

K2.02

67/14  
C



*Int Sec*

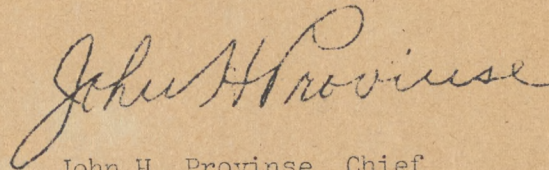
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

October 26, 1942

To: Regional and Project Staff Members:

The enclosed petition from residents of the Gila River Relocation Project and the reply prepared in the Solicitor's Office are forwarded to you for your information.



John H. Provinse, Chief  
Community Management Division



October 6, 1942

Mr. Ototaro N. Yamamoto  
Gila River Relocation Center  
c/o Pima Indian Agency  
Sacaton, Arizona

Dear Mr. Yamamoto:

I am addressing this letter to you because yours is the first name to appear on the letter that you and thirteen other residents of the Gila River Relocation Center sent me on September 18 enclosing a resolution adopted by the residents of twenty-one blocks in the Gila River Relocation Center. I feel, however, that I am addressing this letter to all those who considered the resolution, and I should appreciate your making this letter public to them.

The resolution calls attention to the fact that, in the procedure we have established for the organization of community self-government at the ten relocation centers, only citizens of the United States are eligible to hold elective office. The resolution notes that evacuees who are aliens are nevertheless also loyal to the United States, and emphasizes that many of them would have become citizens of the United States if they were permitted to do so under the naturalization laws.

I am glad to have your resolution on this subject, and have carefully considered the reasons you have urged for making alien evacuees eligible to hold elective office in the community self-government offices.

Our reasons for limiting eligibility to these elective offices to evacuees who are citizens of the United States can be briefly summarized. In the first place, we believe that the citizenship status and privilege of the evacuees who were born in the United States needs to be given special recognition. The fact that, as a matter of military necessity, all persons of Japanese ancestry were evacuated from the West Coast, both aliens and citizens alike, has caused some of the citizen evacuees to wonder what value their citizenship has. We regret that fact very much. We understand, also, that a few among the alien evacuees have been taunting the young Niseis with this fact and have stated that the citizenship of the Niseis was valueless.

It is our intention, therefore, to help make up for this fact, as much as possible, by giving special recognition to the citizenship status of the Niseis.



In addition to making elective offices open only to evacuees who are citizens of the United States, it is our intention to give them preference in considering applications for leave from relocation centers, in assignment of work opportunities, and in other respects.

A second consideration had a great deal to do with our decision. In general, the Niseis are much more Americanized than are the Isseis. This has nothing to do with the question of loyalty to the United States but is simply a product of the fact that the Niseis, through having been born and educated in the United States, at least in most cases, are, to a greater extent, products of American institutions. We know that you share with us the belief that it is important that the Americans of Japanese ancestry should not be a separate group but should become amalgamated with the general population. We are of the opinion that if the Niseis alone are eligible for membership in the community council, the general character of the action taken by the community council will be more in keeping with American institutions and practices.

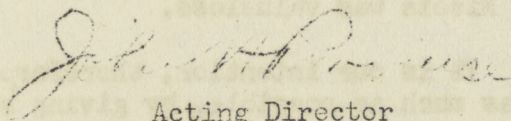
I am writing frankly to you because I feel that we have a common interest in achieving the best possible self-government within the relocation centers.

May I emphasize that the Isseis have not been completely barred from holding office in agencies of community self-government. It is only the elective offices that have been closed to the alien evacuees. This means that no alien evacuee can be elected to the community council. Which of the other offices will be elective rather than appointive can not be known until the permanent plan of government is formulated for each relocation center by its organization commission. The alien evacuees are eligible to hold appointive offices. Thus they can serve on committees appointed by the community council, and in other appointive offices.

I am confident that the wisdom and experience of many of the alien evacuees will become available through their being appointed to such offices.

For these reasons, although I welcome your resolution and am glad to have the benefit of your suggestions, I believe our decision was a sound one and should be adhered to.

Sincerely,



Acting Director



C  
O  
P  
Y

GILA RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
RIVERS, ARIZONA

September 18, 1942

Mr. Dillon Myers, Esq.  
Director of War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of resolution which was adopted and passed by the people of Camp No. 2 of this Relocation Center at a mass meeting held on the 12th of September, 1942.

Your careful consideration on the within resolution will be deeply appreciated by the people of this Relocation Center.

Respectfully yours,

FOR THE PEOPLE OF CAMP NO. 2

/s/ Minoeu Mayeda

Harry H. Angata

Frank Shokichi Ando

Ernest Iwosak

T. Asakura

Blumeda

Ototaro N. Yamamoto

Shinpei Tanaka

George Nishimura

Tsutuners Dyo

M. Fujii

George I. Yamarhiro

Tadachi Yrkawe

Jimmy Syimoto



C  
O  
P  
Y

RESOLUTION ADOPTED AND PASSED BY PEOPLE  
(BOTH CITIZENS AND NON-CITIZENS)  
CAMP 2, GILA RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
RIVERS, ARIZONA

The following resolution was passed September 12, 1942, by the evacuees (both citizens and non-citizens) of twenty one occupied blocks in Camp 2 of this Relocation Center, accounting for approximately 6,500 people.

"THAT THE PRESENT STATUS OF NON-CITIZENS IN RESPECT TO RUNNING FOR AND HOLDING ELECTIVE OFFICES IN THIS RELOCATION CENTER BE MODIFIED SO AS TO PERMIT SAID NON-CITIZENS THE RIGHT TO RUN FOR SUCH ELECTIVE POSITIONS, AND IF ELECTED, TO HOLD THEM IN THE SAME MANNER AS CITIZENS."

This resolution is supported by the following facts:

"FIRST: SINCERITY OF PURPOSE. There is no better evidence than are found in the non-citizens themselves of a sincere desire on their part to cooperate with the citizens and with the War Relocation Authority in the development of this community as an ideal Relocation Center. To this end, they are entitled to an opportunity of expression not only in the physical development of this Relocation Center but also in the Self Government Council of this community."

"SECOND: UNITY OF PURPOSE. There is a strong unity of purpose between the citizens and non-citizens in all matters which are of vital concern to the people of this community. Insofar as this unity of purpose exist there are no two distinct groups. Both are one and inseparable and the one functions. In view of this situation to permit the citizens alone to hold elective positions would undermine



seriously the harmony which so happily exist between the citizens and the non-citizens."

"THIRD: ASSUMPTION OF EQUAL RESPONSIBILITY. In order that an even share of responsibility may be assumed by both the citizens and non-citizens equal representation in the Community Council is not only desired but is highly proper. For to allow the citizens alone the right to hold elective offices would be to place the burden of responsibility unduly upon the citizens when both the citizens and non-citizens should equally be assuming the responsibility.

"FOURTH: NON-CITIZENS ONLY IN NAME. Many of the non-citizens are non-citizens only in name, for many of them have continuously resided in the United States for over forty years; would have been American citizens by naturalization had there been no Congressional Act barring them the right to citizenship. They have also assimilated many of the finer American ideals; have worked continuously in America ever since coming to this country; have brought up their children to be loyal American citizens, many of whom now serve in the armed forces of the Nation; have also bought property and invested heavily in United States War Bonds with the intention of permanently making this country their home."

"FIFTH: NON-CITIZENS ARE ECONOMIC LEADERS. In the experience of the non-citizens, who are sometimes called Isseis, lies the future to the development of the farm lands in this Relocation Center. In this Relocation Center alone there are several hundred farmers who



each have cultivated and operated an average of over 500 acres of agricultural land; each of whom have worked on the soil, lived on the soil, and produced in the main a substantial portion of the green vegetables that were grown in the State of California prior to evacuation. They represented the sinews of American agricultural productivity and were a credit to the farm industry in California. If these people are to be our agricultural leaders again here in this Relocation Center, reason and justice demand they be given a voice in the administration of the self-government of this Relocation Center. Theirs will not be one of jeopardizing the interest of the United States; to the contrary, it will be one of utmost cooperation for the well-being of the people of this Relocation Center and for the war efforts of the United States."



*Smith*  
*Mr*  
*Sila*  
COPY

Petition

We the block members of Block 16 held a meeting on September 6th at 8:00 P.M. concerning this movement of evacuating from this block, which was notified from the Housing Department. The meeting came to a definite decision to get a petition to get an approval from the members. Fortunately after making a house to house drive we had One Hundred percent signatures that they are favored of remaining in this block.

IMPORTANT

The decision was concluded in the following statements:

1. We the members of this block have agreed one hundred percent to remain.
2. Possibility of losing jobs.
3. We do not desire to move to the other block.
4. The families who have babies and patients have taken this movement as a most serious case.
5. There are many Doctors and nurses, who also disagree of this movement because of the situation which they are located closer to the hospital.
6. Approximately thirty persons from Block 13, who are now in this block are very tempermental becuae the Housing Department forced them to settle in this block. If this movement from this block was the fact, why did the Housing Department take such an initiative step? (this is their argument.)
7. In an event that this block will not approve of this movement regardless, what will the office take as a first step to satisfy us?

*not true  
people  
included in*



COPY

Kumetaro Tamori

Asa, Kamada

S. Yamamoto

Toyo Shiine

Michiko Shiine

Kimie Nakahara

Rose Nakahara

May Nakahara

Yaeko Nakahara

Mrs. H. Shimmoto

Masako Kurotori

Umeyo Miyagi

Sumiyo Miyagi

J. M. Tanaka

C. Nishi

S. Sawasaki

Masako Moriya

Katsu Moriya

Masako Yamamoto

Kenichi Hamamoto

Mitsuyo Hamamoto



COPY

Hideo Shiine	S. Moriya	Mitsune Taniguchi
U. Shiine	Misao Moriya	Yoshiye Taniguchi
Koichi Kishi	Anna K. Hirata	Kenso Higashiyama
Kengo Yorioka	I. Nishimura	Ayako Horiguchi
Chiyeko Yorioka	K. Hirata	Susie Horiguchi
Mitsu Yorioka	S. Sano	Jack Horiguchi
S. Segimoto	S. Yamaguchi	Thos. T. Horiguchi
Mrs. Segimoto	N. Imamura	Kazuo Shimizu
Andrew Segimoto	Ura Imamura	Masaru Shimizu
S. Kanai	Ichi Imamura	Akino Shimizu
Mr. Kanai, M.D.	Masako Imamura	Ippeii Shimizu
Mrs. S. Kanai	Yoshiko Hata	M. Hanamoto
S. Yuki	M. Takaha	Tomiko Hanamoto
T. Yuki	Geo. Matsuda	C. Kawamoto
Fred J. Uchishiba	T. Nakamura	Tazu Kawamoto
Ted Otsuji	Y. Nakatani	Sally Kawamoto
M. Otsuji	Hatsuo Nonaka	Jean Kawamoto
J. Nagasawa	Samuel H. Oyama	Mitsu Oino
Mrs. S. Dotamoto	Yonesaku Horiguchi	Yumi Hojo
Mr. Asada	Kiyomatsu Fujiki	Mary Oino
Chisako Suda	T. Fukano	A. Tsugawa
Y. Asada	John Fujiki	Misako Tsugawa
K. Nakano	Yoshikazu Kurotori	Eniko Tsugawa
T. Nakamura	Naoichi Shimoto	G. Tsugawa
K. Kakiuchi	Hisakichi Taniguchi	Hideo Tamori



JACL

Date

We ask you, the Community Council as organ of speech for our thoughts to present, to petition, certain pertinent questions that are prevalent among us today. Therefore, may I ask to present some facts which to us seems rather incompatible in the light of the forceful deprivation of our civil rights. With these facts perhaps we may remedy some of the injustices done us.

# I

Indeed to lament over the past is to embitter one the more. Past injustices should not be lamented for they were the consequences of inevitable forces that proceeded without any definite rule or law. Therefore, let us without any prejudice, in retrospection, go back to the time of evacuation in order to discover and ascertain what forces, what actions prevailed in bringing about our extermination on the west coast, and deduce thereby actions to be taken in the future.

To say that pressure groups and ambitious politicians were instrumental in bringing about our extermination is to put too much blame on one. To blame the military for being responsible is not enough. However, if we should study our mental attitude at that time and try to discover what it purported, we would find that the blame for evacuation would lie mainly with us.

It was our mental attitude, both subordinative and submissive, coupled with our ignorance of the civil law of the land that made evacuation a reality. We were also too trusting of the JACL as we are now. We placed our destiny in the hands of whom we had every faith to lead us manfully and justly in accordance with the law.

Perhaps we were too docile, too complacent, or perhaps we did not have sufficient organization or unity. But the fact remains that we could have made a stand on the coast. By taking a positive stand, by making a positive issue of the illegality of evacuation (Mr. Yasui along with others was not ignorant of the fact that any forceful evacuation of a citizen is illegal) we could have together with the JACL have made a very definite issue and perhaps have stood our grounds.

It is clear now that it was the JACL, perhaps, because of their immaturity or their inexperience in coping with such issues that was responsible for our evacuation. One cannot forget such quotations as, "we will comply with the Military as patriotic Americans, and do as they request" or some such similar utterances. As if to point out that as rightful citizens, we among others should indiscriminately be asked to leave home and go into guarded camps.



continued---2

These are only retrospections harmless and blameless, it is hoped, with which to design and prepare as can best be done, events that are coming up; pertinent events that can have a very definite consequences in respect to our status as citizens, in the future near and far.

## II

Particular reference is made to the Selective Service Act that has been re-instituted for the nisei. It behooves us to handle this with the greatest of judgement and discretion for it can have the direst of consequences.

To accept the Selective Service Act as modified for nisei (viz. barring of certain branches in the army, segregation and etc.) without any qualification would be folly. For does not it indicate a definite discriminatory stand being taken by the Military authority as regards to our integrity as loyal citizens. It belies the fact that we are still not accepted as citizens with full rights. We are taken it seems, conditionally, as some second rate substances. In a full sense of a word one might call it discrimination.

It is undeniably certain that we must as loyal Americans serve the cause of the country; it is undeniable too, that we, different from our caucasian fellow citizen should be forced to serve restrively.

## III

We wonder why there is this dearth of publication especially in the editorials regarding this restriction in the services. We wonder why the JACL up to a short while ago, completely ignored this issue. We wonder if our leadership is in proper and respectful hands. We cannot be optimistic on this issue. We cannot ignore it and pass it up. For these have a very definite and precise implication. Are we going to forget these restrictions and quietly and amiably go off to war? We must make a stand somewhere. We must make an issue of this discrimination in the service.

Is it because the JACL themselves suffer from a certain inferiority complex mania that they do not take up the issue? Is it because the Courier perhaps, also suffer the same that we do not take up the issue? Is it possible that we ourselves are again taking a wrong mental attitude in respect to this that we do not organize some sort of inquiry? Why this dearth of activity on this subject?

q We wonder if this dearth of positive action on our part is not due perhaps to that some subordinative or submissive spirit that prevailed among us just prior to evacuation.



continued---3

We wonder if we are forever going to give ground to any injustices of this nature. Why does not the JACL make an issue?

#### IV

It is irrefutably apparent that through the efforts of the JACL, we are slowly and insidiously being washed up. Inasmuch as they are the only voices of our thoughts which it is true, reflect loyalty to America in the purest sense, they nevertheless overlook or ignore that we as citizens, have due to us certain unabridgeable and uncompromising rights and prerogatives just as much as any other citizen. They, the JACL, are distinctively taking a subordinative stand in not making an issue on this subject.

We must make a stand here now or never. We must take this positive stand and misrepresentations in order to insure against any future gross misinterpretations of our integrity as true loyal American citizens.

#### V

With the re-applicability of the Draft Law to nisei, it has become imperative to organize some sort of a leadership to help restore our civilian rights; to voice our opinions rightfully in any future problems that may arise from time to time. Minority groups can only subsist on unified organization and leadership. The policy of the JACL has become too perverted, too opinionated to fit into any new organization.

These organizations would set up through the Community Council in each of the centers. We would have a consistent policy in these organizations for our grievances are mutual.

It should be the duty of this organization to petition whatever grievances we have in common to Mr. Dillon Myer or some such authority. More specifically it should handle petitions, resolutions, and etc. in regards to the restoration of our civil rights that must eventually come as sequence to our admission into the armed service.

Through a committee or an organization of this order, we can gain unity and strength. We would have cohesion, and in cohesion power to voice irreconcilable differences. We could establish some form of communication between centers, with perhaps the center papers (if they are willing, or course) to keep us informed of various activities in each camps. In this way, we can gather and present problems and questions common to us all.

The center papers should properly be willing to co-operate in this undertaking for the concerns of this organization is not a selfish one. It is collective voice speaking for



continued---4

righteousness and justice.

## VI

The stand we are to take after the war, after having fought for the country in which we believe, cannot be established after we come back. We must demand precepts to be adhered to by the government now.

We would like to have definite retractions made for us before we are inducted. Iniquities intrinsic with us should be redressed. Inevitably, after the war there will arise grave problems with dire consequence if not handled prudently. Problems such as coming back to one's parents in camps after having fought, and prospects of the future are needless to say, grave problems to be faced.

## VII

As an initiation of this proposed organization, we feel that it would be pertinent to draw up resolution of grievances affecting us at present. Incidentally, we are not the first to start a movement of this nature. There are definitely two centers that have already petitioned for grievances. They are namely, the Topaz Relocation Center and the Rohwer Relocation Center.

It would be discreet to pattern ours after the manner in which the others were written, for they embody all that should be brought forward. We should find means to encourage the other centers to follow suit also. The vantage point to be gained by a consistent program should be emphasized.

All tentative plans for this proposal should, it is believed, be left in the hands of the Council. A suggestive draft of this proposal would contain:

1. Unconditional reinstatement of Civil rights.
2. Elimination of segregation in the army.
3. Unrestricted choice in various branches in the armed service hitherto denied.
4. Retraction of military edict barring us from the west coast.
5. Immediate removal of Military guards from centers.
6. Make provisions for restoration of the Issei back to civilian life.
7. Indemnify all property and economic losses.

## Conclusion

A hasty perusal of this paper would doubtless result in finding a confusing conglomeration of irrelevant facts. But



continued---5

if the reader would with patience, analyze each of these "irrelevant" facts, one would find that each helps to make a very definite picture of what has actually transpired since prior to evacuation and up to the present time. These are not opinionated reports of the writer. They are analytical findings written on justifiable grounds. However incongruent the facts appear, they nevertheless are essential to help bring out a better insight on events to come sooner or later. However inconsequential or insignificant the proposed appear to be, however idealistic and vainglorious its proposition, whatever the ultimate outcome of results, it must be borne in mind that this is preparation for our future.

In conclusion, we hope that what has been said in the preceding has brought for the salient issues; and, we leave any modification or changes to the discretion of the Council.



Respectfully submitted to:

Mr. Dillon S. Myer, Director  
War Relocation Authority

~~gila~~  
Copy

We, the evacuees from Hawaii, are greatly concerned with the closing of the centers and would like to take this opportunity to place before you the following requests and questions:

1. We request that we from Hawaii be given the right to go back to Hawaii, as the evacuees from California are now permitted to go back to California.
2. We request that our return to Hawaii be effected as quickly as possible, and that in the meantime we be given some notification of a possible date.
3. We from Hawaii are listed among the excludees, therefore, our relocation is limited to the eastern and middle states alone; and should we later return to Hawaii, we must pay the expenses from our various points of relocation to the place of embarkation. We deem this to be unfair and request that the Government pay all expenses from points of temporary relocation. To relocate far away from our ports of embarkation and to pay all our train fares would make it impossible for most of us to relocate outside of the center.
4. We also believe that the Government should consider paying our hotel expenses while we are waiting for our embarkation to Hawaii, in the very possible event that there is further delay at the port.
5. We understand that the Government will pay our boat fares. Does this mean that the Government will pay the fares to the various islands from which we were evacuated, or only to Honolulu?
6. We understand that the Government pays the boat fare to Hawaii for those who return prior to March 1, 1946. What will it do in the event that some of us are not allowed to return until an even later date?
7. For those who are remaining in the center, we believe that the Government will pay all expenses for the return to Hawaii; but will the Government also meet the expenses of those persons who have temporarily relocated and who, for some good reason, cannot immediately return after the war, or upon revocation of exclusion from Hawaii?
8. In making present relocation, we would like to ask if the Government will help us in purchasing household equipment and in locating houses. These are matters of especial importance to us, since we were restricted in bringing our belongings, and since we have spent most of our savings in the past three years of confinement.
9. We also request that, concerning possible, eventual reimbursement for losses of property which we suffered due to evacuation from Hawaii, we be advised as to what we may hope for from the Government, and what we may do to assist ourselves in regard to such reimbursement.



10. We also request that the Government act generously and judiciously in regard to those from Hawaii who hesitate to try temporary relocation and who would like to stay in a center, under Government protection, for the duration of the war, since the means of livelihood and the climate of this continental mainland are quite different from Hawaii.

The above are some of the points that we evacuees from Hawaii are very anxious to know. We would appreciate it if you could give us the definitions of these points of doubt, and if you will kindly approach the authority in charge of those matters which you deem are now open to inquiry.

Respectfully submitted,

1. (Signed) Joseph K. Araki  
Joseph K. Araki
2. (Signed) Tsuruzo Hasegawa  
Tsuruzo Hasegawa
3. (Signed) Takeo Miura  
Takeo Miura
4. (Signed) Yoshimi Okumoto  
Yoshimi Okumoto

Representing Hawaiian Evacuees;  
delegated in open meeting.



Comm. Council

Jan 28, 1944

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, We have received the news reports of atrocities committed by the Japanese militarists on American prisoners of war of Bataan and Corregidor, and

WHEREAS, We are highly devoted to the United States and to the cause of democracy and fair play among nations, and

*be it further that we reaffirm our faith in the U.S. which through Selective Service again gives us the opportunity to*  
WHEREAS, *renewed that* further participate in helping to win the war, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Community Councils of the Gila River Relocation Center at Rivers, Arizona, wholeheartedly denounce and condemn the cruelties and inhuman atrocities of the Japanese soldiers, and call upon America, our country, both real and adopted, to give us greater opportunity according to our various abilities to defeat utterly those responsible for such deeds; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we reiterate our pride in our many sons, fathers, and brothers who are fighting in the Pacific area against this cruel militarist group in Japan to maintain the principles of freedom and democracy.

Mats Ando, Chairman

Harry N. Miyake, Chairman

George T. Horiuchi, Secretary  
Canal Community Council

Verlin Y. Yamamoto, Secretary  
Butte Community Council

Passed unanimously in special session this Twenty-eighth day of January Nineteen hundred forty-four.



# 決議文

川の町参事員会並に区長會は  
近來所の住民の間に限られたる収入  
に拘らずに交際其他動もすれば  
驕奢に流れんとする傾向あるに鑑み  
所の住民各自が現實の生活境遇  
を再認識し祝婚葬祭及年末  
年始等一切の贈答品交換と自發  
的廢止兄世貞節の励行と要  
望するものなり

右決議す

十月七日

川の町参事員会  
川の町区長會

## RESOLUTION

Be it adopted jointly by the Community Council and the Block Managers of the Canal Community of Gila River Project, Rivers, Arizona, as follows:

WHEREAS, the evacuee residents of this community has a tendency of exchanging gifts and presents on special occasion, beyond their mean or income bearing undue financial burden,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that this practice be discouraged, and it be recommended that it be abolished by the evacuee residents voluntarily.

Passed and approved by a majority vote of the Community Council and the Block Managers on this 7th day of November, 1944.

*Ben Fukuzawa*

Ben Fukuzawa, Chairman  
CANAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

*Teizo Yahanda*

Teizo Yahanda, Gen. Blk. Mgr.  
CANAL BLOCK MANAGER



To Hon. Consul of Spanish Government  
San Francisco, Calif., U. S. A.

We the Japanese at the Gila Relocation Center, respectfully request you, as our official representative, to negotiate with the U. S. Government for the general welfare of our community in the following items:

- I. To give Japanese aliens in the camp the right to hold the elective services of the self-government within the center.
- II. WRA shall govern us in exact accordance with the Geneva protocol of international treaty.
- III. Housing Problems:
  1. To provide separate rooms to the children of over 14 years of age though they are members of the same family. We feel utmost humiliation to live with more than two live-with-mere-than-two families in a room without any partitions.
  2. To provide heating system at once.
  3. To provide cooling systems before too late in the summer.
  4. To provide steel bed cots to each person, as we have only one to each family at present. Most of us are using canvas made couches.
  5. To provide screens to the windows and doors of each living quarters.

IV. Food problems:

1. To give balanced food: It is not well balanced now; for sometimes we receive too much starch etc.
2. To provide ample food: within the ration system, and to provide us ample quantity of those items which are not rationed and those which are peculiarly suited to the Japanese taste, such as rice, pickled vegetables, etc.
3. To permit the manufacture of Tofu (bean cakes), Shoyu (Soybean sauce), and bean sprouts etc. in the camp.
4. To provide proper food to the infants and aged persons. We have no discrimination now.
5. There is proof of the existence of unfit kitchen utensils, such as rusted spoons. We request improvement of such condition.
6. To provide ample soap and cleansers or suitable substitutes to all the mess halls for sanitation purpose.



#### V. Clothings:

1. The U. S. Government shall provide much need clothing, shoes included, to every evacuees equally.
2. There are hundreds of persons from the Turlock Reception Center who have not received government issued clothing and issue coupons as yet. We request that the government shall issue them, such unissued clothings and coupons at once.

#### VI. Wages:

1. Wages for all the evacuee employees in this camp shall be paid immediately.
2. Wage shall be equivalent the wage rates of U.S. soldiers
3. The U. S. Government shall subscribe accident insurance to every evacuee at the government cost.
4. The U. S. Government shall provide community activity fund.
5. To those who worked as wardens at the Turlock Reception Center, we request, that the government shall pay the highest wages of which were paid at other assembly centers for such work; and to issue them clothing as issued at other assembly centers.

#### VII. Education:

1. To recognize the freedom of language.
2. To improve the school buildings and other educational facilities immediately.
3. To provide school buses for minor school children.

#### VIII. Sanitation.

1. To complete at earliest time ample medical supply and hospital equipment at the camp hospitals.
2. To install telephones at once in case of emergency.  
There shall be one telephone installed to each block.
3. To increase the number of ambulances.
4. To install floor drains to each kitchen immediately.
5. The problem of controlling dust storms:  
In order to lessen the suffering from occasional severe dust storms, we recommend the provision of water wagons as follows:
  - a. 12 water wagons at Butte Camp
  - b. 8 water wagons at Canal camp.



- IX. Canteen and other commercial enterprises within the camp shall be managed by the camp residents, and the profit derived from such sources shall be used for the general community benefit.
- X. Internees and their families shall be united immediately. And the expenses for such shall be borne by the government.
- XI. The government shall insure living expenses for limited time of those who leave relocation centers to seek livelihood on the outside.
- Xii. The government shall provide the conveniences and facilities in re-uniting of close relatives now living at different camps. And the government shall pay the expenses.
- Xiii. To provide two copies of the Geneva Protocol regarding the treatment of enemy aliens in English and Japanese languages at each block.
- XIV. We request better facilities of free access between camps No.1 and No.2. More buses for the evacuees' use.
- XV. We request the doing away with barbed wire fences from the camp boundary.
- XVI. The proper and adequate protection to be provided for the students or laborers who may stay out of the camp from any danger on account of unexpected turn of strong public feeling against them. ~~when they wish to engage in any labor which may arise from racial prejudice.~~
- Xvii. We request the explanation why the enemy aliens (first generation) have to pledge their loyalty to the United States when they wish to engage in any labor in the camp.
- Xiii. Call the attention of the authorities not to propagate to the outside public any reports about the conditions of the camp which are contradictory to the fact. Such examples as follows:
1. At the Turlock Assembly Center, they temporarily brought in from outside many equipments to the hospital to take moving pictures there for the purpose of propaganda to the public.
  2. Though all the provisions in the Gila relocation Center are much inferior to that of the outside public and that of U. S. army, the public is given to understand that all the evacuees here are better provided than the public or army.

End.



P E T I T I O N

To The Community Councils  
War Relocation Authority  
Rivers, Arizona

We, the undersigned, being American Citizens of the Japanese ancestry eligible for induction in the Army, herewith make the following declaration and petitions, and request that these be considered and forwarded to appropriate authorities, in such a manner as you deem best.

1. We gladly accept the reinstitution of selective service for Japanese-Americans because it gives us an opportunity to demonstrate our loyalty to our country.

2. We request that, when inducted into the armed services, we be granted the same privileges and opportunities as other Americans including the right to serve in any branch of the Army or Navy, including the Air Forces, according to our abilities.

3. We request further that Japanese-Americans be not segregated into Japanese-American units. We recognize the services that have been rendered by the Japanese-American combat units in that they have demonstrated the loyalty and courage of the group; but now we request that we be mingled with other Americans in all services so that our abilities may be utilized to the utmost.

4. We finally petition those in authority for assistance in the early restoration of all our Constitutional guarantees.

Rivers, Arizona  
March 7, 1944.

SIGNATURES

---

---

---

---

SIGNATURES

---

---

---

---