ONE DOLLAR (\$1.00) to cover my membership for one year.

I also enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_ as a voluntary contribution to help carry on the organization's educational campaign.

(Signed) \_\_\_\_\_

Street or Box No. \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

We will be glad to have you send us names of friends, whom you believe may be interested in this important program.



Interview with Jack Rollins, L.A., July 23, 1943

Mr. R. operates a public relations bureau at 112 W. ninth st., Los. Angeles. For the past three years he has been the publicity agent for the Pac. League, under whose guidance the Pac. Coast Jap. Prob. League was formed. He now handles publicity for the League. He apparently has more than the professional publicity man's interest in his job. He promised to send me all future releases of the League and to keep me posted on the League's activities. It is noteworthy that the League has the interest and the finances to engage a high-powered professional public relations man.



*Mr. Rollins*  
NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Use.

From Pacific Coast Japanese Problem League  
Suite 931, 112 W. 9th Street  
Phone TR-0955  
Los Angeles, (15) California

Los Angeles, July 12 - The Pacific Coast Japanese Problem League, today filed articles of incorporation with Secretary of State, Frank M. Jordan, as a non-profit, non-partisan California corporation.

Original incorporators, all of whom have been active in the effort to keep the Japanese from being returned to the Pacific Coast, include Judge Russ Avery, President of Pacific League; Walter H. Odemar and Eldred L. Meyer, Grand Trustee and Past Grand President, respectively, of the Native Sons of the Golden West; Ben S. Beery, prominent attorney and Legionnaire; Henry Kearns, President of the State Junior Chamber of Commerce; Clyde C. Shoemaker, former Deputy District Attorney of Los Angeles County and Frederic T. Woodman, former Mayor of Los Angeles.

Purposes and objectives of the new organization as stated in its incorporation papers are:

"Pacific Coast Japanese Problem League has been organized for the purpose of co-ordinating the ideas, objectives, influence and efforts of individuals, groups and organizations in the States of Washington, Oregon, California, Nevada, Idaho and Arizona, who are interested in the protection of the Pacific Coast area from any and all phases of the Japanese menace."

The League, which has opened its principal office at 112 West 9th Street, Los Angeles, will also establish regional offices in the principal cities of the Western States, while local chapters are already being organized in many California counties.

The new organization is the outgrowth of a state-wide conference held in this city recently and is sponsored by more than fifty organizations. It also has already developed an active membership of several hundred individuals.

According to Judge Russ Avery, President, all individuals, organizations and groups who are in harmony with the League's objectives are invited and urged to participate in its activities.

*Are now publishing  
"JAPANESE FACTS"*



Follmer

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION  
OF  
PACIFIC COAST JAPANESE PROBLEM LEAGUE  
(A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION)

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

That we, the undersigned, each of whom is a resident and citizen of the State of California, this day have associated ourselves together voluntarily for the purpose of forming a corporation under and pursuant to the provisions of Title XII, Part IV, Division First of the Civil Code of the State of California, and of other laws in harmony therewith, for the purposes other than pecuniary profit, and for such purposes we hereby certify:

ARTICLE I

That the name of such corporation is and shall be "Pacific Coast Japanese Problem League".

ARTICLE II

That the purposes and objects for which the same is formed are:

(a) To inspire and develop patriotic devotion to our fundamental American form of government, reverence and faith in its constitution and laws and to promote and encourage respect and obedience to them.

(b) To resist all efforts designed to incite disloyalty to the Government of the United States and the fundamental principles upon which it is founded and to combat seditious propaganda and subversive activities of every kind.

(c) To co-ordinate the ideas, objectives, influence and efforts of individuals, groups and organizations in the States of Washington, Oregon, California and Arizona, Nevada and Idaho, who are interested in the pro-



tection of the Pacific Coast area from any and all phases of the Japanese menace.

To take such steps and engage in such efforts and activities with reference to the solution of "the Japanese Problem" in America, as in the opinion of the Board of Directors may be deemed appropriate and advisable.

### ARTICLE III

This is a corporation which does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the members thereof.

### ARTICLE IV

That the principal office for the transaction of the business of the corporation shall be located in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, and branch offices may be located at such places as the Directors may determine.

### ARTICLE V

(a) The names and addresses of the persons who are to act in the capacity of Directors until the selection of their successors and who shall be known as Directors are:

<u>Names</u>	<u>Addresses</u>
Russ Avery, <i>Former Sup. Ct. Judge</i>	Los Angeles, California
Ben S. Beery, <i>Atty, American on Program</i>	Los Angeles, California
Henry Kearns, <i>Pres, Hays for Chamber of Commerce</i>	So. Pasadena, California
Frederic T. Woodman, <i>Former Mayor, Los Angeles</i>	Los Angeles, California
Clyde C. Shoemaker, <i>Former Asst. Dist Atty</i>	Los Angeles, California
<del>Grace S. Stoermer</del>	<del>Los Angeles, California</del>
Eldred L. Meyer, <i>Part Prop., Hays Sons</i>	Santa Monica, California
Walter H. Odemar, <i>Grand Trustee, Hays Sons of the Golden West</i>	Los Angeles, California

(b) The number of persons who shall constitute the Board of Directors of the Corporation shall remain five (5) until changed by an amendment to the By-Laws of this Corporation.



ARTICLE VI

The authorized number and classifications of the members of this League, the different classes of membership, the property, voting and other rights and privileges of each class of membership, and the liability of each or all classes to dues and the method of collection thereof may be set forth in the By-Laws of this corporation.

ARTICLE VII

No existing unincorporated association is being incorporated by the formation of this corporation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned who are all of the directors named in the foregoing articles of incorporation for the purpose of forming this corporation and subscribing our names this \_\_\_\_\_ day of June, 1943.

Names

Addresses



# Policies Mapped to Combat Moves for Japs' Return

Civic and Patriotic  
Leaders Score  
Release From  
Camps

Plans for a permanent organization to combat the release of Japanese from relocation centers and their return to the Pacific Coast were laid at a meeting of governmental, civic and patriotic leaders here yesterday.

The plans followed warnings that a move is afoot "to return Japs right here at our back door where they can do the most harm," and predictions that "our staid old Californians and our boys who have returned from the South Seas" will take the law into their own hands, if the plans are successful.

The meeting, held in the Clark Hotel under sponsorship of the Pacific League, with representatives of the American Legion, the Native Sons of the Golden West, and other organizations present, adopted resolutions calling for strict supervision of the Japs under full Army control during the duration.

## COSTELLO SPEAKS

Congressman John M. Costello, chairman of the Congressional Japanese Committee, warned the group:

"You have a responsibility on your hands."

He told the group that the Japanese are being released from the camps and that the first step being taken is to permit Japanese Americans to return to the area.

"The purpose of that," Congressman Costello declared, "is to get the people here accus-

## Organize for Jap Expulsion

Government and organization leaders opposed to the return of Japanese to the Pacific coast gathered yesterday at the Clark hotel and launched a permanent organization to coordinate their efforts.

Under the sponsorship of the Pacific league, a resolution was adopted organizing the "Pacific Coast Japanese Problem Committee," with a membership of groups and individuals interested in the problem.

Another resolution by Henry Kerns, president of the state junior chamber of commerce, was recommended for the release of Americans from internment camps.

Other temporary officers named include Ben S. Beery, Los Angeles County Council member, and Walter H. Odeman, secretary-treasurer of the Native Sons of the Golden West.

The league's organizers said the four states will be invited to become honorary members. "Invitations will also be extended to all organizations who are interested in the Japanese problem."

It will take a real fight if the people of California and the Pacific Coast are going to stop the movement to bring Japanese back to this area, Representative John M. Costello told a meeting at the Clark yesterday.

The meeting was called by former Judge Russ Avery and others, under the name of the Pacific Coast Japanese Problem Conference, to discuss the Nipponese return movement.

At the conclusion of the meeting, which was participated in

# PACIFIC LEAGUE PROTESTS JAP RETURN TO CAL.

Solons Say Time Has Come  
For Action Against Proposal

With ringing protests against the return of Japanese to California, the Pacific League Japanese Problem Conference, called by the Pacific League, met at the Hotel Clark today to co-ordinate the efforts of the various bodies in California to fight the return of these persons.

Speakers at the conference included Judge Russ Avery, who told Mr. Biddle that the Japanese Problem Conference had already been organized in the drafting of the Japanese Problem Conference, and that if he could do that with 13,000,000 loyal citizens, it could certainly be done to 130,000 potential enemies and spies.

Representatives of the American Legion, Native Sons of the Golden West and several public officials also spoke. Former Judge Russ Avery presided, and Former Mayor Frederic T. Woodman was master of ceremonies.

by representatives of the American Legion, the California Junior Chamber of Commerce and other organizations and individuals, a resolution was adopted setting up the conference as a permanent organization.

The conference is highly organized and necessary that some organization undertake the job of seeing that a definite program is set up for the proper control of the Japanese in this country, both alien and American-born, for the duration of the war.

Costello reviewed the entire question of the removal of the Japanese from the West Coast combat and defense areas. He said it is a difficult problem, but that it is necessary to regard it from a practical viewpoint.

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GROUP FORMED  
TO FIGHT JAPS'  
RETURN HERE

Russ Avery Heads League; to  
Ask Officials, Patriots, Clubs  
to Join Expulsion Movement

Formation of the Pacific Coast  
Japanese Problem League to  
combat the release of Japanese  
from relocation centers was com-  
pleted at the University Club  
yesterday.

Russ Avery was elected temporary president of the league, which resulted from a conference called last Wednesday by the Pacific League.

The Japanese Problem League membership will be open to all individuals in the Japanese problem, and its activities will cover the state of California, Oregon, Washington and Arizona.

Other temporary officers named include Ben S. Beery, Los Angeles County Council member, and Walter H. Odeman, secretary-treasurer of the Native Sons of the Golden West.

The league's organizers said the four states will be invited to become honorary members. "Invitations will also be extended to all organizations who are interested in the Japanese problem."

Outlined  
Costello  
at Conference

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At the conclusion of the meeting, which was participated in

LOS ANGELES  
EXAMINER  
June 2

June 2  
Suite 931, 112 West

LOS ANGELES TIMES  
May 27, 1943

Needed

The Japanese Problem Conference declared that it is highly organized and necessary that some organization undertake the job of seeing that a definite program is set up for the proper control of the Japanese in this country, both alien and American-born, for the duration of the war.

Costello reviewed the entire question of the removal of the Japanese from the West Coast combat and defense areas. He said it is a difficult problem, but that it is necessary to regard it from a practical viewpoint.



John Shoemaker:

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT STUDY  
2072 TANK HILL  
BERKELEY, CALIFORNIA

"I have Western point of view"

Jap. Problem Conf. — Outgrowth of threatened  
release of Japs during wartime.

WRA began to release of Japs.  
Rumor to U.A. to be removed & Japs  
released en masse.

Meeting of Pacific League in Clark  
Hotel, Long Beach, Cal. group of Cong. Cortelle  
present & H. Veland Ford talked. Outgrowth  
of meeting: form coordinating group  
who opposed to any & all release of  
Japs & release to Soc. Cst.

This group organized non-profit &  
non-partisan org. — This the  
Problem Conference League.

Want to be "alert, realistic, & still fair."

League then drew up petition

1st Pacific League — Approx — May 20  
2nd 1st Actual Meet. May 26 + 27



since May 26 - number of organ  
meetings

---

great mistake to allow Japanese  
to remain on the Pacific Coast

No policy yet formed re: citizenship  
+ send back to Japan +





Salinas, California  
April 19, 1945

ORGANIZATION TO DISCOURAGE RETURN  
OF JAPANESE TO THE PACIFIC COAST

Articles of Incorporation of Monterey Bay Council on Japanese Relations have been duly approved by the State of California.

General Purposes of the Corporation are:

1. To conduct by all proper and lawful means an educational program regarding the background, history, pre-war activities, and future disposition of Japanese in the United States of America.
2. To exercise all legal means:
  - (a) To discourage the return to the Pacific Coast of any person of Japanese ancestry, except those in the uniform of the Armed Services and those of unquestioned loyalty to the United States and our people.
  - (b) To insist upon the deportation after the War of all alien Japanese whose beliefs make impossible their loyalty to the United States and those whose past affiliation or actions have demonstrated interest inimical to the welfare of the United States.
  - (c) To insist upon the strict supervision and regulation by local, State and Federal government of all Japanese schools, societies, and organizations in this country.
  - (d) To promote further legislation and insist upon strict enforcement of existing laws so as to completely eliminate dual citizenship.
  - (e) To strengthen and demand strict enforcement of existing alien land laws.
  - (f) To insist upon institution of escheat proceedings in all proper cases.
3. In general to do all things, or all necessary, suitable, or proper for any and all of the above purposes, or anything which the Board of Directors may from time to time deem conducive or expedient for the protection of the corporation.

That said corporation does not contemplate pecuniary gain or profit to the members thereof.

That the county in the State of California where the principal office of the transaction of the business of the corporation is to be located, is the County of Monterey, State of California.

That the number of directors of this corporation shall be twenty five, unless and until changed by a by-law regularly adopted by the members thereof, but in no case shall the number of directors be less than three.

That there shall be but one class of membership, namely, regular memberships, all of whom shall have equal property rights in the assets of this corporation upon liquidation, and all members shall have equal voting rights, each member possession one vote.

That all members of the corporation shall be exempt from assessment and the corporation and its Board of Directors shall be without power to levy any assessment or assessments upon the members.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

MONTEREY BAY COUNCIL ON JAPANESE RELATIONS, INC.

P. O. BOX 332, SALINAS, CALIFORNIA

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
(St.) (City) (State)

Dues in Amount of \$1 accompany this application.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Upon acceptance, membership card will be issued by the secretary.



Excerpts from a letter written to Mr. Inglis, minister of Plymouth Congregational Church from Benjiman H. Bull, attorney and a member of the American Legion in Madison, Wisconsin.

(early 1943?)

Dear Mr. Inglis:

Recently about a dozen people have come from California. Among them is a Mr. Nomura, his four small children and two nephews. The two nephews and the four children are American citizens. Mr. Nomura has been attending the Presbyterian Church, his children are in the Sunday School, and Rev. Kennedy, whom you met while you were here, I understand presented the matter to his board and the board has given him their cooperation in meeting this problem.

Yesterday noon Mr. Nomura and his two nephews were entertained at a luncheon attended by three ministers, Revs Kennedy, Swan, and Stark, the President of the Dane County Bar Association, County Judge Evans, Attorney Martin Tollund, the Register in Probate, Mr. Roberts, a Y.M.C.A. man and two student leaders and Prof. Hibbard of the University who had spent twelve years in Japan which caused one of the members of the group to ask him for his F.B.I. clearance--jokingly. The attorneys were all members of the American Legion and it happened but was not planned that three of the attorneys present, including myself, were Government Appeal Agents. So you see there was an interesting group gathered.

The Uncle, Mr. Nomura, gave a nice talk and stated how he had been in this country for thirty years and never had been back to Japan and stated how he wanted his children to be brought up to respect the American flag and be good American Citizens. His two nephews also responded.

The purpose of this meeting was a general get together for the purpose of understanding the problems. While the adjustments of Mr. Nomura, who was a grocer in Oakland, and the two boys, the oldest of which was at the University of Southern California and the younger worked with his Uncle in the grocery store, are a little different from those of the others they brought who were truck farmers and who were already employed. Mr. Nomura has funds to tide him over and he seemed to be quite cheerful and happy over the prospects.

It is quite possible that the two nephews may be inducted here. I told Taka personally that if he could be assured of reasonable good treatment by his associates in the army he would be much better off after the war by reason of his experience. The younger was called for induction in California, but after the evacuation order came out they would not take him. His Uncle, as well as he, felt rather hurt to over the fact that he was not permitted to serve, and Taka said that he would be very happy to serve.

Mr. Nomura may acquire a small truck farm and Judge Evans of the American Legion feels that he knows of some places where such might be acquired. The efforts of the Welfare Department to find a house for Mr. Nomura and his children have not been successful at this date, partly on account of the demands for houses by war workers, an Ordnance Plant and an air school being now in the process of construction in our vicinity.

Writing you with this information I should supplement it by saying that I trust that the whole nation in various communities will respond similarly to this problem. The effort would be doomed to defeat were merely a few localities to proceed as we have so far and thus invite rumors which would defeat this process of assimilation.



18 Panoramic Way  
Berkeley, Calif.  
May 7, 1943

*refer*  
*Japanese*  
Rep. Albert E. Carter  
Congress  
Washington, D. C. *na free*

Dear Sir:

Newspaper stories indicate that West Coast Congressmen (largely from Southern California, it looks to me) are urgently seeking that special discrimination be continued against the Japanese evacuees. I wish very much that some of our Congressmen would have the courage to take an opposite point of view. The Berkeley-Oakland area was not one of the hysterical ones, after Pearl Harbor, and it was very calm and unembittered even through the evacuation period. You represent us -- won't you speak up for fairness for American born Japanese in the Army, and see that the soldiers get a chance to visit their families in relocation centers?

The soldiers are investigated carefully before they are permitted to wear-the uniform, and if they are cleared by Army Intelligence and the F.B.I. they should be given the same privilege other soldiers have -- a chance to visit their families before going abroad. I have known a number of the Japanese-Americans who are now at relocation centers, and know they are good citizens. Our putting heavy punishment on thousands of people because of race is something that will bring us enormous future problems, unless we show real statesmanship now. Will you help in this?

Sincerely yours,

*Eleanor D. Breed*

(Miss) Eleanor D. Breed



# Organizations Opposed to Japanese

## 1. Joint Immigration Committee

Ti. 70

"a small group of self-appointed, ill-informed, rich old gentlemen" who claim the credit for our exclusion act.



2. Pacific Coast Japanese Problems League.  
Executive Secretary, Dr. J. F. G. Carruthers.

Other members:

Judge Avery, president

Walter Odemar, past grand president of  
N. S. G. W.



### 3. The California Grange.

a. Under the leadership of George Schlmeier, master of the California State Grange, have gone on record demanding that "all Japanese in the United States" be deported at the end of the war. A resolution calling for such action was passed by Schlmeier at the National Grange convention at Grand Rapids, Michigan in November. Opposition to the deportation resolution was expressed by National Master Albert S. Goss, who said the State Department and the American Red Cross had urged that the matter not be made an issue at this time.

The California resolution urged that all war relocation camps be transferred from the operations of WRA to the army, opposed the return of evacuees to the coast and the release of the evacuees from camps for work anywhere.

b. The Idaho State Grange passed following resolution:  
We recommend that no part or parcel of land in the U.S. be sold or leased to any Japanese by the owner or agent thereof or by the United States government.



#### 4. The American Legion.

a. National executive committee demands that the War Department assume control of the war relocation program for "Japanese internees."

National Commander Warren Atherton was authorized "to use all the powers" of the Legion to bring about dissolution of the WRA, either by legislation or by executive order.

b. The Fourth Area Council which was held Sunday, Dec. 12 at Glendale, warned that the organization was prepared to call on Gov. Warren "if necessary" to call a special session of the State Legislature to pass legislation barring persons of Japanese ancestry from California until the end of the war. The Fourth Area meeting adopted unanimously a resolution recommending control of the relocation centers be transferred from the WRA to the army.



5. Chambers of Commerce (various local organizations)

a. Orland Chamber has adopted resolutions urging the removal of disloyal persons from the Tule Lake segregation center to some interior point and the transformation of the camp into one for prisoners of war.

b. Delegates to the state-wide conference of the Junior Chamber of Commerce adopted a resolution charging the NRA with "maladministration"



## 6. Eagles Lodge

a. Eagles in Seattle in November passed a resolution demanding permanent exclusion of persons of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Northwest area.



## 7. Native Sons of the Golden West.

a. On Nov. 26, Walter Odemar, Grand Trustee of the Native Sons, announced that a resolution against the return of the evacuees to the west coast is now being acted on by Native Son Parlors throughout the state.

b. The Native Sons Parlor of Santa Rosa recommended in December that military administrators replace the WRA in war relocation camps for evacuees of Japanese ancestry.

c. A resolution urging that the Tule Lake Center be moved inland and placed under either the Army or Department of Justice was passed unanimously Saturday by the Native Sons' legislative committee on Japanese.

Introduced by Attorney Walter H. Odemar of L.A., the resolution called upon Congress "to immediately pass legislation calling for deportation of all persons of Japanese ancestry, American-born or otherwise, who heretofore have failed to pledge loyalty to the United States, or by word or deed have indicated their loyalty to Japan." "We shall demand," the resolution added, "that Attorney General Biddle be prevented from following



## 7. (Continued)

his announced plan to give all Japanese in America another opportunity of pledging their loyalty to this country - which would be an empty gesture at best.

"We maintain" the resolution continued, "that WRA is an incompetent bureau and unfit to handle the Japanese concentration problem, which should be in the hands of the Army or the Department of Justice, and that the Tule Lake camp be moved inland."

Insisting that "no Japs ever be returned to this area," the resolution declared that intelligence service records show there existed in California, Washington, Oregon, and Arizona, as far back as 1917, definite war moves by the Japanese against the United States.

Members of the committee include Odemar, Eldred L. Meyer, Santa Monica; Superior Judge Benjamin Jones, Lake County; Daniel J. Collins, San Francisco, and John J. Reagan, Grand Secy. of the Native Sons.



## 8. Western Growers Association

● Its members are fruit and vegetable growers in California and Arizona. They demanded at their convention in L.A. in Dec. that all war relocation centers be removed from the jurisdiction of the NRA and placed under military supervision. The resolution also demanded deportation for all "disloyal persons."



9 American Foundation for Expulsion of Japanese.  
2200 West Seventh St. L.A.  
Articles of incorporation were filed with the  
Secretary of State on Dec 16.

Purposes of the new organization, as announced  
in its articles, include:

Expulsion of every person born in the empire of  
Japan or islands adjacent to the empire from Calif-  
ornia and the United States.

To oppose the landing of any person from the  
empire or adjacent islands without a permit from  
the U.S. Commissioner of Immigration certifying  
the immigrant is a person of good character.

To promote greater happiness and a more  
abundant life for the laboring classes of Calif-  
ornia and the United States.

The articles name nine L.A. residents as  
directors. The headquarters is in L.A.

L.A. Examiner. January 28

Preparation and circulation of an initiative pe-  
tition to bring about legislation forever barring  
Japanese from the state will be discussed at a meeting  
tonight.

Incalling the meeting, at which committees will be  
formed, Marshall Johnson, who heads the organization,  
said that action by the WRA in releasing thousands of Japs  
will result ultimately in their return to California to compete with  
American farmers.



10. Americanism Educational League.  
Executive Secretary, John R. Lechner.



11. Washington Farmer's Products Control Board.

At its annual session on Dec. 11, it passed a resolution to be presented to the state congressional committee urging that it take steps to see that persons of Japanese ancestry be prevented from ever coming back into the Puget Sound Valley and the coast area.



## Disabled American Veterans.

A resolution, demanding that relocation centers for Japanese evacuees be equipped with psychopathic wards where such cases will be retained rather than returned to public institutions within their former states, will be proposed by Chapter 29, Disabled American Veterans, to the organizations state executive committee meeting Jan. 29 at Fresno.

Jack Cain, commander of the Pasadena chapter, and Leon D. Hurlburt, adjutant, have drawn the resolutions which sets forth that under present custom, Japanese evacuees who are deranged or pretend to be, are being sent back from their relocation centers to mental institutions within their original states, some of these institutions being located not only within the defense zone but near vital oil fields.

Escape from such institutions is highly possible, the resolution continues, thereby presenting the danger of sabotage and great loss through deliberate or lunatic destruction by escaped Japanese. The resolution urges this situation be corrected by immediate establishment within relocation camps of