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November 19, 1942

Minutes of the Temporary Community
Council and Block Representatives of
Advisory Board Meeting, Poston 3

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council and Block Representatives of Advisory Board of Poston 3 held on November 19, 1942, at 8:30 A.M. at Block 310-9-A, was called to order by Chairman Harvey Iwata.

Roll Call: All Councilmen and Block Representatives present at the meeting.

Chairman Iwata explained the reason for this meeting was due to sudden unexpected event occurring in Poston 1. It seemed evident by facts received that a strike was in progress in Poston 1, and Poston III Community Council and Advisory Board should be given the facts leading to this strike and what action Poston III Council should take in this matter.

Councilman Kelly Yamada was requested by Chairman Iwata to give facts he had received while in Poston 1 on November 18, 1942. Councilman Yamada referred to two other individuals who also was in Poston 1 and asked permission to have their presence at this meeting which was accorded by the assent of members present.

Councilman Yamada returned with a member of the Community Enterprise staff of Poston 1 who stated that 3 representatives from Poston 1 were at present in Poston 2 and would give the facts regarding the occurrence in Poston 1, and urged that the whole meeting or at least representatives of the body present to Poston 2 to get actual facts.

Discussion put to the members present and opinion was that we as one body should go to Poston 2 to get the actual facts regarding the strike in progress in Poston 1.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Iwata to meet at Block 310 Canteen for transportation to Poston 2.

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Meeting of the Councilmen,
Advisory Board and Block
Managers of Poston 3

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, and Block Managers of Poston 3 were scheduled to meet at 7:30 P.M. at Block 306 Recreation Hall in order to inform members who were not on committee of 12 to Poston 1 as to what took place and also what information is to be given to various block meetings.

Circumstances developed that instead of a meeting for the above mentioned groups, various interested residents were present.

Accordingly a report of the happenings since the morning of November 19, 1942, until the present given by S. Shirazawa in Japanese and was to have been drawn to a close, when Tom Sakamoto, Supervisor of Block Managers, felt that some action should be taken then.

As a result members of the audience requested a mass meeting at Block 310 Dining Hall to pass the report on which was given, and report meeting was called at 9:00 P.M.

Mr. S. Shirazawa gave the exact report in Japanese and Mr. Harvey Iwata in English for the benefit of those who did not understand Japanese. After this report a certain Mr. Kusunose acquired the chairmanship of the meeting by popular acclaim and it was decided that an emergency committee, consisting of two representatives from each block be formed to cope with the present situation.

Various individuals gave his opinions as to what action should be taken on this matter.

The mass meeting adjourned at 12:00 Midnight, with instructions given to the Councilmen and Advisory Board to meet next morning at 9:00 A.M. at Block 310-9-A, on Friday, November 20, 1942.

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Minutes of the Committee of
12--6 representatives of
Poston 2 and 6 representatives
of Poston 3.

Committee of 12 of Poston 2 and 3 met with the representatives of Poston 1--consisting of 2 representatives from each Block--and totaling to 72 at 3:30 P.M. at Hospital Building, Annex 3 Auditorium.

Mr. Omori, spokesman for Poston 1 representatives extended his appreciation for the efforts of Poston 2 and 3 in trying to assist in solving this disturbance. The group had gathered here due to fact that Mr. Evans had an announcement for them. He thanked the representatives of Poston 2 and 3 for taking up the cause.

At this time the announcement was made to the meeting that the Block Managers had handed in their resignation to Mr. Evans at 3:00 P.M., November 19, 1942.

After confering with the leaders of the Poston 1 representatives, permission was given to representatives of Poston 2 and 3 to see Mr. Evans first before he addressed the meeting in regard to the statement.

Interview was had with Mr. Evans, Assistant Project Director, with Administration staff present consisting of: Mr. Rupkey, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Smith, Moris Burge, V. Kennedy, James Crawford, Dr. Leighton, H. Mathiesen.

Chairman John Maeno, Poston 2 Temporary Community Council, acted as spokesman for the representatives of Poston 2 and 3:

John Maeno: "We represent a committee of 12--6 from Poston 2 and 6 from Poston 3--who have been selected by popular meeting to negotiate and try to settle this difficulty at the request of Mr. Nagai and several of the representatives from Poston 1. We understand that you have an announcement to make to Poston 1 but they have decided that we should see you first and see what we could do about this matter."

John Evans: "I am sorry that I was not aware the time I made this announcement that you people were in the process of formation. If I had known that, I would not have gone ahead with this idea."

John Maeno: "The announcement can be made to this group and if possible, we may be able to make a negotiation."

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John Evans: "First I shall read the statement which I have prepared to this group in here. All of you gentlemen are aware of the basic facts?"

John Maeno: "We are under the impression that no charges have been filed against the two men and are asking their release."

John Evans: "I shall read the statement: 'I have been informed by the special agent in charge of the district office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation that for the present there are not completed the investigation of Isamu Uchida, and since the state has not complaint against him, Mr. Fujii is being released. The charge of assault with a deadly weapon has been filed against Isamu Uchida. He will be transferred to the custody of the Yuma sheriff and will be brought to trial by the State of Arizona. He will be entitled to have a fair and impartial trial before a fair and unprejudiced jury. They will entitle him to have a trial with an attorney of his own choosing. He will be accorded all the rights to a fair and just trial under the statutes of the State of Arizona. He will have the right to subpoena any witnesses he so desires.'"

John Maeno: "Mr. Fujii will be released, but Mr. Uchida will be tried before a jury and court and he must stand such a trial is the decision. In Poston felony cases cannot be tried here and so we will take the case out of Poston. Almost all dissatisfaction that comes up is because they feel that you do not have evidence on either parties. Isn't it bad precedent to select a person and take them outside without any preliminary hearing? What evidences and charges against him, what chances would he have in a court foreign to the Japanese people, since he won't be tried by a jury of his peers or group, and it seems that whatever charges are against him should be presented as evidence before they expedite him from the camp? I think this point should be taken up before decision is reached."

John Evans: "I can see that this point would carry a great weight with the people. It occurs to me that the fact that the person charged is going to have the right to be tried in a court before a jury, he is going to have the right to choose his own attorney, it is quite a different picture from this federal F.B.I. business after all. After all, I think that it is important to remember, Mr. Maeno, that a man who is going to be tried in any court of Justice set up under the United States is going to get a fair trial. I believe that."

John Maeno: "You can't take that in that light with the war going along. Certain people is against the people of this race. I don't believe the chances are 50 to 50 on the basis of prejudice. It seems to these people if the project could have prepared a case before and presented before an impartial jury

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in Poston 2 or Poston 3, and if there was sufficient evidence, the people would see there is some evidence and he would have to stand trial. Here we have to take the word of F.B.I. and that person would be tried in a trial under some foreign statutes. The project has quite a leeway and would make an error in calling people in this fast.

John Evans: "You are lawyer and I am not. To get to this suggestion that there will be a preliminary hearing in Poston 2 or Poston 3, is there any basis or precedent for an action of this kind. Do you think that will be possible from a legal point of view?"

John Maeno: "The Project Director in this case must decide whether the evidence in this prosecution is sufficient to hold him for prosecution. The matter was presented to the Project Director and at the same time it was decided that there was evidence enough to hold him. It seems the best way is to present that evidence and show basis on which Project Director turned him over to the State of Arizona. That responsibility is the Project Director's and he must determine whether he should turn it over to the State of Arizona. You probably heard enough evidence to turn him over to the State of Arizona, but that should have been made clear.

John Evans: "I wonder if anyone has told the people whether I am going to speak to the people at this time?"

John Maeno: "They have been informed of that fact and said they would wait until we were through here.

We have a judicial committee or some sort of self-government here and if the Judicial Committee of Poston 1 is so prejudiced here and have decided one way or the other, such a machinery is present at Poston 2 or Poston 3, at least at Poston 2, and we could reveal all and on what basis they are holding these parties on this trial and what decision we arrive at we could get a better presentation to the people."

John Evans: "Do you think that the Administration wants to get rid of this man? You must feel that we hold the responsibility for the people in this camp, and I hope that we are right that the responsibility of the people is in our hands and all of that sort of thing and I am sure there can be no mistake of that."

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John Maeno: "There is a possibility of violence by this high-handed methods used."

Kelly Yamada: "How about we acting more or less as a grant jury and sifting out the evidence whether it is valid or not. We don't know the facts and we have been asked to represent Poston 1 to act as a negotiating group between the Administration and the people."

John Evans: "What do you other people of the Administration think. Is there any possibility of doing it this way?"

"John Maeno: "Would you say there is a felony charge immediately? In the case of Poston 3, there was a knifing case any never brought to trial as a felony. Who decided whether it was a felony or a misdemeanor, and until the evidence is presented, we don't know what it is. We don't say that we should decide whether the person is guilty, but we want to show evidence is against him is a felony or not."

John Evans: "Do you think I am not concerned about the safety of the great many people here in Poston 1, with people acting the way they are gathering in large groups and all that? I think the quicker we can put a stop to that the better off we can be. Do you think that there is a possibility that the people, supposing it were possible to hold of f this man given to the custody of the sheriff until Monday, that is the time for Mr. Head and Mr. Gelvin and Mr. Haas to get back, and still we have to hold Mr. Uchida in custody here that it could be put to the people in such a fasion that they will agree until that time to clear the air?"

John Maeno: "This is an opportunity more then to clear just this particular case so we can stop all these beatings. I think we can accomplish this in one or two meeting with a group from Poston 1 and have a popular understanding, and we will get this worked out quite successfully and of permanent benefit to take such a procedure. If Mr. Uchida is held over until charged, you would be violating the right to a speedy trial and all criticisms, jibes, and violences would be stopped, if it would be able to produce Mr. Uchida on Monday, that he should be released and he certainly cannot run away from this camp and might be able to solve this thing by releasing him into the custody of the Council and Advisors. They certainly represent the people as far as we know."

John Evans: "We have no Council and Advisors since they resigned. Does anyone have anything to say on this?"

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John Maeno: "The entire trend of the meeting was that people in these camps had heard nothing or no facts and the entire interest of the group was to produce facts to the people and every group working on it have carried the spirit of cooperation and spirit that we wanted to continue on and the entire trend of the meeting wasn't whether certain things has or had been done or not, and it was a spirit of cooperation that they selected us to come without any instructions and come as mediators and take messages back to the people and keep this from Poston 2 and Poston 3 and try to mediate the situation here.

John Evans: "I am very grateful for the efforts of you people on this matter."

John Maeno: "The basic policy behind the whole thing is there is quite a bit of suspicion. When Mr. Miller said that certain people are trying to put the finger of suspicion on certain people and make them feel bad, the whole question is certain Japanese people are employed by a federal agency, that they are trying to persecute the larger group of Japanese people here."

John Evans: "What could Mr. Head or I do about these certain things and conditions?"

John Maeno: "We might go into the seed of this real trouble trouble and in the meanwhile in regard to Mr. Uchida, if there is definite evidence for prosecution, it should be revealed to the public and the defendant goes to trial on the basis of this prosecution. The F.B.I. should be presented to the case and their notes can be presented for trial. That would be a legal procedure and there could be no complaints to this. There is no doubt an authorized Justice of Peace on this project and with the authority to take the place of Justice of Peace. If the evidence is apparent, the case has been proved by facts, the charges has been filed, then no action can be taken on it except by the laws of the State of Arizona."

John Evans: "Would it help if possible for a small group of lawyers be informed of the evidence? I do not know whether that is legal or not."

John Maeno: "We have a Judicial Committee that is supposed to keep law and order and if they heard the evidence they would not have to decide whether it was right or wrong. It would be up to the Project Director to preside and people would know whether there was sufficient evidence and it would be an arbitrary act. The evidence is certainly not going to prove whether that person is guilty or not guilty. I do not know what your position is,

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or whether we are limited to a certain system, but to pick out and say to one person that you are going to have a hearing in a foreign court, is it not just as right that we could have a hearing in this project and take it out if the evidence is evident?"

Mr. Smith: "I do not believe that you are or have the jurisdiction to try to find about the evidence,"

John Maeno: "The Chief of Police has to have certain cause to arrest the person. The matter of judgment should be presented to the people openly and not in a star chamber and people do not know what it is about. The people would be satisfied if you could present enough evidence that Mr. Uchida should be turned over to the state courts."

Mr. Tanizawa: "As one of the representatives from Poston 2, we came to find out whether we can have the two parties released and all charges against them dropped. The mob has gathered on account of the two persons still being in jail. The mob wishes to have the two parties released and asked if this is done, they will disperse. I am talking from the standpoint of a layman and not from a legal standpoint. So the question is whether you will be in a position to release these two parties and forget about all this trouble."

John Evans: "That is a question which I cannot answer. I do say that one man is being released and this next man, I believe that man is guilty. Otherwise, I would not take the action I am obligated to take and in that I have no other course. When there is a felony charge, then I must take this action as given on this paper here. This is my decision."

John Maeno: "Does the chief feel that the release of the party until Monday could not be kept?"

John Evans: "I believe there is a bail or bond by court action."

Mr. Miller: "How could bail be worked out?"

John Evans: "There is a local Justice of Peace in Parker. If we can bring up a case before this fellow for a hearing to determine the evidence whether it is a felony or not, do you think the people would accept this proposal, I say if this is possible?"

John Maeno: "I think it would be better to deputize a man as police and release Mr. Uchida into that man's custody to have him presented again Monday morning."

John Evans: "Will you give us about 15 minutes to talk this matter over?" Maeno: "Yes".

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After 15 minutes or so interval, John Evans and Administration staff returned.

Whatever occurred are by the request of the Administration off the records, but at this time Mr. Miller, Head of Internal Security, presented the evidence upon which grounds of felony charges were made.

Since the main purpose for which the committee of 12 had seen Mr. John Evans, Assistant Project Director, of getting release of the two men and all charges dropped and no decided actions taken in regard to arbitration, the committee withdrew from Poston 1.

Meeting of the Temporary Community
Council, Block Representatives of
Advisory Board Poston 3

and

Temporary Community Council, Block
Representatives of Advisory Board,
Block Managers, Department Heads,
and Fair Practice Committee of
Poston 2

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Meeting of the above-mentioned parties of Poston 2 and Poston 3 with three representatives from Poston 1, Mr. Nagai acting as spokesmen, held at Administration Area Personnel kitchen on November 19, 1942, at 11:45 A.M. called to order by Chairman John Maeno of the Community Council, Poston 2.

Statement made by Chairman Maeno that a certain Mr. Nagai of Poston 1 present at this meeting to give actual facts leading to and regarding present strike in progress in Poston 1.

Mr. Nagai then introduced to the meeting, who spoke in Japanese and translated as follows:

"Members of Poston 2 and 3, I as a representative of Poston 1 request your attention in order that you may understand fully all the facts in regard to the present conditions in Poston 1:

A certain man by the name of Nishimura was beaten in Poston 1. Isamu Uchida and George Fujii were taken into custody as having had an active part in the beating of Mr. Nishimura. Nothing has been proved to the people that these two were guilty or had any part in the beating, in other words no charges had been filed against Mr. Uchida and Mr. Fujii as yet.

As a result about 3,000 people gathered around the Police Department where the two had been confined and formed into a strike. I with several others acting as a committee went from one place to another trying to get the general opinion of the people as a whole. The general feeling of the people was to get Mr. Uchida and Mr. Fujii released because they felt that those two were entirely innocent of any acts and that no charges had been filed against them.

The Temporary Community Council Poston 1 and Issei Advisory Board drew up a resolution which they presented to Mr. John Evans, Assistant Project Director, due to the absence of Mr. Wade Head, Project Director and Mr. Ralph Gelvin, Associate Project Director. The resolution read as follows:

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November 18, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. John Evans, Assistant Project Director
FROM: Temporary Community Council

1. WHEREAS, Isamu Uchida and George Fujii have been held in jail since Sunday morning, 2 a.m. on the 15th day of November, 1942, and
2. WHEREAS, no charges have as yet been filed against the above named parties, and
3. WHEREAS, the residents of Poston feeling aggrieved and indignant of this unjust action taken against these two people have demonstrated in numbers their feelings in an open meeting, and
4. WHEREAS, for the orderly preservation of law and order and for the people and dignity of this community, and
5. WHEREAS, the above named two parties should not be further restrained until a complete investigation has been made and in the event the evidence so justifies a lawful charge be filed against them, the Temporary Community Council of Poston 1 lawfully assembled make the following petition and request:

Be it resolved, that the above named persons, Isamu Uchida and George Fujii be released immediately.

TEMPORARY COMMUNITY COUNCIL - 1

H. Ogawa, Vice Chairman

ISSEI ADVISORY BOARD

M. Nagai, Chairman

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"When the petition or resolution was presented to Mr. Evans, he stated that he felt he did not have the authority to act upon it himself, so much confer with the War Relocation Authority and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

"It seemed according to opinions received from the Administration that there was evidence against Mr. Uchida to hold him on a felony charge as presented by Mr. Miller, Head of Internal Security. It is not definite in regard to what evidence may be had to hold Mr. Fujii at this time.

"A request was made by the Council to have the trial for Mr. Uchida held in Poston, because this occurrence happened in Poston and to uphold the democratic self-government principles, it was only fair that a trial be held in Poston. Fact was brought up that since the charges against Mr. Uchida were of felony nature, such cases must be tried by the State of Arizona and such a request could not be granted. The Council felt that since they have done the best possible to try to obtain the wishes of the people and failed in that, they resigned from their positions.

"As a result, a committee was formed of 2 representatives from each block, Reinji In Kai, to discuss what should be done in this case which was held throughout the night until this morning. One topic discussed was in regard to the 3,000 people gathered before the Police Department whose main purpose was to prevent Mr. Uchida and Mr. Fujii from being taken out of Poston 1. It was the opinion of the committee that no violence or riots should be permitted to break out of this gathering, a committee of 18 members made up of one-half niseis and one-half isseis was formed to handle details in regard to the strike--such as picketing, subsistence, mail, hospital and other necessary departments, as well as the fire department, police department, schools, and warehouse. At first it was decided to leave Community Enterprise stores open, but this decision was changed to close such stores during this disturbance.

"The main reason why this strike came into existence is that the Administration and the people of Poston 1 were not able to meet on a common ground for a solution regarding Mr. Uchida's arrest and his being held in custody. The demands of the committee for an unconditional release of Mr. Uchida was not given consideration, so people felt that they should hold firm in their convictions that Mr. Uchida is entirely innocent of acts he is being held for.

"Three persons of this committee of 18 were sent, among whom I am one, to try to extend to you our feelings of the people at present in Poston 1 and get suggestions in regard to handling this case. Up to present date in Poston there are many conditions which are not favorable and satisfactory to us. We appeal to people of Poston 2 and 3 to help us in opening a road toward a better understand, toward a means of mediation between the Administration and the people of Poston 1."

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS--in regard to Mr. Nagai's address:

1. Question: Does the Federal Bureau Investigation have any authority to come into Poston to make arrests?

Answer: According to the information received, Mr. Miller, Head of Internal Security arrested Mr. Uchida and Mr. Fujii and was to hand them over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation can come into this project without permission from the Project Director without being requested to come into this project. In this instance Mr. Miller is said to have requested the F.B.I. to come into the project.

2. Question: What part does the F.B.I. have in this case?

Answer: It is not definite what connection they have in this case just at the present time.

3. Question: On what grounds did Miller arrest these two persons?

Answer: According to what I hear is that according to the evidence Mr. Miller has presented to Administration, it was serious enough to be a felony charge and out of the hands of the Administration and a state case. According to the evidence I hear is that it is a cane or stick claimed belonging to Mr. Uchida himself.

4. Question: Of what character was Mr. Nishimura, who was beaten?

Answer: Mr. Nishimura is from Imperial Valley and it is the opinion of various individuals who are familiar with his characteristics that he is not an individual to be trusted.

5. Question: Have you any suggestions to give to Poston 2 and 3 in regard to solving this situation?

Answer: It is my ideas that I would like to have the people of Poston express themselves in Camp 2 and 3 before presenting my ideas to you.

The meeting was then adjourned to continue discussion after lunch at 2:00 P.M. in the same place.

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2:00 P.M.

Meeting was continued at 2:00 P.M. at same location with Chairman John Maeno of Temporary Community Council Poston 2:

Mr. Sakamoto, Poston 2: In regard to the resolution, what is the idea of the people--to have the matter settled as soon as possible, or let the matter drag along?

M. Nagai, Poston 1: Poston 1 petition wishes to have this matter taken care of as soon as possible.

K. Umezawa, Poston 3: What plans have you so that Poston 2 and Poston 3 can help Poston 1 in this matter?

M. Nagai, Poston 1: That answer lies up to the committee of 18 to give and I do not what that answer will be. But this is just my personal opinions in this case: As I have mentioned before, Camp 1 matters is Poston matters and I think Poston 2 and Poston 3 should take this matter up since it concerns us all. I point I wish to bring out is that we have our councils, advisory boards, and self-governing groups and I feel that under the system of self-government accorded us in this project, we should be able to handle cases arising within Poston in this project. In this respect I feel that the Administration is not recognizing our self-government form of government. Therefore since this point concerns us all, I want you to take the matter up and consider our problems as your problems. At the same time, after you have gotten all the facts, I want you to decide on what action you wish to take on this matter.

I suggest that you select a committee to go over to Poston 1 and look into the matter and try to get all the actual facts possible and also form a decision on this matter.

We are all Japanese of Poston and should try inasmuch as possible to take a united stand on such an important matter. I want to stress the importance of unity.

Mr. Miura; Poston 2,: I make a motion that we take the suggestion of Mr. Nagai and form a small committee made up of representatives from Poston 2 and 3 and try solve the problem after discussing the fundamental issues concerned in this matter.

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M. Harada; Poston 2: I recommend that the members be allowed to give a discussion on Mr. Miura's motion.

K. Umezawa, Poston 3: I feel that Poston 3 groups is here as one body of representatives, so I would like to have the problem discussed to the body present rather than among a small committee.

Chairman Maeno: Discussions still open on Mr. Miura's motion.

Suggestions and discussions from the floor:

1. Should leave this problem up to the Community Councils only
2. Poston 3 members present are Community Council and the advisors so are true representatives of Poston 3
3. Who should select this small committee and what are its limitations? Could they decide policies among themselves?

Mr. Miura, Poston 2: I withdraw my motion.

K. Yamada, Poston 3: What this committee does depends upon the answer we get from Poston 1 and there is no action that can be taken until we hear from Poston 1.

H. Iwata, Poston 3: According to the resolution passed by Poston 1 there are no formal charges made against these two parties--Uchida and Fujii--and I want to know whether charges have been filed against them.

Answer: Charges have been filed against Isamu Uchida of felony, but there has been no indictment. No charges have been as known yet to be filed against Fujii.

K. Yamada, Poston 3: Does Poston 1 want us to act as mediators in this matter or does Poston 1 want us to go on a sympathetic strike with them?

M. Nagai, Poston 1: We do not want the people here to go on a sympathetic strike with us, but I want to have you people negotiate.

J. Maeno, Poston 2: Is everyone agreed that we shall have a joint committee between Poston 2 and Poston 3 and go to Poston 1 and act as mediators in the Poston 1 trouble? Discussion, question,

Matter voted upon and passed with majority in favor of this motion.

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Discussion opened as to what number and how this committee should be selected:

H. Iwata, Poston 3: Why not leave it up to the various representatives of Poston 2 and 3 to do that?

Mr. Sakamoto, Poston 2: It is best to let the Councils with Mr. Burge and Mr. Crawford handle this matter.

Suggestion made that Community Council, Advisory Board, Block Managers be represented on this committee to represent respective units.

Vote taken on Community Council making up the committee only. The motion was not passed. Vote taken on Community Council, Advisory Board, and Block Managers be represented on this committee. Motion passed with majority in favor of this motion.

Suggestions made as to number of representatives from each unit:

- a. 5 representatives from each unit.
- b. 6 representatives from each unit, consisting of 2 Councilmen, 2 advisors and 2 block managers.
- c. 15 representatives from each unit.

All three suggestions voted upon and majority in favor of suggestion of 6 representatives from each unit, consisting of 2 Councilmen, 2 advisors and 2 block managers.

Election held in each of respective groups of Councilmen, Advisors, and Block Managers. Due to fact that Poston 3 Block Managers were not present at this particular meeting, 2 Councilmen were elected to act in their place and capacity. The following elected to act on committee of 12:

Poston 2 -----Councilmen: John Maeno
Dr. Ito

Advisors: Mr. Miura
Mr. Takizawa

Block Managers: Mr. Tachibana
Mr. Doi

Poston 3-----Councilmen: Harvey Iwata
Kelly Yamada

Advisors: Mr. Ozawa
Mr. Shirazawa

Block Managers (2 Councilmen acting in their
capacity and place as representatives)
Kay Hanada
Jimmy Takashima

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Suggestions made as to what points to be brought up at negotiation:

1. Let the two men be released and all charges dropped.
2. Bring to bear the feeling of the people in Poston 2 and 3.
3. No limitations should be made upon the representatives but with instructions to try to get the two men released and all charges dropped. If this fails, we should hold another meeting to decide what course of action should be taken next.
4. Since it is the objective of Poston 1 to get the two men released and all charges dropped, we must try to carry out that particular objective. The whole trouble in Poston 1 is a result of these two members being held in custody.
5. The committee of 12 try to get together with the central committee of 18 of Poston 1 and get all the facts relating to the case, especially relating to evidence against the two men.

It was decided that the committee of 12 made up of 6 representatives of Poston 2 and 6 representatives of Poston 3 do their best to try to obtain the release of the two men and all charges dropped.

The meeting was then adjourned by Chairman John Maeno, Poston 2.

Meeting of the Temporary
Community Council, Block
Representatives of Advisory
Board, and Emergency Committee
Poston 3

November 22, 1942 9:00 A.M.

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Emergency Committee held at Block 305 Recreation Hall at 9:00 A.M. was called to order by Chairman Fujisawa of the Emergency Committee Poston 3.

According to the report given by Chairman Fujisawa, the Emergency Committee met last night and decided that they would like to have the cooperation of the Community Council and Advisory Board in their proposals and demands made upon the Administration in regard to the strike existing at present in Poston 1.

Announcement was then brought in by Mr. Nakashima as having come from Gerald S. Wumino, Assistant Administrator, Poston 3, to Mr. Kusunose, a members of the Emergency Committee.

Mr. Kusunose: "What I heard from Poston 2 was that Poston 3 was to have gone on strike at 6:00 A.M. today according to the news given to me by two truck loads of young men from Poston 2. But according to the announcement just received from Mr. Wumino, there is not strike being in progress in Poston 2 definitely. Last night when I received the information about 2:00 A.M. from two truckloads of men from Poston 2 that Poston 2 was going on a strike at 6:00 A.M., I sincerely believed that was true, in fact I went so far as to have bulletins printed to that effect and distributed to the various blocks, because I was convinced that was a fact."

Mr. Jonnoguchi: "The purpose of this morning's meeting is to discuss with the Councilmen and Advisory Board what the Emergency Committee decided upon last evening at their own meeting. If I am correct, the Emergency Committee's main idea is to have or get the cooperation of the Council and Advisory Board in whatever action they may wish to take with the approval of the Council. What I wish to say is that the Emergency Committee, the Council and the Advisory Board cooperate as a group and together try to settle the matter."

K. Umezawa: "According to what transpired at the Emergency Committee meeting last night, they felt that the body handling negotiations is not doing the work right and seemed to insinuate that they have failed in handling it to the satisfaction of the people. May I have an explanation of this difference of information in regard to the supposed strike in Poston 2 and again the information of no strike in Poston 2?"

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9:00 A.M.

Mr. Jonnoguchi: "I feel that Emergency Committee members and Councilmen and Advisory Board members should forget all differences and the Emergency Committee wishes the cooperation of the Council, Advisory Board and Block Managers and should take steps with the feeling of the people in general in Poston 3. The Emergency Committee feels that we should take the matter in light of the general people in Poston 3 and not let a few people push us around and also that what happens is Poston 1 and Poston 2 should not influence us to join them in our actions."

Chairman Fujisawa: "Mr. Jonnoguchi has just explained in brief what the idea of the Emergency Committee is."

Mr. Murata: "I feel that we should have a block meeting in all the blocks to get the opinion of the residents in the various blocks."

C. Yasutake: "I feel that if the block selected the two representatives, they are entrusted to act in behalf of the people of that block."

"Mr. Murata: "Let the various representatives from the blocks express their opinion on their respective block in regard to this matter."

K. Umezawa: "Three or four representatives from each block cannot fully express the feeling of about 5,000 people in this camp. If you want an expression of the people in general, you must get their personal expression and it cannot be said that representatives are fully expressing the feeling of the people in general."

Mr. Kagiwada: "Mr. Umezawa was not present at the meeting of the Emergency Committee held last night and therefore not familiar with what transpired. But after two hours of deliberation and discussion of how we should try to do our best about the matter, we came to conclusion that at this morning's meeting to let the Councilmen and Advisory Board members know of our feelings and get their opinion and approval. The discussion going on is just a review of the discussion held last night. I think we should proceed with the proposition of the Emergency Committee to the Council for their opinions."

Chairman Fujisawa: "It is understood that Mr. Wade Head, Project Director will return on Monday and until that time, let the Community Council act as negotiators of the proposals of the Emergency Committee. In other words, let the Council convey proposals of the Emergency Committee to the Administration, since they have the recognition of the Administration while the Emergency Committee does not have. Further actions of the Emergency Committee will depend upon the decision made by the Administration in reply to our proposals."

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9:00 A.M.

Mr. Murata: "The Council and Advisory Board are present here this morning to take our proposals to the Administration. We should therefore proceed with the Emergency Committee idea."

Mr. Jonnoguchi: "Last night, opinion was voiced that perhaps the Community Council, Advisory Board and Block Managers may not approve of the actions of the Emergency Committee. It is not a matter of the approval of the Council, Advisory Board, of the Block Managers that the Emergency Committee is driving at, but the idea of having the Community Council act as negotiators in conveying the proposals of the Emergency Committee to the Administration."

Mr. Ohashi at this time explained the principles of strike is not a good thing since the strike itself does not bring results. The control of the Administration is over us and if things come to stages of violence and riots, there are many possibilities that supplies and other necessities being cut off from us. It is just the equivalent of cutting our own throats. In Poston 1 various negotiations have failed and strike has resulted because the Administration and people of Poston 1 could not meet on a common ground. It is more so important that Poston 2 and 3, especially Poston 3 should try to negotiate and help them settle this matter. We, as Poston 3, should have the least idea of joining in a sympathetic strike with Poston 1 at this stage of events. We still have means of negotiation open to us as yet and should use our heads for means of peaceful settlement of this matter. We should not strike until every possible means of negotiation has been exhausted and even at that a strike is no solution to settlement of problems.

C. Yasutake: "We should proceed with the meeting and find out the opinions of the Community Council as to what should be done on this matter."

Mr. Asami: "Is it the idea of the Emergency Committee to get the approval of the Community Council in what actions we intend to take and their backing us on it."

Chairman Fujisawa: "Last night, the general ideas of the Emergency Committee is to try to have the Community Council negotiate with the Administration and have them cooperate with us. Since Monday is the day on which we will have to decide what steps should be taken, I want the opinions of the Council and Advisory Board on this matter."

Councilman Koga: "The Emergency Committee last night tried to

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9:00 A.M.

step aside the authority of the Community Council first and now they come back and ask the Council to push their ideas. The attitude of the Emergency Committee is not clear to me."

C. Yasutake: "The idea is very easy to understand. We feel that what we do, we should be given the cooperation of the Community Council, Advisory Board and Block Managers."

Councilman Yebisu: "Community Council and Advisory Board are present at this meeting, but the Block Managers are not represented here."

Chairman Fujisawa: "The Block Managers' representatives are supposed to be here at this meeting."

M. Harada: "What has happened up to now has been what has been done by the Community Council and the Advisory Board, but I feel that what is to be done hereafter should be consulted with the Block Managers, Community Council and Advisory Board."

Chairman Fujisawa: "A committee of 7 of the Emergency Committee should get together with the Community Council, Advisory Board, and the Block Managers and express their request of last night. We should also find out the opinions of Poston 1 and Poston 2 on this matter, and I suggest representatives of the Council and Emergency Committee go to Poston 1 and Poston 2 to look into this matter."

Mr. Kusunose: "According to the information received last night the officers of Poston 2 have quit and strike was in progress. In this case sufficient information was not available, and today the information is that at Poston 2 they intend to work with the Community Council throughout the whole problem."

M. Matsumoto: "According to Mr. Kusunose, two truckloads of men came over to Poston 3 last night. Who was the authority to get the information from them in Poston 3?"

Harvey Iwata: "Last night about 1:30 A.M. K. Manaka of the Police Department came over saying that the people of Poston 2 were here to notify this camp and I asked them to let Mr. Kusunose know about the message. Mr. Kusunose is the man who received the message from the group of Poston 2 that Poston 2 will go on strike at 6:00 A.M." "Of course, I also received the message as well."

M. Matsumoto: "Who was the spokesman and where did he get his authority to say that Poston 2 was striking?"

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Mr. Kusunose: "I felt that the spokesman was a man with authority and believed him entirely. It is a possibility that only one or two blocks' representatives came over from Poston 2, but at that time, I was fully convinced they were striking in Poston 2."

M. Matsumoto: "I would like to hear what is written on that report from Mr. Wumino."

Mr. Kusunose: "According to the information from Mr. Gerald Wumino, the latest news from Poston 2 is that they have not struck as yet and everything is working as usual this morning. According to Mr. Maeno, he says don't be fooled by what you hear."

Dr. Namiki: "I was just talking to Chief of Police, Ken Sato, who had also gone to Poston 2 said there was no strike being held in Poston 2 and that information is just a mistake and we have been fooled."

Shirazawa: "I think it is a good idea to pass to all the blocks the information that Poston 2 is not striking since many blocks have had posters on the bulletin board signed by Mr. Kusunose that Poston 2 is striking. We do not to misinform the people in general about things which are not so. Also only news that can be fully confirmed by authorities should be passed along to the people in general."

Chairman Fujisawa: "Will the 7 members of the Emergency Committee, the Community Council, Advisory Board, and Block Managers remain and the rest of the members adjourn to pass the information to their blocks that Poston 2 has not as called a strike."

The meeting was then adjourned for a new meeting to be called after a short recess.

Meeting of Temporary Community
Council, Block Representatives
of Advisory Board, Block Managers
and Emergency Committee of Poston
3.

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11:10 A.M.

Meeting was resumed after a short recess and called to order at Block 306 Recreation Hall, at 11:10 A.M. by Chairman Fujisawa.

Tom Sakamoto was requested to give actual facts in regard to conditions existing in Poston 2:

According to facts given around Poston 3, a strike was to be in process this morning at 6:00 A.M., so went to Poston 2 personally to check upon matters. Matter was checked with Chairman John Maeno of Poston 2 Community Council and fact brought to bear that at block meeting of one or two blocks, decision was made to strike in just these few blocks. As a result representatives of the few blocks spread the information that Poston 2 will strike to Poston 1 and Poston 3. A meeting of the Poston 2 Congress--made up of Councilmen, Advisory Board members, Block Managers, Assistant Block Managers, Fair Practice Board members, and heads of work divisions--was being held on what stand Poston 2 should take on this matter. At an interview with John Maeno, he stated that at present he is trying to get the permission to Washington D. C. and the State of Arizona to hold a trial in Poston with judges and jury made up of Japanese residents. This information was not at that time to be made public. It was definitely stated that Poston 2 was not on strike this morning.

Mr. Jonnoguchi: "I want to stress that notices of any kind--especially in reference to notices of strike in process in Poston 2 being put up in various mess halls this morning--should be confirmed before being put up. This is an important matter, and it is not right to lead people under false news."

Chairman Fujisawa: "What does the meeting think in regard to selecting a new chairman to take over this meeting since we have representatives from 4 groups. I am only acting as chairman for the Emergency Committee."

Frank Kagiwada: "I feel the chairman should be selected from the Council and Advisory Board for this particular meeting."

Opinions and suggestion were expressed as to which group should select the chairman for the meeting, a motion was made and seconded that Mr. Fujisawa resume the chairmanship of the meeting. Motion voted upon and passed with majority in favor of this motion.

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11:10 A.M.

Mr. Asami: "I make a motion that the committee of 7 of the Emergency Committee, the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers resume from here to work on the proposal of the Emergency Committee to the Administration through the Community Council."

Motion seconded, voted upon and passed as all in favor. Chairmen Fujisawa requested the following members of the committee of 7 Emergency Committee to meet this afternoon at 2:00 P.M. with the other three groups at the same place:

Mr. M. Matsumoto
Mr. G. Ohashi
Mr. C. Yasutake
Mr. Hamaguchi
Mr. F. Kagiwada
Mr. Muruoka
Mr. Fujisawa

The meeting was then adjourned by Chairman Fujisawa with instructions for Councilmen, Advisory Board members, Block Managers, and 7 committeemen of Emergency Committee at 2:00 P.M.

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers and 7 committeemen of Emergency Committee of Poston 3

November 22, 1942
2:00 P.M.

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers and Committee of 7 of Emergency Committee held at Block 306 Recreation Hall, at 2:00 P.M. on November 22, 1942, was called to order by Chairman Fujisawa.

Chairman Fujisawa called for discussion as to what procedures should be given.

S. Shirazawa: "Before we proceed, I think the Block Managers should be enlightened upon the matter and actual facts given as to what has happened and what procedures taken up to the present. Also I would like to have every member present in this meeting to bear in mind that whatever decision we make, we must bear in mind the welfare of the people we represent, and not for few individuals trying to influence us. I would like to have a free, open discussion on this matter."

Chairman Fujisawa explained proceedings of the Emergency Committee at their meeting last night, and since it was the opinion of Chairman Iwata of Community Council as well as opinion of others at the meeting to have the Block Managers join the discussion, they have therefore been requested to be present. The meeting was then opened for discussion.

Mr. Jonnoguchi: "Emergency Committee members probably have some ideas to present to the meeting I am sure."

Chairman Fujisawa: "The Emergency Committee is to make the suggestions and the Community Council to cooperate with them on this matter. I feel that we should all work together and not take separate stands."

Suggestion was made that the committee of 7 of the Emergency Committee present a suggestion, basis or ideas as to what action they wish to take and get the opinions of the Council, Block Managers and Advisory Board.

K. Umezawa: "I heartily approve of this suggestion and make a motion to that effect."

Motion as passed by all present as assenting to it. Chairman Fujisawa instructed committee of 7 of Emergency Committee to present the proposals of the Emergency Committee to the meeting.

Proposal of the Emergency Committee to the Administration is as follows: "We ask for Isamu Uchida's unconditional release and all charges against him dropped; that the Temporary Community Council Poston 3 will negotiate with Mr. Wade Head, Project Director to try to get Mr. Uchida's unconditional release."

Mack Kadotani: "In the event this request or resolution is not granted, will you consider arbitrating with the proposal of holding a trial for Mr. Uchida in Poston?"

Chairman Fujisawa: "The Emergency Committee wishes to get the opinions of the other three groups before discussing this point."

Sam Fujita: "Asking for the unconditional release of Mr. Uchida is asking for too much."

Jay Nishida: "Ask for unconditional release as the original proposal and if this fails, then perhaps propose for a trial for Mr. Uchida in Poston."

Harvey Iwata: Mr. Iwata at this time read the first resolution of the Temporary Community Council and Advisory Board of Poston 1 to the meeting. It was his opinion that since the time of the resolution, charges had been filed against Mr. Uchida. Therefore, it was almost impossible technically to ask for unconditional release.

Kay Watanabe: "Is Poston 1 asking for the unconditional release of Mr. Uchida, or what are they asking for?"

Harvey Iwata: "Poston 1 was asking for an unconditional release before charges were filed and evidence given by Mr. Miller, Head of Internal Security, but at present it is almost impossible to ask for an unconditional release of Mr. Uchida."

M. Matsumoto: "If it is impossible to get an unconditional release, we could change the terms of 'unconditional release.'"

Harvey Iwata: "We have to check with Poston 1 to find out the whole basic facts in regard to what demands Poston 1 at the present time is making."

Jay Nishida: "In regard to representing people in this camp, I feel it is the job of the Community Council to handle this matter and work with the Emergency Committee and the Block Managers. We should support everything that the Community Council does and back them. I think the whole thing is disagreement between the three groups and the Community Council in this case should take the initiative."

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2:00 P.M.

Mr. Jonnoguchi: "It is true that the Emergency Committee has been formed to cope with the situation, but the only people who can negotiate or be recognized by the Administration is the Community Council and we should back them up to the fullest extent. The Council should be given every bit of support and also feel that they should make all the negotiations decided upon. I want you and you all to think constructively in all matters if possible."

Harvey Iwata: "It seems to be that someone wants to throw the thing right back into the Council's laps. The actions taken by the Council up to the present seemed to be in the opinions of some that we are too slow in our actions. We were trying to think in the best interests of the camp and some people misunderstood us as not doing anything about it and therefore took the matter out of our hands when they formed the Emergency Committee. We want to be assured that we will not be bothered in our duties this time before we will take the matter upon our hands again."

Jay Nishida: "The Council act as the spokesman and the judgment of the Emergency Committee should be consulted. I think you have sufficient support."

M. Harada: "I would like to have the Council select a committee to see what is going on in Poston 1 and Poston 2. Do you think you can select a few delegates to go with the Emergency Committee?"

Y. Mamiya: "If you are going to leave it up to the Community Council, they themselves should go alone. The Community Council should be given 100% cooperation and hands off."

G. Ohashi: "As far as we know, the Emergency Committee is not recognized by the Administration, so it is the duty of the Community Council to stand in front and fight for us."

Jay Nishida: "I propose that the Community Council take any action they deem fit and go over to Poston 1 to find out what details and let them handle this matter with the full cooperation of the rest of the groups, as well as give them full responsibility and we expect that from them. Upon the basis of their findings, the Community Council make a report and also draw up what petitions they deem necessary. Leave everything up to them."

Mr. Hasegawa: "We would like to know the opinions of the members of the Emergency Committee on this matter."

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2:00 P.M.

Councilman Asakawa: "We don't want any mass meetings to make any reports to, since you never could have a decent meeting."

F. Kagiwada: "We are elected from the various blocks as representative to the Emergency Committee which sole purpose is to cope with the present situation. According to the opinions voiced in the last few minutes, no consideration on this point has been given. Since we have been elected as representatives, I feel that the Community Council should cooperate with the Emergency Committee and should not try to get out of assuming responsibility, or put the whole responsibility upon the Emergency Committee. Feelings of the groups should not be stressed as individual groups, but we feel that the Council should back up the Emergency Committee on this movement and take us into your confidence. We sincerely recognize the authority of the Community Council in this camp, and would like to have their full cooperation."

C. Yasutake: "According to the opinions voiced, the Emergency Committee should withdraw from this matter and let the whole thing be taken up by the Community Council. What are the opinions on this matter?"

Chairman Fujisawa: "I feel that the Emergency Committee is not trying to put the responsibility on the Community Council, but work together as one group instead of as two separate groups, and this is my personal opinion."

C. Yasutake: "Let us have the Emergency Committee withdraw just in this particular instance of negotiation with the Administration and let the Community Council handle the case, but the Emergency Committee may take up the case again if the request is not fully granted by the Administration. In this way we would not be tying down the Community Council in their negotiations."

Mr. Jonnoguchi: "There is a very good point at which we have arrived, and as Mr. Yasutake says, we should turn over the matter to the Community Council, but the Emergency Committee should be permitted to have a few members on this negotiation committee in the event something happens, they may be of some assistance. These Emergency Committee men are only to act as observers,"

K. Umezawa: "This matter was in the first place taken out of the hands of the Community Council when they were working on it and put into the hands of the Emergency Committee, so they should handle this matter."

M. Harada: "We all want to work together with the Community Council, since the Emergency Committee is not being recognized by the Administration, the only means is through the Community Council."

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2:00 P.M.

Suggestion was made the Councilmen, Advisory Board members, Block Managers and Emergency Committee groups be represented on the negotiation committee with the Administration and all work together on this matter.

S. Shirazawa: "The present idea is to have the Councilmen take the initiative and the Block Managers and Emergency Committee to give them all the possible cooperation. On this observation trip, take along a few representatives of the Block Managers and the Emergency Committee. It is understood that neither the Emergency Committee or the Block Managers are to interfere with the work of the Community Council, and they Council would like to have that assurance."

Harvey Iwata: "As Mr. Shirazawa says, we would like to have a few members of the Emergency Committee and Block Managers to on this trip and also the assurance that the Community Council will be permitted to handle this specific case alone."

Assurance was given by members of other groups that this will be the case. Those selected to serve on this committee to Poston 1 were:

Councilmen: Jimmy Takashima
Kelly Yamada
Harvey Iwata
Moto Asakawa

Advisory Board: M. Ozawa
S. Shirazawa

Emergency Committee: Mr. Kusunose
M. Harada
Mr. Asano

Block Managers: Tom Sakamoto
Kay Watanabe

Meeting of:

Councilmen Harvey Iwata, Jimmy Takashima, Kelly Yamada, and Moto Asakawa

Advisory Board members: M. Ozawa and S. Shirazawa

Block Managers: Tom Sakamoto and Kay Watanabe

Emergency Committeemen: Mr. Kusunose, Mr. Harada, and Mr. Asano

Mr. Nagai and 5 other representatives of Poston 1

November 22, 1942
4:40 P.M.

Meeting of the above mentioned parties were held at Block 310-9-A Councilroom on November 22, 1942 at 4:40 P.M.

According to information given by Mr. Nagai, there are very few changes in the strike situation in Poston 1. The only new matter that came up was that yesterday Mr. Miura and John Maeno of Poston 2 were trying with the Administration to get permission from Washington D. C. and State of Arizona to hold a trial in Poston for Mr. Uchida. If such a proceeding was possible, it was the opinion of the committee of 72 in Poston 1 that a proposal of this nature should be first approached from the Administration to the people of Poston 1 rather than have the people approach the Administration with the proposal. It was felt that the people of Poston 1 would be weakening in their demands. This proposition of John Maeno, hereinafter to be referred to as Maeno proposal, was going to be presented to the people in the various block for their consideration, but just at the present moment the committee wanted to make sure of such a possibility and withholding such information to the people so as not to have break in the unity of the people at present. It is the main intention of the Committee of 72 in Poston 1 to hold the unity of the people on the one purpose--release of Mr. Uchida.

Mr. Kusunose: "Last night two truckloads of men from Poston 2 came with the news that Poston 2 is to strike this morning at 6:00. At the same time they seemed to imply that Poston 1 people were glad of that tidings and wished Poston 3 to know about it."

November 22, 1942
4:40 P.M.

Mr. Nagai, Poston 1: "I was not at the scene at that time, but according to the information given to me, about 37 young men from Poston 2 came to Poston 1 with the news that at 6:00 A.M. on November 22, 1942, a general strike will be called. As far as I know, when I left Poston 2 about 15 minutes ago, no strike was in progress and there seemed to no such thing as a strike being considered. This is my personal opinion, but if you do happen to call a strike, please leave the Community Enterprise stores open, for that would be the only means of communication between the three camps. If this means is closed, our only means of communication will also be closed to us."

Harvey Iwata: "In regard to the Maeno proposal of holding a trial for Mr. Uchida in Poston, do you know whether this had been O.K.'d by Washington or the State of Arizona?"

Mr. Nagai, Poston 1: "According to our understanding, John Maeno asked Mr. Evans, Assistant Project Director, to get this permission from Washington D. C. It is not a request made by the Poston 1 to Mr. Maeno, but something which he did on his own initiative. We feel that we would be breaking or letting down our original stand if we were to consider the Maeno proposal from our side. I personally think this proposal is a very good idea since a trial in Poston would be recognizing the self-government policy in Poston, but it would be much better to understand and present to the people in general if that same proposal were to be presented to the people by Mr. Evans himself as his own proposal."

Harvey Iwata: "If Mr. Evans comes out and says there is such a proposal, would Poston accept such a proposal?"

Mr. Nagai: "This is hard to say because the one thing the Committee of 72 does not wish to have is divided factions. That would be defeating the purpose of the strike and resolution upon which the strike was called."

Mr. Kasuga: "According to John Maeno in a conversation with him in Poston 2 just before coming here, Mr. Maeno assured me that confirmation and permission had been definitely given by Washington D. C. and the State of Arizona to hold a trial for Uchida here in Poston. It seems that Mr. Maeno hesitated to give this information to Poston 1, because he did not want the people of Poston 1 feel that he had tried to take the matter into his own hands and settle it on his own accord."

November 22, 1942
4:40 P.M.

Mr. Nagai: "In my own particular block questions have arisen. Some of which are:

- a. They want to know Evans is trying to make a proposal to the people through John Maeno, or whether the whole idea of trial in Poston was John Maeno's.
- b. Under whose authority and right was Mr. Fujii released.
- c. Under whose authority was Mr. Uchida held.
- d. If Mr. Evans had the authority to hold one man and to let the other man go, why did he have to get the authority of Washington D. C. to hold a trial in Poston?
- e. Do the people of Poston under this self-government set-up have any judicial powers to try their own cases?

May similar points have come up in various blocks and meetings."

Mr. Ozawa: "There are two angles to this matter. We must remember that to a certain extent we must uphold the authority of the Administration and also maintain some law and order in this project."

Mr. Nagai: "We are mainly interested in keeping up the law and order in Poston and Poston self-government policies."

S. Shirazawa: "It is definitely stated that felony cases will be tried by the state of Arizona."

Mr. Nagai: "We want to know who has the authority to take cases out of Poston to the State of Arizona. In the event of Mr. Fujii, it was stated there was not enough evidence, so he was released. In the event of Mr. Uchida, it was stated there was sufficient evidence, so he is being held. We wish to have made clear to us who has that authority to determine whether the charges against Mr. Uchida was a felony."

"Poston 1 is unanimous in its one stand--that of unconditional release of Mr. Uchida. The committee of 72 does not dare make any proposal to the Administration for fear of breaking the unity of the people in their purpose."

Mr. Ozawa: "Do you think that Mr. Evans will grant us the unconditional release of Mr. Uchida if Poston 3 were to bring this matter up as their resolution?"

Mr. Nagai: "I feel that Poston 3 individually can go to Mr. Evans and ask for an unconditional release of Mr. Uchida."

November 22, 1942
4:40 P.M.

Mr. Ozawa: "In the event Mr. Evans makes a proposal similar to Maeno proposal to the people of Poston 1, to what extent do you think Poston 1 would accept it?"

Mr. Nagai: "I want you to understand that we are united in this original resolution of unconditional release of Mr. Uchida. I cannot say how the people of Poston 1 would accept a proposal from Mr. Evans himself. You must understand that there has been no arbitration of any nature between the Administration and the People of Poston 1 as yet. We will not refuse to arbitrate but we are not asking for arbitration to the Administration."

Meeting was adjourned with the decision of the members of Poston 3 to proceed to Poston 1 and have an interview with Mr. John Evans, Assistant Project Director, and get his side of the matter. Members are to gather at the Police Station about 7:00 P.M.

Meeting of:

Councilmen: Jimmy Takashima
Kelly Yamada
Harvey Iwata
Moto Asakawa
Ed Takahashi

Advisory Board: M. Ozawa
S. Shirzawa

Block Managers: Tom Sakamoto
Kay Watanabe

Emergency Com.: Mr. Kusunose
M. Harada
Mr. Asano
Mr. Asami

and

Administration: Mr. John Evans
Assistant Project Director
Mr. Ted Haas
Project Attorney

November 22, 1942
8:00 P.M.

Meeting of the above named parties held at Administration Building 3 at Poston 1, on November 22, 1942 at 8:00 P.M. with Chairman Harvey Iwata of Temporary Community Council Poston 3 as spokesman.

Conversation and discussion were as follows:

Mr. Evans: "I am glad that you had come up and I am also glad that I could say that we are feeling hopeful about this matter. I have asked a small group of the committee in Poston 1 consisting of 72 to come tonight and see me." "Roughly, I am going to ask the committee if they will give me the assurance that a fair, real lawful trial of that individual is carried on here in the project, if they will help the situation along. There are two things that can be done. Either that can be done in a lawful method and a lawful trial to prove whether he is guilty or innocent, or it would be impossible for the Bureau of Indian Service to further intercede between the group here and the United States Army."

Ted Haas: "At the present time, we have no judicial commission since the Community Council of Poston 1 resigned. The judicial commission was composed of the Law and Order Committee of the Council and so we have no Judicial Committee. It seems to me there is a question in regard to the judicial commission in Poston 2."

November 22, 1942
8:00 P.M.

Mr. Evans: "I understand the position of the people here. They demand that Mr. Uchida be released and all charges dropped which is out of the question and he should have a trial for innocence or guilt and determined in a lawful process."

Ted Haas: "I can say that two lawyers who have been advising Mr. Uchida stated that according to Mr. Uchida's wishes, he would like to have a trial to clear himself of any doubts whatsoever."

H. Iwata: "There is a Judicial Committee in Poston 2 and if you are to bring in an outside court here, we have heard Mr. Head say this is a project for the people and by the people and this should be decided by the people of this project."

Mr. Evans: "No one will come from the outside and it will be people from here, or they may be from Poston 2 or Poston 3. It is not definite whether it would be a Judicial Committee from Poston 2 or not, but it will be a commission from Poston."

K. Yamada: "By the statement you made a little while ago, do you mean that the Army is coming into this project?"

Mr. Evans: "I have asked the Army to ~~stay~~ away."

K. Yamada: "When there is no violence being committed here, on what grounds could they come in?"

Mr. Evans: "Work stoppages and various interpretations can be put on everything. It seems to me that before we can actually have any process by the army, we should have the ball rolling and getting along the same as ever. The quicker we can arrive at this basis, it will be better."

Question: "Do you mean that all the judges and jury will be Japanese or will they be people from the outside?"

Mr. Evans: "In regard to court of Poston, it will be the Japanese court exclusively." "I think that if this can be done and accepted it would be a step forward in the direction of progress, real progress of our whole problem will be perfectly enormous. We could get that and do that lawfully and see that it was settled in a proper and lawful way."

K. Yamada: "Would that set a precedent in all future felony cases?"

Ted Haas: "As far as the law is concerned, if there is a clear felony case, the state authority has the right to step in at any time. If a felony is committed, the state can step in up until the time of Statute of Limitations steps in."

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Mr. Evans: "It must be obvious that I have been in communication with a great deal of people and gotten it to this point. I have been talking with Washington and there has been an awful lot of work done to be able to get to this point. Washington has definitely agreed to the proposal as well as the State of Arizona to the proposal I am putting up."

Question: "I would like to know why if Poston is for the people, why this case is taken out of the people's control?"

Ted Haas: "If you will look at any of the discussions on Law and Order, there is a distinction between the minor offenses and major offenses. The ordinary city courts do not try felonies so it is sent to another place. The Superior Court is a state court and not a state court. There is a legal reason for that. Legally the state has certain powers and one of the powers is to pass laws which will govern action in the state in law processes for serious crimes since it is a crime against the state."

Mr. Evans: "I have told you of my plans. I am asking this group of people in order to keep these things on a level appeal for the time being. I want you to keep this in your confidence and please call me up before you make a report of this matter to the people in Poston 3."

Question: "Poston 2 is having a little difficulty. We stopped on our way and Councilmen and Advisory Board are having a meeting and they are still discussing things with an open mind. I am wondering whether we could drop a hint of this or we should not."

Mr. Ozawa: "I understand Mr. Fujii has been released since the last meeting we had with you. On whose authority and on what grounds was he released?"

Mr. Evans: "There was no evidence upon which to hold him, and it was my authority that he was released. I have the authority to release Mr. Uchida if there was not enough evidence against him, but I could not because I was shown the evidence."

Ted Haas: "If you were to publicize this to your meeting, you will publicize it to the whole project. Since Mr. Evans took you into confidence and told you of the proposal he is planning to make to Poston 1, I think it best not to publicize this. I feel it is also hard to keep the information within the group only."

The meeting was then adjourned about 9:00 P.M.

Meeting of the Temporary
Community Council, Advisory
Board, Block Managers and
Emergency Committee of Poston 3

November 23, 1942
10:00 A.M.

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Advisory Board, Block Managers and Emergency Committee of Poston 3 held on November 23, 1942 at 10:00 A.M. at Block 310 Dining Hall was called to order by Chairman Fujisawa.

Chairman Harvey Iwata and Advisor S. Shirazawa explained that due to fact that Mr. Evans has given permission, report was made first in English and then in Japanese of the proposal of Mr. John Evans, Assistant Director, to the small representation of the committee of 72 in Poston 1. The proposal was that Mr. Uchida be given a fair and lawful trial in Poston by a court made up of Japanese judges and jury, this procedure had been agreed to by the State of Arizona and Washington D. C.

At this time 5 representatives from Poston 2 arrived wishing to express the wishes of Poston 2 Community Congress--this body consisting of Community Council, Advisory Board, Block Managers, Assistant Block Managers, Fair Practice Board, and heads of work divisions. Assent was granted and the representatives gave the following report with Mr. Horikawa and Mr. Miura as spokesmen:

In Poston 2 on Friday night, there was a sudden ringing of bells and it seems that certain few blocks had rung the bell and called a mass meeting at Cottonwood Bowl. This was not a planned meeting but called by unauthorized group. At the same time John Maeno and Mr. Miura had returned from Poston 1 after conference with the Administration and part of the representatives of Poston 2 and 3--consisting of 2 Councilmen, 2 Block Managers, and 2 Advisory Board members. They had proceeded from block to block making the report of that meeting and did not give the information to the mass meeting. At that particular mass meeting, a strike spirit was worked up among the residents. Therefore the Community Congress committee did not have the opportunity to publicize the actual facts regarding the strike in poston 1 and events of happenings leading to the present.

From that group of those wishing to call a strike, some young people went to Poston 1 and Poston 3 and announced that a strike was being called the next morning at 6:00 A.M. in Poston 2. Poston 2 calling a strike was not true since Poston 2 Community Congress who truly represented the people did not feel that way.

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Therefore the decision of the Poston 2 Community Congress was given at a mass meeting at the Cottonwood Bowl with John Maeno and Mr. Miura as spokesmen. At this meeting Mr. Nagai and Mr. Ogawa of Poston 1 also gave facts of the strike to the people. This happened on November 22, 1942, at 2:00 P.M. Again at the meeting, the strike feeling was started and committee was not able to hold the mass down. Those wishing to strike demanded that representatives be sent from each block to form a sort of committee to handle the strike.

Last night, the Council, Advisory Board, Block Managers, Assistant Block Managers, Fair Practice Board and heads of work divisions held at meeting at 7:00 P.M. and it was decided at this meeting to consider the fact that there was possibilities of negotiation on this point and would like as Poston 2 to have Poston 3 work together on this point. Therefore the 5 of us present here were sent as representatives of the Community Congress of Poston 2 to urge that you form a committee from Poston 3 to go with us to Poston 1 and try to contact both the Administration and Poston 1 Central Congress and make negotiations.

The present stand in Poston 2 was not whether it was a case of deciding whether to strike or not to strike, but of means of negotiation in settling this strike in Poston 1 peacefully.

At this instance Mr. Nagai of Poston 1 left the following notice with Chairman Fujisawa and read to the meeting:
(Since the notice was in Japanese, its approximate translation is as follows:)

All the blocks of Poston 1 have voted against the proposal, and at present is still standing on their original resolution. A new proposal is being considered at present.

According to explanation given by Mr. Nagai to Chairman Fujisawa and Harvey Iwata, it seems that the proposal referred to at first is that of the Maeno proposal and the new proposal is probably the Evans proposal made to the committee last night. It seems that the committee is considering the Evans proposal just now and asks that no action be taken at the present time.

It was decided upon to form a committee to go to Poston 1 and observe the reaction of the people of Poston 1 in regard to the Evans Proposal and also try to get more facts in this matter. It was felt that no action could be taken just at present by Poston 3 since decision of Evans proposal had not as yet been made by Poston 1.

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Therefore a committee of 14 members were selected to go to Poston
1 this afternoon to make observations:

Councilmen: Harvey Iwata
Jimmy Takashima
Kelly Yamada

Advisory Board: Mr. I. Kubota
M. Ozawa
S. Shirazawa

Block Managers: Tom Sakamoto
Kay Watanabe

Emergency Committee: Mr. Asami
Mr. Kusunose
Mr. Yasutake
Mr. Fujisawa
Mr. M. Harada
Mr. Frank Kagiwada

November 23, 1942

Mr. Head's statment by Mr. Moris Burge, Administrator Poston 3, to meeting of Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers, Supervisor and Assistant Supervisor of Block Manager, and Emergency Committee of Poston 3, Poston, Arizona:

"Mr. Head released a statement to the press this morning which I think you do not know about, and that statement was very brief. It stated that the disturbance was caused by a small group of pro-Axis evacuees known to the Administration who seized the opportunity of using a demonstration which was underway to the arrest of two people. It was confined to Poston 1 and that Poston 2 and 3 were continuing to function as normal, and he also took the opportunity to thank the loyal Japanese who had helped keep things going in Camp 2 and 3.

"I understand that a radio report went out to the fact that Mr. Head had called in the militia and martial law had been declared in Poston, and that tear gas has been used to disperse the crowd. But that statement is a complete mistatement and not true and he also says that he has reached no decision in the action he will take up to the present time. That radio report is the sort of thing we are going to have to expect and people on the outside and anxious to make just as much as they can of it.

"That's all that he wanted to say on this present matter, except that to you as representative group of Poston 3, it is Mr. Head's hope and desire that we continue to function normally and we need all your help in that."

There are three items I want to say to you. One is that the Under-Secretary of War, McCloy, orders have been issued to stop all work on the fence of Poston for a reconsideration of where the fence will be placed and orders have been received by Poston and all work will be stopped. But Mr. Head urges you to sit tight and don't do anything about it.

Second item is that the first carload of linoleum has arrived in Parker and will need some help to get that in as quickly as possible. Due to present conditions Larry has not been able to get it in. We may need the assistance of some more people to get that out.

Just before this disturbance we had set up plans for cash clothing allowances on our part. In spite of present conditions it will be started here in Camp 3. Miss Findley is going to come down tomorrow to help the Block Managers here in getting this started and whenever we can we are anxious to keep this going.

In regard to timekeeping, we are doing our best to set up some system here of keeping our own time and hope that we can do all the timekeeping for Poston 3 until this disturbance is over.

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers and Emergency Committee of Poston 3.

November 24, 1942
10:50 A.M.

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers and Emergency Committee of Poston 3 held on November 24, 1942, at 10:50 A.M. at Block 306 Recreation Hall was called to order by Chairman Fujisawa.

Reports of various members of the Committee of 14 who went to Poston 1 yesterday afternoon were given:

Harvey Iwata: Committee of 14 who went to Poston 1 in the capacity of reporting committee to find out the conditions as existing in Poston 1. We were told that the people of Poston 1 are proceeding on the original resolution of unconditional release of Mr. Uchida and asserting the basic rights of the people in the democratic form of self-government. The people of Poston 1 wanted to point out the faults of the Administration. There were evident taking of steps by the Central Congress to keep up the unity of purpose of the people. This is the basic message given to us by the Central Congress in Poston 1. (Mr. Shirazawa gave a translation in Japanese)

Frank Kagiwada: As explained by Harvey Iwata and S. Shirazawa the Central Congress in Poston 1 has given us an official statement of their stand. I want to give my personal opinion on this statement, but not official: The Central Congress in Poston 1 is working intensively and no one is permitted to come into their meeting without their permission to do so. At the same time we were in Poston 1, 5 representatives of Poston 2 were also there. In Poston 1, the Central Congress is supporting the strike with all their strength and the feeling of the people almost seems to be one with possibly a very small faction that wish to compromise on this matter. I ask questions in regard to proposal of having a trial in Poston, and there seemed to be a feeling of those I questioned that such was a good idea.

Mr. Harada: In Poston 1, there is a feeling that the proposal put up by Mr. Maeno is a good idea, but at the present time they are still standing on their original resolution.

Kay Watanabe: This is the physical picture in Poston 1. First of all the location is opposite Block 28. In this space around the Police Station every block has a section or square with representatives groups. Around the whole wood has been brought for protection and for fire. In the Police Department, a public address system has been put in and bulletins, requests, an-

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nouncements and information are given out. Everything is in order and there is no violence going on. Everyone is behind this 100%. Work is done in picketing in 4-hour shifts throughout 24 hours of the day. There is unity in this camp in their purpose.

Jimmy Takashima: As soon as I went over there I asked the question on our minds of what has happened to the proposal made by Mr. Evans and in regard to that, I could find nothing from the people. They did not express that they have heard of such a proposal as yet. They are considering, as much as I can gather, the Maeno proposal--which is a proposition brought from the people instead of the Administration, but I could not find out exactly what decision may have been made on that particular plan. As far as the proposition from Mr. Evans is concerned, from the people I have contacted, they knew nothing about it.

Mr. Kusunose: Poston 1 feels that as to what extent they will go, they feel that we should all go to the point of even bloodshed for our purpose. In Poston 1, various blocks have made various campaign flags and other public demonstrations saying that we are all one in our purpose and resolve and it is not a matter of only releasing Mr. Uchida, but it is a matter of upholding democratic form of self-government in this camp.

Mr. Asami: I am expressing my personal reactions on what I heard and observed. I heard that the Central Congress in its present resolution is certain that Fujii and Uchida are innocent since there is no evidence against them in the minds of the people of Poston 1. The evidence as presented by Mr. Miller, Head of Internal Security, is a cane which had been used by Mr. Uchida for kendo practice. Mr. Uchida at this instance did not use it at all. According to statement made by Mr. Uchida, he did not do the beating at all since he himself is a judo 4-dan and would not stoop to such a thing, and he is determined to stand on this ground. Why things have come to this point is because self government is not recognized by the Administration on this project. If it was fully recognized, this incident would not have happened. We do not know whether the war will last long or not, but we must expect it to last long, and we should as long as we are here have the right of self-government and demand that right be accorded to us. Whatever policy is set up in this camp will be in all the relocation centers and we should be happy to sacrifice our own freedom to try to get this policy clarified. As one we are all Japanese and there should not be any difference between Poston 2

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and Poston 3 and Poston 1, but we should all stick together in our cause. We should not forget that we are all Japanese and are responsible in regard to the people in this camp and we should fight for the rights of the people. The people of Poston 1 are determined not to let the Army or the government authorities take away Mr. Uchida even if we must die for that stand. We are not trying to go against the United States government and the Administration, but we are standing up for the principles of self-government in the democratic way as given to us in the Constitution.

K. Umezawa: The purpose of the to go to Poston 1 was to work in accordance with Poston 2 representatives to find out what the policy of Poston 1 in regard to the proposal made by Mr. Evans.

Mr. Kusunose: We asked the Central Congress whether a proposal had been made, and the answer given was in reference to the Maeno proposal which had been rejected by Poston 1 Central Congress. I did not think it was necessary to inquire the Evans proposal had been made public to the people or not.

Moto Asakawa: It seems that the report from the committee's point of view, the people in Poston 1 are set 100% in their purpose. There is a dictatorial power where the information has not been given to the people of the proposal from Mr. Evans. To a certain extent we have to doubt that the people are 100% behind this and if the committee in Poston 1 is standing for democratic policy, the information should have reached the people 100% of the proposal from Mr. Evans.

Frank Kagiwada: The first thing the committee from Poston 3 was to do was to find about what conditions are in Poston 1. We went to get the first-hand information to find out what power and rights the Central Congress asserted.

M. Matsumoto: As said by Mr. Miura of Poston 2, what my belief was that Poston 2 and Poston 3 representatives went together to talk the matter over with Poston 1. According to the report given just now, it seems that Poston 3 has gone alone and not as asked in the original plan. What I wish to have made clear is do the people in general in Poston 1 know whether the proposal from Mr. Evans was made public to them.

M. Harada: I asked several people about that, but what I know is that Evans proposal was not known to the people. They talked only about the Maeno proposal. It seems to my thinking that the Central Congress in Poston 1 is still considering the Evans Proposal.

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K. Umezawa: Weren't the representative from Poston 2 and Poston 3 to have gone to Poston 1 to let the people know about the Evans proposal and try to stress upon the acceptance of this proposal?

Chairman Fujisawa: I want to explain the decision of Poston 1 in regard to the Maeno proposal. The proposal according to Mr. Nagai was to be made to the Administration. This proposal was rejected. At present the Evans proposal has not been decided upon by the committee.

M. Matsumoto: Yesterday afternoon, about 4:30 P.M. 5 Poston 2 representatives came and wanted to see Mr. Ozawa. Since Mr. Ozawa was not here, I told them that he had gone to Poston 1. Mr. Horikawa then stated the fact that after much discussion Poston 2 felt that Poston 2 and 3 should work together. Therefore these representatives had come to go together with representative of Poston 3 to Poston 1.

Mr. Kusunose: Announcement was made in Poston 1 that Poston 2 was going on strike, but it is important to bear in mind that the representatives of the strike movement did so.

S. Shirazawa: In regard to Mr. Umezawa's question of Poston 2 and Poston 3 representatives going together to Poston 1 on this matter, it seemed to the committee that the Maeno proposal was not well received in Poston 1. So, instead of going with Poston 2 representatives and making Poston 1 feel that we are against their refusing Maeno proposal, we decided to go only as Poston 3. When we were there, there also were representatives of Poston 2 strike group who publicized the fact that Poston 2 was going to strike. I want to stress the importance of Poston 3 working in unity on this matter and not get divided faction as in Poston 2.

C. Yasutake: I am not definite as to what Poston 2 is doing but, I think we should take the word of the majority group in Poston 2.

The meeting was then adjourned to be called again at 2:00 P.M. at the same location.

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers and Emergency Committee of Poston 3

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2:00 P.M.

Meeting was resumed at 2:00 P.M. at Block 306 Recreation Hall with Chairman Fujisawa.

K. Umezawa: I think the chairman of the meeting should be a Councilman. They can fulfill that duty much better.

Chairman Fujisawa: I am asking Mr. Shirazawa to assist in the selection of a new chairman for this particular meeting.

S. Shirazawa: General opinion seems to be that the meeting wishes a nisei chairman. Any discussion on this matter?

K. Umezawa: It is desired because I think a nisei can fulfill their duties much better and the young people feel that the issei does not express themselves fully and young people hesitate in taking active part in discussion when issei is chairman.

Mr. Suzuki: I feel that issei can just as fully fulfill duties of chairman.

S. Shirazawa: General assent seems evident in regard to Mr. Umezawa's suggestion, so we will have a nisei take the chair as chairman of this meeting.

I. Kubota: It is a good idea to have a nisei as chairman, but I would like to have an issei take the chair as vice-chairman.

H. Iwata: I personally would like to have issei chairman and nisei vice-chairman.

Motion was made by Mr. Umezawa that a nisei be chairman and issei be vice-chairman. Motion voted upon and majority in assent. Councilman Moto Asakawa nominated Harvey Iwata as chairman and S. Shirazawa as vice-chairman. Nominations voted upon and unanimously passed. Chairman Harvey Iwata of the Temporary Community Council and S. Shirazawa of the Advisory Board assumed the chairmanship and vice-chairmanship respectively.

H. Iwata: This morning, the committee made a report on their trip to Poston 1. Meeting is now opened for questions and discussions on the report of the committee.

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Moto Asakawa: Which group in Poston 2 should we recognize as the official body? I think we should negotiate with the majority which is the non-strike group in Poston 2, this Community Congress.

Dr. Namiki: This Community Congress in Poston 2, what is the clarification on that?

H. Iwata: Community Congress in Poston 2 is the non-strike group consisting of Community Council, Advisory Board, Block Managers, Assistant Block Managers, Fair Practice Board, and division heads and this is the group recognized by Mr. Wade Head, Project Director.

C. Yasutake: What authority at Poston 1 accepted the announcement of a strike being called in Poston 2?

S. Shirazawa: Poston 2 resolution of strike was publicized in Poston 1, but it is hard to say under whose authority it was done.

C. Yasutake: There are undecided factors in Poston 2--the strike group and the non-strike group. What I want to know is on what grounds did Poston 1 accept that announcement of strike in Poston 2?

S. Shirazawa: There is no reason or explanation given as to why Poston 1 did accept this announcement.

Mr. Suzuki: I think we should proceed with the discussion as to what stand Poston 3 should take on this matter. I feel that Poston 3 should stand their own stand and not be governed by the actions of Poston 2. Keep Poston 3 separate from Poston 2.

Moto Asakawa: I suggest that we close this particular meeting and have a block meeting and vote on whether we should have a sympathetic strike or not as a proposal.

H. Iwata: Mr. Suzuki's suggestion is now open for discussion. Are there any discussions from the floor?

Mr. Hasegawa: Before we take up any discussions on Mr. Suzuki's suggestion, there is a serious point to be considered first. I want to have made clear what was reported this morning. According to Mr. Takashima, the Evans proposal has not be made public to the people in Poston 1, but is in my opinion being duly considered by the Central Congress in Poston 1. According to Mr. Harada, the Maeno proposal is thought to be a good idea. In regard to the Evans proposal, it is certain that this particular proposal

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has not been made public to the people, and we should take and consider this matter fully before taking any stand. There is a question whether the people as a whole in Poston 1 know anything about the Evans Proposal. I think you must bear in mind fully that this is not carrying out the full principles of self-government in Poston 1 of not bringing the proposal up to the people in general.

M. Harada: I am going to say again what I said this morning. I went to Poston 1 and inquired whether any new proposal had been brought up. The replies were that they thought Maeno proposal was a good idea. For some reason the Central Congress in Poston 1 has not given out the Evans proposal to the public.

Clarification of Evans and Maeno Proposals:

Maeno Proposal: Proposal brought up by the people to the Administration for a trial for Mr. Uchida here in Poston with Japanese court

Evans Proposal: Proposal brought to the people by Mr. Evans, Assistant Project Director, for a trial for Mr. Uchida here in Poston with Japanese court, after obtaining permission from Washington D. C. and the State of Arizona.

K. Yamada: This is my own impression. The reason why the Committee of 18 is afraid to present this proposal to the people is because they are afraid to have a break in camp. In other words, they don't want to have factions.

Moto Asakawa: Anyone with sense can consider that the Administration have come 95% of the way and it is only reasonable that we compromise to have a trial in Poston.

S. Shirazawa: This strike is being pushed by the committee of 18 in Poston 1 and I believe they are waiting for a psychological moment before releasing the Evans proposal.

H. Iwata: Mr. Moris Burge, Administrator Poston 3, has a statement from Mr. Wade Head, Project Director. Do I have the consent of the meeting to have him present the meeting with the statement?

Assent was given to have Mr. Burge give Mr. Head's Statment to the meeting. Chairman Iwata gave instructions to call him in.

Sam Fujita: If the Central Congress in Poston 1 is waiting for an appropriate time to present the Evans proposal to the people, then do you think it is wise for us to come to any conclusion here before we get the reaction of the Poston 1 people?

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S. Shirazawa: The official statement given to us by Poston 1 is that they are proceeding with the original resolution--that of unconditional release of Mr. Uchida. We can base our stand on that official statement.

Y. Mamiya: I feel that at least a trial in Poston by a Japanese court is reasonable.

Frank Kagiwada: I think due to some vital points to be considered on the Evans Proposal by the Central Congress that it has not been released to the people in general in Poston 1. We have only the original resolution of Poston 1 as official statement and the question before us now is what stand Poston 3 should take in regard to Poston 1's original resolution.

Ben Furuta: I was under the impression that Poston 2 and Poston 3 were to act as mediators on this strike and if Poston 1 is to stand on their original resolution, I don't see where Poston 2 and Poston 3 could do anything about it. If their ears are closed to any offer or proposals, there is only one thing to do. I would like to have this point explained.

H. Iwata: When Poston 2 and Poston 3 had their original meeting in Poston 2, Mr. Nagai stated that as representative of Poston 1 committee that they did not want us to go on a sympathetic strike, but we want you to act as negotiators between the people and the Administration. Afterwards, it was expressed that what he said at Poston 2 was his own personal opinions and not the views of the committee of Poston 1 as a whole. When John Maeno's proposal came out, there was a misunderstanding that this proposal was that to have been made by Poston 2 acting as negotiators for Poston 1. Therefore, this was not favorably received by the committee in Poston 1. In other words, Poston 2 was under the impression that Poston 1 wanted Poston 2 and Poston 3 to act as negotiators, when actually this was not the case with the committee of Poston 1.

Mr. Burge at this time came to the meeting and made the following as statement from Mr. Wade Head:

"Mr. Head released a statement to the press this morning which I think you do not know about, and that statement was very brief. It stated that the disturbance was caused by a small group of pro-Axis evacuees known to the Administration who seized the opportunity of using a demonstration which was underway to the arrest of two people. It was confined to Poston 1 and that Poston 2 and 3 were continuing to function as normal, and he also took the opportunity to thank the loyal Japanese who had helped keep things going in Camp 2 and 3.

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"I understand that a radio report went out to the fact that Mr. Head had called in the militia and martial law had been declared in Poston, and that tear gas has been used to disperse the crowd. But that statement is a complete mistatement and not true and he also says that he has reached no decision in the action he will take up to the present time. That radio report is the sort of thing we are going to have to expect and people on the outside are anxious to make just as much as they can of it.

"That's all that he wanted to say on this present matter, except that to you as representative group of Poston 3, it is Mr. Head's hope and desire that we continue to function normally and we need all your help in that."

"There are three items I want to say to you. One is that the Under-Secretary of War, McCloy, orders have been issued to stop all work on the fence of Poston for a reconsideration of where the fence will be placed and orders have been received by Poston and all work will be stopped. But Mr. Head urges you to sit tight and don't do anything about it.

"Second item is that the first carload of linoleum has arrived in Parker and will need some help to get that in as quickly as possible. Due to present conditions Larry has not been able to get it in. We may need some assistance of some more people to get that out.

"Just before the disturbance we had set up plans for cash clothing allowances on our part. In spite of present conditions it will be started here in Camp 3. Miss Findley is going to come down tomorrow to help the Block Managers here in getting this started and whenever we can we are anxious to keep this going.

"In regard to timekeeping, we are doing our best to set up some system here of keeping our own time and hope that we can do all the timekeeping for Poston 3 until this disturbance is over."

Mr. Burge then left the meeting and discussions were then resumed.

Mr. Sakamoto: Majority of the people in Poston 2 and Poston 3 understand what this is but they have never had the experience of army in here, while most of us from Santa Anita had that experience and we don't want a strike.

Mr. Ozawa: I will try to explain my ideas and thoughts on this matter: As to the reason why the latest Evans proposal to the committee in Poston 1, I do not know whether it is being withheld purposely or under serious consideration. In the first place, the demands of the people of Poston 1 was refused by the Administration on the grounds that Poston has no jurisdiction

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whatsoever on felony charges which must be tried in the Supreme Court of the State of Arizona. The Administration now comes back and tells the people that the case can be tried in Poston. Why is it that the cases which could not be tried at first in Poston can now be tried. Therefore, the Central Congress wishes to study the Evans proposal. They are not satisfied with the reason given by the Administration that Poston has no jurisdiction on felony cases or charges and now that it can be tried. There is a question whether felony charges can be tried as misdemeanor, in other words whether felony charges can be legally reduced as misdemeanor after having been filed as felony charges. The Central Congress is making a very serious study whether that proposal by the Administration is practicable before putting it to the people.

Jay Nishida: Is this trial to be held in Poston a trial or just a preliminary hearing?

Mr. Ozawa: This is a trial and not just a preliminary hearing.

Ben Furuta: Due to the fact that a trial may be held in Poston, are the charges still felony charges?

Mr. Ozawa: This is one of the reasons why the committee in Poston 1 is still considering this proposal by Mr. Evans.

Ken Sato: The whole thing is that Mr. Miller overstepped his authority and since Mr. Evans took over the responsibility, he cannot back down on his present action.

Y. Mamiya: We have gotten to the root of the evil. I would like to know what qualifications or authority Mr. Miller has.

Ken Sato: We should not talk about Mr. Miller's release from Poston, since the legal department is taking that up.

Jay Nishida: We have to consider the statement by Mr. Burge is timed perfectly, so we still have to keep that in mind. It is some kind of inducement to keep us from aiding Poston 1.

C. Yasutake: In regard to Poston 1 happenings, it has been 3 or 4 days and I feel that the point is reached where we should decide upon whether to strike or not to strike. I make a motion that as Poston 3 we have had sufficient discussion to decide whether we should strike or not strike. I would like to have decision on this motion as soon as possible.

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K. Umezawa: Of course it is necessary to settle this point, but according to Poston 1 news, I think the first point to be taken up is to try to negotiate or ask Mr. Wade Head, Project Director, for Mr. Uchida's release. The matter of strike or no strike should be taken up as a last resort and as long as there are ways and means open for negotiation, we should do our utmost in this manner. I make what I have just said my proposal.

Mr. Muruoka: I would like to make a new proposal---

H. Iwata: Discussion is still open on Mr. Yasutake's motion. Will you kindly hold your proposal up?

Mr. Hasegawa: Mr. Suzuki made a motion that Poston 3 should stand alone as Poston 3 and not work together with Poston 2 in whatever stand we take. In other words, Poston 3 should take their own course free of actions of Poston 2 on this matter.

K. Umezawa: I would like to have a clarification on this motion.

Mr. Suzuki: We as Poston 3 in regard to Poston 1 incident should take our own course and do our best to try to settle the matter. As explained before, according to Mr. Nagai, the Maeno proposal was not favorably received by Poston 1 and in light of this fact, I think it best for Poston 3 to make their own stand on this matter.

Mr. Muruoka: In regard to Mr. Suzuki's motion is it the understanding that we are to find some way of compromise in settling this matter?

Mr. Shirazawa: Mr. Suzuki's motion that we as Poston 3 should take its own stand regardless of Poston 2, does not say that what we should take about compromising.

M. Ozawa: Mr. Suzuki's motion is that in regard to Poston 1 incident, we as Poston 3 should act upon our own initiative regardless of what Poston 2 does. Is that clear to the meeting?

K. Umezawa: The reason for Mr. Suzuki's motion I take it is because in Poston 2 there are two factions and we wish to have Poston 3 as Poston 3 take only one stand.

H. Iwata: Any more discussions on Mr. Suzuki's motion?

Question was asked for and voted upon Mr. Suzuki's motion. It was passed unanimously in favor.

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Motion was then put into resolution form and presented to the meeting to read as follows: "It is resolved that Poston 3 will take its individual course in this matter regarding Poston 1 and do its best. However, we will not disapprove of Poston 2 coordinating with Poston 3 in this course. November 24, 1942. 4:00 P.M."

The resolution was voted upon as presented and passed unanimously.

Mr. Hasegawa: I suggest that Poston 3 pass this resolution on to Poston 2.

Mr. Muraoka: I suggest that the Emergency Committee read their resolution to the meeting.

C. Yasutake: I wish to present a plan as to what stand Poston 3 should take--strike or no strike or shall we take another course in this matter?

M. Harada: We are asking for an unconditional release of Mr. Uchida. This request of the Emergency Committee is to be presented to Mr. Wade Head through the Community Council of Poston 3.

C. Yasutake: We as Japanese should not think as individuals be be willing to sacrifice for the benefit of the Japanese as a whole. I make a motion to decide upon strike or no strike.

Mr. Ozawa: The Committee of 7 of the Emergency Committee made a proposal to be presented to Mr. Wade Head, Project Director, by the Community Council and that was to ask for the unconditional release of Mr. Uchida. Since this was a former proposal, I think we should reconsider this proposal first.

Mr. Maruoka: The Committee of 7 of the Emergency Committee made this proposal on the ground that we as Poston 3 does not wish to have a strike but that we should make use of some means of peacefully settling the matter.

H. Iwata: Since no written proposal was kept, I shall call a recess in order to give time to the Committee of 7 to make a proposal to present to the meeting.

Meeting was called again in 10 minutes and Mr. Kusunose of the Emergency Committee read the proposal to the meeting as follows: (Translated from the Japanese into English)

"In order to further try to push the resolution of Poston 1 of unconditional release of Mr. Uchida, we wish to get the petition of the people in general of Poston 3 and through the Community Council present such a proposal to Mr. Wade Head, Project Director."

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H. Iwata: We, the Emergency Committee resolve that we will get the petition from all the residents of Poston 3 to accomplish the will of Poston 1 and have the Community Council of Poston 3 present this to our Project Director.

K. Umezawa: The original proposal was to let or get Mr. Uchida released if I remember correctly, but things are not just clear now.

Mr. Kusunose: It is rather late to present the same original proposal so I think we had better change the proposal is my suggestion.

Mr. Asami: I make a motion to this effect.

Frank Kagiwada: I ask for some time so that the Emergency Committee can draw up a proposal.

S. Shirazawa: 10 minutes of recess will be allowed the Emergency Committee to work on the wording and drawing up of a proposal. In the meantime, I think Poston 3 resolution should be passed on to Poston 2.

Mr. Suzuki: I think we should wait until later to send the resolution along to Poston 2.

Question asked of the meeting and assent given by majority that we should wait until later to pass the resolution along to Poston 2.

Meeting was then adjourned for 10 minutes of recess.

Meeting resumed again at 5:10 P.M.

Chairman Iwata: The previous resolution drawn up by the Emergency Committee has been withdrawn due to the fact that a new resolution has been made in regard to Poston 3 taking their own stand and due to the fact that conditions have changed somewhat now.

Mr. Hiramatsu: I make a motion that various blocks have a meeting and present the resolution made at 4:00 P.M. to the people in general and get their opinions as to what we should do on this matter.

Mr. Kushino: I am in accord with Mr. Hiramatsu's motion and since Poston 3 has taken a stand to take its own course, I think it is best to discuss with the various blocks as to whether we should join with Poston 1 or take any other action.

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Mr. Ozawa: We must have a 100% backing in whatever stand we take. It is certain that all blocks will not agree in all the points. I think it would be better to wait and see what is developing in Poston 1. We should go back to our respective blocks and try to get the opinions of the blocks on this matter and what action they feel they should take. Remember that if this camp is not 100% or do not have an unanimous front in supporting whatever stand Poston 3 decides to take, we will have a defeat in this camp and defeating our own purpose.

S. Shirazawa: I think it is a very good point, and we should have a united front so I would like to have a dicussion on this.

Mr. Hiramatsu: I withdraw my motion just made.

K. Umezawa: I make a motion that we act as representatives for our respective blocks, but that we should get the opinion of the people first and take our stand on that basis.

Mr. Kushino: We should make a report to the various blocks of what has happened in Poston 1 and also what stand Poston 3 is taking according to the resolution just passed.

Mr. Kusunose: I suggest that we have a mass meeting so that we can get all the information to the people uniform.

K. Yamada: Is Mr. Umezawa's motion still on the floor?

K. Umezawa: I withdraw my motion from the floor.

K. Yamada: If we go back and tell the people without any definite conclusions as to what we have done, we are going to have the same trouble as before. I make a motion that we adjourn for dinner and later make a resolution to bring to or present to the people.

Mr. Maruoka: I make a motion that we have a special committee and make a resolution by the special committee made up of representatives of the Council, Advisory Board, Block Managers and Emergency Committee.

Mr. Harada: I suggest that we have a meeting in our respective blocks and get the opinion of the blocks as to whether they would like to have a proposal brought up to Mr. Wade Head, Project Director.

Mr. Hasegawa: I suggest that all the information given to the various blocks be uniform.

H. Iwata: The motion at present on the floor is that we have a special committee consisting of representatives of the 4 groups

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to make a resolution as to what Poston 3 would do in regard to strike in Poston 1.

Mr. Maruoka: I amend my motion to read that this special committee make a resolution to present to the entire group for approval.

S. Shirazawa: Discussion is still open on Mr. Maruoka's amended motion.

Since there was no discussion on this motion, Chairman Iwata called for a vote and passed unanimously in favor of this motion.

K. Yamada: I make a motion that 3 members from each of the 4 groups be represented on this special committee.

Motion voted upon and passed with majority in favor of this motion. It is understood that Chairman Iwata of the Council is ex-officio member of this committee.

Members of the special committee selected are:

Councilmen: Kay Hanada
Jimmy Takashima
Kelly Yamada
Harvey Iwata

Advisory Board: Mr. Ozawa
Mr. Umezawa
Mr. Shirazawa

Block Managers: Kay Watanabe
Sam Fujita
Yoshio Mamiya

Emergency Committee:
Mr. Hamamoto
Mr. Matsumoto
Mr. Kusunose

Y. Mamiya: I make a motion that we adjourn this meeting until tomorrow morning at 10:00 A.M.

Tom Sakamoto: I wish to call attention of the meeting that there is a very important Block Managers' meeting tomorrow morning at 9:30 A.M.

Y. Mamiya: I amend my motion to holding this meeting at 2:00 P.M.

Frank Kagiwada: Mr. Mamiya's motion is on the floor. I feel that we as representatives have a great responsibility so we should continue with the meeting this evening. I am in objection

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to Mr. Mamiya's motion.

Chairman Iwata called for vote on Mr. Mamiya's motion. The motion was not passed with majority in favor.

Frank Kagiwada: I make a motion that the body resume their meeting again at 9:00 P.M. with the special committee meeting at 7:30 to draw up a resolution.

Motion voted upon as passed with majority in favor of this motion.

Mr. Suzuki: I make a suggestion that since this meeting is a closed one, what has transpired since this morning should not be made public as yet.

Mr. Jonnoguchi: I am in assent with Mr. Suzuki's suggestion.

Mr. Kusunose: I think we should let the people know about what has been going on in this meeting.

Mr. Maruoka: It would be better to wait until after the resolution has been decided upon and then make everything public to the people. I make this my motion.

Chairman Iwata called for vote on this motion and passed all in favor of this motion. It was also decided that the only facts to be given to the people if asked is that since we are in the process of considering very important matters, there is nothing much we can say until such matters have been decided upon.

Meeting was then adjourned by Chairman Harvey Iwata to be resumed at the same location at 9:00 P.M.

Meeting of the Temporary Community
Council, Block Representatives of
Advisory Board, Block Managers and
Emergency Committee of Poston 3

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9:00 P.M.

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives
of Advisory Board, Block Managers and Emergency Committee held
on November 24, 1942, at 9:00 P.M. at Block 306 Recreation Hall
called to order by Chairman Harvey Iwata.

Roll Call: Councilmen of Blocks 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 316, 317,
318, 322, 323, 325, 326, 327, 328,
329, 330 present at the meeting
Advisors of Blocks 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 316, 317,
318, 322, 323, 326, 327, 328, 329
present with Blocks 325 and 330
being absent from the meeting
Block Managers of Blocks 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 316,
317, 318, 322, 323, 325, 326,
327, 329, 330 present with
Block 328 being absent
Emergency Committee Representatives present at the
meeting:
Block 305--2, 306--2, 307--1, 308--2, 309--2, 316--2,
317--2, 318--2, 322--1, 323--2, 325--2, 326--0,
327--2, 328--1, 329--2, 330--0
Block Manager Supervisor and Ass't. Supervisor present.
Total number of representatives that should be at meeting: 82
Total number of representatives present at the meeting: 72
Total number of representatives absent from the meeting: 10

Chairman Iwata stressed the fact that necessary quorum was present
to vote upon all resolutions and motions.

Chairman Iwata called upon the special committee of 12 to read
resolution drawn up by them to the meeting:

RESOLUTION

To: Mr. Wade Head, Project Director
Poston, Arizona

From: Temporary Community Council, Block Representa-
tives of Advisory Board, Block Managers and
Emergency Committee of Poston 3, Poston, Arizona

November 24, 1942
9:00 P.M.

WHEREAS there has been a disturbance of a serious nature in Poston I, and

WHEREAS the residents of Poston III are vitally concerned over the situation because our community life is so closely inter-related that the residents of Poston III are largely dependent on the proper functioning of all activities of Poston I for our daily necessities, and

WHEREAS due to the fact that there is an intense feeling on the part of the people arising out of the present existing conditions in Poston I as above mentioned, it became necessary to specially elect an emergency committee to cope with the local situation, and

WHEREAS the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, the Block Managers and the said Emergency Committee have been exerting their very utmost effort to help maintain order in Poston III, and

WHEREAS the feeling of unrest is increasing to such an extent as to create a hazardous situation throughout Poston III,

Therefore, be it so resolved that the Administration exert every possible effort to bring about a speedy and satisfactory solution in order to effect a restoration of normal conditions in Poston I.

K. Yamada: The reason why the resolution was drawn up as such is because we did not get a mandate from the meeting and no specific instructions were given as to what should be written or asked for in the resolution. We the committee thought this would be the first step to take and are therefore presenting this resolution to the meeting for discussion and opinions upon it.

H. Iwata: The fact stands that at the present time, Poston 3 has not made any definite resolution to the Administration and felt that in this resolution we are expressing the feeling of the people as a whole toward the Administration.

Mr. Ozawa: I would like to bring to the attention of the meeting the following points: (1) To date we as Poston 3 have not presented a resolution to the Administration, so as the first step we have asked in this resolution that we as Poston 3 would like to have the Administration settle this matter fully as soon as possible and peacefully. (2) Since you did not indicate any particular demands we should make so we drew up the resolution as presented. The main motive of this resolution was to press the point of trying to get the Administration to conform to the wishes of Poston 1.

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Toru Ikeda: I would like to have the last paragraph of the resolution read in English and the translation in Japanese as well.

In answer to his request the last paragraph of the resolution was read first in English and the translation in Japanese read.

Toru Ikeda: I wish to call attention to the Japanese translation of a few words which reads "a speedy and satisfactory solution to the satisfaction of Poston 1". Does not that word satisfaction refer to the original resolution of Poston 1--that of unconditional release of Mr. Uchida. Is that the meaning given in the resolution of Poston 3?

Mr. Ozawa: The word "satisfaction" does not mean the original resolution of Poston 1, but means that Poston 1 will have to be satisfied with the action that is taken by the Administration, and it is certainly necessary that satisfactory settlement should be made both for Poston 1 and Poston 3 on this matter.

Chairman Iwata: Suggestions for changes and discussions on the wording of this resolution is now open to the meeting.

Moto Asakawa: I feel that wording used in the resolution will be interpreted by the Administration as we wish them to.

Toru Ikeda: Don't you think the term "normal conditions" might be misconstrued by the Administration to mean reference is made to non-violent strike conditions instead of back to what it was before the strike.

Kay Watanabe: Poston 1 has been making their demands to the Administration in regard to the strike, so when we refer to "normal conditions" that fact will be taken into consideration and not be misconstrued.

Frank Kagiwada: Of course pre-existing conditions prior to the strike is not wanted.

Moto Asakawa: The committee felt that we should be on a neutral ground and conclude this incident as soon as possible. We are not trying to take sides on this matter.

H. Iwata: We tried in this resolution to convey the idea that certain conditions were existing in Poston 3 of a hazardous nature.

S. Shirazawa: Are there any discussions, questions on the Japanese translation of this resolution?

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Suggestion brought up that we should set a particular date as to when the Administration should answer on this resolution.

H. Iwata: We cannot bring an ultimatum to the Administration.

S. Shirazawa: That would be an ultimatum. We felt that we should present it in its present form. I believe the resolution carries a great deal weight in that it makes many inferences that conditions are hazardous in Poston 3.

H. Iwata: If there are no further discussions, I would like to present this resolution to the body----

Jay Nishida: In regard to the terms "normal conditions", if you do not make a special stipulation, I don't think the Administration will feel that there is reason for us to complain. We have to convey to them that this particular incident is causing a lot of disruptions.

Sam Fujita: Since Poston 1 is standing on a ground of pre-strike conditions, that could be considered as normal conditions.

Toru Ikeda: If you have "normal conditions" as referring to the strike itself, then what about Mr. Uchida's release?

Moto Asakawa: I think we can interpret "normal conditions" as referring to pre-strike days.

Toru Ikeda: I think the resolution then is more on a neutral standpoint instead of our trying to show our sympathy with Poston 1.

Kay Watanabe: Are we in a position to make the same demands in Poston 3 as are made by Poston 1? Since we are on a neutral status here in Poston 3, we want to convey to Mr. Head that we wish a speedy solution and that is also the demands of Poston 1.

Yoshio Mamiya: In simple language it is putting a crew over the Administration--it is a resolution to the Administration for a speedy solution to this disturbance.

Moto Asakawa: I make a motion that we present this resolution as it stand to the Administration as from this meeting.

S. Shirazawa: A motion was made by Moto Asakawa that we accept the resolution. Does the isseis have any discussions on this motion?

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9:00 P.M.

Mr. Jonnoguchi: I think there is plenty of weight in this resolution and I think we should accept it.

Motion was voted upon and unanimously passed in favor of presenting this resolution to the Administration.

H. Iwata: The next matter to be taken up is in regard to what signatures should be attached to the resolution. The main question is whether just the respective block representatives here at this meeting or have the signatures of the people in general.

Moto Asakawa: I suggest that the resolution be signed by the representatives present in this meeting since they fully represent the people in their blocks.

Sam Fujita: My suggestion is to send the resolution to the Administration as presented by Moto Asakawa, and also send the resolution around to the people to get their individual signatures.

G. Ohashi: After all, the representatives in this meeting are representatives of the people in this camp, so I feel there is no necessity of taking the signatures of the people in general right now.

Kay Watanabe: The idea is that this petition is to be signed by this group present and presented to Mr. Head. After that at the various block meetings we can get the endorsement of the people in the blocks for our own records in the event there is necessity to show that this petition is from the people in general.

Y. Mamiya: I make a motion that the original petition to be presented to Mr. Wade Head to be signed by the representatives present at this meeting and such petition to be presented to the various blocks for their endorsement.

K. Yamada: I second this motion.

Moto Asakawa: I think there are some residents in the blocks that will not sign the petition or resolution, but we should take a vote in the blocks and make it unanimously voted in favor of it in the various blocks.

Dr. Namiki: It is a very good idea.

G. Ohashi: I agree with Dr. Namiki because there are quite a number of parolees from internment camps who have been told not to sign any kind of petition or resolution and many people have been told by their lawyers never to sign anything in camp.

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9:00 P.M.

H. Iwata: Mr. Mamiya's motion is on the floor. Is there any further discussion before we take a vote on this motion?

M. Asakawa: We should separate the two points--the point of who is to sign the original petition and the point of the endorsement by the various blocks.

Y. Mamiya: I wish to withdraw my motion from the floor.

Mr. Oto: I make a motion that we sign this petition as a group to be presented to Mr. Wade Head.

Mr. Maruoka: Does this resolution or petition have to be shown to the committee in Poston 1 or to Mr. Burge?

S. Shirazawa: I don't think this resolution has to be first shown to Mr. Burge.

Chairman Iwata called for vote upon Mr. Oto's motion. Motion passed with members unanimously in favor of it.

Mr. Matsumoto: I make a motion that a copy of the resolution be given to Mr. Moris Burge, Administrator, Poston 3.

Motion voted upon and unanimously passed in favor. Discussion was then opened as to method the resolution should be presented to the people and whether endorsement of the people in general is advisable.

Discussions brought up were:

- a. Give facts about the strike leading up through the presentation of resolution by Poston 3 to Mr. Wade Head, Project Director.
- b. Give only basic facts and leave out unnecessary or confusing details.
- c. It is important to have all the blocks meet at one set time and date, so as to avoid any different reports.
Suggestion made that such a meeting be called November 25, 1942, at 7:30 P.M. in all the blocks with the Block Managers and Councilmen and Emergency Committeemen giving uniform reports.

Kay Watanabe: I make a motion that every block have its meeting at November 25, 1942, at 7:30 P.M. by the Councilman, Block Manager and Emergency Committee to give actual facts on the actions taken by the 4 groups at this meeting. It is understood that until such time of meeting, no information is to be given out to the residents.

Motion voted upon and passed with members unanimously in favor of this motion.

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9:00 P.M.

Mr. Hiramatsu: Is the resolution to be presented before we have our block meetings or after such meetings.

H. Iwata: We shall present the resolution to Mr. Head sometime tomorrow, preferably in the morning if certain conditions makes this possible. Since there are bound to be some news coming in from Poston 1, 2 and the Administration, I think we should have a one central point or headquarters to receive such news. Are there any suggestions on this point?

Suggestions made as to what location may be used for headquarters:

- a. Council office.
- b. Drama Club office for headquarters
- c. Police Station be used.
- d. Industry office.

Motion made that the Police Station be used as headquarters with members of the meeting taking turns in $\frac{1}{2}$ day shifts during the daytime to receive such news and the police staff receiving during the nights. Motion was voted upon and passed with more than majority in favor of it. Instructions given to Block 305 representatives to take the first turn on duty.

Committees appointed--one for presenting resolution to Mr. Wade Head and the other to inform Poston 2 of the resolution of Poston 3 in regard to taking its own course.

Members present at the meeting were then requested to sign the petition to Mr. Wade Head.

The meeting was then adjourned by Chairman Harvey Iwata.

Meeting of the Temporary Community
Council, Block Representatives of
Advisory Board, Block Managers and
Emergency Committee Poston 3

November 26, 1942
2:00 P.M.

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers and Emergency Committee Poston 3 held on November 26, 1942, at Block 306 Recreation Hall at 2:00 P.M. was called to order by Chairman Harvey Iwata.

The purpose of the meeting as stated by chairman Iwata was due to a situation in Poston 3 which had developed as a by-product of the disturbance in Poston 1. Rumors are going around that certain persons are stool-pigeons and F. B. I. agents and tends to endanger these persons' safety. Mr. Ken Sato is here to present some facts to you and wish ideas of what solution can be made of this particular problem.

Ken Sato: There is evidence that rumors are flying around that there are stool pigeons in Poston 3 and as I understand things have gone so far as to hang up bones with warning remarks attached to them. I feel things are going to far and before any innocent persons are injured, I would like to have the body present here take action to stop these things. I myself cannot take action on such matters until something has occurred.

Meeting was opened for suggestions, discussions and opinions as to what action could be taken on this matter:

1. Suggestion made to form investigating committee to look into rumors and to check upon the truth of existing stool pigeons as well as to the base of character assassinations. If found there are stool pigeons, they should be transferred elsewhere and if found rumors are character assassinations, such rumors should be stopped and public made to know that such is not true. Persons starting such rumors should be investigated upon as well and reprimmed.
2. Form an investigating committee and make public know that character assassinations and unfounded rumors will not be permitted and stool pigeons will not be tolerated.
3. Special investigation committee should be one of the Council and not a special one in order to create as least public notice as possible.
4. Stress upon the residents the seriousness of spreading false rumors and especially when such rumors are not true.
5. Suggestion brought up that whenever rumors are heard by Councilmen, Block Managers and Advisors, such rumors should be reported to the particular block in which the rumor

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is concerned and that particular block investigate into matters and get it clarified as to what is the truth of the rumors.

6. Have a committee in each Roku to try to trace rumors to its source and if any necessary action be taken, refer it to the Council for their consideration.
7. Recommended that Block Managers announce in various blocks that certain rumors are evident, and present the fact that such rumors are unfounded and all should consider the seriousness of spreading unfounded rumors.

Motion was made by Mr. Suzuki that a committee be formed to investigate into the rumors and bring such findings to the Council to formulate some solution on this matter. Mr. Suzuki withdrew his motion.

8. Recommendation made that it is best to educate the people not to believe all rumors, to prevent spreading of rumors and not to start unfounded rumors in order to prevent any harm being done to those who are not stool pigeons.

Motion was made by Mr. Umezawa that a small committee be selected to present a motion or resolution to the body for discussion and approval on what solution may be taken on this matter. Vote was taken on Mr. Umezawa's motion and passed with majority in favor of it.

Suggestion then was made that various blocks have a meeting and facts of this particular case presented to the people and that such rumors are not true as given by friends of this particular party, and in this way stop the rumors and also protect the party concerned. It was thought this probably was the best solution in this matter.

Planning Committee formed consisting of:

Councilmen: Kay Hanada and Jimmy Takashima

Advisors: S. Shirazawa and M. Ozawa

Block Managers: Toru Ikeda and Ichiro Okada

Emergency Committee: Frank Kagiwada and Mr. Fujisawa

The meeting was then adjourned by Chairman Harvey Iwata.

November 26, 1942

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers and Emergency Committee of Poston 3

Also Police Chief Ken Sato

Meeting of the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, Block Managers, Emergency Committee and Police Chief, Ken Sato of Poston 3 held on November 26, 1942, at 3:00 P.M. at Block 306 Recreation Hall was called to order by Chairman Harvey Iwata.

Chairman Iwata explained that the purpose of calling this meeting was to get an official confirmation of the news given to all the blocks last evening by Police Chief Ken Sato that the strike in Poston 1 has ended and agreement has been made that trial for Mr. Uchida will be held in Poston. Also asked for block reports.

Mr. Jonnoguchi: I assent to Mr. Iwata's request for block reports. It is best to let the people here know the reactions of the various blocks.

Mr. Suzuki: Since there are about 3 or 4 representatives present at this meeting from each block, I suggest that you give us a little time to get notes compared.

Report of the Blocks:

- Block 305--The block endorsed the actions taken by this body on this matter.
- Block 306--While in the process of given report, Ken Sato brought the news which ended the meeting. Appreciation was extended to the members of the committee on their efforts.
- Block 307--Feeling of the people of the block was that they assented to the action taken by the committee. Announcement of Ken Sato's ended the meeting. Words of appreciation given to efforts exerted by the committee on this matter.
- Block 308--Report arrived at reading of resolution when news brought that strike had ended in Poston 1. No reaction given by the people. Appreciation expressed for the efforts of the committee on this matter.
- Block 309--No reaction shown by the block.
- Block 316--No reaction indicated by the people of the block.
- Block 317--No reaction shown. Appreciation expressed to members of committee for efforts exerted in this matter.

November 26, 1942
3:00 P.M.

- Block 318--No reaction indicated. Thanked the efforts of the committee.
- Block 322--Meeting ended with reading of the resolution to the people. Words of appreciation expressed for efforts of the committee. No particular reaction noticeable.
- Block 323--No reaction. Efforts of the committee were appreciated.
- Block 325--Feeling of the people was that they assented to the actions taken by the committee. Words of appreciation expressed for work done by the committee.
- Block 326--Report given to block residents. Later news of strike ended informed to residents and feeling of gladness existed. Appreciation extended to efforts made by the committee.
- Block 327--No reaction indicated by the people of the block.
- Block 328--Ken Sato's news ended the meeting. Efforts of the committee appreciated by the people.
- Block 329--No reaction made in regard to actions of the committee.
- Block 330--Reaction of the people was to thank the work done by the committee.

Report of Committee Presenting Resolution to
Mr. Wade Head
by Harvey Iwata

On November 25, 1942, early in the morning, the committee tried to get a road clearance to proceed to Poston 1, but could not do so at that time. Telephone call conversation with Mr. Burge was that Mr. Head was planning to be down in Poston 3 that afternoon about 2:30 P.M. Later on about 2:00 P.M. telephone call from Mr. Head's secretary saying that Mr. Head could not get away to come to Poston 3 that afternoon. About 3:30 P.M. Harvey Iwata asked Roy Yoshida of Poston 1 Community Enterprise staff to take the resolution to Mr. Head, or to his secretary. About 4:30 a call was made to Mr. Head's secretary inquiring whether resolution had been delivered to Mr. Head's office. No document had been received was the answer. Checked with Mr. Roy Yoshida who reported that resolution had been personally handed to Mr. Head about 5:00 P.M. by Mr. Yoshida.

Report of Committee Presenting Resolution
of Poston 3 Taking Its Own Course to Poston 2
by Mr. Fujisawa

The Committee presented such a resolution to the Poston 2 Community Congress and also to the leaders of the strike faction.

November 26, 1942
3:00 P.M.

The following statement read to the meeting by Harvey Iwata from Moris Burge, Administrator Poston 3:

The statement below represents the broad principles on which an agreement has been reached. It is not an official document, and the wording is my own.

A committee of eleven consisting of one member from each quad and officials, representing the Emergency Committee of 72, agreed to the following conditions with the project director:

1. The demonstration would be terminated. Mr. Uchida, would stand trial in Poston, and would be released in custody of two attorneys, pending the arrangements of the trial.
2. All work would be considered terminated with the walk-out of last Wednesday, and all people in Poston 1 would be rehired, according to new procedures set up by the employment division. These procedures would be directed towards filling positions with responsible and capable people, eliminating over-staffing of certain divisions, and understaffing of others, and giving priority to work vital to the project.
3. The committee would obtain a signed statement from every individual in Poston 1 recognizing the United States as supreme authority in the project, respecting the right of federal law enforcement agencies to make necessary investigations, and pledging their support in an effort to eliminate disorders, and character defamations.

Moris Burge
Administrator, Poston #3

Discussions held and it was decided until definite clarification of all points have been made, especially #3, the only information to be given to the people until official statement arrives on this matter would be that the strike has ended, Mr. Uchida has been released into the custody of two lawyers, trial would be held in Poston for Mr. Uchida, and that all workers would be rehired in Poston 1.

Meeting was then adjourned by Chairman Harvey Iwata.

Meeting of Temporary Community
Council, Block Representatives of
Advisory Board, Block Managers,
and Emergency Committee of Poston 3

and

Mr. Wade Head, Project Director
Mr. Ralph Gelvin, Associate Project
Director
Mr. Moris Burge, Administrator Poston 3

Meeting of the above named parties held on November 27, 1942,
at 11:00 A.M. at Block 306 Recreation Hall was called to order
by Chairman Harvey Iwata.

Harvey Iwata: Mr. Head at this time wishes to say a few words
to the committee in regard to the disturbance which has been
settled and wants to explain the Administration side of the
issue.

Mr. Wade Head: "I have a little trouble speaking this morn-
ing because my lungs are filled up with the Poston dust.
First I want to let the people of Poston 2 and Poston 3 know
how much we appreciate the attitude you have taken during
this little disturbance. Any other attitude might have been
disastrous and the attitude of Poston 2 and 3 was a good
argument to keep the army from taking over Poston. To you
people here goes all the credit of Poston 2 and 3. You have
certainly done a job that all of us can be proud of. You
people can be proud of it, and I am proud of it.

As you know, the outside papers and everyone jumped on me, and
we have heard many radio reports and reports which say that
they came from Poston. I can assure you that no report was
released from Poston, and we refused to answer the telephone
or give any radio reports. At least we felt that if we haven't
said anything we would not be misquoted. This morning's
papers all carried a statement, a signed statement by Mr.
Collier stating the situation and pointing out the fact that
Poston 2 and 3 did not cause any trouble at all.

I think from what you people of Poston 2 and 3 have been, you
have definitely demonstrated to yourself and to the entire
country that you as a group, that you have the very great
ability to have self-government. That's what we have always
planned for is complete self-government and that's what we
are going toward just as rapidly as we can--where every man,
woman and child will feel that they are a part of Poston,
part of the government. We hope as this thing settles, the
people realize that they will not more speak of one side the
Administration and on one side the people. We have to be
one group and if it is that way, you will have a Poston that
you will be proud of.

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A Poston that you will not have to worry about being criticized and worrying about what's going to happen to you and your children.

As Mr. Gelvin and I were driving down a few minutes ago and passed two boys about 15 or 16 years of age bicycling along, Mr. Gelvin said those are the people I am worrying about and unless these fathers and mothers can get together and have a definite well-planned program--and this is the question that bothers me--we have a very important thing of worrying what is going to happen to them.

As I see this trouble at Poston, it was an unfortunate incident. It has set the people back about one year to get the people on the outside feeling right about it again. We have followed all the news reports and it is the first bad news that have appeared about the people of Poston. We have had a very definite plan to let everyone outside know that we are all allright and it will take sometime to counteract the news.

I do know this, that you people here at 3 and people of Poston 2 have demonstrated a strong leadership--they must be wonderful people and good leaders to stand up to do what you have done when you had the agitators telling you what to do. You were seeing only one side of the picture, and that shows that you had a great deal of character to stand up and oppose these false leaders who where coming in and making false reports.

I want to explain a few things on law and order. Poston, is just as same as Arizona, California or any other state. Poston can have its own courts, just as Los Angeles can have its own courts. Los Angeles city courts can try a certain type of cases, as you know. They can try speeding cases, assault and battery cases, and misdemeanors of all kinds. There is a county court which is above the city courts and certain cases must go to the county courts, such as murders, felonies and other serious cases. There are other crimes which go into the federal courts such as sedition, importation of liquor into the reservations and any crimes against the federal law, and we will have the same system of justice in Poston. We will be under the county courts for crimes which break the state laws and under the federal courts which affect the national laws, and that is what we must get over to the people here. We are not a state, we are not a nation; we are a municipality and a definite part of the State of Arizona, and we want to be a definite part of the State of Arizona. I hope that everyone understands it and tries to explain it.

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Many people have an idea that I have the authority to say to the law that they cannot come to Poston. They can come to Poston and arrest me just as quickly as anyone else. I have no authority to tell the sheriff of Yuma not to come here to Poston. Those things we must keep in mind and unless we do, it is going to cause some serious trouble.

I think that you people of Poston 2 and 3 have done something for the people that is outstanding for the Japanese people. You have shown that you can stand up for the right; you have shown that your heart was in the right place; you have the right leaders to lead right, you have shown that you are real men and real women and I appreciate your character and the real spirit of your people. Thank you."

Moris Burge: "I would like to take this opportunity in front of Mr. Head to thank you personally for what you did during this crisis. In the first few days while Mr. Head and Mr. Gelvin were away, Mr. Evans asked me to help him. I realized that my first responsibility was in Poston 3, but did go to Poston 1 and went with the firm feeling of confidence that you people would be able to handle it yourself. Perhaps some people thought I was taking too much for granted, but events have proved that it is not true. That did not mean that Mr. Evans and other members of the Administration did not realize that a pressure was upon you; we meant that you are able to take care of Poston 3.

There are many different pressures on our Council, on our administrative groups, on our Block Managers and on our older people. We have come to expect our council and administrative group to be able to handle such pressure because that has been their job, but I think this proved what fine people we have in our older group, that here in Poston 3 and eventually in Poston 1 and of course in Poston 2, we can work out problems in Poston with the younger and older people working together. Thank you."

QUESTIONS, ANSWERS, DISCUSSIONS:

K. Yamada: We would like to get a clear official statement from you personally in regard to the agreements reached between Poston 1 and the Administration.

Mr. Head: "As you know, the main contention was that Mr. Uchida be release without a trial. If the people of Poston would only think to release Uchida without a trial--I don't

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know the man and never heard about him just until Sunday-- but what would the county, state and you think about it? Mr. Uchida should be tried in Poston is the main agreement.

We got the committee to present three agreements or points and we presented 3. You would be surprised to know that they were almost much the same. We wanted a committee, a sort of community welfare committee, which can go around and investigate parties who instigate character assassination which has become a very common thing and we want it to be stopped. We want this committee in all the 3 units and this committee can investigate and if true, we can take steps to get the man out of here. We don't want any stool pigeons here. We don't want anybody agitating and instigating and telling lies. This committee can straighten out a lot of misunderstanding and I hope something like that will be done here. The committee will function on cases the judicial committee has no right to function on.

One other point was that eventually we will work around to the point where the people of Poston can elect certain administrative people--evacuee administrative people. I don't mean that positions that are appointive now will be changed right away, but it means positions such as block managers and others. That is the movement we have been working toward all along.

A planning committee to be established which would do some over-all planning. We established a planning committee after 2 or 3 days in Poston. It will be a planning committee to be elected which will make plans--economic plans and over-all plans--for the development of community needs. It is an effort on the part of the people and an effort on the part of the administration to have the people a part of Poston. That is what we want and what we must have to have a real Poston. It is a definite step in Poston.

You people were not here, but I gave a speech on the 11th day of June. Those three points were outlined and brought out at the same time over in Poston 1. That's something we must have to make Poston a complete community.

A committee will be set up--7 of the representatives from the 7 work groups and 3 representatives from the Administration to work together on the cessation on employment. Employment in Poston 1 has not been a very satisfactory thing, because when Poston was opened, we got 1,000 people a day and we did not know who we were getting into the various jobs. These things should not be very important in 2 and 3, because I believe

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we had a more definite policy in selecting people on the jobs here and had better opportunities to get that organized."

Mr. Ozawa: I understand from the statement of Mr. Head that offenses committed here will be tried in the same manner as in the municipality of Los Angeles. If the charges against Mr. Uchida is reduced so he should be tried as misdemeanor then conviction in this court will be final. But if the original charges of assault with deadly weapon still stands, preliminary hearing must be had in this place and if evidence produced is sufficient that the evidence is sufficient for a felony charge, then the case cannot be tried here.

The impression among the people is that Mr. Uchida will not be transferred outside of this project, but if there is any chance that Uchida will be bound over to the Supreme Court of the State of Arizona, it is entirely a different decision. The Administration maintained from the beginning that this case cannot be tried here in Poston because it is a felony case.

Mr. Head: I think you misunderstand the situation, but you have an excellent point here. As I understand this, was that at first in regard to Mr. Uchida these men from the Federal Bureau of Investigation came in here were interested in a federal case and not connected with this attack. In that case he would have gone to the federal courts. What Mr. Evans was trying to do was to get the case reduced to a misdemeanor. People did not care to understand his position and he could not get an opportunity to explain it.

Mr. Ozawa: Mr. Evans was trying to do his best to meet the demands of the people. He seems to have been working under some pressure from within. I would like to know who was his legal advisor.

Mr. Head: The only legal advisor was the county attorney. Mr. Haas had outlined the case and it is just about the same as you people outlined in Poston. We have made this clear-- if it is a felony, it must go to a state court. That is the law and I could not make an agreement which changes the law. Everybody knows that we had to point out the law, that it was what the law said to follow and if we got up and if we made a statement that we would not have to do those certain things, the law would take us out just as soon as they could.

Mr. Ozawa: Another point is this--in times of war Japanese people cannot be tried fairly in outside courts. This is one of the misgivings.

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Mr. Head: There was a case recently involving a Japanese man. The main charges of murder against the doctor was dropped and they did everything that could be done to give him a fair trial. His attorney said that it was very fortunate and naturally people under a strain would feel that we are not going to get a fair trial. The people on the outside don't want and people here don't want Poston set up as an entirely separate thing because it involves many bigger things as courts and involves setting up this reservation as a place for the Japanese. We can try in Poston any case we can reduce to a misdemeanor and everyone in Poston understands that. But trying to contend that all cases will be tried in Poston, you are prejudicing all the people against you. Any case that can possibly come under the jurisdiction of Poston courts can be tried in Poston and that is the way it should work and we can't set up something that is bigger than the United States government. Mr. Uchida will have a trial here and depends on the findings of that trial. It won't be a preliminary hearing and if it is found that he is guilty of a felony, it will go to a state court. Our local attorneys will have to be very careful so that it will keep down all the criticisms and see that it is carried on in the proper way.

Mr. Shirazawa: Mr. Uchida was arrested under suspicion and no charges have been filed for at least 24 hours. Why was he held so long without formal charges being filed?

Mr. Head: The Federal Bureau of Investigation held him and nobody knew what to do about this and that is what the situation was. I think there was a federal charge in process before that by these two agents of the F. B. I. here.

Mr. Kagiwada: What I understand about courts, his charge for felony hearing will be held in a municipal court and if found definitely to be a felony, it will go to the Supreme Court of the State.

Mr. Head: Mr. Uchida's trial will be held in Poston, but under one condition if he is found guilty of a felony, the case will be taken to State of Arizona. Mr. Uchida and both of his attorneys wanted him to be tried to prove that he is innocent. If the court itself found out that he is innocent, he is free. Any case that can be classified as a misdemeanor will be tried here in Poston, but if the preliminary hearing is decided as a felony, it will be tried by the state laws.

Mr. Shirazawa: I wonder if we could have your own official statement from your office as soon as possible?

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Mr. Head: I shall try to get official statement out as soon as possible. Here is one condition I am interested in and that is Poston 1 out of this thing will pull all the groups together and make a real unity out of it.

I think if you will leave the fence alone for a day or so it will be removed. There is the same curfew law on the other side of the fence as in the rest of the Western Defense Command. If looks as if we will make the fence go back to the big boundary of this project around the area of the three camps. I thank you for the opportunity of letting me say the few words and for being here."

Explanation given as to why fuel supply shortage existed due to crisis in Poston 1.

Meeting was then adjourned by Chairman Harvey Iwata.

POSTON II, III IN ACCORD CONCERNING UNIT I SITUATION

According to advance information, the Poston unit III group of Councilmen, Issei advisors, emergency committeemen and block managers were reported to be in complete accord with the resolution adopted by the Unit II Community Congress. The Unit III body were reported to have released a statement which, in essence, did not condemn nor joined with the strikers, but were in favor of a peaceful settlement.

The Unit II Congress presented its resolution in a statement entitled "The People of Poston II States Its Case," which offered a chronological history of the Unit I situation as well as the sentiments of the overwhelming majority of the Poston 2 residents.

A statement issued yesterday the the Unit II "People for Sympathy Strike" accused the Congress of withholding "facts concerning the mediation" as the basis for the mass meetings. The statement asserted that the Congressional chairman approved of the second mass meeting, held Nov. 21, and that anything decided by the majority would be approved.

However, the resolution refuted the striking group's charges, maintaining that the 2nd mass meeting was approved only to hear the reports of the people's representatives and that of Unit I's representatives. The Congress also maintained that one reason for the block-by-block votings were to allow the people to act in a democratic manner, without being intimidated.

Taken from: Poston Chronicle, Wed., Nov. 25, 1942

THE PEOPLE OF POSTON II STATES
ITS CASE

The issue is not "Strike or no strike", but whether we Poston residents believe in, are capable of and shall maintain law and order under a democratic form of government! We are in active sympathy with the problem of our fellow evacuee residents. We are now doing our utmost to help bring about an early settlement.

A state of strike in Poston Two is not recognized, nor accepted at this time by the Poston Community Council and the Poston Congress now meeting in emergency sessions. By overwhelming popular vote, eleven blocks of this unit have already accorded the Community Council and the Poston Community Congress full confidence.

Initiated by the Community Council, the present Congress is composed of a membership which includes the following recognized representatives: a councilman, advisor, and block manager with his assistant from each block, the Fair Practice Board members, and heads of works divisions. To retain the objective of representing only the welfare and interest of the residents, the block managers have expressly been relieved of their direct responsibility to the project director of this unit while acting as members of this Congress.

The case for the people of Poston Two is chronologically stated: The source of the present repercussions at Unit One arises from the series of beatings and attempted attacks culminating in the recent severe battery and maiming of Kay Nishimura. Surging the troubles were the extremely irritable circumstances and conditions: the indiscriminate forced evacuation and concentration of all those of Japanese ancestry regardless of citizenship or affiliations, and particularly the extremely depressing locations, heat, dust, hardships, sacrifices, enumerable shortages, and shortcomings, disruption of normal life; the wholesale shattering of ideals, lead many to a state of desperation; confusions by multiple changes, long delays in the payment of token and nominal cash advances, clothing allowances, and other regrettable circumstances aggravated the matters. The immediate incident is the arrest and confinement of George Fujii and Isamu Uchida on Sunday, November 15. Since their arrest and confinement, Mr. George Fujii has now been released on grounds of insufficient evidence although investigation has not been completed and Mr. Isamu Uchida, we are advised, has been charged by the project head with assault with a deadly weapon. The confinement of popular Mr. Uchida brought about a strong reaction expressed in mass demonstration, and demand was made upon the project director of his unconditional release. Failing to succeed in this demand the Council and Block Managers resigned from office and the demonstration and determination of the masses desiring the

release of Mr. Uchida increased and became more demonstrative. Recognizing that a serious situation was becoming more so in Unit One, and at the request of Unit One representatives, our Council and the Block Managers were met in an emergency session. Thursday, November 19, they were joined in this anxiety by the Advisors and Councilmen from Unit Three who met with them. To this meeting three representatives of the protesting populace of Camp One made their appearance and plea. Their speaker outlined the immediate incident, the charge, confinement and the demonstration following the arrest of Mr. George Fujii and Mr. Uchida. Following the plea of these representatives, they were asked specifically whether they, in Unit One, were requesting that we cooperate with them in a sympathy strike. The answer of Unit One was clearly "No". They were asked what Units Two and Three could do to alleviate the situation and aid in this matter. The speaker for Unit One stated that that was up to us as Unit Two and Unit Three representatives. However, he stated that since the Council and Block Managers of Unit One had resigned, they were without any organized or recognized bodies which could negotiate with the project director and his staff for an early settlement. Thereupon the joint body of Unit Two and Three selected two members from each of the following groups: block managers, councilmen, and advisors of each unit, making a committee of twelve in all who were to negotiate a peaceful settlement of this problem with the project staff. They were immediately dispatched for that purpose to Camp One. Prior to their departure, Mr. Evans, the then acting director, was contacted and the group were informed that an announcement was about to be made to a committee of 72 at Unit One in regards to this case, the announcement being in main that Mr. Fujii was being released and the fact that Mr. Uchida was being charged with assault with deadly weapon before Superior Court of Arizona, Yuma County, where he would be accorded a fair trial. Since the negotiating group felt that such an announcement would still be unsatisfactory to the protestants at Unit One, they went before the Unit people's committee of 72 and after relating the plea of their representative, announced that the negotiating committee had come to endeavor for an amicable settlement for them. The people's committee acclaimed and entrusted our joint committee to negotiate. After a series of conferences and securing no changes from the announcement determined upon by the project staff, the negotiating committee presented their situation to the executive committee of the protesting group, and the meeting then went into the general announcement by the project director of the release of George Fujii and the charge upon Mr. Uchida. The announcement was not accepted with favor by the group and the negotiators having failed to bring about the meeting of the minds between the project director and the protestants, they returned to their respective units to await further results and expecting information on developments from Unit One. The following day after waiting until approximately two o'clock Friday, November 20, the

Block Managers and certain Councilmen and Advisors, feeling anxiety, requested that a small limited delegation again endeavor to settle the strike situation and mass demonstration at Unit One. They had a personal representative consult with the project staff and securing the confidence of the project staff was able to present to the people of Unit One, the following proposition if they would make it to the project director; that Mr. Isamu Uchida be released immediately upon the condition that the residents of the Poston Community composed of the evacuees only, would give Mr. Uchida a fair trial upon the charges instituted by the Chief of Internal Security. The reaction to such a proposition with the assurance of acceptance by the project director was very favorably received by the central executive committee of the strikers who were at their office. However, they felt that since they were a limited number and since it was a change from their original demand, they would like to share this responsibility with the block representatives in this mass movement. Therefore, the committee of 72 was called in for immediate session. The proposition was thereupon repeated to them. Meanwhile, Number Three Unit also being advised of this new and final possibility for negotiation, also expressed that they would suspend any action pending Unit One's acceptance of this new term. The first vote taken of this group of 72 at Unit One was overwhelmingly in favor. A few were determined to proceed under the original demand of unconditional release. After several speeches by its members, it finally determined that they would take a plebiscite of their respective blocks in deference to the work and demonstration made by the people up to that time. The answer and the result of the plebiscite was to be made in a meeting to be held on Saturday, November 21, at 10 o'clock A.M. Therefore, the negotiating committee from Unit Two returned late that Friday night to report in detail the matter to the Supervisor of Block Managers, who in turn advised each of the Block Managers immediately.

Late that night, a certain group from a certain block went around the blocks, ringing messhall bells and asking the residents to arouse themselves to a meeting at the Cottonwood Bowl. To those gathered at the Cottonwood Bowl, the sponsoring group made an announcement of the progress of the case only up to the negotiations which had failed on Thursday. The Speaker stated Camp Three was already on sympathy strike. Strike was called for here and with the acclaim of the group sponsoring such movement, it was also claimed for Unit Two, and certain groups from the same body went to Unit One and Three to publish this fact. On Saturday morning, November 21, at a regularly called meeting of the Block Managers, Fair Practice Board, heads of departments, Councilmen and Advisors of Unit Two, a report in full was made of the progress of the negotiations and the fact that further action would necessarily have to wait the definite reply from Unit One which would be gathered at their ten o'clock meeting. During this meeting Unit Three announced that they were not

on strike and rejected the statements made in the Cottonwood Bowl the previous night. Although the morning passed and contact was made several times, no reply on whether Unit One had accepted the final negotiation terms was made known. Meanwhile, the same group sponsoring the meeting at the Cottonwood Bowl the previous night came en masse and requested that the reports of the recent negotiations be made before the body and to which it was agreed. In the afternoon, therefore, a report was made at this open meeting which was sponsored by Block 211. At that meeting, a representative from Unit One, led by Mr. Nagai, made a speech which did not reply to the negotiation, but indicated that situation was such that we should go on sympathy strike. This mass meeting was steered for a strike movement. All opposition was squelched effectively. The Councilmen of Unit Two, Advisors together with the Block Managers, the Fair Practice Board and the department heads met immediately in the Personnel Messhall to consider their reaction to this Cottonwood Bowl demonstration. It was agreed that a survey would be made and ballots taken on the popular wish of the people through their respective blocks and with that in mind the body retired to the evening after supper. At that following meeting it was revealed that definitely at least nine blocks were not in favor of the strike as outlined in either meeting at the Cottonwood Bowl and two blocks had no survey yet and, therefore, voted in favor of continuing the organized bodies of this unit. On the following day, Sunday, November 22, the same group of representatives met and determined that for this emergency period, this body would constitute itself as a Poston Two Community Congress and represent the popular will and the self-government of its people. It returned a definite report that an uncoerced secret ballot revealed that residents of eleven blocks voted full confidence to the organized and now existing self-government bodies and against recognition of strike in the form as called by the present sponsors of this strike movement.

The chronological detail is presented solely for the purpose of clarifying those to whom it may concern that the issue is not one of strike or no strike, but one of belief and practice in self-government in a democratic manner. Particularly does the Community Congress condemn the manner in which the meetings at the Cottonwood Bowl were conducted wherein no accord was given the opposing views and wherein speakers seeking to express views contrary to strike were overenthusiastically and vulgarly cajoled. The Congress of Unit Two believes that every person in Poston Two is entitled to express his views and to vote on all issues by secret ballot and to be represented in a duly constituted manner, and that all action should be taken by such a body of representatives properly chosen by democratic means and procedure. It goes on record as definitely in favor of law and order and expresses confidence that the people of Poston are capable of maintaining law and order under their own constituted judicial system, and will execute the responsibilities of such form of government.

To the people of Poston Unit One, we repeat our full sympathy and again offer our cooperation to aid in the fair, just, and complete settlement of the difficulties and attain a definite progress in our mutual welfare. Since your request we have vigilantly and actively endeavored in your behalf.

November 23, 1942

POSTON II COMMUNITY CONGRESS

Pastor I Strick

- 3 -

To the people of Boston Unit On the 10th of June 1942
and again offer our cooperation to you in the future
and complete settlement of the Billington and obtain a definite
progress in our mutual welfare. Since your report we have
family and actively endeavored in your behalf.

November 25, 1942

BOSTON II COMMUNITY CENTER

November
~~August~~ 24, 1942

R E S O L U T I O N

TO: Mr. Wade Head, Project Director
Poston, Arizona

FROM: Temporary Community Council, Block
Representatives of Advisory Board,
Block Managers and Emergency Committee
of Poston 3, Poston, Arizona.

WHEREAS there has been a disturbance of a serious nature in Poston I, and

WHEREAS the residents of Poston III are vitally concerned over the situation because our community life is so closely inter-related that the residents of Poston III are largely dependent on the proper functioning of all activities of Poston I for our daily necessities, and

WHEREAS due to the fact that there is an intense feeling on the part of the people arising out of the present existing conditions in Poston I as above mentioned, it became necessary to specially elect an emergency committee to cope with the local situation, and

WHEREAS the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, the Block Managers and the said Emergency Committee have been exerting their very utmost effort to help maintain order in Poston III, and

WHEREAS the feeling of unrest is increasing to such an extent as to create a hazardous situation throughout Poston III,

Therefore, be it so resolved that the Administration exert every possible effort to bring about a speedy and satisfactory solution in order to effect a restoration of normal conditions in Poston I.

COUNCILMEN

Harvey Iwata
Chairman

Kelly K. Yamada