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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
Topaz, Utah

Topaz H43
H2.02
Japanese Relocation Papers
Bancroft Library

CITIZENS OF THE SEVENTH GRADE

Compiled by Warren Watanabe

HISTORICAL SECTION OF THE
PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION

Chief, R. A. Bankson

FOREWORD

Here is a documentation which is real and sincere, filled with a human touch that comes near to making it classic.

Out of the mouths of children come thoughts and recollections which produce a record which could have come from no other source.

It is composed of excerpts from scores of essays written as classroom exercise by pupils of the Topaz Relocation Center seventh grade.

These youngsters were unaware that they were writing for documentation or for any other purpose than a classroom grade. They were asked by their instructor, Mrs. Helen C. Henderson, to put down on paper that recollection which remained clearest and strongest in their thoughts of the evacuation and relocation periods.

They have done this, sometimes with pathos, sometimes with real humor, but often with a clear-cut picture that is like a painting on canvas.

The originals from which these excerpts were taken, together with many other letters, remain in the files of the school in Topaz with the names of their writers. The numbers attached to the excerpts correspond with numbers on these original papers.

The plan to secure a record of this kind was first developed as a community-wide essay contest. I met with the instructors and principals in the schools to discuss the essay proposal. As a result the idea came up that if it were generally known that a historical documentation was proposed, there would be a shyness and a reserve on the part of writers or a stiffness in their writing that would not produce the results desired.

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The decision reached was that each classroom instructor would follow a plan of approach that would bring forth an unconscious reaction. The papers from the Seventh Graders were among the first results of this undertaking.

Russell A. Benson
Reports Officer

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

Topaz, Utah

Excerpts From Compositions Written By Seventh
Grade Students of the Topaz Junior High School

On Their Experiences During Evacuation

April 14, 1943

HISTORICAL SECTION OF THE
PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION

Compiled by
Warren Watanabe

INTRODUCTION

No article dealing with the evacuation of the Japanese population from the Pacific coastal areas is complete, it appears, without a mention of the incident of the young evacuee boy, who, after a short stay in a relocation center, asked that he be allowed to return to America as he was tired of staying in Japan.

This direct and disconcertingly penetrating narrative serves to illustrate the fact that in their unconscious, unsophisticated simplicity, young children are often able to evaluate a situation with a clarity and freshness which more mature writers find difficult to surpass.

For this reason, the documentation of any incidents dealing with whole family groups stands to gain immeasurably by the addition of selections from the writings of the younger members of such family groups. With this in mind, an attempt is made in the page following to round out the documentation of evacuation and relocation, especially as affecting the present residents of the Central Utah War Relocation Project, by presenting a representative series of excerpts from compositions written on this subject by seventh grade students of the Topaz Junior High School. Arranged in chronological order, these excerpts give a picture of the events preceding and succeeding evacuation as experienced by twelve-year old youngsters.

✓ Several complete compositions which are so capably written that they cannot well be excerpted are also included.

✓ The numbers following each selection are to identify the selections with the original composition from which it was taken.

PRE-EVACUATION

The Day The War Started

My father said it would be nice to go for a little ride around San Francisco. The front door opened and I saw my father coming out of the house. Just as he entered the car we heard the telephone ringing and my father ran and opened the door.

He didn't come out for about ten minutes or so, so my mother went into the house to see what was keeping my father. My mother didn't return so I put on the radio and was listening. Suddenly the music was out and there was a flash I was listening with all my might. He started to say something and said Japan has attacked Pearl Harbor. I ran into the house to tell my folks. My father said that was my uncle and told him the war has been declared between Japan and America. I couldn't go for the ride. (4)

I went to see a picture show Sunday afternoon, Dec. 7, 1941. I went with my sister. The show ended around four. We came out of the theater and the first thing we saw on the streets was policemen and loads of cars passing. Why at first I thought that a criminal was loose or something but when I went home I found out why there were so many policemen around the streets. I did not believe it about the war first but after dinner I went to my room and turned on the radio. It was then that I found out that about what my sister said was right. (81)

We went to the Golden Gate Park. Played there until supper-time. While we were coming home I noticed the headline of the San Francisco Chronicle. It read "War!" It was written in block print and covered about half of the front page. Before long every paper had the headline, "War!" This was Sunday. From Dec. 8th to end of the year many things occurred. Teachers began giving students identification tags--we practiced air raid drills--dangerous aliens were caught. Soon news of evacuation spread. Neighbors moving, schools getting ready for air-raids. (149)

It was the day we had an appointment to have my sister's and my picture taken, for every year we get our picture taken. We made the appointment so we went to take the pictures. When we took it we thought we would have it printed but the next day he was taken by the F.B.I. When we went home from the studio there were so many cars that the police couldn't even stop them. Practically every day for about one month Post Street was just full of cars. Every day a policeman watched at all the corners of Japanese town. (130)

When school was ended the policeman was standing in the middle of the road and that day was very cold so I made coffee and gave it to the policeman that was on duty on our block.

(154)

As soon as I was this I ran out to get a newspaper. Just then the man next door told me to come in. I was kind of scared but I went in.

He said, "I don't want you to worry about what occurred and I want you to feel just the same as if the war hadn't started."

(193)

At School the Next Day

Well when we reached our school the boys and girls who were not Japanese called us name and stared at us but were glad of the teacher because they were very kind to us and the teacher told the boys and girls who called us name not to call us names but be friendly like other times when we use to play together and use to have lots of fun. When recess came the boys and girls were quiet but still they were staring at us and they started to giggle over nothing at all and some of the boys and girls started to laugh and start whispering so we felt very funny then. When the school was over we just ran home because the boys and girls was talking about us. (175)

When I went back to school the next day some of the boys started to call names at me. Even the little kids called names at me. I was not the only Japanese in the school. There were about four or five others. I played with Mas. He was the same age as I was. Every time somebody would call us name I and Mas would walk away. Mas and I were good friends. (34)

At school the next day I found most of my friends treat me as if nothing had happened. I was glad of this because I know they were my friends no matter what happened. After the bell had rung everybody went into their rooms. Then we went into the auditorium and heard about the terrible news. For the first time in my school years, I was really glad when school was let out for the day. I hurried home and getting my Japanese books went to the Japanese School with some of my girl friends. I waited for our teacher to come. When he didn't come at 4:00 o'clock we went home. From that day we never had any Japanese school. (56)

I went to school feeling that I would get picked on. When I entered the school my school mates were very nice to me. Some of the boys gave me a dirty look and said bad things about me. I did not feel too bad because I knew that I was an American citizen and I would always be. This always gave me courage after that. (164)

Though I still went to school I was not embarrassed by my

friends even though they did call many Japanese children going to the same school "Japs". It was not so hard on me because they were very good friends of mine, and did not live so far away from my home. (99)

The teacher brought a radio to school that day, to listen to the speech that the president made to the nation. After the speech I was a bit low and a bit ashamed, but my friends were still my friends even after what happened. (93)

The next day I went to school and didn't think nothing about it, the others didn't say anything either, we just went on as normal. Nobody called anyone Japs but pretty soon it became so common in the papers that nobody cared so much anymore. (17)

At school, very few people called us Japs, but most of them felt sorry for us and started to play with us all the more. I was glad, because we became more friendly with each other. Mostly everywhere, people were very kind to us. (168)

That morning, the teacher started to talk about this terrible war. She wasn't talking anything bad about us, but still, I felt a little funny inside. I felt that everybody was staring at me, and I wondered what everybody thought about us. Some-how I felt out of place. After school that day, mostly all of the Japanese American kids happened to get together. One of the kids popped up and said, "Say, how did you kids feel when the teacher started to talk about war?" "Funny!" we all agreed. We had a little talk about it a little bit, and before I knew it, the subject was changed and we were talking about something else. (168)

Next morning was school and I couldn't go to school unless I had a permit. I went down-town with my father and got the permit to get to school. ~~My girl friend and I rode on the cable car to school and reached school about 10 minutes to 10 o'clock.~~ We both went into the class and everyone was out for recess. I got all the things I needed from where I sat and returned all the things that belonged to school I took all the covers off the books and threw them away in the waste paper basket. I went down into the office and I saw another girl friend of mine and then the principal said to hand out all the telegrams to the teachers whom it belongs to so all three of us went from the top floor down to the first floor and finally finished. The principal gave three of us girls a basket of Easter candy with a rabbit made of gum drops. I couldn't eat the rabbit because it was too cute to eat so when my girl friends put their baskets on the chair I put it on the chair too. The principal brought out three Human Geography Books for us to study out of.

Before we had an order not to go into the white zone they had a party at the school and gave all the Japanese a book on all sorts of things in the United States. I got a book on birds

and others got books on flowers and fishes and others.

I asked for my transfer but they wouldn't give me my transfer nor report card. (4)

The Next Few Months

To-day when I woke up the first thing I did was to look out of the window and I saw a lot army men watching the stores. That day I was scared to go to school because I was Japanese but I went anyway because my mother said not to be scared. When I got there it seemed just as though nothing had happened. So after the first day school I was never afraid again. When I came home to eat that afternoon I talked to my brother and he said he is going to leave for his army camp this afternoon. I said "Good bye" because I knew he would be gone by the time I came home at three thirty from school. When I came home from school some of the stores were being closed. That day a lot of people came over, they were all talking about war and will my boy be taken or how long it will last if the war really happened. It was such a shock that I don't think no one yet believed it. (36)

When there came news of many Japanese taken by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, my father had my mother pack his clothes so that he would be ready to go if they came for him. That day was the dullest day I've ever seen. We all sat by the fire stove and just sat there. Every time we heard a car we would jump up. Each time we thought they had come for my father. And soon the days went by and nothing much was heard of it. It sure was a relief for every one in my family.

Then one Saturday morning there was a knock at the door. To my surprise there stood a policeman. I led him into the house, trembling a little. I soon forgot my fears for he joked with us and had lots of fun. He asked my father if he had any gun. Now my father had an old gun someone had given to him so he showed it to the policeman. The policeman told my father that if my brother was old enough, he could have it, but since he wasn't, this policeman decided to take it. My father didn't want the gun for he never used it for anything so he let the policeman have it gladly. I thought he had come for my father and was I glad. (56)

Very soon after the war started, we had curfew. This meant that all Japanese must be off the streets by a certain time. In our city the curfew was eight o'clock. They had this in the paper and notices posted on the posts. If we wanted to play we went into the house and played or played in our back yard.

Most of the time, we listened to mystery stories on the radio. That was after eight o'clock. (164)

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About three and a half months after the war started, all the stores run by Japan born Japanese, otherwise Japanese people that were not citizens of the United States of America, were forced to close their stores. We were one of them. One night a Jewish broker came to look our stock over. The next morning at nine o'clock he came again, with two trucks, several men, his wife and daughter. They came to take out our stock. They worked for three days and they got our store all emptied out. (95)

It happened that our family live on the other side of the restriction line and all aliens that did, were to move to the other side, so my father and mother had to live at my girl friends house. When my parents lived across the street I used to go over and play almost every day but it was hard for me, too, to keep a house of 19 rooms clean too. On Sundays I would go over and stay almost all day and run home just at eight o'clock sharp. (6)

EVACUATION

Preparation For Departure; Departure

I lived in Palo Alto and half of it was in a different county. The other county which was San Mateo County was going to be evacuated first to Tanforan and the Santa Clara County where I used to live was going to be sent to another place. Since I recently moved to Santa Clara County from San Mateo County we decided we would go with the San Mateo County people for our cousin lived there and we knew more friends there. We registered and a few days later we moved to my cousin's house. We brought only our mattresses and the things we were going to bring to Tanforan. We stayed here only 3 days and finally the day came for us to go. While here we put the mattresses on the floor and slept. Was it uncomfortable. (162)

My auntie wanted to be sure that her folks would be in the same camp as us so they moved in the same house and I went over her house every day so I could help her move. The day finally came and they put all the things they didn't need into the basement of the house. By the time we got our things into the basement there was hardly any space left for us to store our own things so my father rearranged all the things and found there was much space left so we could put much more things into the basement.

When my father read that the evacuation order was to come out, my father went to his office and came home early to help us pack up all the unnecessary things into the basement.

Finally everything was going on nicely and they put out the orders so I ran home to tell my father. They put on white papers on the post so my father went to see what it was. I read one part and it said after May let no Japanese people are allowed to come into the white zone. (4)

It just didn't seem true! Moving from the place I was born, raised and half-educated. Moving from friends, not just ordinary friends, but life-long, dear friends. This also meant moving from the city we loved and everything about and around it. All of these things added up to losing something of very importance which we dreaded to lose. We tried to grasp the meaning of it. Some people said, "Just a rumor." Some said, "Indeed it's true." But way deep in our hearts we knew it was no rumor, it was no matter that should be considered lightly, that it was something very important that would leave an impression for the rest of our lives. Although I was just a

child I knew and could sense the terror of evacuation in my mother and father's eyes. It was worse enough to go but when we found out that we were the first contingent, that was quite depressing news. Our friends and relatives all gathered to see us off and when they whispered words of encouragement we realized there and then that this was one means of showing our patriotism to our country. (38)

Our friends came over and helped us pack and clean up the house. Everyone seemed to be in a hurry. They were rushing back and forth so much that I thought if I stayed in the house any longer I would be in the way. (100)

Then came the big task of packing. We first started by packing the things which we were going to store. Then we sold some of the household furnitures, such as the piano, sofa, stove etc. We also sold our car.

After we stored our beds we slept on the floor, and cooked on a gas stove.

A girl named Mabel, who lived next door to the house that was next to our house, was my best friend. We thought that since we lived so near to each other, we'll probably go to the same camp, but since her grandfather was a doctor, they were to go to Turlock.

That disappointed me very much, to think that I had to separate with my best friend. Why! We were best friends since we were both in the first grade.

Knowing that we won't be seeing each other for long, we started to play with each other even more than we did before.

One day Mabel and I decided to go to a movie together for the last time. After the show we went to the five and ten cent store.

When we went home we got the news that we were to evacuate to Tanforan. (111)

Before we went my sister and I went into every room of our house and the garden and waved them good-bye.

At 8 o'clock found us waiting in the J.A.C.L. for the bus to come. 15 minutes later we went on the back seat of the greyhound bus with crowds of people outside bidding us good-bye.

As the bus started to move, I caught a last glimpse of our pink house. How I wished then, that I could stay. I was not happy, and nor were my parents. But my sister and brothers were overjoyed since it was their first ride on a greyhound bus. They didn't know why they were moving, they just thought that they were moving to another place. My mother was not happy. She was smiling but I could tell by her face that she was thinking of the hardships ahead of her.

When we came near the City Hall almost everyone in the bus looked out to see it, because they knew that it'll be a long time before they will ever see it again.

The ride was a pleasant one. It continued for about half an hour.

I looked out of the window and saw rows of little houses. My mother said that the place that we're going to will be something like that.

Soon the bus started to slow down. We had reached the gate of Tanforan. (111)

A few weeks before evacuation were busy days for most of us. First of all we had to get a transfer from our school.

And then we had to get the things we thought we will need together. Then we had to sell most of our furniture.

At last the day came when we were to evacuate the city.

It was a bright and sunny day in May. But we were all sorry to leave.

But of course we couldn't help it and so saying a last good bye to the house where we had lived for four years.

Then we went down the place where we were supposed to go on a bus and go to Tanforan. (200)

Two weeks before the evacuation day we were very busy packing. We gave away many things we didn't want any more including our roosters. We bought many things too. When evacuation was up I got up early in the morning and helped my father load the truck. We stored our things such as beds, trunk and stove over our neighbor's house. I was so busy that morning that I forgot to say good bye to my friends.

When we got to Hayward we unloaded the truck and waited for the bus. While waiting for the bus they gave us sandwiches and oranges. Ten o'clock passed and finally the bus came so we had to part with our friends and then got on the bus according to family number.

As we passed our home town our teachers were waiting by the highway waving at us. We passed the San Mateo bridge and in 15 minutes we reached Tanforan, our destination. (145)

At last May first came. Today we're going to Tanforan where all of our friends were. My father had sold his car so we had no car to ride in to the depot. A kind Chinese man offered to take us in his car. When we got there we saw all of our friends. They had us grouped so we were separated from some of our friends. (164)

My cousin's dog was big colly. He knew something was wrong because my cousin said we will be back soon. He said we are going shopping but, somehow he knew it was not so and he also knew that he wanted to go with us. He suspected because we were carrying our suitcases with us. When we were going down our garden the dog followed us. I told him to go

home he just sat and howled and cried. My cousin and I got mad at him but we love him almost as if he were a human being. He seemed to be one that day because he seemed to understand what we were saying to him. I got down to the sidewalk (I was the last one) and looked back and I could see him but he was still following me. His name is Spruce.

The lady that rented our house said she would take good care of him. *

When we drove away from the front of the house he was sitting inside the fence looking out. (102)

On the way to Tanforan I was very restless on the bus and couldn't keep very comfortable so I opened the window because I got car sick. My father told me to shut the window because right across me there was a lady who had a baby in her arms and was sound asleep. My mother had on her lap and can I wondered what was in it. She opened the can and there were all sorts of cookies inside the can. (4)

Tanforan

On April 28, 1942 I went to Tanforan and the day was miserable because it was raining so hard and we had to go in the slushy mud and puddles. This day was a long weary day and the rain was leaking from the roof of the barrack and the latrine was up on the grandstand.

Our bags, trunk and suitcases was wet and the beds weren't fixed. Anyway my brother and I unpacked the things and put them in a row and some of the mattresses were gone so we got about four mattress from the barrack that was across from ours. (154)

When we came to Tanforan I was surprised to see barbed wire fence all over the camp and soldiers outside the camp. After getting off the bus, they showed us a room we were to stay. It was just a barrack with partitions.

For about a week it was very hard to get used to the place because the life is so much different from what we used to live. I was very much surprised to see so much Japanese people. (36)

We finally got to Tanforan. I didn't expect to see so many people there. My mother took us children to get a physical examination while my uncle went to register to get a room for us.

When we finally got a room, we had to walk all the way down to the other side of the camp. By the time we got to our barrack it was nearly dinner time and we were all very hungry. We asked somebody where the mess hall was, they said it was by the main entrance to Tanforan. This got me mad, here I came all the way across the camp and now I had to go all the way back to where I started from. I was so tired I just didn't want to go...

As soon as I got to my room I flopped right down on a bed. After a while some boys in a truck came and brought our baggage. As soon as they started to go away, the truck got stuck in a big pile of mud in front of our door. They had to bring pieces of wood, shovels, and nearly everything to get that truck full of baggage out. After they got out and went away, I went outside, what do you think, my whole front steps and door was just spattered with mud.

That was my first day at Tanforan and what a discouraging one. (100)

And even on the bus my brother said he felt terrible. And when we got to Tanforan. We waited until some boys showed us where we were to live. And finally some boys came and started to lead us where we lived. But when we got half way my brother felt so sick that he would not walk any more. So my father took him to the hospital. When my mother and I got there I was very disappointed because it was a old barn that a horse once slept in. (171)

The first time I have ever been among so many Japanese was on the day of May 1st. (21)

There were only three in our family so we had to have a horse stable for our apartment.

It smelled a little for a while but after we gave it a airing it was alright. ~~My neighbors were on the left there were three men one was old and crippled but he was cranky too. On the right my neighbors had two apt. They had three children and mother and father.~~

Our mess hall had two parts and it was connected in the middle where they cooked and the halls on both sides were used for the place where the people ate.

One of the section was called Brown Derby.

But of course most of us didn't think so when they served pork and beans and stew so much. (200)

My brother learned we had to go to the grandstand and hunt for the baggage which had come on trucks. He started out around 6:30 P.M. out to the grandstand with another brother and friends. After he found the baggage a truck was to bring it back for us. My father, mother and I waited

for my brother to come back.

After waiting for a while it began to get dark. Some people got lights in their rooms. Soon some men came and gave us a light bulb. Since we lived at one end of the battack the men put in a fuse so the light would go on. We were the only ones in our battack so the men came a little bit late with the light.

It was around 9:30 P.M. when my brother finally came home with our baggage. He told us it was dark when he got there so it was hard to find the baggage. (53)

Thinking that it was about time for supper we set off. The road was very muddy. On the way I saw many people, who had just come in. They were all dressed in their best. Many of them had ^{no um} umbrellas and were ^{soa} soaking wet. Children and babies were crying. Men were all carrying heavy baggage, and the women had tears in their eyes, making their way through the mud. I thought it must be very discouraging for them, getting their good shoes muddy,, and getting splashed on their clothes, and then finding that they were to live in a horse stall where it still smelled. (111)

There was nothing for us to do but go to the end of the line. 30 Minutes passed without moving a single step nearer to the entrance of the Mess Hall.

When I went to see what was the matter, I found out that they didn't even begin yet. Already I was sick and tired of this business of standing inline waiting for our turn to get the food, when they were still cooking it. I thought of how long the line will be when more people from different section of California come.

Another 30 minutes passed, and still we were in the same place. Then to my relief the line started to advance little by little. It didn't take us so long until we were nearly at the entrance.

Soon it was our turn to get the food, and all we got was beans, hash, and rice. It was the things I hated most. I tried to get milk, but it was only for kids under six years of age, so I drank water.

After I finished eating I was still hungry, so we all went home, and ate the lunch that my mother prepared, for we thought that wouldn't reach here until noon.

It was just some sandwiches and eggs, but at least it was better than the food we had here. (111)

The next morning I thought I was back home. When I heard the noise of the straw mattress I knew I was in Tanforan. (25)

- When we reached Tanforan I saw many of my friends. We were

first examined by doctors. Then the head of the family went to get our address. After we got our address we were led to our quarters by guide. I was surprised to find that one of my girl friends lived right next door. She was the same girl who's house I was at when I heard about Pearl Harbor.

We ate our supper about six (I guess it was). Our mess hall wasn't opened so we had to walk down to the main mess hall. The first time we went there I thought that it was very dark in there. They sold candy and soda pop during a certain time in the mess hall.

Our center allowed visitors every afternoon. One of our friends came to see us and bought us a big cake but they did not allow it inside the gate. But they allowed other things such as fruits. That day I felt very sad because they did not allow her things inside the gate. Who was one of our best friends. She told us lots of interesting things such as our hometown church and some Japanese houses had burned down. I was sorry because it was my permanent living home town. (10)

We also had visitors. I had a girlfriend that would come and see me every Saturday but one day a rule was made the children under 16 or under couldn't come and visit any more. It so happened that my girl friend was 12 years of age. Her mother comes every Saturday to visit us and when she came in she told me that she was waiting outside so I went out to see but the man wouldn't let me go near the gate and all I could do was to smile and I wanted to give her a pair of boxing gloves made of wood that my brother made. When her mother was going to leave I told her to give it to her and tell her I am sorry you can't come in. When the last day came for visitors to visit she came in to say good bye to me.

The soldiers that guarded Tanforan were all very nice. They would joke around with us. Once when we were playing baseball he would watch from his watching tower he said, "Come on! Make a homer!"

A week after I broke my arm. I had the cast on till I came to Topaz. I did everything with my right hand and it was pretty hard but some-how I got so useful that even I had one hand I can clean the house make my bed but my mother did not let me do it so often.

In Tanforan that did not have X ray so I went to San Mateo county hospital and took it. On the way coming home, the truck driver stop and got me a ice cream cone and some comics and books. When we reached Tanforan I was 20 minutes late and I had to rush to the mess hall all my mother came with me and got my food. On the second trip to San Mateo I was on a truck all by myself so the male nurse bought some bag of candy and many comic. This time we started earlier than before because I was alone and the time was plenty because

we started 20 minutes before we get late. After I came home my brother got jealous because I got candies and book so I shared with my two brothers. (154)

Once there was a rumor that there was a ghost in No. 26 Hollywood Bowl. For days this mystery was unsolved. Until one night two men went into the house and waited for the supposed ghost to come out, the description was it was a eerie light floating around the room. Later it said in the Totalizer (the Tanforan newspaper) that all it was, was a mass of phosphorus and grasses coming from decayed wood of the stables. The stables were an ugly sight they smelt something awful. I was very glad we lived in nice new barracks (59)

In Tanforan there was a long thin canteen.

There isn't much things at the canteen but when something new comes in everybody goes to the canteen. Even the babies because there is always a limit to a person and if the baby goes that means they could get more of a thing.

Many new things came in. Some of us wanted ice cream, soda water and the others wanted drugs and some groceries. These we had to stand in line for hours and hours on the sunny side. Many people almost fainted. (66)

At breakfast we didn't form a line but at lunch oh, what a line and one day a lady came and took a picture of us but all the people would turn their backs and every mother had a big dishpan or bag. The lady who was taking the picture laughed because all the mothers had dishpens or bags it wasn't funny to us because we had to put our dishes in them or else the dish would get germs on them. (83)

We have roll call about 6:30 every day.

I'm at the rec hall every day before roll call we are playing Basket ball or swinging on the bars.

When the siren rings I get so scared that I sometime screen some people gets scared of me instead of the siren we run home as fast as I could then we wait about 5 minutes then the inspector comes to check that we are all home.

If we are not home he check us absent and he'll ask you where he is.

After the camp roll call finish the siren rings again.

I'm at the door ready to open it because I want to be first in line at the grand stand because the show starts late or some time the talent show

When there is no talent show I always go to the Recreation hall

I hate roll call because it scares you too much

In June there was a summer festival. It was supposed to be a May festival but they couldn't make it May so they had it in June. All the girls in the clubs from each recreation hall danced. We danced on the race tracks. We all learned

folk dances. It was fun. The girls in the Jr. High group all wore dirndl skirts and white shoes. The audience were up in the grandstand. I think they enjoyed it very much. We danced on a Sunday afternoon. It was a nice day. We all had a nice time dancing.

In September there was a parade. Each recreation hall was to pick a theme and make their costumes for their theme. The recreation hall I went to picked the theme of "South Sea Islands". We dressed like the people from the South Seas (at least we tried to). The boys wore sarongs. Everybody had leis to wear. The girls did not wear sarongs but wore dirndl skirts with trimmings on it to make it look like hula skirts. We carried signs, also. The people that won were from Recreation hall No. 2. Their theme was "Sultan Takes a Holiday". They were very good. They dressed like the people from the Arabian Nights. After the parade we marched to recreation no. 9 where the carnival was held. It was an outdoor carnival. Instead of going to the carnival, all the people that were in the parade went to the show. It was a free show for all those in costumes. It was a western picture.

I went to shows about once a week. There was plenty to do in Tanforan. I would go to schools in the mornings, then in the afternoon I would go to the recreation hall or to the canteen or to my girl friends house or have them come over to my home. We would also go to the lake and talk.

In July there was Fourth of July Day. There were relays and races. They gave out prizes, also. They had a mile race for the boys. My brother entered and came in fourth place. For a prize he received a bag of candied nuts. We did not have fire crackers or anything like that on Fourth of July, but we had plenty of fun watching the races.

In Tanforan they had talent shows. At the beginning they had it in the social room, then later when it got warmer they had it on the grandstand. They usually had it on Thursdays. They had very good talented people on the show. We all had to wait until roll call (that's just check up every day to see that we were all home) then rush to get a good seat to see the show. It looked so funny when ever the whistle would blow as a signal to go; all the doors bang open and everybody running toward the grandstand. It happened when they wanted to go to the movies also. In other words it happened every day after the whistle would blow.

Often, I got homesick for Tanforan. There was so much doing in Tanforan but there isn't a thing to do here. (142)

Santa Anita

The train went faster and faster and soon it reached Arcadia, and we took the bus into "Santa Anita" it was very unusual place. After we gathered our bags and trunks, we went to see what our houses were like. And to our surprise it was

horse stable that we had to live in, and it had a awful odor of horses and that night I couldn't go to sleep.

12 In the afternoon we went around to see what the place looked like so we walked to the Grandstand and went in it. It was a very beautiful place, inside it had a great big place on one side where you bet for your horses. Then in the other side there was a great big place where you eat. The camp called it the Red Mess Hall and it seated 5,000 at one time, then the others seated 1,000. And the rate for the mess hall was 40 people in 1 minute. It was lunch time then and we went right straight to the Mess Hall and ate. (179)

When I first arrived in Santa Anita I didn't know my way around. When I went to eat in the mess hall the line was about eight or nine barracks long and I had to wait about one hour. This line was this long every meal except breakfast. After when more evacuees came, more mess halls opened. The line grew gradually shorter. (132)

In Santa Anita we had our school in the grandstand. Half of it was school and the other half was the red mess. Out in the grandstand they made camouflage nets. In Santa Anita I was in the six grade. Some times we would go out side and study. For recess some of us would go all around the rode track. It was so hot in Santa Anita and inside the grandstand it was nice and cool. I say that Santa Anita is much much better than here. There were nice green trees and flowers. Oh it is something like paradise if I didn't live in a stable. The worst part of it was to live in a stable. First day in a stable it smelled so much. I couldn't stand it. (2)

That next morning about 8:00 A.M. There was a great big crowd going to the canteen and after we washed up, we went to see what had happened it was the canteen that was on fire and by the time I got there it was burned to the ground. The money was all burned the stock was all burned too. There were many big talent and "Issie" programs in Santa Anita and there were very good talented people there. Another exciting moment was on a time that we had a big talent show and all of a sudden everybody began to rise and run and we were all so scared that we ran with the people who first saw the fire. It was a very exciting night and everybody was running all over the camp, and 14 fire engines came to put out the fire. That very next morning when we went to eat breakfast we passed the Jockey Grandstand that had caught on fire the other night it was very black and it was flat on the ground. (179)

When the Los Angeles people came in we went to see them each time. The girls were beautiful. The boys had that Hollywood hair cut and those zoot suits. Mostly all the boys had it on in Santa Anita.

The High School didn't start because they all had to work in the camouflage nets. They all had bandana and a mask on. The dust from the net always come up to us. Many nets went out each day.

It was fun watching them working on them. They worked very fast.

We had two race tracks. One was for the real racing and the other was for practicing, I think.

The boys played baseball and softball each night inside the race track. It was fun to watch them cause they were awfully good. ~~Every team had good players. The hardest work was for the pitcher and the catcher, I think. The San Diego "Falcons" were the best. They had a good pitcher. He pitched the ball so swiftly you can't even see the ball.~~

Well, it was just like taking a vacation while I was over there. (9)

Every day we went to school, then one day it happened that our camp had to move to Relocation Centers and they had to stop teaching schools because all of the teachers had to move to the other camps. Soon all of our friends that we made in school had to move to Relocation Centers, we went to see them off, every morning people went to Arkansas, Gila, Jerome, Tule Lake, Utah, Poston, Poncha. Soon it was our time to go there. There wasn't much people to say good bye to because everybody had left already but we had some people to say good bye to. They played "Old Lang Syne" that morning and it was very very sad. (170)

RELOCATION

Departure From Tanforan / The Train Trip

Strangely I didn't think hardly any thing of my leaving California to go to a strange state and camp. I wasn't even excited I gave good old Tanforan a good look at I thought this is the last of all the good times I'll have here. I was sort of sad at the thought of leaving. We gave the room a thorough looking over. There wasn't a single thing in the barracks around us. I had my own blankets, sheet and pillows. Now I have forgotten what else I have carried. I felt like dropping all my bundles and burst out crying. But of course I wouldn't. Some how I had a funny feeling I looked some what like a tramp traveling. (39)

One afternoon I saw on the bulletin board a note saying we were going to Utah. My brother arranged to go first so we had to get ready twice as fast. Every day after that we cleaned, we packed, made boxes, frames, and oh! so many things. I thought we never will be in time but we did. We got our luggage and we started to get on the train. X

The train was pulling away from our camp when a shout was heard. I looked out and saw people on the roofs of the stables waving and shouting. I felt very excited that night and could not go to sleep until about 2 o' clock.

When I awoke I found myself in a sort of a dream. I looked around and I remembered we were on the train towards Utah. ~~I went to the wash room and saw so many people I thought I'd never get through.~~ During the time I was gazing out many of the people of the other cars were going back and forth to the dining car. I grew so hungry I thought I'd die. Eating oranges all morning did not taste good. ~~At about 12:00 we had breakfast.~~

~~It was like that all day. I looked out most of the time and kept on eating oranges which I do not like very much.~~

At night the officers came and told us to pull down the shades but we arranged to have it up but with the lights off. We had quite a time opening our window and now when we were asleep it grew cold and the wind changed and we could not shut it. So we slept with 2 or 3 coats and some blankets in the morning we reached Delta and was I glad. (40)

The food on the train was delicious compared to the beans we had in Tanforan. (139)

The second night on the train I didn't get to sleep hardly at all because I was so hot and uncomfortable and the

train would always jerk. About ten o'clock in the night I heard a rumbling noise and I thought it was raining so I called my father and told him it was raining. A man got up and walked over where my father was and told him that we were passing over the Salt Lake. My father then said that he thought it was raining also but it wasn't and it certainly sounded like it was pouring like anything. I got very excited and tried to look through the window but it was impossible for me to see.

Later in the night I heard a sudden cry which frightened me. It was so quiet too before this happened. Everyone woke up to see what happened. A little girl was crying and the people were trying to quiet her and was asking what was the matter. Everybody was thinking that she must have had a bad dream. (194)

When we got on the train we sat at our seats. The train seemed cramped up. ~~Everyone in my car had to wait for other people to get on.~~ I was in car #2. The train was 12 cars long and we had to wait about a half hour for everyone to get on. Then with a jerk the train started on the long journey. The first city we went to was Palo Alto. Pretty soon it got dark. Everyone had to put down the shades and the lights were turned on. Then after an hour or so all the people in the car I was in began to pull the chairs together and fell asleep. This was the first night on the train, it was very hot because all the heaters were left on. ~~I only slept half of the night because it was so hot.~~ When morning came we were in a little town and a man in our car looked excited, he said this is the town I lived in. Then later we stopped. He looked excited again, he said we were in front of his house. That man looked very happy when he saw his house. The name of the town was Orville. The train started again. ~~Then it stopped at the station. It was noon now. The car captain told us it was time for lunch. We were eating lunch when the train started. A boy was drinking water when the train started, the water splashed in this face. In the afternoon I ate lemons so I would not get car sick.~~

The second day on the train was better. We were going on the Sierra Mountains in the morning. Breakfast was served around 9:00. It was fun eating while the train was moving. The food on the train was very delicious. Pretty soon we came to the Feather River. The river was really long and there was many rapids, we could see them as we went along. Around 10 o'clock the train stopped to let the cook dump out the garbage. After a while the train started too. The train went around up the mountains we went higher and higher. When night

came some people were playing cards. It was not as hot as the other night. I slept all through the night very soundly. In the morning we were going through the desert. At noon the train stopped and let all the people out. It was very hot, the desert sand was baked by the sun, every step I took made the sand crunched down.

While we were going through Nevada, I was bored because all you could see was desert, sagebrush, and mountains. I became very dizzy looking out through the window. I was also very hot in the train. In the evening we saw a very beautiful sunset. We ate our supper going through a little town. The people waved to us as we went by.

15 In the morning we were still on the desert. All day there was nothing to do but sit and look out. It was very hot, I was perspiring a lot. I got dizzy looking out the window all day. At night time it got much cooler. I saw a camp fire in the night when I looked out the window. ~~About 10:00 I went to sleep.~~ It was cool while I was sleeping. The next morning the car captain told everyone to look out the window. When I looked out the window I saw the Great Salt Lake. It looked like an ocean you could not see the other side of the shore. At least I never. It was still very dark. I think it was around 4 A.M. The train stopped in front of the station. After we ate the train started. It was about 8:00 in the morning. At noon we went passed the mountain. ~~There was some kind of a mine in one of the mountains we passed.~~ Around 4 P.M. we reached Delta. Then a soldier came and told us to come out of the train into the bus that was waiting for us, I got in the bus and sat down. After every one was on the bus we rode to Topaz. It was a long ride. (43)

Topaz

When we were about to get off the train I saw a big Japanese boy and his shoes white. I wondered why it was so white. Then I thought maybe he was working in a cement factory.

Then we got on the bus. For awhile we were on a good road then all of a sudden we got on a very bumpy road. The windows started to rattle. On the way we saw something that looked like many barracks lined up. All of us decided to say it was Topaz, but when we came close to it, it was just little mountains of dirt. Next we saw something that looked like Topaz too. When we reached there it was really Topaz.

When I got outside I found out that the dust in Topaz was just like the cement powder. That is why I thought that the boy I saw at the Delta station had his shoe white as if he worked in the cement factory, but when I started to walk my shoes was all white. (79)

We all got in some buses and traveled along. I saw some little mounds which looked like Indian Tepees. They were only

mounds of dirt.

Some barracks came in sight. We came closer and saw some people.

Most of the people were sort of dark.

We then heard some music which was off tune a bit and learned it was played by the welcome band.

We finally got off. As I stepped on the ground the dust came up in my face.

This was Topaz! (88)

Topaz looked so big and enormous to me. It almost made me feel like an ant. A moment later we found ourselves walking through alkali dust. You certainly can't keep your brown or black shoes their original color because everywhere you walk is in that kind of dust. Your face and shoes turn white also the dust collects on the legs making it chapped.

I thought the water to be nice and cool, but to my surprise it tasted warm and had a bitter flavor. I asked my brother what it was that made the water taste so bitter. He told me that there was chlorine in it.

Many persons could not stand the chlorine water, so they would bring containers to the artesian wells. There were around two or three of these kind of wells.

Scorpions and hornrods were all over. The boys had a fine time finding them. (136)

After much waiting we got on the bus and started off for Topaz. It was quite dusty when we reached there. There was a band to greet us. After getting out apartment got our things we started for our home. Since all the first crew had things to do we had so one to guide us to our home. We had a hard time finding our home for they were alike. Since our paper said C-C and D everytime we saw a C on the barrack we went to the C and D room to find it already occupied. We saw a friend who lived in the same block so we asked them to show us our room. We finally found our room.

I hope the next time we go somewhere I have a more pleasant time. (162)

I was waiting for the beds to come because I wanted to go to bed and sleep. I waited and waited but it did not come so I had to keep awake and look for something to do.

Dinner came but I still didn't want to go eat so my family left me behind alone in the house.

When night came the beds hadn't yet come so we waited for about an hour then my brother went some place where he could go get the beds. He came back with beds alright but no mattresses. So when the time came to go to bed we went to bed without mattresses.

Later in the night some army blankets came. A little later than that some hay mattresses came but I didn't bother to wake up because it was too cold for words.

16 When we awoke the next morning, it was thirty degrees in the house and was it cold with out a fire going on in the house. (194)

How hot it was when we came here! But how cold it became when winter was here. We had a stove not enough coal to burn to keep us warm. We burned coal only in the morning because we did not have enough not only that but it was warm after the sun came out.

If we had the ceiling up it would have been warmer but since it was not put up yet, so no matter how much we burned the stove it took long to warm the room. Before the ceiling was up a bucket of water left over night would be frozen in the morning. Finally when the weather became colder the ceiling was put up and more coal was brought to our block. (162)

We have never been to a place where there was dust storm before in our lives and I think it is very terrible and sometimes we have it for four straight day. Our house gets full of sand and all our clothes get sand all over and we have to clean all our things it takes us practically all night. And when we go to school you get sand in your eyes and in your mouth and can't even see across the street. (57)

We have had about two dust storms since we came here. It is terrible. The dust gets in our hair and sometimes the wind picks up tiny pieces of rocks. They would come against our legs and it hurts very much. The dust also gets through the window and under the door.

Many times we did not have our handkerchiefs so that the dust gathers in our hair. We would tease each other and say, "Ooo you're an old lady or grandma".

Every place we go we cannot escape the dust. Inside of our houses, in the laundry and latrine and even a little dust gets in our mess hall.

I do not like the rain either. I do not have any rain boots or clothes. The ground around here gets very muddy and very often there are mud puddles. In the night time it is very hard to see the ground and so we slip all over the mud.

The snow is one thing I like. I never really seen snow or played in it. We go out into the lot next to our block and have a snow fight. We go out there to fight among ourselves but after we get started the boys would come and join us. We didn't even invite them but they come anyway. Every time

they chase us around to the next block)

17
It has snowed about 5 or 6 times. It was thrilling the first time it snowed, because most of the people never saw snow before. Everyone was outside playing in the snow. It was very cold when I touched the snow. On Christmas day I wanted it to snow, because I thought it would be pretty having a white Christmas. I was happy when it snowed about 3 or 4 o'clock in the afternoon. I went to dinner and had a very delicious meal.

New Year's Day was another thrilling occasion for me. Waking up I felt very happy. Sleeping so long and having a good rest was good for me. Going to the Mess Hall, and seeing the room, all decorated was very pretty. We only had two meals. Breakfast about 9:30 so that everyone would have a nice rest. Supper was served rather early. Many people came and wished us a Happy New Year. Everyone seemed happy and enjoying themselves and that's all we care for when we are in camp. (18)

10
The vases my father makes is made out of tree limb. There is hardly any trees out here so they are called sage brush branches. He picks the best kinds out and made at least about ten. (10) He made one in Tanforen and he put it in the Hobby Show. He won first prize and the prize was a picture that Mr. Obata drew. The older people think it is something to look at but I don't know what kind of a picture it is. ~~the picture is a some bamboo tree with his name printed in Japanese at one corner of the picture.~~ When he came here he made some and stuck the prettiest one in the Hobby Show but there wasn't any prizes. Now my mother has learned to make flowers and she is making a lot of them so she arranges it into the vases. They look good together. My mother had made Roses, Lilies, Iris, Chrysanthemum, blossoms and other sorts of flowers. It looks easy to make but my mother says it is hard to make so I guess I'll take her advice. (150)

That morning we recieved a permit to take a trip to Salt Lake City leaving the afternoon.

From the administration building we rode on a carrier which took us to the station in Delta. ~~The train was to leave at 3:30 but we were told that it will be delayed one hour.~~ We walked throughtown in Delta and was surprised to see it so small. There we bought things to eat in the train and magazines.

18
Soon the train arrived and we left for Salt Lake City. During the ride on the train I felt that the chairs were soft and how neat it was inside the train. I couldn't compare the ride to Salt Lake City from the ride to Topaz, Utah. After a good meal in the train we reached Salt Lake City thinking it was a city a little bigger then Delta and was thrillingly surprised to see a city almost as big as San Francisco. ~~It~~

We went to a hotel to get a room but didn't have any luck. Through the J.A.C.L. we were provided rooms in a ----- Hotel. Later we started for the movies and had a great deal of fun. ~~It was 12:00 after the show so we went back to the hotel and retired.~~ Morning came so I awoke my self from a good night's sleep and felt good to hear the horns of the automobiles and everything you will hear in a city. I thought I was back in San Francisco and the whole evacuation was just a dream but it was not a dream and I was visiting Salt Lake City for a few days.

We went to almost all the stores which sell shoes but they didn't sell any shoe that fits my sister and the style. We were about to give up when at last we found a shoe size 34. We were admiring it when my father came out of the store looking disappointed. I asked him what was the matter and he said sadly that the shoe is the only size 34 and it was too much trouble to take it out. We all went into the store and almost begged the clerk to get the shoe for us and at last he did. He took it out and sold it to us unwillingly. We thanked the clerk so much he was tired of hearing it and he looked as though he wanted to kick us out so without delay we went out of the store. We had our lunch at Mrs. Drummel and saw Stanko Kayumi's brother working there. My mother talked to him for just a few minutes because I think the boss was staring at us.

The day was soon up, we got our suitcases heading for the station and left for Topaz. Not just the day was up but the fun and freedom was up. (72)

General Observations

On August 28 we reached Topaz and the exciting trip made me wonder who found this desert and why they put us in a place like this but I heard it is a good state to live during this long war.

All my friends think it will last about two years more but I hope this war will end very soon so I can go back to San Francisco and get the education more better.

I do wish this war will end as soon as it is possible because I do not like war and I know that every body does not like war. This war is a horrible crime and if this crime does not end this is going to be a terrible world.

I hope Japan and America will declare peace. (134)

I sometimes wonder how the garden in our home in San Francisco is coming along. Whether the plants withered and died.

19
and weeds cover the garden or the house was torn down and the sign that says "Real Estate--call so and so on so and so street to buy this place". covers the front while among the weeds which cover the lot blooms roses and violets. I wonder which is better--dying from lack of care or blooming among the weeds every year. Maybe someone moved into the house (although it isn't very likely) and tended the garden with care and planted a victory garden among the flowers--that would be splendid and I hope that will happen. It would be better than the other things I have mentioned. (139)

omit

What Happened At The Bus Station

The day to go to Tanforan had arrived. We were to be in a group that was to leave at eight o'clock in the morning. A lady from the station came to get us because my father had put our truck into storage. The truck was a gardener's truck and my father and my uncles and neighbors all said that those kind of trucks wouldn't be available after the war, for a short time.

Us children left with grandmother and things we could carry first and mother and daddy came a few minutes later. We had to wait till nine fifteen before we left. They served us tea and sandwiches because they thought maybe we didn't have very much breakfast because we had to get up early and pack the rest of our belongings as the bedding and small things we hadn't packed. We were all restless because we didn't want to sit and wait till nine. Grandmother kept scolding us and telling us to sit down and behave in orderly fashion. Finally it was time to go. We picked up all our hand-baggage and proceeded in the direction that the buses were. We went in the opposite direction that we came in. My baby brother Roger thought the way we came in was the direction to the buses so he went that way. When we got to the buses my mother asked "Is everybody here?" We looked around and counted each other then we said Roger was missing so my mother asked my father to find him. We were all worried about him. Fortunately the bus couldn't leave without everyone on board.

omit
In a few minutes my father came with Roger. Boy were we relieved. Roger had been crying because he couldn't find us. I guess he thought that we were behind him so he went that way. My father was scolding him and telling him, "If you don't stay near the family I'm going to tie a rope around you so you won't wander away somewhere!" Then Roger burst into tears and my mother told my father not to scold him any more. After that everything went along nicely. It was a nice day and we said our last good-bye to the city of Berkeley. Soon we were on the San Francisco-Oakland bay bridge. We took a good look of the bay and the Golden Gate Bridge and Berkeley. Oakland and Richmond and San Francisco. Then said good-bye to them all. The ride wasn't very long, just about an hour and ten minutes. Tenforan was in the city of San Bruno, California. The ride was very pleasant. We looked at all the nice new houses they had just built. We arrived at Tenforan without an accident. (13)

Smith

My First Day At Tanforan

On arriving safely at Tanforan without any mishaps, we had to wait about fifteen or twenty minutes for the buses that were already there to unload and come out. The driver opened the door because it was sort of warm in there after riding for about one hour and a half. Pretty soon the buses came out and our bus and a few other buses went in; what I mean is, there is sort of a yard to park cars out in the front of the entrance to the grandstand. There is a drive between the grandstand and another building almost next to it. The drive is just large enough for one bus to go through.

After we got into position we had to wait for about five minutes before we could get out because I think they didn't want our bus group to get mixed up with the other group. After we got out they inspected our hand baggage. Then we registered and got a physical check-up. After that we had a guide show us to our apartment. We thought it was a long way to go because we had just arrived and weren't used to the place yet.

It was almost lunch time so when we got to our apartment we put our things on the floor and looked at our surroundings to see where our barrack was situated. We saw we were near one end of the track and thought that was a good landmark. We also looked at the number of our barrack so we could remember where we lived. Then we started to the main mess hall. It

is called the main mess because it could hold almost all of the people at Tanforan at the same time. Everyone had to go to the main mess because none of the dining halls were opened yet. The people who came first had only been there for two days before we came. On the way my brother that is next to the baby started to play along the way. We called to him a few times and he came and caught up with us. We did this a few times because my brother wanted to play.

After that I didn't pay him very much attention because I was holding my baby brother's hand and helping him walk on the dry places because it had rained the day before and it was sort of slushy. When we arrived there, there was a long line already so we got in one of the lines and waited. The lines were moving very slow and we thought they hadn't started yet. Then pretty soon we saw that someone was missing and we counted each other by names to our selves because we have a large family. We have six children, three boys and three girls. Mother and Daddy make eight.

Count my two uncles and grandmother and that makes eleven all together. I looked and found that Roger was missing. He is the one I was talking about before. I guess he wasn't watching where we were going or he was too busy playing. My father went to look for him but couldn't find him. Then my uncle went to look for him but couldn't find him so we decided

Smith
to eat and look for him afterwards. On our way home we saw a couple who had gone for a walk and had found him. They said they had found him crying and had gone to the information bureau to see where he lived. Then they took him to the barrack but it was locked so they thought we had gone to the mess hall and were taking him there. My mother and father and grandfather and uncles thanked them for all the trouble they had gone through.

While we were going to our barrack our father started to scold Roger and he started to cry some more. When we reached home mother gave Roger a good lecture and some sandwiches she made because she thought we might get hungry on the way.

All that day and for a few days later we never went very far from home because we weren't familiar with the place yet. (13)

The First Two Weeks At Tanforan

Smith

The first two weeks at Tanforan I spent in playing and watching the buses come in. My girl friend came over the second day of our arrival. She had come one day before us and were pretty well acquainted with the place. There was a little lake in the field in the middle of the track. They had to have water run into it all the time or else the water would seep into the mud at the bottom of the lake. The lake wasn't very big. It was about as big as the dining halls here.

I would go and play with my friends after I had done my share of cleaning up.

Sometimes they would come after me and we would play around the lake or in the fields or sometimes in the grandstand. Sometimes we would go up to the grandstand to rest awhile and to look over the bay. We could see the hanger of the coast guard airplane patrol station and hear the drone of the airplanes as the take-off of the field. Pretty soon we could see the planes climbing into the air. They would circle around a few times and then we could see their wheels come out and they would cut their motors and glide to the landing field. Or sometimes when we look out toward the bay we can see the white caps on the waves and we would think that the wind must be very strong.

Sometimes we would play after supper and go up into the grandstand and see the water unusually blue with some very pretty white caps. Sometimes the hills turn pink and the water turns real blue and sometimes you can see some white caps here and there rippling toward the shore, it really looks nice. Sometimes a few planes go up and make it seem as if there was no war. The planes that usually go up at this time of day were usually United Airlines that the coast guard were going to use as bombers or transports. (13)