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JWD

944 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

June 22, 1943

Mr. Harold S. Choate
Relocation Supervisor
War Relocation Authority
Midland Savings Building
Denver 2, Colorado

Dear Mr. Choate:

Reference is made to your letter of June 16 in which you inquire as to our relationship with OWI.

We are fortunate in this area in having a group of men in OWI who are extremely sympathetic with our work and who have done everything in their means to promote our activities. Whenever I require their services, I call upon the Regional Director and he assigns one of the members of his staff to me. Through this means, we have had several fine human interest stories published in the papers in Cleveland. They have also been useful in procuring statements endorsing our work from the Regional Director of the War Production Board and the War Manpower Commission. In addition, they have made it possible for me to meet several of the newspaper reporters on a friendly basis, and in this way we have been able to keep certain detrimental stories out of the papers. I trust this is the information you require.

May I congratulate you on the letter which you got out to the members of your staff. I think it is extremely well thought out, and I hope that you will be able to reap some benefits from it. It is evident from the contents of your letter that we are all facing pretty much the same problems.

I hope to see you in Washington next week.

Sincerely yours,

Harold S. Pistere
Relocation Supervisor

HSP:yk

OWD

944 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio
July 13, 1943

Mr. Samuel Slotky
Regional Director
Office of War Information
Union Commerce Building
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Mr. Slotky:

May I take this opportunity of thanking you and the members of your staff for the splendid cooperation which you have given the War Relocation Authority since this agency first opened its office in this region.

I want you to know that I personally appreciate the sympathetic understanding which you have shown to the many problems which we have had to face. Will you please convey to your staff my sincere appreciation.

Sincerely yours,

Harold S. Fistere
Relocation Supervisor

Fistere
GCPowell/kcu

RECEIVED OCT 6 1945

[19437]

CULLUM *me*
PAYNE
FRANKEL *SF*
NOBLE *RM*
KATAYAMA



The Cincinnati Post

Friday.

Dear Mr. Cullum:

Thanks ever so much for your kind letter. The conduct of the local inhabitants really has been most exemplary in the matter of Japanese-Americans. I am sure the fine service of the War Relocation Office had much to do with it. I am sorry I forgot to say that in the piece I wrote for the "Integrator".

Sincerely,

Alfred Seyce

Press Release

960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 15, Ohio
February 15, 1944

Mr. Edwin G. Arnold
Chief, Relocation Division
War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Arnold:-

Attached is a proposed yarn for publication in the Toledo Chamber of Commerce monthly magazine. Mr. Fluke, the Toledo relocation officer, was solicited for such an article, and our reports officer has written him one.

We are herewith submitting it for clearance, and should like rapid action, as there has already been a delay in getting the thing prepared.

Sincerely yours,

F. W. Ross, Acting
Relocation Supervisor

H. Weiss/c
enc.

February 21, 1944

Mr. F. W. Ross
Acting Relocation Supervisor
960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 15, Ohio

Dear Mr. Ross:

We have edited Mr. Fluke's article for the monthly magazine of the Toledo Chamber of Commerce, and are returning it to you. Several of our revisions or deletions may warrant a word of explanation.

Reference to Japanese Americans fighting in the South Pacific, on page 2, has been deleted because the War Department wishes us to make no mention of them. It seems to us that the paragraph on the top of page 4 might better be eliminated, since it gets into a field that has stimulated some controversy. Your quotations from President Roosevelt seem to us to take care of this issue pretty well. On page 5, we have revised the statement that the Japanese Americans had the lowest criminal record of any racial group in the United States, since the authority for this statement is not too clear. Moreover, it introduces a note of comparison or contrast that probably should be avoided.

Please see that we get a copy of the publication that carries the article.

Very truly yours,

Edwin G. Arnold

Edwin G. Arnold
Chief, Relocation Division

Enclosure

JAPANESE-AMERICANS ---- OUR FELLOW MEN
By William J. Fluke

6 copies
done up

Private First Class J. T. M., a trim-looking infantryman with a barrel chest and determined eyes, sat in my office not long ago, and told me he, and hundreds of others like him in a southern camp, were "champing at the bit".

"We are a little tired of training", he complained. "We want to get across and meet the ^{Nazis} ~~krut~~ heads and the Japs on the battle field. We want to lick the stuffings out of them and then come home. We want to start living normal lives again...."

I swung my chair around, and looked out of the window a moment, as he continued to speak.

They had ~~just~~ been out on maneuvers and were "hard as nails". They had set up and taken apart the various complicated mechanisms of their field pieces so often that they could now probably do it "blindfolded with one arm tied behind our backs".

~~As he droned on about their desire for action, Private J. T. M.~~
~~He~~ reminded me of many other ^{young soldiers} ~~G. I. Joes~~ whom I had talked to here ~~and~~ ~~in~~ Toledo; boys whom I had known as soft kids, now bursting with health and determination to get the job over with, ~~to wipe the~~ ~~Nips and Huns off the face of the earth.~~

~~But~~ there was one discernible difference--and only one. The letters "J. T. M." did not stand for John T. McGinty or Murphy or Morse or Miller. They stood for John Takashi Matsumoto, ~~who was~~ one of the thousands of Japanese Americans in the Armed Service of the United States. The only difference between Matsumoto and the Murphys, Morses and Millers, ^{was} ~~is~~ that Matsumoto had an ~~slightly~~ Oriental cast to his features.

Hundreds like Matsumoto have been in the thick of the bitterest fighting on the Italian front and according to the most recent announcement of the War Department, over 40 per cent of one battalion of Japanese Americans has already been killed or wounded ^{or missing in action} in fighting the battle of democracy against the philosophy of Hitler and Hirohito. ~~Other Japanese Americans have been fighting in the South Pacific.~~

On a 14-day furlough, Matsumoto had stopped in Toledo for a few days' visit ^{WITH} ~~a~~ a friend of his--also Japanese American--who is helping fill a manpower shortage in an essential industry here. ~~Toledo employers have requested assistance, and we have been able to fill their needs to the extent that we 100 (?) persons of Japanese ancestry have come here, and have been graciously absorbed into the Toledo community.~~

In the remaining space, I should like to give a little review of ^{the} ~~our~~ ^{of the War Relocation Authority.} program. As is generally known by this time, 110,000 persons of Japanese descent were moved from the west coastal zone as a military precaution after Pearl Harbor, and given temporary ^{residence} ~~sojourn~~ in barracks at camps known as relocation centers.

The overwhelming majority of these persons were loyal to this country; 70,000 were born here and were indoctrinated ^{with} in the same ideals as you and I. Most of these have never been outside the United States.

These relocation centers are NOT concentration or internment camps, for the ^{loyal people in them} ~~Japanese Americans~~ are free to leave the centers. They are, in no sense, being held as punishment for any acts against the Government or ^{anticipated} ~~intended~~ acts against the Government.

Reports of Sabotage at Pearl Harbor by Japanese^{American} residents of Hawaii have been officially denied by Secretaries Knox and Stimson and Director Hoover of the F. B. I., and there have been no reports of sabotage by Japanese Americans or aliens on the continent of the United States.

There are ^{several} ~~innumerable~~ ways of looking at the problem of re-establishing these Americans of Japanese ancestry into normal American communities. Looking at it from the viewpoint of the democratic principles upon which this country was founded, President Roosevelt summed up the situation as follows:

"No loyal citizen of the United States should be denied the democratic right to exercise the responsibilities of his citizenship, regardless of ancestry. The principle on which this country was founded, and by which it has always been governed, is that Americanism is a matter of mind and heart. AMERICANISM IS NOT, AND NEVER WAS, A MATTER OF RACE OR ANCESTRY.

"Every loyal American citizen should be given the opportunity to serve this country wherever his skills will make the greatest contribution--whether it be in the ranks of our armed forces, war production, agriculture, government service, or other work essential to the war effort."

From a hard-headed, practical point of view, the enforced semi-idleness of thousands of persons who possess many types of essential skills and who are eager to work, ^{would} constitute a waste of human resources, which we ^{could ill} ~~cannot~~ afford at a time when we are faced with a dearth of manpower in our industries, in maintaining essential civilian services in our communities, and in the production of foods

for ourselves and our allies.

And from a Christian and humanitarian viewpoint, we are obliged to deal with the Americans of Japanese ancestry as fellow men, and refuse to set them apart because of the irrelevant fact of national ancestry. We haven't done so to the Americans of German ancestry, and we should not to these Americans.

The War Relocation Authority, after ^{careful} ~~the most exhaustive~~ of investigations, has separated the disloyal ^{people of Japanese descent} Japanese in this country from the loyal ones, and ^{is assisting the loyal group} ~~for the benefit of the latter~~, to assist them ^{to} ~~in finding~~ employment and ^{to} ~~starting~~ life anew. ^{The field office} ~~has established~~ ^{that I head in Toledo, and others like it are assisting} field offices, such as the one I head in Toledo.

The W. R. A. in no sense, ^{to relocate} ~~wishes to foist~~ these folks upon an ^{people in} ~~unreceptive~~ community, ^{undertake} ~~and we make every effort to ascertain the~~ temper of the residents before inviting any Japanese Americans to accept job offers that arise. Toledo has displayed excellent ~~tolerance~~ and understanding in taking these new residents into the community life.

In practice our program locally begins with an ^{employment} ~~offer for assistance~~ from a Toledo employer. For example, let us say that a manufacturer of ^{UV} galvanized pails is in need of three skilled workmen, and has been unable to recruit help from local labor sources. He communicates with us, describes his needs in detail and the wages he will pay (which ^{should} ~~must~~ be at prevailing rates). ^{He} ~~and~~ is asked to survey opinion in his shop to make sure no unpleasantness will occur because some ^{of his} employees are ~~ignorant of the facts~~. ^{unfamiliar} ~~with the background of the people affected by the relocation program.~~

Our office then makes a digest of the job offer and sends copies of it to the various relocation centers. If a person skilled at this ^{type of employment} ~~line~~ reads the offer and is interested, he writes to us for additional details. In this way, employees are brought in to Toledo and its suburbs to fill specific jobs.

Likewise, all over the country these folks have been contributing their labor to the war effort. But that is not all; they have been giving their blood to the Red Cross; their paper to the scrap drives; their money to the Treasury for War Bonds, and their sons and brothers to the ~~draft~~. ^{Army}.

These ^{people} ~~persons~~ of Japanese ancestry can be a credit to their ^{as law-abiding people} ~~new communities~~, for they bring with them a splendid history from ^{have an enviable record} ~~rates of any racial or national group in America before they were~~ the West Coast. They contributed generously to philanthropic community ~~enterprises~~, ^{evacuated} ~~their criminal record was the lowest of any racial~~ group; Public relief was virtually absent amongst them.

The Japanese Americans ^{citizens} who are released from the centers have been ^{nearly all} ~~educated in our~~ American schools. They have ^{lived as Americans} ~~been reared according~~ to American standards. They act and think as Americans. Our ~~responsibility is to treat them as our fellow men.~~ ^{They know no} ~~other way of life.~~

Press Release

960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

February 25, 1944

Mr. William J. Fluke
Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
615 Ohio Building
Toledo 4, Ohio

Dear Mr. Fluke:

Well here is that yarn you have been y'arnin' for these past many moons. It was first submitted to Washington where it was chewed over, digested and regurgitated. It is consequently pure and harmless and ready to go.

On Page Two I have put a question mark after the number of Toledo relocatees. You may either estimate the number as it actually exists or give an exact count to suit yourself. I just said 100, not knowing whether I was close or far from the fact.

Washington wished a copy of the publication when the article appeared. We would like one also.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Weiss
Information Specialist

HW:mk

Press Release

960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

March 8, 1944

Rev. Joseph Howell
Congregational Church
Radnor, Ohio

Dear Rev. Howell:

In Mr. Pistere's absence, I have read your article and have made a few corrections in the names and addresses listed as our offices. Aside from these minor corrections, the article is well-done and will undoubtedly aid the cause.

Thank you very much and please write if we can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Weiss
Information Specialist

HW:mk

New Orleans

960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

May 23, 1944

Miss Veda Satterfield
Assistant Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
841 Penobscot Building
Detroit 26, Michigan

Dear Miss Satterfield:

Enclosed is a news release scheduled for use in Sunday papers of May 28th. May we suggest that you send it to your Sunday paper or papers with a covering note to the city editors offering to give information localizing the story to your own conditions.

Much of the stuff has been used before but the enclosed ADVANCE RELEASE looks sufficiently imposing as perhaps to impress a city desk. You might even hang the yarn on the latest population figures appearing in the appendix (though they seem a little low for some cities).

Sincerely yours,

Harry Weiss
Information Specialist

P.S. Fluke: The story has been mailed to the City Desk of the Blade. You might wish to call Rose to prime her in the event she is called for local angles.

HW:mk



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

May 29, 1944

Press Release

Mr. Robert M. Cullum
Relocation Supervisor
War Relocation Authority
841 Penobscot Building
Detroit 26, Michigan

Dear Mr. Cullum:

Enclosed is the newspaper clipping of which
I spoke to you this morning.

The likeness is somewhat forbidding but we
are confident it will not hamper our efforts
at relocation. Should we find it threatens
to do so, we can always throw in a picture
of myself as a counterbalancing agent.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Harry Weiss".

Harry Weiss
Information Specialist

(Original and only copy)

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Great Lakes Area
960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

August 17, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: All Project Directors

ATTENTION: Relocation Planning Officers

FROM: Robert M. Cullum
Relocation Supervisor

SUBJECT: Closing of Toledo and Grand Rapids Offices

For reasons of more effective operation, we have recently closed our relocation offices in both Toledo and Grand Rapids. You will have received the news release announcing the appointment of Wendell P. Gee to head our program in the State of Michigan and describing in detail our plans for handling relocation in the two districts where we have closed our offices. Let us repeat the major details briefly.

William J. Fluke, formerly the Toledo officer, has been transferred to Detroit but will spend a day or more each week in Toledo. His presence in Detroit strengthens the service we have been rendering in the Detroit district but at the same time does not materially weaken the Toledo setup as a capable committee will handle problems arising in Toledo when he is not there.

William Kir-Stimon, formerly our Grand Rapids officer, was transferred to Chicago but in his stead Lee A. Marsa will act as field representative out of Detroit. Marsa has a wide background in Michigan farming and Grand Rapids will be one of his stops in search of farm opportunities. A strong committee has also been formed in that city to handle emergencies.

Miss Veda E. Satterfield, who has been an assistant relocation officer in the Detroit office for a considerable period, continues in that capacity. Part of her time, however, is spent in Ann Arbor where she has developed excellent resources for the handling of the evacuees there. Miss Satterfield came to this area after almost a year as a teacher at one of the projects and is a very important cog in the Detroit District machinery.

Thus, we have not only added experienced people to the districts where the volume of traffic is greatest but have established committees in and of the two cities to handle some of the functions performed by our staff men. The net result should be a very real strengthening of the program throughout Michigan, and a maintenance of full service in the sections formerly served by separate WRA offices through increased responsibility assumed by local groups.

We have prepared in modest quantity lists of the persons in Toledo and Grand Rapids--and also in Kalamazoo, Michigan--who will be ready and anxious to handle any emergency problems arising amongst new arrivals or more established evacuees.

It is our suggestion that copies be given those relocating in or near these three cities.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Michigan District
1417 Penobscot Bldg.
Detroit, Michigan

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN, COMMITTEE TO AID RESETTLEMENT

Persons relocated in and near Grand Rapids, Michigan, will find the following persons helpful in solving problems that might arise there:

EMPLOYMENT The United States Employment Service
 110 Lyon N.W.
 Telephone: 6-1511

HOUSING Miss Norma Stauffer
 Y.W.C.A. 25 Sheldon S.E.
 Telephone: 9-4681

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL Miss Rebecca Eikenberry
AID The Family Service Association
 300 Association of Commerce Building
 Telephone: 9-6281

Miss Rebecca Eikenberry will refer welfare or any emergency financial case to the appropriate agency. The Social Security funds are administered by the Kent County Bureau of Social Aid, Gilbert Building. Miss Dorothy Yapple is in charge.

EMERGENCY TRAVEL Miss Rebecca Eikenberry
INFORMATION The Family Service Association
 300 Association of Commerce Building
 Telephone: 9-6281

COUNSEL Rev. Harold T. Janes
(Private Problems) Park Congregational Church
 E. Park Place N.E.
 Telephone, Office: 9-3203

RECREATIONAL AND Mr. Warren Arthur: For the boys
LEISURE TIME Y.M.C.A. 27 Library N.E.
ACTIVITIES Telephone: 8-1141

Miss Norma Stauffer: For the girls
Y.W.C.A. 25 Sheldon S.E.
Telephone: 9-4681

Grand Rapids, Michigan
Committee to Aid Resettlement
Page 2

MEDICAL CARE

Henry Van Wolvlear
412 Grand Rapids National Bank Building
Telephone, office: 8-0433
residence: 5-6597

Medical care for the time being will be handled by Mr. Henry Van Wolvlear. He will refer any emergency case for treatment to competent medical physicians or to the proper agency for referral and treatment.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Michigan District
1417 Penobscot Bldg.
Detroit, Michigan

KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN, COMMITTEE TO AID RESETTLEMENT

Persons relocated near Kalamazoo, Michigan, will find the following persons helpful in solving problems that might arise there:

HOUSING
PROBLEMS

Frank T. Downing
Y.M.C.A.
Boys Housing

Miss Grace McLay
Y.W.C.A.
Girls Housing

Rev. E. C. Palmer
Peoples Church
Family Housing

Rev. T. T. Wylie
Baptist Church
Family Housing

Rev. D. S. Large
First Methodist Church
Family Housing

EMERGENCY HEALTH
AND FINANCIAL AID

Mrs. Helen Knaggs
419 S. Westnedge Avenue

Frank T. Downing
Y.M.C.A.

LEGAL ASSISTANCE

Mrs. Eric Brown
2336 Edgewood Place

SCHOOL ASSISTANCE

Miss Rosalyn Cookson
1021 Park Place
Primary School

A. E. Stoddard
616 Norton Drive
High School

Raymond Hightower
416 Monroe Street
Kalamazoo College

Don Dolan
833 Whites Road
Western Michigan College

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Michigan District
1417 Penobscot Bldg.
Detroit, Michigan

TOLEDO, OHIO, COMMITTEE TO AID RESETTLEMENT

EMPLOYMENT

The United States Employment Service
145 Michigan Street

HOUSING

Mrs. Dorothy Knoke
1410 Yates Street
Telephone: Pontiac 4193

MEDICAL CARE:

Dr. Viola Newby
Toledo State Hospital
Telephone: Walbridge 3474

EMERGENCY FINANCIAL AID

Social Security Office
Rear of Old Federal Building
St. Clair and Madison Avenues

EMERGENCY TRAVEL
INFORMATION

Travelers Aid Service
Union Station

RECREATIONAL AND LEISURE
TIME ACTIVITIES

YWCA or Mrs. Ernest W. Weaver
1622 Potomac Drive
Telephone: Jordan 5744

COUNSEL
(Private Problems)

Rev. William L. Steffens
St. Paul's Methodist Church
1302 Madison Avenue
Telephone, Office: Main 3056
Residence: Lawndale 8370

Persons relocated in and near Toledo, Ohio, will find
the above list of persons helpful in solving problems
that might arise there.

C
-6-
P
Y
H. Carter

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Great Lakes Area
960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

September 16, 1944

Mr. Duncan Mills
Project Director
Colorado River Relocation Center
Poston, Arizona

Attention: Relocation Program Officer

Dear Mr. Mills:

Yesterday George E. Graff, newly appointed relocation officer for Western New York was presented to the Buffalo Relocation Committee. Members of this committee are vitally interested in the program. They have demonstrated in their support of Harry Weiss during the summer that they want to do more than talk about relocation and now, with a permanently assigned relocation officer, the committee should help greatly in the development of a sound and expanding program in Buffalo.

As I see it, most of WRA effort in Western New York should be spent in seeking positions for persons with special training or in finding situations which will provide security for families. While we certainly don't want to discourage single people in going to Western New York, we do suggest center emphasis on family relocation for this district. For a while the office will have time to give a good deal of personal attention to individual cases. Buffalo will be a good place to send family summaries for exploration. As you may remember, Mr. Graff opened the Detroit Office where he established a high level of direct service to evacuees. As much may be expected here from this experienced officer.

After months of personal as well as official worry over housing in the larger cities of the area, I was startled while walking down one of Buffalo's main streets to see a sign, "Apartment for Rent." This points up the fact that housing in Buffalo is less tight than in almost any other city in the area even though it is a No. 1.

September 16, 1944

manpower shortage area. At the moment, there are thirty-six evacuees in and around Buffalo. There is room for more.

There is a related matter on which I should like your personal help. For the past two months, one of the area secretaries has been assigned to Buffalo. Shortly she must be returned to Cleveland. Somewhere in one of the centers, there must be a competent secretary whose family problems could be worked out in Buffalo or on a farm near the city. Under new Civil Service regulations, it will be possible to secure certification immediately of a technically qualified stenographer who has leave clearance. The salary is \$1620 base. Please teletype if you have any suggestions on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Robert M. Cullum
Relocation Supervisor

C
O
P
Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
X PROJECT
U. S. A.

November 24, 1944

Mr. Max Franzen, Director
The Cleveland Hostel
2429 Prospect Avenue
Cleveland 15, Ohio

Dear Mr. Franzen:

With regard to the family relocation under the new Cleveland Family Resettlement Plan, we wonder what response you have had from other centers.

We have just heard from the T _____ family, the first to relocate under the new plan. We learn that they are quite disappointed at the lack of assistance under the plan, especially in the matter of searching for adequate permanent housing for the complete family. There also appears to be a lack of participation by the sponsoring church mentioned under the plan.

To the majority of the family heads to whom we have explained the new Cleveland set-up, most have considered the plan and have concluded it is better to leave the family in the center since it is so difficult to secure permanent housing, from all reports. Not knowing just how long it will take to obtain the adequate housing, the family head must look for suitable and adequate job under pressure of anxiety over time spent and added expenses incurred by the family accompanying him.

We believe that the Cleveland Family Resettlement Plan would be more effective and avoid much disappointment if a family did not leave the center until some advance work is done on the family especially in the matters of lining up some suitable jobs for interviews after arrival and working out some sort of idea or plan on the housing. It would be helpful, too, if the sponsoring church could undertake, upon family's arrival, to make the family feel at home through introductions to established families or to other interested Clevelanders. May we hear from you?

Sincerely yours,

Relocation Program Officer

BAPTIST HOSTEL
CLEVELAND, OHIO

December 15, 1944

Project Director
War Relocation Authority
U. S. A.

Dear Sir:

This is in reply to your letter of November 24, 1944 in regard to the Cleveland Family Resettlement Plan and the T _____ family, formerly of your center. I personally feel that the adverse information which you had at the time you wrote your letter was rather abortive because it was not possible until just now for me to evaluate the arrangements made for the T _____. As a matter of fact, H _____ T _____, who furnished you the information you had, admitted that what he had written was only his first impressions after the first few days. I think, now, after the six members of the family have been successfully placed, we can evaluate the program a little better rather than jumping to hasty conclusions.

First, I should like to mention the statistics. Arrangements were made through the Board of Education for A _____ and H _____ T _____, the two school-age girls, to start to neighborhood schools immediately after the family's arrival. Mr. and Mrs. T _____ moved from the Hostel, together with the two girls on December 1, 1944, 24 days after their arrival. Mr. T _____ is employed by the Sigma Alpha Epsilon fraternity of Case School of Applied Science as a cook. Mrs. T _____ assists him. They receive housing and board and room for all four of them, plus \$150 per month. The rooms they occupy are not too spacious, but I consider them quite comfortable. H _____ T _____ left the Hostel on December 10, 34 days after his arrival. He spent the majority of his time during the first three weeks helping the rest of the family with their plans. He is employed as a laboratory technician at the Western Reserve University School of Medicine and resides at one of the cooperative houses near the University. P _____ T _____ left the Hostel on December 10, also. Part of his time was consumed by a visit to Chicago investigating a job offer which he eventually decided to take, that of language instructor at Northwestern University. I should also mention that H _____ T _____, the girl who has been in Indianapolis, together with her friend, H _____ K _____, are coming to the Hostel tomorrow to relocate in Cleveland. Housing arrangements have already been made for them. Space in a house with a Nisei girl whose husband was drafted is being reserved for them until they decide whether or not to take it.

While it is unfortunate that the entire family did not find accommodations as a unit, I have no apologies to make for the arrangements that have been made. I think they are unusually good, particularly Mr. T _____'s situation, which is peculiarly well suited to his skill and his physical ability. The other children being of age, it is not particularly inconvenient for them to live under separate roofs.

Next, I should like to discuss the steps and the assistance which they received in making these arrangements. It is true that the sponsoring Church, the Lakewood Methodist Church, was the least effective in giving the T _____ family physical assistance. I do not believe that this was entirely the fault of the Church, because it happened to be on the West Side, and it was quite apparent that the T _____s really preferred to be on the East Side, and those two sections are quite far apart. Nevertheless, the Church did show a sincere interest in the T _____s. A tea was given the family one evening in one of the Church homes, and the Lakewood group was trying to find housing for the family in that neighborhood. I am not attempting to conceal the fact that Rev. Nishi of the Church Federation and I did not get the Church to functioning on this early enough. Nonetheless, I think a sincere effort was made on the part of the Church.

The Cleveland War Relocation Office assisted materially in the family's resettlement plans. The office was the family's first contact for jobs. You will recall that an offer was sent to X _____ before the T _____ left the center providing employment for Mr. T _____ and housing for the entire family, but they chose not to consider that job until they arrived. When they did arrive, the job had already been taken. Mr. T _____ was sent by the W.R.A. to the Cleveland Hotel on a job offer, but he decided that that job was too strenuous for him. Do not understand by this that I am criticizing the T _____ family for not taking the jobs--I am merely trying to show that efforts were made. Also, you will be interested in knowing that industrial jobs were open to both H _____ and P _____ T _____ through the W.R.A. H _____, because of his status as conscientious objector, was not disposed to take a defense job. P _____ was also offered a job through W.R.A. in the Army Map Service as a transliterator. However, clearance by the Army was not forthcoming before he accepted the job offer at Northwestern University. Additional assistance was given P _____ by the W.R.A. in that another job with an undisclosed government agency was found, and which may yet materialize for him.

The Cleveland Committee on Resettlement was another factor in the T _____ resettlement problem. Miss Beatrice Burr, Chairman of the Housing Subcommittee counselled with the T _____s on areas of living in Cleveland. She also suggested an adequate apartment to them which they could have had. However, the apartment or the landlord was not attractive to them, at least as compared with the fraternity job and housing which had been offered them at that time. Dean Francis Bacon, Chairman of the Family Resettlement Subcommittee, was instrumental in procuring H _____'s job at the Western Reserve School of Medicine.

I feel sincerely, too, that the Hostel was instrumental in giving the T _____s valuable assistance. Mr. T _____'s job and housing for the family at the fraternity was arranged for by the Hostel. Also, I spent some time in searching for housing for the entire family. The house which is available to H _____ T _____ and her friend from Indianapolis was procured by us.

So, all in all, I think there is very little ground for complaint insofar as the assistance received by the T _____s in making their resettlement plans. Do not misunderstand--there is plenty of room for improvement--but I do feel that they did remarkably well in a relatively short time.

You will be interested in knowing, also, that Mr. and Mrs. A _____ I _____ and their two children from X _____ are presently at the Hostel, _____ relocating under the Cleveland Family Resettlement Plan. Arrangements for permanent housing and jobs have been made by the Cleveland Salvation Army, the sponsoring group. Temporary employment was arranged for Mr. I _____ by the W.R.A. They are to start their permanent jobs and move to their apartment shortly after Christmas, which means that another family has been settled as a unit within about three weeks time. An additional family has arranged to come to the Hostel on December 29 on the same basis. I personally feel that relocating an entire family per month this way is a wonderful accomplishment.

In view of the above information, I must take direct issue with your statement that "...it is better to leave the family in the center since it is so difficult to secure permanent housing, from all reports." I don't mean by this that housing is not difficult to find--and I definitely don't mean to imply that the whole relocation problem here isn't difficult. It is plenty difficult, but we're trying our best to make it as easy as we can. In doing so, we have decided that the best way for a family to relocate is as a unit, and not by means of sending the family head out ahead. Rev. Nishi of the Church Federation, Cullum and Ross of W.R.A., and I are of one mind on that. We base this conclusion on close observation of the local scene and close association with the evacuees here in town. It is of not little significance that at the same time that the T _____s and I _____s have been getting their entire families settled, that no less than a half a dozen family heads with whom I am personally acquainted have come to Cleveland, and frankly, these family heads are really not much further along in their family resettlement plans than if they had stayed in camp!

To me there appears to be an alarming disintegration of families taking place here. Perhaps the formal marital relationship has not changed in most cases, but the real basis of the family relationship is being destroyed. Take the typical Nisei family head in Cleveland today. He came here with the idea of getting a job and finding housing for the family and then calling the rest of the family. He finds a job, probably starts working from 50 to 70 hours per week, makes good money, finds Sunday (his one day of rest) is the only time he can look for housing, doesn't have much success. Soon he sees that it's much simpler (and probably more profitable) to leave the family in camp on government expense. Furthermore, he has a freedom from family obligations which he hasn't enjoyed heretofore. He soon concludes that Cleveland is no place for the family, and begins regarding his life here as a sort of short-term leave (he's going back to California anyway, he figures). In the process of all of this, I am dead certain that too many family heads are finding this release from family obligations altogether too attractive, and in some cases which I know, other interests are being found. It's more serious than you think.

It seems to me that a good share of the family relationship must be based upon the solving of common problems together, and when it is faced together (witness T _____ and I _____) fairly satisfactory arrangements can be made, and more important, we don't have this tragedy of family-less family heads. I feel very strongly that it is preferable to have fewer family heads come to Cleveland, and have more family units come. I am confident that the liquidation of our relocation problem will be much more rapid, and I'm sure

that you will have fewer Cleveland Nisei returning to X _____ to try to solve their problems all over again, if family units are encouraged to relocate.

I accept your suggestions in regard to the improvement of the Cleveland Family Resettlement Plan most kindly. We shall endeavor to improve it with every facility we have. However, we definitely do not agree that the inefficiency of the cooperating agencies should be a basis for the abandonment of resettling families as units. Our experience of the last six weeks proves that even if the agencies were grossly incompetent and none of us helped the T _____s or the I _____s, that facilities are available to resettlement of family units who have the courage to face difficult problems together. Significantly, as difficult as the relocation problems for both the T _____s and I _____s, they still believe in the resettlement of families as units.

Sincerely yours,

Max L. Franzen

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
X PROJECT
U.S.A.

December 28, 1944

Mr. Max Franzen, Director
The Cleveland Hostel
2429 Prospect Ave
Cleveland 15, Ohio

Dear Mr. Franzen:

We wish to express our deep appreciation to you for your detailed and comprehensive letter of December 15 on the Family Resettlement Plan. We are glad to learn that the families mentioned in your letter are now successfully resettled.

We also appreciate your bringing to our attention the existence of a serious problem in the disintegration of families taking place when part of a family is relocated while the rest remain behind in a center. This is a phase of relocation which we do not see as clearly from this end and we are glad you pointed it out to us. We shall certainly keep it in mind in the future.

We noticed that a recent "newsletter" item showed that the Detroit Fellowship House is following in your footsteps by making a part of their Hostel available to complete family units, where the family can stay until they are settled.

May we at this time again assure you sincerely and wholeheartedly of our desire for continued cooperation with you in whatever way we can in making the Cleveland Family Resettlement Plan successful.

In closing, we extend best wishes for the coming New Year.

Sincerely yours,

Relocation Program Officer

C
O
P
Y

Great Lakes Area
960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 11, Ohio

May 26, 1945

Mr. John Yamazaki
307 East 4th Street
Cincinnati, Ohio

Dear Mr. Yamazaki:

We note in the correspondence from the Cincinnati War Relocation Authority office a letter to Mr. Bob Hirano with material concerning State and Local Agencies. This material for the next issue of the "Integrator".

After our meetings in Dayton and Cincinnati, information was received from our Washington office that there were pending changes in the Resettlement Assistance Program. For this reason I did not write the suggested article preferring to wait until we had full information concerning these changes.

We hope to be able to discuss this question rather fully at the area conference in Cleveland June 1st and 2nd. We will then be able to indicate present trends and procedures for the group in Cincinnati. We would appreciate your requesting Mr. Hirano to hold any material on Resettlement Assistance and Local Agencies pending further clarification.

Very truly yours,

Robert M. Cullum
Relocation Supervisor

By Louise M. Noble
Relocation Adjustment Adviser

LMN:mt

Great Lakes Area
960 Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

June 28, 1945

MEMORANDUM TO: Mrs. Dorothy G. Barber
Relocation Officer.

FROM: Robert M. Cullum
Relocation Supervisor

SUBJECT: Mrs. Cameron's Report on Contacts made with
Representative of Employers' Service Branch
of USES.

I have read Mr. Cameron's report on contacts with employer
representatives of USES with considerable interest.

I believe that work of this kind will have a value far beyond
the jobs immediately turned up and hope that it will be
continued.

RMC:ml



10913
6-27-45

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
506 Ninth-Chester Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

June 26, 1945

RECEIVED JUN 27 1945

Mr. Cullum

CULLUM ✓
PAYNE
FRANKEL
NOBLE
KATAYAMA

MEMORANDUM TO: Mrs. Dorothy G. Barber
Relocation Officer

FROM: W.C.C. William C. Cameron

ATTENTION: Robert M. Cullum
Area Supervisor

SUBJECT: Report on Employer Contacts with Representa-
tive of Employers' Services Branch of the
U.S.E.S.

In cooperation with Mr. Olin, head of the Employers' Services Department of the U.S.E.S., plans were worked out for a representative of this office to accompany representatives of the U.S.E.S. on visits to employers for the purpose of interpreting and encouraging the use of Japanese-Americans in various industries. These visits were made on June 20, 21 and 22.

On June 20 it was arranged to accompany Miss Tachauer of Unit 9, and upon contacting her, I found that unfortunately the Employment Service had selected contacts with meat processors for that day. As the Employment Service was not aware of the fact that very few, if any, Japanese-Americans would be interested in that type of employment, I felt that it would be advisable to go ahead with the contacts for the purpose of interpretation.

We first visited the Gibbs and Sons, wholesale meat concern, and talked with Mr. Gibbs, Junior. This concern is one of the smaller wholesale meat companies who, at the present time, are butchering about 700 head of beef a week. They do not handle other meats and are not meat processors. They butcher and prepare beef for retail stores and for government contracts. About 55% of their production is now going to the armed forces. The balance is for local civilian consumption. Beef for the armed forces is shipped as whole, dressed beef for use in this country. They also cut up, pack and freeze meat for shipment overseas. Work is mostly quite heavy. At the present time they need truck drivers, killers, skimmers, boners, butchers, cooler men, and packers. Wage rates are from 75¢ per hour for inexperienced help and the maximum of

Mrs. Dorothy G. Barber - 2 - June 26, 1945

\$1.25 per hour. It was explained to Mr. Gibbs that there would be very few Japanese-Americans interested in this type of work, but he stated that, personally, he would be receptive to the employment of any who were interested, provided he was sure that they were interested and would be willing to learn. He did, however, feel that it would be advisable for him to feel out the attitude of his employees before authorizing the Employment Service to refer people of Japanese ancestry. He stated that he would advise the Employment Service later about this matter.

We then contacted the Hygrade Company, meat processors, and talked to the personnel and plant manager. This concern has plants in many Mid-West cities. The Cleveland plant employs approximately 200 workers, male and female, both colored and white. They handle pork entirely in the Cleveland plant. They process ham, bacon, sausage, meat loaves and canned meat. At the present time about 95% of the output goes, either to the armed forces or to Russia on Lend Lease. No killing is done in this plant as it is strictly a processing plant. Some of the jobs are not particularly heavy. As a result, they have employed quite a large percentage of women. Typical jobs are: boning, sausage making, pickling, canning, and general labor. Most of the work is performed under rather wet conditions and entails some skill in the meat industry. They were receptive to the employment of Japanese-Americans and felt that there would be no prejudice. At the present time the employees are working long hours. The wage range is from 60¢ to \$1.25 an hour, depending on the job and the qualifications of the individual.

On June 21 I accompanied Mr. Joe Costigan, Unit 14, on employer contacts at several of the leading hotels. We contacted Mr. Skelly, Manager, Mr. Mills, Auditor, and Mr. Erb, Chief Engineer, of the Hotel Hollenden. They were receptive to the use of Japanese-Americans in many of their departments. They felt they could use kitchen help, cooks, house-men, and bus boys, maids, housekeepers, maintenance men and ice men and asked that their order card be marked so that Japanese-Americans would be referred to them. I asked specifically about the possibility of employing an experienced maintenance man, who was available, and they were receptive. However, the Chief Engineer advised that these employees were members of the International Union of Operating Engineers, A.F.L., and he felt that it would be necessary to clear with the local business agent. A later call was received and we were advised that the business agent was not willing to accept Japanese-Americans. Further arrangements have been made to contact this agent to see if this matter can not be cleared up.

We then contacted Mr. Pierce, Manager, and Mr. Armbruster, Auditor, of the Hotel Cleveland. They are, at present, employ-

Mrs. Dorothy G. Barber - 3 - June 26, 1945

ing several Japanese-Americans in the kitchen and are receptive to employing them in other departments. Mr. Armbruster stated that he was not well satisfied with those currently employed, because they were not satisfied with wages for the work they were doing. He stated that in many instances they had found it necessary to pay the scale for a more skilled job to keep the employees, of Japanese ancestry, from leaving. He was particularly anxious, however, to employ people with some experience in hotel work and asked that their order cards be marked to indicate this.

We then contacted Mr. Allen Lowe, Manager of the Hotel Carter. He stated that he personally was receptive to the employment of Japanese-Americans and needed the help but that he had among his guests several large concerns, some of which he felt would not be favorable to the use of Japanese-Americans. He agreed to advise us later if he decided to consider them for employment.

We then contacted Mr. R. J. McSoley, Manager of the Hotel Statler. Mr. McSoley felt that he could use workers of Japanese ancestry to great advantage in several positions but was not sure what the reactions of the present employees would be. He agreed to take the matter up with employee groups and advise the Employment Service.

On June 22 I accompanied Miss Bateson, Unit 7, on visits to industrial concerns. We contacted Mr. MacKenzie, Cleveland Metal Abrasives Company. Mr. MacKenzie stated that he would be willing to employ Japanese-Americans but felt that it would be necessary to do some interpretative work with the employees. He stated that the concern was small and the employees were a tightly knit, clannish group, and he felt it might not be receptive to the addition of a stranger, whether he be Japanese-American or Caucasian. They are in need of additional employees, however. He agreed to take the matter up with the employees to see what the reaction would be. The work consists mostly of foundry work.

We then contacted Mr. Koden, Manager of the Nuart Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of stampings for the electrical supply business. At the present time they are working on bomb and bomb fuse parts under government contract. Mr. Koden was very receptive to the employment of Japanese-Americans and asked that order cards be so marked. This concern is employing both men and women. The pay rates are from 70¢ to \$1.25 per hour.

Contacted the American Bifocal Company, manufacturers of bifocal lenses for eye glasses. They are currently employing about 30 Japanese-Americans, both men and women, and are anxious to secure additional employees. No interpretation was necessary as they

Mrs. Dorothy G. Barber - 4 - June 26, 1945

felt that the Japanese-Americans employed in their concern have proven to be very efficient. The rates of pay are from \$.80 to \$1.25 per hour. Most of the work is under ideal working conditions. The jobs available are microscopic inspection, sorting, packing and several grinding operations. A good deal of the plant has air conditioning for the purpose of removing dust, as any dust particles destroy the lenses.

On the whole, the contacts made in these three days seem to have a great deal of value although the selection of industries to be visited was possibly not the best. As we visited plants already employing Japanese-Americans and industries where there was little likelihood that we would have Japanese-Americans available, plus employers who had not previously employed Japanese-Americans but could to advantage, the coverage was quite complete, and I do feel that additional contacts in this manner, as the opportunity arises, would be of value.

Balderston

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

1201 City Natl. Bank Bldg.
Omaha 2, Nebraska

VIA AIR MAIL

July 24, 1945

MEMORANDUM

To: All Project Directors
Attention: Relocation Program Officers
From: Claude C. Cornwall
Relocation Officer

Three housing units have been released to WRA for occupancy of qualified evacuee families. They are "converted" apartments made by remodeling the old Drexel Hotel at 612 $\frac{1}{2}$ North 16th Street in the City of Omaha.

Those qualified are persons employed in essential industries or parents, wives, or children of service men. Essential work is available at the Omaha Bedding Company, Omaha Cold Storage Company, Paxton and Vierling Iron Works, and other industrial firms here.

It is suggested that persons interested act quickly in order to secure one of these units. Application should be made immediately. We cannot hold the units.

The apartments consist of one and two-bedroom units. They are unfurnished except that they have gas stoves, ice boxes, built-in-cupboards, and sinks. They are clean and newly decorated. One-bedroom apartments rent for \$35 per month, and two-bedroom apartments for \$40. Utilities are included in the rent.

Claude C. Cornwall
Relocation Officer

*Press
Release*

Mr. Robert M. Cullum
Relocation Supervisor
Union Commerce Building
Cleveland 14, Ohio

Attention: Mr. Harry Weiss

Dear Mr. Cullum:

For your immediate use, I am attaching 12 copies of a national feature story on relocation, together with three copies of a map and one set of eight photographs illustrating the text. The Division of Information of the Interior Department is planning to release story with map and pictures here, but the Reports Division suggests that you also try to place it with key papers in your area.

The story is scheduled for release on May 28 and is intended as a Sunday feature. However, since Sunday feature sections are usually planned and made up several days in advance of actual publication, it would probably be wise to establish contact with papers in your area which might use it by Tuesday, May 23, at the latest.

In all probability, not many newspapers will be in position to run the story full text even as a Sunday feature. But it has been arranged, as you will notice, in such a way that it can be easily cut simply by deleting one or more of the specific case histories.

We shall be interested to hear about your handling of this story and about the use that is made of it by newspapers in your area.

Sincerely,

Edwin G. Arnold

Edwin G. Arnold
Chief, Relocation Division