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ACID FREE - ALKALINE FREE
PH. 6.5 - ALKALINE BUFFERED
METAL EDGE WEIGHT, INC.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90058
(213) 566-2228

Wm. Fleef Palmer
U.S. Attorney,
Los Angeles, Calif

A 7101

J
3/26/42
teletype

Reurtel March 24 emergency apprehension 314 Japanese alien enemies and officers Japanese language schools. Previous instructions require prior authorization for apprehensions unless circumstances make it impossible practicable in individual exceptional cases to communicate with the department before taking such action. Also require telegraphic requests for warrants state fully why apprehension necessary as emergency without awaiting warrant. Department

prepared to pass on warrant applications promptly.
No basis shown for emergency ~~apprehensions~~ apprehensions
this large group~~s~~ who~~r~~ for all that appears have been
there for some time and could be apprehended on war-
rants. Applications for warrants should have been
made. See letters March 11 and 12 for proper proced-
ure. Hereafter confine emergency apprehensions to
special individual cases where facts indicate escape
or dangerous action likely pending applications for
warrant. In every report of emergency apprehension
state facts why warrant could not be awaited.

Frances Biddle

JAMES ROWE, JR.
C/O SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
SAN FRANCISCO CAL

JD Was Rep'd. Relating

A7.01

REPLYING TELETYPE JANUARY 4 SUMMARIZING UNDERSTANDING OF THE ASSISTANT TO
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND GENERAL DEWITT:

1. PRESS RELEASE HERE FOR TOMMORROW MORNINGS PAPERS STATES THAT, IN ADDITION TO CAMERAS, RADIOS AND FIREARMS, ALL OTHER ARTICLES PROHIBITED BY THE PRESIDENT'S PROCLAMATIONS AND REQUIRED BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S REGULATIONS TO BE DEPOSITED WITH LOCAL POLICE MUST BE DEPOSITED AT THE LATEST BY 11 PM, JANUARY 8, 1942. OBTAIN LOCAL PRESS AND RADIO COVERAGE NAMING ARTICLES LISTED IN PROCLAMATIONS.

2. ON RESTRICTED AREAS NECESSARY FOR OUR PLANS TO REQUEST DEFINITE STATEMENT WHEN MY RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE RECEIVED. ADVISE GENERAL DEWITT THAT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL REQUIRES INFORMATION TO BE CONTAINED IN RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO THE NATURE AND EXTENT OF THE MILITARY OR GENERAL AREAS CONTEMPLATED IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR ANY NECESSARY EVACUATION OF ALIENS BEFORE DECIDING WHETHER A PLAN CAN BE PUT INTO EFFECT AUTOMATICALLY THROUGH UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS OR BY APPROVAL HERE. BY EITHER METHOD THE MATTER WILL BE EXPEDITED BY THIS OFFICE.

3. NEW FORMS OF APPLICATIONS FOR SEARCH AND SEIZURE OF PROHIBITED ARTICLES IN HOMES CONTROLLED BY ALIEN ENEMIES ARE BEING TELETYPED YOU PROVIDING FOR SEARCH OF ALIEN ENEMY PREMISES SIMPLY BECAUSE IT IS BELIEVED THAT ALIEN ENEMIES MAY BE IN CONTROL OF PROHIBITED ARTICLES THERE. THE FBI WILL REQUIRE THE ARMY TO REQUEST IN WRITING THAT FBI APPLY FOR SUCH AN EXECUTIVE WARRANT AND THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY WILL ISSUE THE WARRANT ON THE REQUEST OF THE SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE IN WRITING OR IN ANY EMERGENCY UPON ORAL REQUEST CONFIRMED BY WRITTEN REQUEST. IT IS NOT NECESSARY AT PRESENT AND WILL NOT BE NECESSARY FOR UNITED STATES ATTORNEY TO APPLY TO WASHINGTON. PROHIBITED ARTICLES OBSERVED BY GOVERNMENT AGENTS IN POSSESSION OF ALIEN ENEMIES MAY BE SEIZED FORTHWITH AS CONTRABAND WITHOUT APPLICATION FOR WARRANTS.

4. IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS NOW POSSESS LIST OF ADDRESSES AS OF 1940 REGISTRATION OF ALL ALIEN ENEMIES IN NINTH CORPS AREA AND WITHIN 3 OR 4 DAYS

WILL HAVE AMENDED LISTS SHOWING CHANGE OF ADDRESSES REPORTED BY ALIENS AS REQUIRED BY LAW. THESE LISTS SHOW THE ADDRESSES OF THE DIFFERENT NATIONALITIES OF ALIEN ENEMIES BY COUNTIES AND, IN ADDITION, BY ALL COMMUNITIES WITH A POPULATION OF OVER 10,000. THESE LISTS MIGHT BE USED IN ANY NECESSARY SEARCHES PENDING THIS DEPARTMENT'S REGISTRATION OF ALIEN ENEMIES BY REQUIREMENT WHICH BE PUT INTO EFFECT WITHIN TWO OR THREE WEEKS THAT ALL ALIEN ENEMIES OBTAIN CERTIFICATES OF IDENTITY BEARING PHOTOGRAPHS, ADDRESSES AND PLACES OF OCCUPATION. IMMEDIATELY AFTER ALIEN ENEMIES ARE REQUIRED TO OBTAIN THESE CERTIFICATES, INFORMATION GIVEN WILL BE VERIFIED BY INVESTIGATION.

5. THE USE OF TERM "MASS RAIDS" OR THE EXTENT OF THE ACTIVITY CONTEMPLATED THEREUNDER IS NOT CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD HERE. THIS DEPARTMENT IS PREPARED TO SEARCH ANY ALIEN ENEMY'S PREMISES OCCUPIED BY AN ALIEN ENEMY WHICH THE WAR DEPARTMENT REQUESTS IN WRITING.

6. THE DEPARTMENT IS ALSO PREPARED TO ADVISE THE ARMY THE EXTENT OF PERMISSIBLE SEARCH OF ANY PREMISES OR LOCALITIES WHETHER OCCUPIED BY ALIEN ENEMIES OR OTHERS UPON THE SUBMISSION OF A WRITTEN STATE OF FACTS SUFFICIENT TO PERMIT A LEGAL RULING. IF FACTS ARE PRESENTED THE DEPARTMENT IS ALSO PREPARED TO INSTRUCT ITS REPRESENTATIVES THERE AS TO THE EXTENT AND MANNER OF SEARCH PERMISSIBLE WITH OR WITHOUT WARRANTS.

FRANCIS BIDDLE

ATTORNEY GENERAL

"Following is a summary of the principles applicable and procedure to be followed in the implementation of the proclamations of the President dated December 7th and 8th, 1941, and the instructions and regulations of the Attorney General, respecting alien enemies in the Western Theater of Operation. These principles and procedure were formulated in conferences during the past week between Lieutenant General J. L. DeWitt, Commanding General of the Western Theater of Operations, Mr. James Rowe, special representative of the Attorney General of the United States, Mr. N. J. L. Pieper, of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and Major Karl R. Bendetsen, J. A. G. D., Office of the Provost Marshal General.

"1. Restricted Areas: The Attorney General will designate restricted areas. He will entertain Army recommendations. He will require the Army to determine the exact description of each restricted area. What further requirements he will make will depend in large measure upon the nature of the area involved and the extent of alien enemy population in such area. Indications are that, should Army recommendations include areas in which there is resident a large number of alien enemies and evacuation will thereby be rendered necessary, he will also require the submission of detailed plans for evacuation and resettlement. The Army has expressed disinclination to compliance on its part with such a requirement for the reason that the Justice Department will undertake an alien enemy registration and will have in its possession all the information essential for planning purposes once the proposed restricted areas have been made known to that Department by the Army.

"2. Alien Enemy Registration: The Department of Justice is committed to an alien enemy registration with the least practicable delay. It is understood that registration will include provision for finger printing, photographing, and other information to be filed locally and probably with local police, as well as at a central office, such information to be compiled alphabetically, by nationality and race as well as geographical.

"3. Apprehension: United States Attorneys have been or will be instructed to issue apprehension warrants upon application of the F.B.I. special agents in charge. F.B.I. agents in charge will entertain Army requests for apprehensions submitted in writing, or, if time does not permit, oral requests which shall be confirmed later in writing. In any case where an alien enemy is found in violation of any of the provisions of the proclamation or any part of the regulations of the Attorney General thereunder, he is subject to summary apprehension with or without a warrant. Presumably at least he is subject to summary apprehension by the Army as well as by the civil authorities. Example: A known alien enemy in possession of contraband is subject to summary apprehension without a warrant. Example: An alien enemy found within a restricted area without authority is subject to apprehension.

"In an emergency apprehensions may be made without a warrant.

"4. Searches and Seizures: A warrant authorizing the

search of the premises of an alien enemy for the presence of contraband may be obtained merely on application to the United States Attorney. It is only necessary to support the issuance of such a warrant that it be stated that the premises are those of an alien enemy. In an emergency where the time is insufficient in which to procure a warrant, such premises may be searched without a warrant.

"5. Mixed Occupancy Dwellings: The search of mixed occupancy premises or dwellings may be by warrant only. In emergencies involving contraband such as radio transmitter, it may be necessary to keep the premises under surveillance while a search warrant is procured. As previously noted, however, in such an emergency an alien enemy's premises may be searched for contraband without a warrant.

"6. Multiple searches: The term 'mass raid' will not be employed by the Attorney General. Instructions which have been or will be issued to United States Attorneys and to F.B.I. Special Agents will permit 'spot raids.' That is to say, if lists of known alien enemies with the addresses of each are prepared by the F.B.I. and warrants are requested to cover such lists, a search of all the premises involved may be undertaken simultaneously. Thus all of the alien enemy premises in a given area can be searched at the same moment.

"7. Much of the effective action will be facilitated by a complete registration. It is important that it go forward with dispatch. However, there should be no cessation in the vigorous implementation of the President's proclamations regarding alien enemies. It appears that considerable progress of a clarifying nature has been made. Only actual application of the streamlined mechanics can establish whether there is need for further change in the principles to be applied and the procedure to be followed."

A7.01

~~Footnotes~~
in ms. m.
J. D. Chaffet

FBI

Jan. 9, 1942

✓
Using notes to
+ meaningless -
Ennis said
per. no
attention

Memo for Ennis

For your information this is to advise that a conference was held on January 7 1942 by officers of the Naval Intelligence and the Military Intelligence at Seattle, Washington, at which time it was decided that both the Army and Navy Representatives would recommend to the general and admiral commanding the northwest area that all Japanese aliens be evacuated from the states of Oregon and Washington, in the immediate future. This recommendation was to include Japanese individuals who claimed U. S. citizenship but had been unable to prove their citizenship status.

It was also understood that a recommendation would be made that no passes be issued to orientals to travel in or enter into restricted areas, regardless of their citizenship status.

/s/ J. Edgar Hoover

✓
Hyer. ups in Army
did not follow thru up!

Jan. 23. 1942

The Hon. Francis Biddle
Attorney General of the United States
Department of Justice
Washington, D.C.

My dear General:

.
. . . . Japanese are permitted within 100 yards of our camouflaged coast defense guns.

. . . . suggestion that all Japanese, whether citizens or not, be placed in inland concentration camps. . . . if an American born Japanese. . . is really patriotic and wishes to make his contribution to the safety and welfare of his country, right here is his opportunity to do it, namely that by permitting himself to be placed in a concentration camp he would be making his contribution, or sacrifice to the welfare of this country. . . . millions of other native-born citizens are willing to lay down their lives, which is a far greater sacrifice, of course, than being placed in a concentration camp. . . . Of course, if they are not loyal enough to do this, perhaps they ought to be placed in the camp anyhow.

Leland Ford

Biddle-Ford

January 24, 1942

My Dear Mr. Congressman:

I have your letter of January 23, about the internment of Japanese on the West Coast. As you know, those who were considered dangerous have already been interned.

A registration is being made of all Japanese and plans are now being considered. After this registration is complete, it will show precisely who are Japanese citizens and where they are living, and then further steps will be taken.

Unless the writ of habeas corpus is suspended, I do not know any way in which Japanese born in this country, and therefore American citizens, could be interned. I should be very much interested in any suggestions along this line.

Sincerely yours,

(Biddle)

Honorable Meland M. Ford
House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

Any personal don't
start this son, Emm's
thanks.

✓
A7.01

Jan 28 1942

to Biddle from Leland Ford

Supplementing letter I sent to you yesterday, with which I forwarded over 80 letters received from residents of the Pacific Coast area urging that immediate steps be taken for the control of the Japanese in that area, I beg leave to send you herewith additional letters and telegrams to which I direct your attention.

I sincerely hope that you will have time to glance over these letter, as they are all written by substantial and intelligent people.

Please return these letters when they have served their purpose, in order that they may be replied to.

/s/ L. M. Ford

A 7.01

Justice Dept.
notified on
Jan 3 date

January 27, 1942

Honorable Leland M. Ford,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Congressman Ford:

The Secretary of State has referred to me a letter written by you to him on January 6, 1942 in which you enclosed a copy of a telegram received by you from Mr. Leo Carrillo, and in which you raise various questions concerning the problem of the Japanese on the Pacific coast.

A great deal of thought has been given to this problem, not only by the military authorities, but by this Department. Particularly close cooperation has been developed between Lieutenant General DeWitt and the various agencies in this Department. On my instruction Mr. James H. Rowe, Jr., flew to San Francisco and spent approximately a week in conference with General De Witt and with the Special Agent in Charge of the San Francisco Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This Special Agent in Charge has been named by J. Edgar Hoover as a special liaison agent to coordinate all Federal Bureau of Investigation activities in the western defense command with the activities of General DeWitt.

As a result of these conferences, a number of steps were taken and a number of decisions were made. The regulations requiring alien enemies to deposit firearms, radio transmitters, short wave radio receiving sets, cameras, and other prohibited articles were put into effect in the western defense command before these regulations were put into effect elsewhere. The United States Attorneys in the western defense command were instructed that they should issue executive search warrants to enter and search the premises of any alien enemy which the Federal Bureau of Investigation desired to search. The United States Attorneys in this area were further instructed that in case the Federal Bureau of Investigation desired to search premises in which it was thought that an alien enemy was present and in which he might be in possession of a prohibited article, a warrant was to be issued for the apprehension of such alien. As an incident of the arrest of the alien in the premises, a search might thereupon be had. Special forms for the application for such warrants and for the warrants themselves were prepared and sent by teletype to all United States Attorneys in the western defense command.

The proclamation of the President of December 7 and 8, 1941, provide that in those areas which are in the jurisdiction of the Attorney General, for the purpose of alien enemy control, the Attorney General is authorized to designate areas within which no alien enemy should reside or be found. This matter was thoroughly canvassed in the conferences between Lieutenant General DeWitt, Mr. Rowe, and the Special Agent in Charge of the San Francisco Field Office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It was agreed that the army authorities should furnish the Department of Justice with suggestions for two classes of restricted areas, the first being a class in which no enemy alien should be found at all, and the second being a class of areas in which an enemy alien enemy should not be found without permission. As soon as these areas have been decided upon, regulations implementing this phase of the Presidential Proclamation will be put into effect.

At the request of General DeWitt, the Department of Justice expedited its plans to require alien enemies to re-register and to be given certificates of identification, complete with photographs and fingerprints. This registration program will be carried out between February 2 and February 9, 1942, and after that time no alien enemy may lawfully be found without having on his person his certificate of identification. It was believed by all parties to the conference that this would be of great assistance in controlling the movements and activities of alien enemies.

As a result of these conferences, the decision of this Department is that the program I have outlined above, together with the extensive investigations which have been carried on by

the Federal Bureau of Investigation, would adequately control the problem of the Japanese population of the Pacific coast. For this reason, and also because of the legal difficulties presently involved in attempting to intern or evacuate the thousands of American born persons of Japanese race who are, of course, American citizens, this Department has not deemed it advisable at this time to attempt to remove all persons of the Japanese race into the interior of the country.

Very truly yours,

(signed) Francis Biddle

Attorney General

*No intention
of no plans yet
of evacuating
Citizens
Evans*

January 28, 1942

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Archibald MacLeish

FROM: A. H. Feller

SUBJECT: Japanese Situation on West Coast

I am informed by Jim Rowe that the Department of Justice is going ahead with plans to evacuate enemy aliens from two areas in California. After trying this as an experiment, they may proceed with a good many other areas. I told ~~him~~ him that the OFF would be prepared to do the following.

On receipt of word from Justice that they are releasing information relating to this evacuation, we will inform local press and radio in the affected areas to this effect: The action of the Department of Justice indicates that the Federal authorities have the situation well in hand and are dealing firmly with any critical situations relating to Japanese aliens. This makes it all the more important for private individuals and groups not to take any action with respect to enemy aliens, since such action may interfere with the necessary activities of Federal officers.

Rowe agreed with this line, adding the comment that it was important not to over-stress the line of good will towards all aliens, but to indicate that if toughness were needed, then the Federal authorities would be the ones to get tough.

I have asked Rowe to get in touch with me or with Poore when Justice decides to release information on this matter.

Rowe would very much like to be invited to any meetings of the CWI at which the Japanese problem is taken up.

cc: Mr. Rowe
Mr. Poore
Mr. Bell
Mr. Lewis

ahf:du

January 30, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Re: Control of Alien Enemies on the West Coast.

The steps taken by the Department to control alien enemies, particularly the Japanese, on the West Coast are:

1. Aliens suspected of disloyalty were apprehended immediately ~~after~~ after the outbreak of the war.
2. Fire arms, cameras, short wave radio sets, radio transmitters, and similar property, have, under regulations, been removed from the alien enemies.
3. All alien enemies on the West Coast will be fingerprinted, photographed, and identified (both as to residence and employment) between February 2nd and 9th; and later in February for the rest of the country.
4. On the recommendation of the Army, we have declared certain prohibited areas, such as the docks in San Francisco, where no aliens will be permitted to enter.
5. The Army is recommending "restricted areas", contemplating a strip of land along the West Coast reaching at times a width of thirty or forty miles. This will involve mass evacuation of 50,000 or 100, 000 aliens. Alien enemies may be permitted in the restricted areas under special licensing. The problem of resettlement, reemployment, etc., is, of course, very great. We are cooperating with Social Security, the Labor Department, and other agencies of the Government in this program.
6. American born Japanese, being citizens, cannot be apprehended or treated like alien enemies; probably an arrangement can be made, where necessary, to evacuate them from military zones. Study is being made as to whether, with respect to them, the writ of habeas corpus could be suspended in case of an emergency.

Respectfully submitted,

Francis Biddle
Attorney General

January 30, 1942

Re-write of Atty-Gen Memo of Jan. 30

CONTROL OF ALIEN ENEMIES ON THE WEST COAST

Re-written by
A.B.

The Department of Justice has taken the following steps to control alien enemies, particularly Japanese, on the West Coast:

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1. For more than a year before the outbreak of the war, potentially dangerous aliens were investigated and classified so that the lists of the more dangerous were prepared and ready for apprehension of these aliens.

2. Pursuant to prior plans and immediately upon the outbreak of the war, over 3000 alien enemies were apprehended by the FBI and placed in detention in the custody of the Immigration Service. Although as a matter of law alien enemies can be detained for the duration of the war without any hearing whatever, civilian hearing boards, each consisting of three prominent members of the community, were appointed to hear the cases of all detained alien enemies in order to give them an opportunity to establish that if released or allowed to be at large on parole they would not be dangerous to national security. The alien enemy is allowed to have a friend or adviser present at the hearing and is allowed to have witnesses to vouch for his loyalty. The recommendation of the hearing board is reviewed by the Department of Justice and a determination is made by an order of the Attorney General of release, parole or internment. If internment the alien is turned over to the War Department. If parole, he is required to report at frequent intervals to a responsible American citizen and less frequently to a parole officer of the Immigration Service.

see H. 344

3. The Proclamation of the President of December 7, 1941, the Sunday Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japanese, and the similar Proclamations of December 8, 1941 on the Germans and Italians, provided that alien enemies should not possess certain prohibited articles such as firearms, cameras, short-wave radio sets, radio transmitters and similar property. Regulations of the Attorney General were promptly issued requiring alien enemies to deposit such articles with the local police. ✓

4. The Proclamations also provided for the control of travel of all alien enemies and regulations of the Attorney General prohibited all alien enemies from traveling by airplane and required them to notify the United States Attorney before traveling ~~outside~~ outside of the community in which they live. ✓

5. The President's Proclamation of January 14, 1942, provided that all alien enemies should be required to apply for and obtain certificates of identification. These certificates will contain the photograph, a fingerprint, place of residence and occupation of each alien enemy and he will be required to carry this certificate with him at all times. Application for these certificates must be made between February 2nd and 7th in the eight states comprising the Western Defense Command (Arizona, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah and Washington) and between February 9th and ~~2~~ 28th in the remaining states. ✓
The requirement that aliens have these certificates on their persons at all times will provide an opportunity to determine at any time

~~whether~~ whether they are away from their residence or employment without permission to travel.

6. The Proclamations of December 7 and 8, 1941 also empowered the Attorney General to designate areas surrounding military installations, factories engaged in national defense production, important public works such as electric plants, reservoirs, bridges and wharfs from which alien enemies would be absolutely excluded or permitted to enter only under special restrictions. The Department of Justice requested the Army to recommend the areas which should be designated. After careful study the Army, on January 25, 1942, recommended some prohibited areas and restricted areas for California and is preparing similar recommendations for the other states in the Western Defense Command. Promptly thereafter the Attorney General designated 70 of the areas recommended as prohibited areas. Alien Enemies are required to leave 69 of the less populous of these prohibited areas before February 15th and 2 of the more populous before February 24th. These 2 are part of the San Francisco waterfront where no alien enemies reside but where many hundreds are presently employed, and a rectangle of 40 square miles around the municipal airport in Los Angeles where certain defense factories are located. The other areas are for the most part strategic areas along the coast. Additional prohibited areas will be designated as the recommendations are received from the Army.

After completion of the identification of alien enemies they shall be allowed in restricted areas which include large strips of land down the coast only upon special permission.

The removal of the aliens involves difficult problems of resettlement, reemployment and care of the property left behind. The Department of Justice immediately, upon receipt of the recommendations of the Army, convened a meeting of all of the Federal agencies able to assist in this program, including the Farm Securities Administration of the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Labor, the Federal Security Agency, the WPA and other organizations. The Federal Security Agency on behalf of the Department of Justice will coordinate the work of resettling aliens removed from prohibited areas.

7. American citizens of the Japanese race present a problem which is particularly difficult if they are subjected to any regulation additional to that placed upon other citizens. The Department of Justice and the War Department are conferring on the question whether the military situation is acute enough to require that any action be taken against such citizens. The Department of Justice is also making a study concerning the legal problems involved in taking action against such citizens. As factual study is being made to determine the most orderly method of handling migration, resettlement and reemployment of the alien enemies required to move by setting up prohibited and restricted areas and at the same time preventing either economic dislocations or morale impairment of the loyal Japanese population.

* * * * *

Dept of Justice
1602 U S Post Office & Courthouse
Los Angeles, Cal

Tom e Clark
A7.01

January 31, 1942

SPECIAL DELIVERY AIRMAIL

Edward J. Ennis, Director
Alien Enemy Control Unit
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ed:

I have several questions that have arisen that I am writing you about so that you can consider them before we talk over the telephone Monday.

1. I notice in the paper that I am supposed to be placing signs all around these areas that the Attorney General has designated. I have no signs, nor do I have any personnel to put them up. I wondered just what the plan was. It appears to me that the best way to work it would be to notify the occupants in each of the areas. The FBI could do this, or we could use the Immigration Service or the local police. Of course we might have some signs posted along the line of electioneering signs. I wish you would consider this and let me know in our conversation Monday just what the plan is.

2. Richard B. Hood, the Special Agent in Charge of The FBI here, has been cooperating with me fully. I learned from him today that he has never received any official notice that he is supposed to cooperate with me in working out our various problems. He tells me that he talked with the Bureau in Washington today and that they never heard of the program. As I told you over the phone, District Attorney Palmer, Hood, and myself conferred the other day and decided that it would be best to proceed with the warrants. After talking with you and Jim this morning, I again conferred with Hood and he told me he had not heard from the Bureau concerning the warrants. It was at this conference that he told me about his lack of authorization to cooperate with us. He has cooperated without authorization up to date, but it would be most helpful if you would have the proper party notify the Bureau there of what we are doing out here and instruct the Bureau to advise the local FBI offices in each of the States involved out here that they are to cooperate with us to the fullest extent. The FBI is rather technical, so I would suggest that you make my authority, insofar as cooperation with the FBI is concerned, full and complete, so that they will not have to be wiring back and forth in order to talk to me. These matters come pretty fast out here and bottlenecks such as this cause considerable embarrassment. Please suggest to the Bureau that each of their offices in these states be notified by teletype so that we can expedite the consideration of any problems that may arise.

3. The Naturalization Service advises me that they have sufficient quarters in their stations to take care of an additional 300 to 400 persons; hence, you can see that they do not have sufficient quarters to take care of the ones that are on the warrants. It would be my idea to have General DeWitt furnish the guards for these camps. If C.C.C. camps are available we could place a skele-

Jan, 31, 1942

ton force of the Naturalization Service in each one of them in order to take care of the paper work, letting all of the guard duty be formed by the Army. The Naturalization Service is short of men out here and they tell me it takes from 25 to 35 men for each camp. I will talk to General DeWitt about this Monday and let you know his reactions. In the meanwhile I thought you might talk to the Immigration Service in Washington and see if it is agreeable with them there. I talked with Mr. Ellis here, who is assistant to the man in charge of Immigration, who told me he thought the plan a good one.

As I advised you in my wire today, I will be at the Palace Hotel tomorrow, Monday morning at 9:00 we are going to drive up to Sacramento with General DeWitt. Accompanying us will be Mr. Thompson of the Department of Agriculture, who arrived in San Francisco today. I suppose we will drive back to San Francisco with General DeWitt later in the afternoon. If it is agreeable, I will call you after I get back. I will keep my room at the Palace Hotel in San Francisco, so if you would wire me there of any other plans you might have, I could get your wire upon my return. It may be late at night in Washington when I get back, so if you leave the office I could call you at home if you would put your home number in the telegram. If you have any suggestions for me before I go to the meeting, I will be at the hotel until around 8:00 or 8:30.

With best wishes, I am

Very truly yours,

TOM C. CLARK
Special Assistant to the Attorney General

copy

A7.01

Feb 3 1942

Memo for the Attorney General

Re: Japanese in California

I thought you would like to know that at a special meeting on January 30, 1942, at San Francisco, California, the National Headquarters of the Japanese-American Citizens' League passed a resolution to request the Federal Government to permit its members and their alien parents to evacuate West Coast areas voluntarily. I am informed that a petition will be forwarded to the appropriate governmental authority asking permission to move inland and resettle in order that all Japanese in the United States may be a producing and useful body rather than a liability.

/s/ John Edger Hoover
Director

Feb 8

Tom C. Clark, Coordinator, Alien Enemy Control Program for the Western Command, upon his return to Los Angeles Saturday, announced the following progress in the program for control of alien enemies:

1. Registration of alien enemies will be completed in Southern California Monday, February 9, after which a complete list of enemy aliens residing in each prohibited area will be prepared.
2. Effective dates on which evacuation of designated areas must be made are as follows: In Los Angeles County all "A" areas must be evacuated on or before February 15, 1942, except three of those areas, those being: No. 33, around the municipal airport and beginning at the shore line west of the intersection of Sepulveda Boulevard and Rosecrans Avenue, thence easterly along Rosecrans Avenue to Western Avenue, thence northerly on Western Avenue to Manchester Avenue, thence westerly along Manchester Avenue to the ocean; No. 34, located in Santa Monica between Centinella Street, Pico Street, Lincoln Boulevard, and Venice Boulevard; and No. 36, located at Inglewood, between Industrial Street, Centinella Boulevard, Exton Street, and Hazel Street. In the last three named areas evacuation must be made on or before February 24, 1942. In the remainder of Southern California, all "A" areas must be evacuated on or before February 15, 1942, except "A" area No. 48, which is located in San Diego County at the waterfront, along Beach Street, near the United States Marine Corps Base.
3. Specific boundary lines of every area are now available at each office of the Social Security Board. In Los Angeles this office is located at 623 East 8th Street; in other areas the office may be located by consulting the local telephone directory. Anyone who is in doubt as to whether he is now residing in a prohibited area should immediately consult the Social Security Board office, where correct information may be obtained. In addition to this information, the Social Security Board also has made arrangements to furnish all other details concerning the alien enemy program, and to aid in securing employment for those alien enemies who are without employment and who are deserving. The Social Security Board office will also render assistance in moving from prohibited areas those alien enemies who are in need thereof, and who are deserving.
4. Posters defining the bounds of each of the areas are now being prepared and will be placed on the boundary lines of each of the areas the first of the week. No personal notice to vacate will be given alien enemies.
5. Any alien enemies residing in any of the areas designated by the Attorney General after the effective date, is subject to internment.
6. The War and Navy Departments are now making re-surveys of the entire Coast, and additional areas in urban communities, particularly those where defense projects are in progress, will probably be announced in a few days. Additional areas in agricultural communities are not expected.

A7.01

January 31, 1942

Honorable Henry L. Stimson,
The Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I acknowledge your letters of January 25 and January 29, accompanying your maps and schedule recommending prohibited areas in the Western Defense Command.

In discussions with Mr. Rowe and Mr. Ennis of this Department, Major Bendetson reported that Lieutenant General DeWitt and the War Department has approved and desired the most widespread publication of the description and location of these prohibited areas, even though of a military nature, in order to render the prohibition as effective as possible.

Sincerely yours,

Francis Biddle
Attorney General

Copy to Mr. Rowe
Mr. Ennis

Feb 8 1942

Any other heading was concealed in the fold of the file and therefore was not copied.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

A7101 ✓

Tom C. Clark, Coordinator, Alien Enemy Control Program for the Western Command, after a week of intensive work with Army, Navy, and civil authorities at the Headquarters of the Western Defense Command, has perfected the machinery for the evacuation of all "A" areas in California, as per the schedule fixed by the Commanding General.

Upon being asked for comment as to press reports that Department of Justice was not moving swiftly enough, Clark declared:

"Let's get this straight. The Federal Government has a certain program. We who live on the West Coast are depending on the War and Navy Departments. The program we are carrying out is in accordance with the request made by these departments, that is, to evacuate these "A" areas of all enemy aliens. We are going to do that definitely. When additional steps are necessary, I am sure the War and Navy Departments will request them. If at any time the Department of Justice cannot carry out the requests of the Army and Navy, then I will recommend that restricted martial law be inaugurated. The people can depend on that."

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(more)

February 9, 1942

Hon. Francis Biddle
Attorney General of the United States
Washington, D. C.

My dear General:

This is a personal note to assure you of my sympathetic understanding of the grave problems with which you are struggling, and to hazard a few suggestions with respect to the Japanese problem.

To save your time, I will state conclusions only:

1. Japanese Enemy Aliens:

In the long run, it will be possible to utilize these aliens on various farming projects -- probably in small groups where needed on the Pacific Coast.

We should not move them directly from their present homes to such projects. They should first be assembled in a suitable "reservoir" from which they can be issued from time to time to such projects as are approved.

By doing it this way any public agency that asks for Japanese labor can be made to qualify with respect to suitable housing, food, treatment, protection, etc. In addition, it could be ascertained that the receiving agency is capable of safeguarding and returning the labor.

The evils of sending them directly from their present homes in prohibited areas into scattered farm communities are:

- a. In some cases they will be dumped into hostile communities.
- b. They may be used to displace legitimate labor and thus create an entirely new problem.
- c. The entire question of private exploitation would be raised. Bidding between agencies for or against alien labor would require decisions which, in turn, would add fuel to the growing flames.

A site for a local "reservoir" is available at Olancho, Inyo County, Calif. This is an oasis surrounded by high mountains and desert. The climate is equitable now, and is ~~xxx~~ cool enough for living purposes in the summer. As a site it will, I think, meet with the approval of General DeWitt.

The ground is entirely owned by the Federal government. It is served by a railroad over which only one train per week is now running. It is also served by an adequate state highway and

Feb. 9, 1942

is completely and entirely away from all contacts with other people. It is separated from the Pacific by the highest mountains in the United States. Permanent housing should be erected here. (Four hours from Los Angeles.)

It can be used now as a "reservoir" out of which farm labor, etc. will be drawn. Later it can be used for any one of a number of useful purposes -- not the least of which would be a military camp.

Under existing orders, aliens will soon have to vacate their homes in prohibited areas. This means that at this moment, at least, they are doubling up with Japanese families in the City of Los Angeles. Thus there will be an extremely high concentration of Japanese in an area in which the bulk of our white population is also concentrated.

I. It will be little short of a miracle if some "atrocity" stories do not soon reach the local public. One particularly horrible story from the Philippines or any one of our battlefronts in the Pacific would be enough to ignite the local powder keg. It would be impossible for martial law or anything else to stop the damage. Pent up war fury here has developed much faster than outlets for that fury, and if such a catastrophe should be precipitated, it would hit us at the very time when the Japanese have been drawn in from all of the outlying districts to the city proper. In short, we are now making a concentration camp of downtown Los Angeles.

The idea of having a "reservoir" to which enemy alien Japanese can be taken, I think, is the only way out -- regardless of disposition that may be made of them later on. Certainly there must be a place where they can be classified, examined, guarded and given humane treatment.

The site mentioned has been submitted to Mr. Tom Clark, who, in turn, has discussed it with both Governor Olson and General DeWitt.

No one, insofar as I know, has offered any objection to it, but in a few cases they are planning on taking the aliens directly from their present homes to some farm project. For the reasons mentioned above this will prove most unsatisfactory.

2. American Citizens of Japanese Parentage:

First, I should like to emphasize as emphatically as possible the fact that the local white men do not recognize the distinction between Japanese aliens and their sons.

It would seem advisable, therefore, that we set up as quickly as possible a type of organization along the identical lines of the old C.C.C. camps. In that case, you will recall, certain American citizens who came within prescribed conditions were given the opportunity to volunteer their services.

The American of Japanese origin should be given an opportunity to volunteer his services in a modified form of C.C.C. This would be for his own protection and for the general welfare

Feb. 9, 1942

of society.

If he did not join and wished to stay home and take his chances -- he would have that privilege.

Again I point out that we cannot stimulate citizens to the emotional pitch essential to all-out war effort on one hand, and expect on the other, ~~the~~ to have maintain the usual decorum and balanced emotional attitude.

* * * * *

In conclusion, therefore, my observations would indicate that the following steps should be pursued:

1. Establishment of a permanent in-and-out "reservoir" capable of housing approximately 15,000 men at Olancho -- or some equally desirable location.

2. Placing alien Japanese in such homes until they are classified and issued to farm or other work projects conducted by duly accredited, carefully investigated and regulated agencies of one or another layer of government.

3. That a modified form of the old C.C.C. set-up be established and made available to American citizens of Japanese parentage. The government's offer of help in their case would be strictly on a volunteer basis. I have a strong feeling that local pressure -- which is mounting rapidly -- will result in the majority of local American citizens of Japanese parentage volunteering for such camps.

4. I do not believe that families should be separated. On the other hand, I do believe that the projects on which these American citizens work should be located where there is a minimum concentration of population.

5. Finally, I wish again to emphasize the potential danger in what is happening even as I write these words: withdrawal of enemy aliens from all the forbidden areas into the highly congested central area of downtown Los Angeles.

* * * * *

May I take this opportunity to tell you how much I appreciate the enlightened and forceful administration that you have brought ~~to~~ to the Department of Justice.

If I can be of any service in any capacity whatever, I trust you will feel free to call upon me.

With warmest personal regards I beg to remain,

Yours most sincerely,

Manchester Boddy
Editor and Publisher
Los Angeles Daily News

MB:jgs

P. S. Since writing the above, I find that I shall be in Washington on February 12 to attend the East and West Banquet that evening. I shall arrive on the morning of the 12th at 10:30 a.m., and

Feb 9, 1942

will have the rest of the morning and the early afternoon free if for any reason you would like to contact me. I shall telephone your secretary on arrival.

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASH. D. C.

Feb. 9, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROWE

Please note the attached memorandum from Mr. Hoover to the effect that the Japanese-American Citizens' League want us to evacuate its members and alien parents. I think we should begin exploring with Mr. McNutt the possibility of having some refugee camps for the Japs, which we will need.

(initialed) FB
Francis Biddle
Attorney General

A7.01

February 10, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MESSRS. ROWE AND ENNIS

Many plans and programs have been submitted to me with reference to control of enemy aliens. It appears to me that public opinion is crystallizing favorably to control by the Federal Government. We have been attending meetings in an effort to convince people that we are following out the instructions of the Army and the Navy. Many difficult questions arise, however, which, at times, make it embarrassing to one appearing before large groups; — for example, yesterday I was questioned about the fact that Palos Verdes Estates was not included within an "A" area. For ~~that~~ your information, this property is located along the coast adjacent to the harbor. It is easy for one sitting on his front porch in this area to see the movement of every ship coming into the Los Angeles harbor as well as the progress of all defense measures around Terminal Island. It is also possible to see the movement of all planes from the fields near Riverside. The F.B.I. staged a raid along this area a few days ago and publicized the finding of radios, flashlights, etc. It appears to me that if the Army and Navy could designate an area surrounding this harbor as a military zone into which only those persons having a pass from the military authorities could enter, this would remove practically all of the criticism now directed at federal enforcement. A like zone around the San Francisco harbor would have the same results.

People want to have confidence in the authorities but when areas such as the one described above are left open, they begin to question the authorities. It would, therefore, be my suggestion that the Army and Navy officials in Washington be called into conference and such a plan discussed with a view to creating such zones. These restricted zones could be policed by the Army and the Navy, but the civil authorities could continue their enforcement of other laws; in other words, there could be a coordinated enforcement. Outside of the military zones, the civil authorities would have supreme command of enforcing restrictions.

There continues to be a clamor for removal of all Japanese regardless of citizenship. The people seem to have lost sight

Feb. 10, 1942

of the Germans and Italians who began the trouble in which we now find ourselves. This is true although the Germans and Italians outnumber the Japs two to one. Although we have continually called this fact to the attention of the groups with whom we have met, they follow the same course, to wit, the removal of all Japanese from the area. We, of course, have taken the position that we can only control the enemy aliens. There is no criticism of this position, but suggestions are made either that additional laws be passed or that military zones be created so that all persons may be properly dealt with.

A recent suggestion for handling this problem was made by Manchester Boddy who is editor and publisher of the "Daily News" of Los Angeles. I am inclosing a copy of a letter he addressed to the Attorney General on February 9. Mr. Boddy has no criticism of our progress to date, but he feels that it will be necessary ultimately to remove all of the Japanese, and ~~it~~ it is with this in view that he makes the proposal attached. I do not think that such drastic steps are necessary.

TOM C. CLARK,
~~TOM C. CLARK,~~
Special Assistant to the Attorney General.

Feb 10 1942

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Justice Relating
✓

Mr. Henry P. Dobring
Northwestern Pacific Railroad Co.
Ukiah, Cal.

Dear Sir:

The Attorney General has referred to me your letter of February 2nd, in which you suggest that the hydroelectric plant on the Eel River, which was formerly a part of the property of the Snow Mountain and Water Power Company and is now operated by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, be designated as a restricted area. I thank you very much for ~~the~~ making this suggestion.

The designation of these areas, however, involved the exercise of military judgment. Accordingly, the Department of Justice has not sought itself to determine which areas were of such military importance as to warrant designation, but has, in every case, relied upon the recommendations of the Secretary of War. In other words, although the areas are designated by the Attorney General, he acts solely upon the recommendation of the Secretary of War.

JAMES ROWE, JR.

by /s/ Edw. J. Ennis

*In the 1st attempt to get
citizens out, army failed.*

Feb 10 1942

Hon. James Forrestal,
Undersecretary of the Navy
Washington, D. C.

*REVIEW
FOR ID CHAPTER*

*Army District
to further. Alien
just prohib. had
(check ?)*

A 7.01

My dear Mr. Forrestal:

Upon receipt of your letter of January 27, 1942, pertaining to alien enemies on Bainbridge Island, this Department communicated with the War Department which previously had advised us that all recommendations for the prohibited areas on the West Coast by the Navy Department would be transmitted through Lieutenant General De Witt with the necessary information concerning the number of alien enemies residing in the prohibited areas. The War Department undertook to obtain this information in cooperation with your Department on the West Coast.

On February 3rd Secretary of War recommended designation of a prohibited area including Bainbridge Island and also including approximately the western half of the State of Washington and the cities of Seattle and Tacoma. I advised the Secretary of War of the difficulty of the evacuation and resettlement problems created by including these cities, and I am awaiting his further advice upon his receipt of data from Lieutenant General De Witt indicating the military reasons supporting the recommendations.

In a letter dated February 6 this Department is advised by the War Department that the Commandant of the Thirteenth Naval District recommends, through Lieutenant General De Witt, that Bainbridge Island be designated as a "military" area prohibited not only to all alien enemies but also to American citizens of the Japanese race.

This Department is authorized under the Presidential Proclamations of December 7th and 8th, 1941, to designate prohibited areas for alien enemies, but not for American citizens. The War Department is being advised that Bainbridge Island will be designated as a prohibited area for alien enemies if this is sufficient to meet the military situation. It is my opinion that the only way in which American citizens could be moved from the area would be to declare the area a military zone under partial military law, possibly under Executive Order 8972 (F. R. 6420) and to exclude from that area all civilians except those having passes issued at the discretion of the Commanding Officer.

If, therefore, it is your opinion that Bainbridge Island should be declared a military area, then the Department of Justice cannot carry out the assignment. If it is your opinion that it will be sufficient to bar all alien enemies from the Island, then the Department of Justice is prepared to declare the area prohibited to them.

I will appreciate it if you will inform me at your earliest convenience of the steps which you desire the Department of Justice to take.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES ROWE, JR.

The Assistant to the Attorney General

By Edward J. Ennis
Director, Alien Enemy Control Unit

*Harry & Amy
Acad 10200 transmitt
from the Island.*

*This 1st request
to get rid of citizens. Known
"military law area" - known
over distinction between
citizens & aliens*

February 12, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROWE

Please note the attached letter from
Manchester Boddy, Editor and Publisher of the
Los Angeles Daily News, and his suggestions. I
will call you if he comes in.

Francis Biddle
Attorney General

Deat Just.

PRESS RELEASE
February 14, 1942

A 7.01

There are three separate parts of this problem, all of which must be recognized in working out an adequate final solution. They are the military necessities, legal considerations, and the civil problems of housing, transportation, food, clothing, etc.

The Federal Government, the Army and Navy Commands, and the various civic governments have recognized from the beginning that these three phases each involve complicated questions, and have worked untiringly and with a most commendable spirit of cooperation to assist me in securing all of the facts which I am immediately placing before the Attorney General at Washington.

My numerous conferences with the Army and Navy Military Commands leave no doubt in my mind that they have a thorough understanding and control of the immediate military necessities. They recognize, too, that further steps are necessary to assure additional safeguards from potential dangers, but have sensibly refrained from unnecessarily drastic action pending the working out of coordinated solutions to the other phases of the problem. I think we should give our military commands full credit for having maintained a realistic viewpoint in the face of confused and sometimes emotional demands.

The legal phases of the problem are primarily created by the provisions which the founding fathers wrote into our Constitution for the protection of citizens. We have already placed all known dangerous enemy aliens in custody, and most of the remaining enemy aliens will be taken care of under the orders already issued governing the 86 prohibited areas and 12 restricted ones. The legal problem primarily revolves around the 60,000 Japanese who are American citizens. Regardless of how much we may recognize the necessity of evacuating these people, it must be thoroughly understood that evacuation cannot be legally undertaken, nor can they be adequately controlled in other ways except

through emergency orders. The Department of Justice, in pointing out the legal problem, does not believe for one minute that it should stand as an insurmountable obstacle to any vitally necessary action. But the people of the Pacific Coast should thoroughly understand that there is a legal problem, and there is apparently only one legal solution, namely, emergency action.

The civilian and physical problems start with the fact that we must be prepared to deal with some 266,000 aliens and children of aliens in California alone, of which some 93,000 are Japanese. Before undertaking any large-scale movement of these people, or any substantial part of the, we must recognize and solve numerous problems of housing, feeding, and so on. Numerous excellent suggestions have been made by Coast legislators and citizens, and studies are under way of the practical cooperation which must be arranged to solve this phase of the problem with particular attention to minimizing dislocation of California's economy, and especially its agricultural situation.

The fact remains that, in spite of the complications and difficulties, we just cannot take any chances. Therefore, as requested by the War Department, I am taking all steps necessary to effect the evacuation of all enemy aliens from the areas now designated, and recommending that work projects be created for these aliens at carefully selected interior points where they may be interned under the provisions of the Geneva Convention.

I intend to further recommend that all persons who are deemed inimical to the defense efforts be removed from vital areas already designated, and from such additional vital areas as may be designed by the War and Navy Departments. Persons other than enemy aliens that are evacuated from such areas should also be provided with productive employment at selected interior points where they may have the protection of the Federal Government.

To make these plans effective, I shall recommend the use of such emergency orders as are necessary for immediate results.

Cool Heads or Martial Law

BY ROBERT BENDINER

Washington, February 7

IF THE nerves of the Western Congressional bloc can be soothed, if inflammatory commentators on the "enemy-alien menace" can be diverted to more harmless pursuits, and if the press now working on Martin Dies's "Yellow Book" happily breaks down, we may yet be spared a disaster on the West Coast. With both the Department of Justice and the army threading their way through a veritable minefield, the last thing that is needed is dogmatic advice—from any quarter. What might be helpful, however, is a wider understanding that dangers can come from more than one direction and that there is no simple solution to the problem posed by the presence of some 112,000 Japanese and Japanese-Americans in the three Pacific Coast states.

The first inclination of the military, not unreasonably, is to "Remember Pearl Harbor." While sabotage actually had little to do with that débâcle, Secretary Knox to the contrary notwithstanding, there is no doubt that unrestrained espionage paved the way. Neither is there any doubt that Japanese agents have been doing a similarly systematic job on the West Coast. Upward of 2,000 alleged agents of the Tokyo government have already been arrested, including in their ranks members of the armed services of Japan and of secret military societies. More than one humble fisherman has turned out to be an officer of the imperial navy, and it is highly probable that the coast has been carefully charted all the way from Seattle to San Diego. Propagandists too have long been at work, greatly aided by the 248 Japanese-language schools that flourish on the Coast. Although not more than a third of the country's Japanese racial population is alien born, roughly half of the *Nisei*, or American-born Japanese, have, either under threat or by conviction, registered with Japanese consuls as "dual citizens." Some 15,000 of them have in fact been educated in Japan and have returned to this country, most out of preference but some, no doubt, in line of duty.

Given these facts and figures, the most phlegmatic will admit the probability that in the event of an attack on the Coast, whether by sea or air, a certain amount of aid and comfort would await the enemy. In the circumstances the army mind moves inevitably toward a radical solution: clear all "enemy aliens" out of the coastal region and take no chances.

Here the enormous complexities of the problem begin to crop up, and they are by no means restricted to the field of civil liberties. In the first place, those who would

be affected by such a move are limited to Japanese who came to this country before the Exclusion Act of 1924 and whose average age, I am told, is something like sixty-three; some 20,000 Germans, many of whom are anti-Nazi refugees; and 50,000 Italians, whom almost nobody regards as enemies, much less as a menace. Clearly, then, if a sweeping approach is in order and is to make sense, it would have to take into account the native-born generation as well as the alien. And that is precisely what is being demanded in many quarters of the Far West, with heated Congressional echoes in Washington.

If General De Witt, in command of the Ninth Corps Area, should insist on such a measure as a military necessity, it will be hard for the Department of Justice, which is technically charged with the enemy-alien problem, to refuse. But in that case Attorney General Biddle is prepared to step out of the picture entirely and turn full jurisdiction over to the army. He would almost have to do this, in fact, since the forced migration that would result could never be handled by a handful of lawyers in Washington and a corps of FBI men. Such a solution, moreover, involving suspension of the writ of habeas corpus and a score of other fundamental civil rights, would come with better grace from the military than from the Department of Justice.

There is no jurisdictional squabble over this hot potato. On the contrary, Justice officials do not conceal their distress over the difficulties involved. Nevertheless, the Attorney General is not ready to surrender the problem to the mercies of martial law; first, because he is not convinced of the necessity and, secondly, because he is fully convinced of the extensive evils in such a solution.

The worst of these evils, from the standpoint of national defense, is economic rather than legalistic. Aside from those in domestic service and a handful of business and professional men, a great proportion of the Japanese on the Coast are either fishermen (as are many of the Italians) or truck gardeners. From 30 to 40 per cent of California's truck gardening is in Japanese hands, and in some parts of the state the raising of green vegetables is virtually a Japanese monopoly, with stores and markets wholly dependent on their production. Important at any time, the yield of the Japanese truck farms is vital with the sudden quartering of something like half a million troops in California. Nor is it feasible to supplant these Japanese farmers in a hurry. Trained in a tradition of intensive cultivation, they have learned to make their few acres yield down to the last square foot. As a rule,

moreover, an entire family works a farm, so that even on a strictly numerical basis it would take more than one Okie to replace a Japanese farmer. Complicating matters still further is the fact that for the most part these garden plots are naturally located near the centers of population, in the vicinity of which most of the newly built defense plants are to be found.

Almost as serious a problem as what to do about the farms is the question of what to do with the evicted farmers. No arrangements whatever have been made, and as far as I can gather, nobody yet knows exactly what is to be done, if anything, with those who are scheduled to be expelled from their homes and farms in the prohibited areas already prescribed, though the matter of resettling them is being studied by the Federal Security Administration. There has been some informal toying with the idea of setting up voluntary camps, but it seems all too probable that vigilante pressure would soon remove the optional aspect of this solution, and while it is true that many loyal aliens would be a lot safer in a camp than on the streets of a bombed San Francisco, "protective custody" has too ugly a ring to be readily adopted.

For the time being the Attorney General's office is satisfied to tack and haul, with three main objectives in view. It is cooperating closely with the army in clearing aliens of the enemy countries from limited areas of military importance; it is vigorously tightening the net about enemy agents through curfew regulations in large areas and through the institution of alien certificates throughout the country; and finally it is endeavoring, with increasing success, to convince worried Congressmen and the country itself of the dangers of hysteria and ill-considered administrative extremes. How long it will be able to pursue this restrained and probably nerve-racking course will depend in part on the country's capacity to keep its head. If the first regional exodus, scheduled for February 24, goes through in good order and the jittery are convinced that they can be protected without wholesale expulsions, we shall probably be over the worst hump. If there is a military "incident" on the Coast before then, or some sudden and spectacular act of sabotage, it will be almost impossible to avoid an explosion that will blow away the last shreds of moderation and good sense.

The Plight of the Nisei

BY HOWARD COSTIGAN

EARLY in the evening of the first blackout at Portland, Oregon, the Smith family were belatedly tacking blankets across the dining-room windows and wishing they had eaten dinner earlier. There was a knock at the door and a shouted command to "Open up!" When a Japanese soldier stepped in his front door, Mr. Smith didn't look twice or wait for any explanations. He knew what had happened. As he bolted through the dining-room and out the back way he shrieked a warning to his family: "The invasion is here!" The fact that the soldier was an American and that he wore a United States army uniform wasn't nearly as apparent at first glance as the fact that racially he was Japanese.

Here, essentially, is the problem of the West Coast Japanese. His physical characteristics make his position at present almost unbearable. No matter what he does he is regarded with suspicion. A young Japanese student riding on a bus in a Los Angeles suburb was so upset by the rest of the passengers staring at him that he burst into tears. Suspicion of all Japanese, including Japanese-Americans, has reached a danger-point on the West Coast. Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles—elected as a liberal on a fusion ticket—recently fired thirty-nine American-born Japanese on the ground that it was impossible to prove that they had not registered at the

Japanese consulate as "dual citizens." Congressional mail, man-on-the-street interviews, and letters to the editor indicate a crescendo of alarm which threatens to evolve into something ominous. "If there's an air raid here, a lot of those Japs are going to get killed. Throw them in a concentration camp and work it out after the war is over!"

Almost since the first Japanese emigrated to our Pacific Coast there has been bitterness against them. Proverbially thrifty, they soon displayed an irksome tendency to save their money and establish businesses of their own rather than work for other people. The suggestion, a few weeks ago, that they be removed from pension and relief rolls aroused little interest because so very few cases were involved. In the city of Portland, Oregon, for example, with a Japanese colony of only 1,680, the local Chamber of Commerce lists "330 professional men and women and business firms of Japanese ownership." More than a hundred hotels and apartment houses there were Japanese-owned. Employees of the Northern Pacific Railway at Seattle and Auburn, both with large Japanese populations, have had to work for fairly low wages because of the competition of Japanese contract laborers. Now they have delivered an ultimatum that "either the Japs go or we will." The defense value of the railroad, they explain,

is such that it cannot be jeopardized by allowing potential saboteurs to work on it.

The *Nisei*, American-born Japanese, have been quick to volunteer their services for America's defense, but Japanese-Americans in the army have been moved away from coast camps and Japanese-Americans doing civilian defense work are barred from air-raid service. For, as one local observer put it, "what householder could look with equanimity at a Japanese face at the door when the sirens are screaming for an air raid?" The Japanese-American Citizens League, organized in 1930, is rallying its 10,000 members to activity in civilian defense work. A third of the Japanese community in Seattle attended a meeting sponsored by the league and earnestly pledged themselves to do everything possible, from volunteering in the army to buying defense bonds, to aid a "victorious prosecution of the war." But a population which regards Japanese sea and air raids on its coast as imminent isn't soothed by pledges. The morning papers on December 9 carried statements of loyalty by three prominent Japanese. That evening two of them were arrested as alleged subversive agents.

Stories which began to leak out concerning fifth-column activity in Hawaii, some accurate and others completely unfounded, were such as to alarm even those who had kept their heads before. Some of the Japanese pilots shot down at Pearl Harbor were said to be wearing Honolulu High School and Oregon State College rings. Extremely detailed spy information was indicated by the fact that empty hangars were ignored, those with planes bombed. Officers' quarters near the field and roads leading to it were machine-gunned to prevent pilots from reaching their planes. Other roads were effectively blocked by trucks driven across them from side to side. Japanese agents were able to judge from reports on the supplies ordered by the navy from various local vegetable dealers just when the major part of the fleet would be at Pearl Harbor. Unlicensed short-wave stations were found to have been operated by Japanese residents during the raid. Directing arrows were discovered cut in the sugar cane.

As soon as war broke out, FBI agents on the Coast started arresting those suspected of subversive activity or regarded as potentially dangerous. All financial transactions with enemy aliens were immediately banned. (Licenses have now been worked out under which those Japanese who have not left the country since June 17, 1940, can continue to do business as usual with only periodic reports to the Federal Reserve Bank. Others are allowed by their banks amounts under \$500 a month for living expenses.) All cameras and short-wave radios had to be surrendered to the police. No traveling was allowed without police permission. Identification cards had to be carried by all enemy aliens.

These measures meant real hardship. Tenants were

told to withhold rents due Japanese landlords. Employers discharged persons they were not allowed to pay. Blue food stamps indorsed by a Japanese were not honored at local banks. Seattle, mostly dependent on Japanese truck gardeners, found itself with only 10 per cent of its normal supply of fresh vegetables, and when Italy joined the war a few days later, most of that tithe disappeared. Housewives laid in huge supplies of canned vegetables, leaving those stores which weren't boycotted with almost empty shelves. In Seattle, which ranks first in amount of coast-defense expenditures, there has been a 60 per cent decline in Japanese retail business since the war, and more than twenty Japanese business firms have closed down. When a local Japanese leader who had been held three weeks on charges of subversive activity asked that he be permitted to pledge property in lieu of cash for his \$25,000 bail since all his funds were frozen, the judge refused. He spent in jail the additional month the government said it needed to prepare its case. Health Department offices were swamped by Japanese-Americans who needed birth certificates to prove their citizenship so that they could keep their jobs or continue in business.

Undoubtedly the rapid and widely publicized measures taken by the federal government against enemy aliens helped to prevent race riots. It wouldn't have taken much to turn against the local Japanese the mob of 2,000 that broke twenty-six plate-glass windows of stores left lighted during Seattle's first blackout. Newspaper accounts of the murder of a Seattle Chinese during a blackout on December 12 were written on the assumption that the man had been mistaken for a Japanese. Local Chinese and Filipinos felt it advisable to start wearing identifying buttons and putting emblems on their cars. It was suggested that all Japanese be interned for their own protection. The fire that broke out on December 14 in Seattle's public market, in which many stalls are tended by Japanese and Italians, was put down as of incendiary origin.

As the suspect list grows and the FBI becomes increasingly overburdened, faith in its power to shadow effectively more than 100,000 first- and second-generation Japanese is called into question by panic-minded vigilantes, who would, old Western style, take the law into their own hands. Although there is no record of any sabotage so far, the government's establishment of "prohibited areas" and curfew regulations has been roundly denounced as "short of protection." A committee of West Coast Congressmen has unanimously agreed that all Japanese, aliens and citizens alike, should be moved from the West Coast. A feasible compromise would be to leave on the Coast those Japanese whose businesses are essential and have them carry on under surveillance of the FBI, which, while constantly on the alert against possible sabotage, would also, and equally for the sake of war efficiency, suppress the ancient Western curse of vigilante rule.

Emm
Feb 16 1942

A7.01
Amy 30

Mr. Max Ascoli,
23 Gramercy Park South,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. Ascoli:

I have your letter of February 12 and the enclosed memorandum.

The suggestions in the memorandum have been under consideration in this Department. Of course, it is our first job to determine the cases of alien enemies in detention and search out and apprehend all of them who may be dangerous to national security. Until that is done it is assumed, as you may have observed from the press reports of this Department's attitude, that as a class, alien enemies in the United States are friendly until evidence to the contrary appears.

A study is now being made to determine whether it is feasible to examine each of our 1,250,000 alien enemies to determine whether he or she is friendly, neutral or inimical. It may be better to adhere to the presumption that all are friendly and subject only to general regulations until proved otherwise and to devote all our energies to discovering the dangerous alien enemies. On the other hand, certain morale values might be obtained by the classification if it could be done within a reasonable time.

/s/ Francis Biddle
Attorney General

FBI
Washington, D. C.
Feb 17 1942

Dept. of Justice

A7.01

AK!

Memo for Mr. Edw. J. Ennis

Reference is made to your memorandum of February 12, 1942, in which you requested that arrangements be made for appropriate policing of the prohibited territories designated in the states of California, Washington, Oregon, and Arizona.

I Wish to advise that the field divisions of this Bureau located in the states mentioned above were advised on February 14, 1942, of your request and appropriate arrangements have been made for policing the prohibited areas in order that it may be determined that all enemy aliens have vacated these areas and will not attempt to return.

/s/ John Edgar Hoover

February 17, 1942

Manchester Boddy
Daily News
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sir:

I have this week at your request, inspected various sites suitable for Jap detention camps. I have also taken same up with Colonel Kelton V.S.E.D. Los Angeles who has had many sites offered for various flying fields and camps. He co-operated and also warned me where to stay away from projected Army projects. My first ideas, Imperial Valley: too close to All Year Canal, besides terrific opposition of local farmers. Blythe district: too close to Parker Dam, and power lines etc.

East Antelope Valley; new army projects, Yermo Depot now building. Muroc Dry Lake District; Army Bomber range etc.

Through process of elimination I have come to the conclusion that Owens Valley offers the best solution.

The city of Los Angeles owns vast acreage here, and although some opposition would be met by natives and possibly by city council, remember they are the ones squawking about Japs here now and it would be rather ~~xxx~~ ridiculous for the city to refuse to furnish their own site as a refuge for Japs that are already in the city.

I recommend a site not too close to Bishop nor too close to Hawaii Dam, some level spot between Independence or Big Pine and Bishop, where thousands of fertile acres could be farmed.

There is no aqueduct to worry about at this point, no large power projects, ~~xxx~~ nor any important strategic army bases contemplated. The nearest house or town would be ten miles.

Japs could be used to propagate trout at the various hatcheries. They could be used to develop mountain roads, clearing down timber in the vast Sierras, work at the soda plants, and raise everything they need from corn to hogs.

The local residents are mostly living on city owned property under leases, therefore should not squawk loud or long. In fact since they are all largely dependent on tourist trade, hunters and fishermen, which this year will probably be largely non-existent, they will possibly welcome the opportunity to get in on the construction work and furnishing of supplies incidental to the camp.

This site would be ideal for isolation as there is only one road leading to it across the desert from Mojave or across Death Valley.

The Sierra Nevadas offer an insurmountable blockade on the West.

The railroad leading to the camp operates only once a week or when necessary.

I still have my scouts out and any further information will be given you as soon as available.

Sincerely yours,
M. W. DOWNS
DOWNS ENGINEERING CO. * DOWNS CONSTRUCTION CO.

DAILY NEWS
Los Angeles, California

February 18, 1942

Office of the
Publisher

Hon. Francis Biddle
Attorney General of the U. S.
Washington, D. C.

My dear Attorney General:

Here is an unsolicited letter that comes closer to expressing the innermost feelings of Americans of Japanese parentage than any of the numerous reports I have read. I am forwarding it for your personal information, and while it is quite lengthy, I believe you will find it worth while. You will notice the feeling on the part of this boy that Americans of Japanese parentage would really appreciate an opportunity to be placed at work on some project.

On further thought, I am still convinced that a rehabilitation project for returned soldiers should and could be started now in secluded areas where these American Jap citizens could perform useful services, resulting in the establishment of great rehabilitation camps, ready for use when they are needed as our boys return from the many battlefronts of the world. We have the locations in our invigorating mountain and desert country.

I am also enclosing herewith the memorandum, just as Mr. Downs handed it to me, with respect to the Olancho location.

I trust I am not burdening you with this information, but I am sure you will be able to pass it on ~~the~~ to the key men in your very able organization who are struggling with the problem.

Yours very truly,

Manchester Boddy (Signed)
Editor and Publisher

MB:jgs
Encls.

1660 Rose Villa St.
Pasadena, Cal.
Feb. 18, 1942

Mr. Loyd Wright,
111 West 7th Street
Los Angeles

Dear Mr. Wright:-

This will confirm my conversation with you of this afternoon upon the question of the mass evacuation of all Japanese from California. A Variety of motives have brought about the increasing demands from local individuals and local institutions for the mass evacuation of all Japanese - aliens and citizens alike - from California, or, in some instances, for their removal to a certain specified distance from the Pacific coast line. Amongst these motivating impulses may be numbered the following:

(1) A genuine desire for Security, based upon the widely spread belief that the presence of a large "Japanese" population renders probable wide-spread fifth column work, espionage, etc. This is attributable, in part of course, to the part played in Honolulu by Japanese fifth columnists and the undue emphasis played up in the papers for this "explanation" for the disaster in Pearl Harbour, whereas, in fact, this is far from being more than a contributing factor. The dangers of the Japanese organization on the West Coast, in my opinion, consisted roughly of 75% observation, 20% sabotage and 5% fifth column work. All which has been observed in California up to the outbreak of the war is already known in Tokyo and care must be taken to minimize possibilities of observation of new fortifications, movements of troops, movement of ships, etc., etc. The Naval Intelligence and the F.B.I. have probably accounted for the bulk of those "Japanese" individuals who would engage in such work, in sabotage and in fifth column activities. It must be kept in mind when considering the "Security" to be derived from the mass evacuation of all Japanese, that the Japanese in all probability employed many more "whites" than "Japanese" for carrying out their work and this "white" danger is not eliminated by the evacuation of Japanese.

(2) Economic Competition in Vegetable Markets, etc.

There is evidence both in the press and in activities, of a desire to eliminate "Japanese" from the truck gardening business which, up to the present, has been dominated by Japanese particularly in the marketing and distribution phases. In Orange County for example and also in Stockton, there is a demand for the removal of all Japanese from a position of operating farms combined with a demand for their retention for use as farm labourers.

(3) Pressure from Big Business.

In the belief that the continued presence of Japanese in Southern California may result in the establishment of new defense industries in other localities and may even result in the transfer of certain defense industries from Southern California to other States, There has been much pressure on Mayor Bowron for immediate removal of all Japanese.

(4) Newspaper Hysteria.

Hearst seems to be behind a good deal of this. There have been played up in the papers highly sensational accounts of anti-American activities. The Martin Dies reports (which in the main have accused the Japanese spy organizations of acquiring certain information, almost all of which appeared in detail in American newspapers and magazines!!) have fanned the flame. This has been heightened, too, by the lectures of Mr. James R. Young, the broadcasts of John B. Hughes and the like.

(more)

Feb. 18, 1942

(5) Politicians

In an endeavour to please the bulk of voters in California (who in the main seem to favour the expulsion of all Japanese), Mayor Bowron, Governor Olson and others have taken stands entirely opposed to the utterances of the Federal Government and, in the case of both gentlemen, statements have been issued which are not calculated to ease the position; on the contrary, they have directly aided in the creation and extension of hysteria, either through ignorance or with calculated appreciation of the fact that this is an "election year."

(6) The "Vigilante" Tradition in California.

Need I make any comments?

(7) The absence of full reports from Washington.

The failure of the Federal Government to reveal full particulars of the disaster at Pearl Harbour to the American public has been conducive to the spread of many wild rumours which amongst many powerful Womens' Organizations in California have grown both in volume and extent, thus adding to hysteria and their demand for removal of all Japanese "before it is too late and we all wake up dead".

Objections to Mass Evacuation of all Japanese:

The Japanese on the West Coast may be divided into "Issei" or first generation Japanese, born in Japan and thus unable, under American law to acquire American citizenship (although all of them have been here for at least eighteen years and many of them for thirty, forty and more years, and the "Nisei" or second-generation Japanese who possess American citizenship. Had it not been for legal bars, at least three-quarters of the Issei would be American citizens today. I have many objections to the mass evacuation of all Japanese which I will list but before doing so, I wish to go on record as advocating the immediate removal from defense districts of all individuals, regardless of race or citizenship, if such a step is considered advisable, not by politicians, but by the Army and the Navy.

(1) Creation of Dissatisfaction and Probable Sabotage.

If all Japanese, aliens and citizens alike, are evacuated from California, they will, they assure me, regard it as evidence of distrust of them, as a body, by the American authorities and this will be keenly resented even if it is coupled with the mass evacuation of alien Italians and Germans. Two-thirds of the Japanese are American citizens and many of them have shown their loyalty in many ways, not the least of which is the assistance they have given to the F.B.I. and to Naval Intelligence. Some 5,000 of them are in the American Army, many of whom were volunteers. They have contributed to Defense Funds, have purchased Defense Bonds and done Red Cross work, etc., to a greater extent than any other body of citizens of like size and means. If they are all lumped, through stupidity, as "dangerous aliens" and treated as such, sabotage ultimately will be the answer and this will be sabotage not for the love of Japan but for anger against the American government.

(2) Place of Settlement.

All proposals for mass evacuation so far have not contained any hint as to the proposed area for resettlement which so far has had a very bad effect upon the morale of the Japanese.

(3) Citizenship.

Mayor Bowron, Leland Ford and others harp upon "dual citizenship." I am more interested in the preservation of the loyalty of the Nisei citizens we now have. This loyalty is worth preservation but, if they are all herded into camps, their loyalty will be extinguished and their and our situation after the war will be a much larger problem than it is at the present time.

(more)

Feb. 18, 1942

(4) Preservation of Unity

Mass evacuation of Japanese will be a blow to national unity, and if this is done on purely racial grounds, we will be the losers in the long run as Japanese propaganda inevitably will utilize such an act to swing, on racial grounds, the Chinese and the British Indians into their camp and against us, thus possibly putting 700,000,000 allies into the hands of our enemies.

Suggestions for Treatment of the Japanese Problem.

- (1) The entire removal of this problem from the hands of the local civil authorities.
- (2) The removal of all alien Japanese from any district regarded by the Army and Navy as advisable and their resettlement with federal aid, to districts where they may engage in peaceful business and farming, but, for the sake of the morale of their sons and daughters - the Nisei - where they will not suffer economic and other restrictions.
- (3) The similar removal of those alien Italians and alien Germans, who, after individual examination, it is considered advisable to have moved in the judgment of the Army and Navy.
- (4) The placing of entire control in the hands of the Army and the Navy, who are responsible for the conduct of the war on the grounds that they, too, are responsible for national defense and this question is one of national defense and national defense alone or it should be so.
- (5) The retention in the American Army of all Nisei soldiers. The worst possible thing to be done, which has been advocated by one local military gentleman, would be to take all Nisei soldiers out of the army and make then an armed guard for their parents. I understand that their officers think highly of the qualities of the Nisei under their command.
- (6) Generally, the treatment of all individual Nisei as entirely loyal citizens until and unless it can be shown in individual cases that they do not merit such trust, i.e., treat them as American citizens which is just what they are.
- (7) For the sake of the democratic ideal, for which we are fighting, I would appeal for the preservation, if possible, of all citizenship rights and obligations of all citizens, regardless of their differing racial origins, failing which, for the same treatment to be accorded all citizens in this country.
- (8) Authorization to be given to the Federal Authorities here, the Naval Intelligence, the Army Intelligence and the F.B.I. to arrest any American citizens whose conduct is considered by them to be detrimental to the proper carrying out of the war and, after trial and if found guilty, for their imprisonment for the duration of the war.
- (9) Detention of all Nisei who spent 5 to 10 years in Japan, their parents and all members of all Japanese nationalistic associations on the West Coast.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) R. P. Alexander

Feb 18 1942

MEMO FOR MAJOR LEMUEL B. SCHOFIELD
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I am transmitting herewith your file of correspondence with Hon. Henry C. Dworshak concerning the letter he received from Mr. Leo Elton.

This unit on Feb. 12, 1942 informed the Congressman that:

"The problem discussed in Mr. Elton's letter has been and is under serious consideration, and all action has been and will be taken to minimize the possibility of any danger from the Japanese. To date a number of Japanese aliens have been apprehended and certain areas have be designated as 'prohibited' areas and 'restricted' areas/. Further steps will be taken and be assured that this Department is cooperating fully with the War Department in its efforts to eliminate all sources of trouble."

/s/ Edw. J. Ennis

FBI

Feb 19 1942

A701
✓

Memo for the Attorney General

I thought you would be interested in knowing of the result of searches of residences of enemy aliens by Special Agents of the San Francisco Field Division of this Bureau.

On February 17, 1942, acting under the authority of search warrants issued by the United States Attorney at San Francisco, California, the residences of one hundred and eight enemy aliens in the Sacramento Valley area were searched by Special Agents of this Bureau. As a result, five enemy aliens were apprehended and delivered into the custody of the Immigration and Naturalization Service because articles prohibited by the Presidential Proclamation were found in their possession.

The following contraband articles were seized and confiscated:

- 3 camers
- 4/ 2 photographic developing sets
- 1 35 mm. camera lens
- 2 radio tuning coils
- 25 copies of a Japanese language technical radio magazine
- 1 twelve gauge shotgun
- 1 rifle, approximately .30 calibre
- 2 .32 calibre revolvers
- 14 rounds twelve gauge shotgun ammunition
- 139 rounds .22 calibre revolver ammunition
- 9 rounds of .32 calibre revolver ammunition
- 29 flashlights
- 3 binoculars
- 1 electric lantern
- 1 blackjack
- 1 metal knuckle
- 5 knives
- 1 dagger
- 3 hatchets
- 2 Japanese Red Cross medals.

Respectfully,

(s) J. Edgar Hoover

to Attorney General from U.S. Attorney,
Hennessy, Frank J., San Francisco, Cal
Feb 6 1942

J

Reporting emergency apprehension of Yogo Miyoshi, Gentaro Yoshikawa, Kiyoshi Sato, Yasutaro Ebisu, Michiko Ebisu, Isekichi Matsuyama, Torajiro Tajika, Yasutaro Matsumura, living in Vallejo, Cal. Seized radio sets, cameras, U.S. Army signal flags, binoculars, rifle, revolver, knives, photographic plates, ammunition.

Feb 19 1942 - Memorandum for the Attorney General

I desire to inform you of the Japanese situation which has arisen at the Yakima Reservation, Yakima County, Washington.

The Sheriff's Office at Yakima advised that approximately 150 local officers in the Yakima Valley plan to raid and search all Japanese residences located on this Indian Reservation, in accord with regulations which permit summary search by the Sheriff or the appropriate Indian officers of any residences on the reservation. There are 110 leases of Indian reservation land to Japanese-American families with whom some aliens do reside. The supervising Indian agent advises that he has no information indicating that these families are in possession of any prohibited articles.

On the evening of February 13, 1942, farm granges met in a joint meeting, about 175 farmers in attendance, and demanded that action be taken concerning the Japanese on this reservation, and wired their Congressman for the immediate removal of these Japanese, indicating that the Government was taking no action.

There has been considerable trouble since 1921 over the fact that certain of the Indian lands have been leased to Japanese, and in 1921 actual bombings of Japanese property took place in an effort to intimidate them to give up their leases. There is an indication that the grange leaders of the agitation at that time are active in the present matter.

The Seattle Field Division of this Bureau has advised the Sheriff's Office that it will not participate in any such raids as are contemplated, there being no indication that these individuals are in any manner violating the law. This Indian reservation is located far distant from the coast beyond the Cascade Mountain Range, and there are no particular installations of importance to the national defense, as it is primarily an agricultural area.

In view of the fact that the Sheriff at Yakima had indicated that he would proceed with these raids upon the approval of this Bureau, he has been definitely informed that the Bureau in no way approves such raids and in no way will sanction them.

It appears at present that the raids will not take place. This matter is being followed closely and if there is any change in the situation you will be promptly informed.

A copy of this memorandum is being furnished Mr. Edward J. Ennis, Director, Alien Enemy Control Unit.

/s/ John Edgar Hoover
Director

UNDERSTANDING WITH RESPECT TO ACTION UNDER
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 9066 DATED FEBRUARY 19, 1942.

1. It is understood that, except as herein provided, all matters of policy and all programs pertaining to the control of civilians under Executive Order No. 9066 dated February 19, 1942, other than lighting regulations, will be submitted by the War Department to the Department of Justice and its concurrence obtained before they are put into effect. All proclamations, orders and instructions issued to the public in respect of such policies and programs will be submitted by the War Department to the Department of Justice and its concurrence that they conform to agreed policy or programs will be obtained before they are put into effect. The appropriate local officials of the Department of Justice will be advised of all orders to individual civilians in respect of these matters and of the grounds for any such orders as applied to a particular individual (as distinguished from the grounds for the designation of any particular area as a sensitive area or area from which exclusions may be made), before the order is put into effect unless impracticable in any particular case. No publicity will be issued by either Department which is in conflict with the programs so established or the proclamations, orders and instructions in respect of the said policies or programs and whenever any question of such conflict may arise each Department will endeavor to clear with the other before any such publicity is issued.

2. The procedure for carrying out matters of general policy and general programs, including any participation by the Department of Justice in any such procedure that may be agreed upon, is included within the scope of matters to be cleared with the Department of Justice. However, after agreement upon procedure is reached, it is recognized that all details connected with carrying out such procedure by the War Department must be left to the Commanding General of the particular area. In the case of major or fundamental disagreement on the part of the Department of Justice with any such details of procedure, the matter may be taken

Feb. 19, 1942

up with the War Department to determine whether such details may not be altered.

3. The foregoing provisions do not apply to occasions of threatened or actual invasion or raids, under which circumstances authority has been given by the War Department to the appropriate Commanding Generals to take necessary action. The War Department reserves the right to act without consultation with the Department of Justice in any emergency which in its judgment renders such consultation impracticable, provided that any such action must have the personal approval of the Secretary of War or the Assistant Secretary of War. In case any action taken in accordance with this provision is objected to by the Department of Justice, the War Department will endeavor thereafter to adjust matters to the satisfaction of the Department of Justice.

4. Both Departments agree to cooperate in the enforcement of all proclamations that may be mutually agreed to and issued under Executive Order No. 9066, each taking such steps as may be appropriate in the premises.

Secretary of War

Attorney General

May , 1942.

1942
February 20, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ENNIS

You will be interested in Manchester Boddy's letter and attached memoranda. Possibly you will want to show this to Tom Clark before he goes.

Francis Biddle
Attorney General

ALIEN EVACUATION

RADIO BROADCAST

Tom C. Clark, Speaker

SATURDAY, March 7, 1942

Wojna - as
J. C. Publ A7.01
dg

... I have been charged with co-ordinating the activities of the various Federal agencies concerned with alien enemies.

The United States has now been at war for approximately three months. During this time the Federal government, first through the Attorney General and later through the Secretary of War, has put into effect certain rules designed to safeguard the country, and to protect it against our enemies. Last Tuesday General DeWitt announced more drastic restrictions which must be placed upon those people affected now living in Arizona, Oregon, Washington and California.

... Most of you are familiar with the limits of the two military areas designated last Tuesday.

Military Area No. 1 comprises roughly half of four states--the western or coastal half of California, Oregon, or Washington, and the southern half of Arizona.

Military Area No. 2 covers the remaining portions of these four states--the eastern half of Washington, Oregon, or California, and the northern half of Arizona.

In addition, Military Area No. 1 itself is divided into two zones:

A Zone, or Prohibited

B Zone, or Restricted

The Prohibited Zone consists of roughly 3200 miles wide which includes many of the coastal cities, such as Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, etc.

The Restricted Zone is the remainder of Military Area No. 1, and lies between Prohibited Zone and Military Area No. 2.

There are some 98 smaller prohibited zones covering air fields, power plants, etc., throughout Military Area No. 2.

It is most important to keep in mind the three wide parallel bands of territory extending from Canada to Mexico. Remember them in that order: first, Prohibited Zone, second, Restricted Zone, and third, Military Area No. 2. In designating these areas, the Military Commander may order the exclusion of such people whose continued presence therein is regarded as dangerous to the security of our country. He did not order any evacuation or set any deadline.

At the same time, General DeWitt did announce new regulations for enemy

aliens, any Japanese, German or Italian aliens, or any person of Japanese ancestry. Hereafter, any Japanese, German, or Italian alien, or any person of Japanese ancestry living within the two designated areas must register in advance at the nearest post office before changing his place of residence. In this connection, I want to caution that all aliens of enemy nationalities are still required to obtain travel permits from the United States Attorney before they move their place of residence.

Two classes of persons will be the first required to move from certain critical points: Japanese aliens, and citizens of Japanese ancestry. No deadline has been set and no further definition of certain critical points was made at the time. The most critical area to be affected for these classes is Military Area No. 1.

... I, therefore, urge the Japanese when moving to take into consideration the limits of Military Area No. 1 when making their plans to move. In other words, those living in Military Area No. 1 can save unnecessary trouble by moving at least beyond the confines of this military area and also outside of the smaller prohibited zones in Military Area No. 2. In this connection, let me give you warning that care should be taken not to move within one mile of an air field, power plants, etc., which by its nature may have special importance in National Defense, and which may be later designated as restricted.

... So called mass evacuations are to be avoided. ... No alien or citizen because of any military regulation will be left homeless, hungry or destitute, if he does his part. Those who have the means to move will be to his advantage to do so.

... Another point is the setting up of a machinery to handle efficiently, fairly, and honestly, the properties of persons obliged to leave the military areas ... The Federal authorities will not permit exploitation. We have drawn on the United States Treasury Department, and protection will be given to all types of property. The owner will have positive assurance of the United States Government that he will get a "square deal".

One of the objectives of the United States is to maintain the high standards and principles of our "way of life". We must win this war, and all Americans and also non-citizens must be prepared to make sacrifices in order to safeguard at home the freedom ...

A7.01

February 20, 1942

"My Dear General DeWitt:

"In accordance with my telephone conversation with you today I am enclosing a memorandum which was prepared in the War Department relating to the effect of the new Executive Order. It represents, as I said, some of our thinking on the subject and I think it may be helpful to you as a guide in the determination of the steps that you will want to take under the authority of the Directive which the Secretary of War has sent you today.

"Very truly yours,

"(Signed) John J. McCloy
"John J. McCloy,
"Assistant Secretary of War."

"Lt. Gen. J. L. DeWITT
Commanding General
Western Defense Command and Fourth Army
Presidio of San Francisco, California"

February 20, 1942

OUTLINE MEMORANDUM

". . . For the purpose of these instructions, persons resident in the Western Defense Command will be classified as follows:

- "Class 1 Japanese Aliens
- "Class 2 American citizens of Japanese Lineage
- "Class 3 German Aliens
- "Class 4 Italian Aliens
- "Class 5 Any persons, whether citizens or aliens, who are suspected for any reason by you or your responsible subordinates, of being actually or potentially dangerous either as saboteurs, espionage agents, fifth-columnists or subversive persons.
- "Class 6 All other persons who are, or who may be within the Western Defense Command."

"I suggest the advisability of the following course of action:

"7. The progressive designation by you of military areas throughout the Western Defense Command of such extent and in such places as you deem necessary to provide the maximum protection from sabotage and espionage of installations vital to the war effort consistent with the means available for evacuation and the military responsibilities attendant upon evacuation of large number of persons.

Feb. 20, 1942

-2-

"8. Where necessary, in your judgment, the designation of protective zones within the military areas referred to in 7 above, in which you will provide (a) for the exclusion of all persons in Classes 1, 2 and 5, and where in your judgment it is essential, and (b) for the exclusion of persons in Class 3, so as to afford the maximum protection from espionage and sabotage to installations vital to the war effort, consistent with the military responsibilities attendant upon such an evacuation, viz., the number of troops which will be diverted from training for combat and from other missions, the fulfillment of which is your responsibility.

"9. The promulgation of appropriate restrictive regulations governing the exercise by any person of the right to enter, remain in or leave such military areas and any zones within such military areas. In connection with the initiation, development and accomplishment of the program outlined above, you will initiate and carry to completion, without delay, the preparation of detailed plans for the evacuation of those classes of persons and individuals who will be excluded from military areas prescribed by you. In so doing it is desired that you take full advantage of the provisions of the Executive Order whereby you are authorized to call upon the other executive departments and federal agencies for assistance, not only in the furnishing of services, but also of supplies, equipment and land. It is the intention that the heads of the several executive departments, independent establishments, and other federal agencies will be required and will have full authority to respond to such requests as you may make upon them in carrying out the provisions of the executive order.

"10. In this connection so far as consistent with safety the development of your program should be by stages. In the most critical areas you may consider it necessary to bring about an almost immediate evacuation of certain classes, particularly classes 1 and 2. However, in order to take full advantage of voluntary exodus and of re-settlement facilities arranged by other agencies, both public and private, the timing of your program should be most carefully conceived and coordinated. Representatives of the Departments of Justice and Agriculture advise that in those instances where it is consistent with the safety to afford evacuees reasonable advance notice that they will be greatly to decrease the numbers of evacuees to be cared for by the Army, and thereby greatly decrease the drain on our military resources; thus avoiding the diversion of troops from their primary mission, the defense of the West Coast.

"11. In providing for the exclusion of classes of persons and individuals from military areas prescribed by you, you will make appropriate exception in favor of the aged, infirm, and the sick. Persons above the age of 70/should not be dis- /years turbed unless for sufficient reason, you consider them suspect. Unless you find that the national safety will not so permit, bona fide refugees in Class 3 should be afforded special consideration, either through the development of suitable means to acquire permits to return to prohibited zones or to remain therein.

Feb. 20 1942

Outline Memorandum

-3-

"12. I desire that you make known to me your detailed plans for evacuation as soon as practicable in order to enable the War Department to coordinate with the Corps Area Commanders concerned any movement you propose to undertake of evacuees outside of your command to places of temporary shelter. You will not entrain any evacuees for transportation beyond your command until you have been informed by the War Department that accommodations are prepared to receive them at the places of destination.

"13. Yours will be the military responsibility for processing, evacuation, supplying, rationing and transportation to the points of shelter. This, of course, applies only to those evacuees who are unable to re-settle themselves on their own resources or for whom public and private agencies have been unable to arrange re-settlement. For persons in this class, the Army will provide shelter, food and other accommodations, including medical aid and hospitalization in selected places in the interior until civil authorities can make other arrangements.

"14. It will, of course, be necessary that your plans include provision for protection of the property, particularly the physical property, of evacuees. All reasonable measures should be taken through publicity and other means, to encourage evacuees to take steps to protect their own property. Where evacuees are unable to do this prior to the time when it is necessary for them to comply with the exclusion orders, there is always danger that unscrupulous persons will take undue advantage or that physical property unavoidably left behind will be pillaged by lawless elements. The protection of physical property from theft or other harm is primarily the responsibility of state and local law-enforcement agencies, and you will doubtless call upon them for the maximum assistance in this connection. Where they are unable to protect physical property left behind in military areas, the responsibility will be yours, to provide reasonable protection, either through the use of troops or through other appropriate measures. The appointment by you of a property custodian and the creation by him of an organization to deal with such property in military areas may become necessary. The provisions of the Executive Order and the necessity in each given instance are such that you have authority to take such action either directly or through another federal agency. In the development of your program, it is desired that you accomplish it with the minimum of individual hardship and dislocation of business and industries consistent with safety. Report to me from time to time by telephone, with confirmation in writing, of important action and events, indicating particularly the location and extent of military areas prescribed by you and the character of the restrictions promulgated."

U. S. Department of Justice

violence in Bunkin,
Colorado -

Memo for File

Re: West Coast Situation

A 7.01

March 25, 1942

Mr. Eisenhower reported by telephone today that the few hundred Japanese who attempted to resettle voluntarily raised such bad feelings in their new communities that he was persuading the Army to stop all voluntary evacuation and do the whole program in two steps. The first step will be to get the Japanese into Government camps. The second step will be to make arrangements for their relocation in various camps under Government auspices. He expressed the view that he realized that he would be put under great pressure to permit these people to be used at once for common labor on beet sugar and the like, and he regretted that the policy indicating publically that these people would be available for such work had been spread around by Mr. Clark, et al. He feels, however, that he is not yet staffed to dispense with the services of the civilian staff of General DeWitt. ✓

He said that it is practically impossible to protect Japanese from distress sales prices for flowers and other perishable commodities. ✓

Edward J. Ennis

Letterhead

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Feb
2/25/42

A701

Dear Gil:

This is the first chance I've had to get my hands on a typewriter, and the way things operate around this screwball organization it may be my last for several days; so I'll try to wrap up the entire story in one report.

DeWitt's announcement may come today, tomorrow or Friday. It will be the first of a series, extending over several weeks or even months. As I indicated in my scrawl of yesterday, the Army is going to declare one huge "military area" up and down the Coast, from Puget Sound to the Border of Mexico and extending as far east as the Sierras and the Cascades! From this region all Japs, aliens and citizens, will be required to evacuate. Certain Germans and Italians will likewise be ousted.

DeWitt is not making this announcement all in one fell swoop, however. The "military area" will be broken into A and B regions, the exact limits of which I don't know and which won't be announced for some time. For example, the Army hopes that the Japs will see the handwriting on the wall and will, to a large extent, make their exodus voluntarily. He will therefore have Clark and Howland "suggest", when inquiry is made, that the Japs move at least east of the mountains....so they won't have to make two hegiras.

As I get it, Japs will be excluded from both A and B areas, Germans and Italians only from A as a general rule.

The General plans to make the announcement about the areas first; then, perhaps some weeks later, order all Japs out; then, still later, issue regulations affecting Germans and Italians. Reason for the gap between the naming of the areas and the evacuation order is that DeWitt wants to wait for the latter until Congress has passed a pending bill making it a Federal offense for people to disobey his evacuation orders. As it stands now, there is no specific legislation on the books to put teeth into his regulations. He can, of course, use the Army but prefers to let the FBI and other agencies do the bulk of the dirty work.

This mass evacuation-- about 125,000 people affected, I understand-- will of course require tremendous facilities. Temporarily they will use CCC camps, FSA and Farm Security stations where available. Also, they are planning a huge cantonment or concentration camp at Bishop, Cal., in the Owens Valley, to house some 50,000 people! This will take months to build and hence the delay in the evacuation orders.

Clark and Howland will continue to "front" for the General. He will make the formal announcements, but they will answer questions and take the heat off him.

The situation here is very confused; so much so that I'm not at all sure my presence is contributing anything. The General has no public relations officer here at all, hates to see the press himself and apparently is no bargain in that respect. Clark is so much on the jump that I've had great difficulty in keeping abreast of things. He and Howland are very decent guys, but I waste hours just waiting for them and then get ten or fifteen minutes in which to be "filled in".

I had hoped to arrange for Clark to address the Press Club here and am still waiting to complete arrangements. Can't be this week, however, and in any event I want the General's orders public before Clark gives the boys and "off the record" background information. It's a big chance for him, as the Press Club off-the-record dinners are definitely big league (much more so than National Press Club!). I also am following up your idea of a radio talk; but it would be better in L A. and again, I want to wait until DeWitt's orders are issued so Clark can explain 'em on the radio.

I'm leaving for Los Angeles tonight or tomorrow morning. Will stay at the STILLWELL HOTEL, 8th & Olive Streets, while there. Will notify you of my movements.

over

My regards to the gang at the office, and tell Cabell is ain't no picnic whatever he may suspect! (Clark and Howland are just about like Ed Ennis and Rowe when it comes to getting hold of them and pinning them down.)

Regards,

Charlie

10/10

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

MARCH 3, 1942

A7.01

Relating to
Army - War Dept.MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROWE,
MR. ENNIS

Attached is a letter which Lloyd Wright, until recently President of the California Bar Association from Los Angeles, gave me at an American Bar Meeting in Chicago yesterday. Mr. Wright shares our views and I think it would be helpful if we ~~xxx~~ discussed the problems with him. He is to be in New York on Wednesday and I asked him to come to Washington to have a talk on Thursday. (In Pencil: changed to 12 o'clock Saturday). I have written to Mr. Wright suggesting 11:30 A.M. Would you meet at that time.

Francis Biddle,
Attorney General

In Pencil:

Ed,

This is the most intelligent letter I have yet ~~received~~ read. Will you bring it to the meeting? Of course, it's all a bit academic now.

J.H.R.

The attached letter was given to the Attorney General on March 2, 1942, by Mr. Loyd Wright of Los Angeles, California, recent President of the California Bar Association, with the following memorandum:

This was written at my request. This man has some connections with the British Government. At a conference with one of our Naval Intelligence Officers at Los Angeles, our man, speaking of course unofficially, agreed in the main with what has been said in this letter. I agree with him in the main, as do, I am sure, most of the people of California who have thought the matter out.

Mr. Rowe's comment in transmitting material to Mr. Ennis was, "This is the most intelligent letter I have yet read."

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Mr. Rowe's comment in transmitting material to Mr. Ennis was, "This is the most intelligent letter I have yet read."

1660 Rose Villa St.
Pasadena, Cal.
Feb. 18, 1942

Mr. Loyd Wright,
111 West 7th Street
Los Angeles

Dear Mr. Wright:-

This will confirm my conversation with you of this afternoon upon the question of the mass evacuation of all Japanese from California. A Variety of motives have brought about the increasing demands from local individuals and local institutions for the mass evacuation of all Japanese - aliens and citizens alike - from California, or, in some instances, for their removal to a certain specified distance from the Pacific coast line. Amongst these motivating impulses may be numbered the following:

(1) A genuine desire for Security, based upon the widely spread belief that the presence of a large "Japanese" population renders probable wide-spread fifth column work, espionage, etc. This is attributable, in part of course, to the part played in Honolulu by Japanese fifth columnists and the undue emphasis played up in the papers for this "explanation" for the disaster in Pearl Harbour, whereas, in fact, this is far from being more than a contributing factor. The dangers of the Japanese organization on the West Coast, in my opinion, consisted roughly of 75% observation, 20% sabotage and 5% fifth column work. All which has been observed in California up to the outbreak of the war is already known in Tokyo and care must be taken to minimize possibilities of observation of new fortifications, movements of troops, movement of ships, etc., etc. The Naval Intelligence and the F.B.I. have probably accounted for the bulk of those "Japanese" individuals who would engage in such work, in sabotage and in fifth column activities. It must be kept in mind when considering the "Security" to be derived from the mass evacuation of all Japanese, that the Japanese in all probability employed many more "whites" than "Japanese" for carrying out their work and this "white" danger is not eliminated by the evacuation of Japanese.

(2) Economic Competition in Vegetable Markets, etc.

There is evidence both in the press and in activities, of a desire to eliminate "Japanese" from the truck gardening business which, up to the present, has been dominated by Japanese particularly in the marketing and distribution phases. In Orange County for example and also in Stockton, there is a demand for the removal of all Japanese from a position of operating farms combined with a demand for their retention for use as farm labourers.

(3) Pressure from Big Business.

In the belief that the continued presence of Japanese in Southern California may result in the establishment of new defense industries in other localities and may even result in the transfer of certain defense industries from Southern California to other States, there has been much pressure on Mayor Bowron for immediate removal of all Japanese.

(4) Newspaper Hysteria.

Hearst seems to be behind a good deal of this. There have been played up in the papers highly sensational accounts of anti-American activities. The Martin Dies reports (which in the main have accused the Japanese spy organizations of acquiring certain information, almost all of which appeared in detail in American newspapers and magazines!!) have fanned the flame. This has been heightened, too, by the lectures of Mr. James R. Young, the broadcasts of John B. Hughes and the like.

(more)

(5) Politicians

In an endeavour to please the bulk of voters in California (who in the main seem to favour the expulsion of all Japanese), Mayor Bowron, Governor Olson and others have taken stands entirely opposed to the utterances of the Federal Government and, in the case of both gentlemen, statements have been issued which are not calculated to ease the position; on the contrary, they have directly aided in the creation and extension of hysteria, either through ignorance or with calculated appreciation of the fact that this is an "election year."

(6) The "Vigilante" Tradition in California.

Need I make any comments?

(7) The absence of full reports from Washington.

The failure of the Federal Government to reveal full particulars of the disaster at Pearl Harbour to the American public has been conducive to the spread of many wild rumours which amongst many powerful Women's Organizations in California have grown both in volume and extent, thus adding to hysteria and their demand for removal of all Japanese "before it is too late and we all wake up dead".

Objections to Mass Evacuation of all Japanese:

The Japanese on the West Coast may be divided into "Issei" or first generation Japanese, born in Japan and thus unable, under American law to acquire American citizenship (although all of them have been here for at least eighteen years and many of them for thirty, forty and more years, and the "Nisei" or second-generation Japanese who possess American citizenship. Had it not been for legal bars, at least three-quarters of the Issei would be American citizens today. I have many objections to the mass evacuation of all Japanese which I will list but before doing so, I wish to go on record as advocating the immediate removal from defense districts of all individuals, regardless of race or citizenship, if such a step is considered advisable, not by politicians, but by the Army and the Navy.

(1) Creation of Dissatisfaction and Probable Sabotage.

If all Japanese, aliens and citizens alike, are evacuated from California, they will, they assure me, regard it as evidence of distrust of them, as a body, by the American authorities and this will be keenly resented even if it is coupled with the mass evacuation of alien Italians and Germans. Two-thirds of the Japanese are American citizens and many of them have shown their loyalty in many ways, not the least of which is the assistance they have given to the F.B.I., and to Naval Intelligence. Some 5,000 of them are in the American Army, many of whom were volunteers. They have contributed to Defense Funds, have purchased Defense Bonds and done Red Cross work, etc., to a greater extent than any other body of citizens of like size and means. If they are all lumped, through stupidity, as "dangerous aliens" and treated as such, sabotage ultimately will be the answer and this will be sabotage not for the love of Japan but for anger against the American government.

(2) Place of Settlement.

All proposals for mass evacuation so far have not contained any hint as to the proposed area for resettlement which so far has had a very bad effect upon the morale of the Japanese.

(3) Citizenship.

Mayor Bowron, Leland Ford and others harp upon "dual citizenship." I am more interested in the preservation of the loyalty of the Nisei citizens we now have. This loyalty is worth preservation but, if they are all herded into camps, their loyalty will be extinguished and their and our situation after the war will be a much larger problem than it is at the present time.

(more)

(4) Preservation of Unity

Mass evacuation of Japanese will be a blow to national unity, and if this is done on purely racial grounds, we will be the losers in the long run as Japanese propaganda inevitably will utilize such an act to swing, on racial grounds, the Chinese and the British Indians into their camp and against us, thus possibly putting 700,000,000 allies into the hands of our enemies.

Suggestions for Treatment of the Japanese Problem.

- (1) The entire removal of this problem from the hands of the local civil authorities.
- (2) The removal of all alien Japanese from any district regarded by the Army and Navy as advisable and their resettlement with federal aid, to districts where they may engage in peaceful business and farming, but, for the sake of the morale of their sons and daughters - the Nisei - where they will not suffer economic and other restrictions.
- (3) The similar removal of those alien Italians and alien Germans, who, after individual examination, it is considered advisable to have moved in the judgment of the Army and Navy.
- (4) The placing of entire control in the hands of the Army and the Navy, who are responsible for the conduct of the war on the grounds that they, too, are responsible for national defense and this question is one of national defense and national defense alone or it should be so.
- (5) The retention in the American Army of all Nisei soldiers. The worst possible thing to be done, which has been advocated by one local military gentleman, would be to take all Nisei soldiers out of the army and make them an armed guard for their parents. I understand that their officers think highly of the qualities of the Nisei under their command.
- (6) Generally, the treatment of all individual Nisei as entirely loyal citizens until and unless it can be shown in individual cases that they do not merit such trust, i.e., treat them as American citizens which is just what they are.
- (7) For the sake of the democratic ideal, for which we are fighting, I would appeal for the preservation, if possible, of all citizenship rights and obligations of all citizens, regardless of their differing racial origins, failing which, for the same treatment to be accorded all citizens in this country.
- (8) Authorization to be given to the Federal Authorities here, the Naval Intelligence, the Army Intelligence and the F.B.I. to arrest any American citizens whose conduct is considered by them to be detrimental to the proper carrying out of the war and, after trial and if found guilty, for their imprisonment for the duration of the war.
- (9) Detention of all Nisei who spent 5 to 10 years in Japan, their parents and all members of all Japanese nationalistic associations on the West Coast.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) R. P. Alexander

ADDRESS REPLY TO
"THE ATTORNEY GENERAL"
AND REFER TO
INITIALS AND NUMBER

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 29, 1942.

PERSONAL

Milton S. Eisenhower, Esq.,
Whitcomb Hotel Building,
San Francisco, Cal.

Dear Mr. Eisenhower:-

For your confidential use I enclose a copy of a letter from Loyd Wright, former president of the California Bar Association, containing names of prominent members of the community who might form a citizens' advisory committee to your organization if you thought that useful.

The radio talks of John B. Hughes shortly after the war began were largely responsible for arousing public opinion and flooding the California Congressional Delegation with protests which had the tendency to push the Government into hasty and illconsidered action. His broadcasts should be monitored very carefully and you might discuss with the Army ways and means of shutting him up if he is hampering the program.

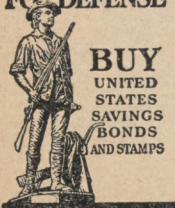
Sincerely,

Edward J. Ennis
Edward J. Ennis,

Director, Alien Enemy Control Unit.

Enclosure.

FOR DEFENSE



BUY
UNITED
STATES
SAVINGS
BONDS
AND STAMPS

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

21
A7.01

May 18, 1942

Dear Francis:

I have your letter of May 14th.

I am willing that we submit to the Department of Justice proclamations, and any other public orders or instructions. This is my understanding of what Ed Ennis had in mind. But I do not feel we should submit our own internal orders and instructions to the military commanders.

As to the proclamations, orders and instructions which we submit, I think it is clear that such submission is only for the purpose of your satisfying yourself that these do conform to the general policies agreed upon between us. I do not think that your approval of the form or detail of any proclamation, order or instruction issued to the public should be essential, although we will be glad to have any suggestions you may have, even as to such matters.

I assume that the foregoing meets what you have in mind. If so, please let me know and we can then put the memorandum in final shape.

Sincerely,

(s) John J. McCloy

The Honorable
Francis Biddle
The Attorney General
Washington, D. C.

May 26, 1942

18 A30

A7.01

Alfred Jaretzki, Jr., Esq.,
Special Consultant to the Secretary of War
War Department,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Jaretzki:-

I enclose the original of the proposed understanding with respect to action under Executive Order No. 9066 signed by the Attorney General and a copy. When the original is signed and dated by the Secretary of War will you also have the copy signed and returned to me.

Sincerely,

Edward J. Ennis,
Director, Alien Enemy Control Unit

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

July 22, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. EDWARD J. ENNIS
DIRECTOR, ALIEN ENEMY CONTROL UNIT

RE: EVACUATION CENTER
CAMP HARMONY
Puyallup, Washington

If possible interest to you, there is set out below a copy of a letter which was received by the Seattle Field Division of this Bureau from a confidential informant of that office.

"During the past few weeks I have heard reports that certain civilian WCCA Guards in Camp Harmony have been accepting bribes from evacuees in exchange for certain privileges such as inter-area movement, purchasing privileges, privilege of travelling into Tacoma, Seattle, etc. Now I have reliable information that this is true and one guard has resigned because of it. As I understand it there is another party or parties involved.

While at the same time those who need immediate medical attention or those who have legitimate reasons have either been held up pending investigation or turned down completely.

"Such practice, I believe, disregards ~~completely~~ not only the purpose of the roundup of both alien and citizens of Japanese ancestry into this camp, but causes dissatisfaction by such discrimination.

"I remember when Mr. R. Forest was Chief of Police at this camp he mentioned that all guards were investigated by the F.B.I. before taking over their duties. Due to the fact that they needed men immediately they were being hired at that time subject to approval at a later date.

"With this in mind, I feel that the matter should be looked into before such practice gets out of hand."

Very truly yours,
/s/ J.E. Hoover
John Edgar Hoover,
Director

File - 4701
Puyallup.

August 10, 1942

V's Rept of Justice ✓

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CHARLES FAHY
DIRECTOR, WAR DIVISION

War Relocation Project Military Areas

A serious question of the creation of military areas in the interior of the United States and over a thousand miles from the coastal military areas for which there is some factual basis, is presented by the proposed proclamation of the Secretary of War to make War Relocation Authority Projects in Arkansas, Colorado and Wyoming (outside of the Western Defense Command) military areas. The whole purpose of the proposed proclamation is to prohibit departure from the War Relocation Projects under sanction of Public 503 and to provide a means for recapture of any person who leaves by arrest as a criminal. There is no military purpose in the ordinary sense such as might be attributed to the coastal military areas. Creation of military areas for non-military purposes is very analogous to the declaration of martial law in limited areas for non-military purposes which has been rejected.
Sterling v. Constantin, 289 U.S.

This Department approved this whole program for Japanese-American citizens at the outset on the theory that it involved evacuation from military areas and not detention for the duration of the war, and then only after considerable doubt as to the constitutionality of the classification discriminating against American citizens on the basis of race. You will recall that at his press conference the Attorney General, stating his opinion of the legality of evacuation, in answer to a question stated that the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus was not suspended because the evacuation would not involve detention beyond the limited period of transportation.

A writ of habeas corpus is now pending in the Northern District of California on behalf of a Japanese woman, an American citizen, who seeks to test the legality of her detention. She is prohibited from leaving the War Relocation Project by the military guards surrounding the camp and by General DeWitt's regulation which forbids it. Public 503 makes violation of the regulation a crime. In view of the difficulties involved in defending this writ, this Department has a very large interest in urging the War Relocation Authority, and the War Department in the present military areas, to work out a system of voluntary residence in the War Relocation camps rather than detention. No Japanese have attempted to leave any of the camps. It could be very easily explained to them that arrangements were being made to introduce them safely into the general population and that if they sought to leave themselves the Government could not be responsible for their safety or maintenance. It is believed that few, if any, would leave voluntarily and would probably return because of the refusal of the population generally to absorb them without Government cooperation. In view of the legal difficulties we should urge that a fair trial be given to this voluntary plan and that it not be substituted for an involuntary detention which was never part of the original scheme.

The difficulty is that the War Relocation Authority requested the War Department to make these Projects military areas and, as the agency responsible for the welfare of the Japanese, it feels that it should have the assistance of this involuntary detention. This Department, however, charged with the responsibility for defending the legality of the method used, and also responsible for any civil rights the Japanese may have, should urge its position.

Edward J. Ennis, Director

A 30

August 11, 1942

A7.01

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CHARLES FAHY
DIRECTOR, WAR DIVISION

This morning Colonel Bendetsen 'phoned that the military police at the War Department's Santa Anita Assembly Center, where 18,500 Japanese are in custody, uncovered a large gambling ring and made an arrangement whereby the leaders were apprehended attempting to bribe the military police. The FBI had been notified of the discovery and cooperated in the arrangement and the arrest. He said that the FBI released a story to the press of their arrest of the offenders which indicates that the FBI has undercover agents present in the Assembly Centers. He said that whether or not such agents are present, the Army's custodial problem of handling so large a group in detention should not be complicated by stories that FBI undercover agents are in the Assembly Centers.

Colonel Bendetsen requests that the FBI Be advised to instruct its field offices to clear releases involving Assembly Centers with his office so that the problems of Army custody will be kept in mind in making usch press releases.

I advised Colonel Bendetsen I would take the matter up and advise him.

Edward J. Ennis
Director

August 18, 1942

Dep't of Justice

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. GITLIN

War Relocation Camps outside of coastal areas which were made military areas for military reasons and as far inland as Arkansas are being made military areas by the Secretary of War for the limited and non-military reason that military guards needed some authority to keep evacuees from leaving the camp area. Assistant Secretary of War McCloy agreed to replace this military authority with civil authority if we could devise civil authority which would keep the evacuees in the camp area. Can you think of any method short of an executive order giving War Relocation Authority the same power to make regulations as the War Department and another Public 503 creating criminal sanction?

E. J. Ennis

August 18, 1942

MEMORANDUM

I advised the Solicitor General that the War Relocation Authority had requested the War Department to make each project a military area even though they were in the interior of the country and outside the coastal military areas for the purpose of obtaining a regulation forbidding departure from the camp which would give the military police the authority to prevent departures. I advised the Solicitor General that since WRA had asked for this and had entered into a written agreement requesting it I did not think that we could refuse to approve the War Department's Proclamation giving WRA what they thought they needed although in principle I doubted the wisdom of making these project areas military areas and in this way continuing military control over the evacuees. At a conference with the Attorney General and the Solicitor General it was agreed that we should not approve the proclamation and should look for some civilian authority and that in the meantime there is no substantial risk of Japanese seeking to escape. In Colonel Tate's absence I advised Lt. Hall of our decision.

Mr. McCloy called the Attorney General and came over and we had a conference with the Solicitor General, Mr. McCloy and Lt. Hall, the Acting Director of WRA and the Acting Solicitor, Mr. Sigler. Mr. McCloy stated they at least needed some authority to keep evacuees from leaving projects and the Solicitor General then agreed to the proclamation on the understanding of Mr. McCloy's agreement that if we could find some civilian authority the military areas would be discontinued.

~~Edward J. Ennis~~

Edward J. Ennis

August 21, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CHARLES FAHY
DIRECTOR, WAR DIVISION

Re: Office of War Information
Motion Picture Film "Japanese Relocation"

At the invitation of Lowell Mellett of the Office of War Information, I viewed this motion picture film accompanied by the Solicitor General, Mr. Gilfond and Mr. Milton Eisenhower of the War Relocation Authority.

The motion picture, about ten or fifteen minutes in length, is narrated by Mr. Eisenhower and portrays the transfer of Japanese from their city homes in San Francisco and Los Angeles first to the Assembly Center at Santa Anita and then to the War Relocation Centers at Manzanar and Parker. The picture opens by showing homes and places of business such as fishing docks from which hostile Japanese could observe shipping and other war activities and the narration points out this fact. Then the picture shows Japanese packing personal belongings into moving vans supplied by the Wartime Civil Control Administration of the Army; shows them standing in lines and sitting in ~~office~~ offices consulting various civilian representatives about arranging for closing up their property interests; shows their closed and deserted stores and shops and their fishing fleet impounded in the harbor; shows them traveling mostly by motor car to Santa Anita; shows the barracks in which they were housed and shows them eating at benches in long dining halls and shows some of them working on camouflage nets at Santa Anita. Then the motion picture shows them traveling by train to the War Relocation Centers and arriving at these centers pictured as long rows of barracks and dusty and still barren soil. The picture then shows the irrigation projects which are in progress and the ~~xxx~~ narration predicts that the "dead brown desert will become the green and living land".

The narration seeks to give assurance that the mass of the Japanese people, ~~two-thirds~~ two-thirds citizens, are loyal to the United States and at the same time justify the evacuation but pointing out the danger from disloyal Japanese if there were an attack on the West Coast. Naturally, whether one is satisfied with the narration depends upon which of these two phases one believes should be stressed. Personally, I thought there was too much justification for evacuation and not enough emphasis on the loyalty of our Japanese people. It is ~~doubtless~~ doubtful that they will be any more loyal than we are willing to give them credit for and I am inclined to encourage them by giving them as much credit as possible.

The question is whether this film should merely be reserved as a record of the first phase of the program or should now be released all over the United States. The only affirmative purpose to be achieved by general release would be to convince the people that the move is necessary or that the Japanese are loyal. I ~~don't~~ don't think that the public questions the necessity for the move and I don't think that a picture whose topic is a movement necessary because of potential dangerousness of a people is calculated to persuade the American public of their loyalty. If, therefore, I am correct that no affirmative purpose ~~is to be~~ is to be achieved by the picture, the remaining question is whether there is any possibility that it would be detrimental and therefore should not be released merely as a news item.

In my opinion it is detrimental to condition American people to accept the propriety of a concentration camp for part of its citizens, no matter how comfortable the camp or no matter how great the good will and brotherly love with which we detain the unfortunate group. The picture certainly would obtain

Aug. 21, 1942

the approval of the American public not only for the evacuation but also for the involuntary detention which was never a part of the original plan~~x~~ and which was required only because of the lawless threats by the Governors of the mountain states and their constituents that the Japanese would not be allowed to live in communities far from the strategic military coastal areas.

I think the film is excellent and useful documentation of the first phase of Japanese relocation. I do not think, however, that it should be released at the present time when the Government is dealing both in the courts and as an administrative matter with the delicate policy of the continued detention of the Japanese and efforts to minimize this detention by allowing as many as possible to leave the camps on control work projects.

Edward J. Ennis,
Director, Alien Enemy Control Unit.

cc: Mr. Gilfond,
Director, Public Relations

John Edgar Hoover
Director

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Washington, D. C.

A7.01

Handwritten signature/initials

Aug 25 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

I have learned from a confidential source that a closed meeting of West Coast City officials was held on August 21, 1942, which was attended by the Mayors and Chiefs of Civilian Defense of a dozen or more West Coast cities. At this meeting Mr. James Shephard of the Los Angeles Office of Civilian Defense advised the meeting very confidentially that on about August 27, 1942, General DeWitt would issue a proclamation setting up the machinery whereby volunteer workers of the various councils of Civilian Defense in the Western Defense Command would issue travel and curfew permits to alien enemies of German and Italian nationalities. It is reported that the volunteer workers of the Civilian Defense groups will exercise policing and enforcement activities in so far as travel and curfew permits of German and Italian aliens are concerned.

Mr. Ennis has advised the Bureau that the United States Employment Service, which had heretofore been handling the granting of travel permits, had requested to be relieved of its duties in this connection and that General DeWitt had requested that the Department of Justice arrange to have the Immigration and Naturalization Service take over these functions. Mr. Ennis has advised that although you urged Mr. Harrison of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to handle this work, a survey by Mr. Harrison indicated that the Immigration and Naturalization Service would not be able to handle the work. According to Mr. Ennis, the Bureau of the Budget has been contacted by the Office of Civilian Defense about the handling of this work and it appears that the Civilian Defense authorities are now planning to ~~take~~ take the work over.

~~I believe that it is a serious mistake to permit the enforcement of regulations and penalties relating to violations of curfew and travel regulations to be exercised by volunteer civilian groups. I can conceive of no more expeditious way of creating vigilante groups who will operate under a color of authority but without any fixed responsibility. I feel that if the proposed program is consummated the operations of the curfew and travel regulations will be dominated by abuses growing out of personal animosities, neighborhood prejudice and other elements which should not affect the alien's status or activities.~~

I believe that the enforcement of the travel and curfew regulations should be in the hands of full-time, competent, legally constituted authorities. It appears fundamentally that these functions should be performed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. If, however, the personnel of this Service is not adequate to carry on these functions, it would appear then that local law enforcement agencies should be utilized. I know it is contended from time to time that there is no

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central head or authority to supervise the activities of local law enforcement agencies but I cannot subscribe to this conclusion. I believe that since September 9, 1939, the Federal Bureau of Investigation has been able to work out a carefully coordinated program embracing the individual services of local law enforcement agencies throughout the entire country upon a completely coordinated and carefully supervised basis. In addition to this perfect coordination, there is organized responsibility for the handling of all matters through local police agencies. This coordination and responsibility is in startling contrast to that of the Civilian Defense agencies, about whose inefficiency and ineffectiveness it is unnecessary for me to comment. Any comparison between the coordinated responsibilities of local law enforcement agencies under the leadership and direction of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the volunteer groups of Civilian Defense workers operating on a catch-as-catch-can basis is odious, to say the least.

I am bringing this matter to your attention because of my sincere belief that the placing of authority in civilian groups under the Office of Civilian Defense to control and issue travel and curfew ~~perm~~its will result in serious abuses, which can be avoided if the authority is assigned to law enforcement agencies.

Respectfully,

John Edgar Hoover(signed)
Director

CC- Mr. James Rowe, Jr.
The Assistant to the Attorney General

CC- Mr. Edward J. Ennis, Director
Alien Enemy Control Unit

August 27, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CHARLES FAHY
DIRECTOR, WAR DIVISION

Re: OCD Permit Procedure in Western
Defense Command

I annex a copy of a letter of August 24 from the Regional Director of the Ninth Civilian Defense Region to the respective local defense councils, a copy of Regional Regulations No. 4 dated August 24, 1942, containing as Exhibit A a copy of General DeWitt's letter of August 19 to the Regional Director authorizing the Regional Director to issue the Permits pursuant to Executive Order 9066 which directs all agencies to assist the military commanders.

Thus it appears that this whole matter was arranged on or before August 24 and begins to operate ~~xx~~ on August 27.

Edward J. Ennis,
Director.

Edward J. Ennis
Director

September 2, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CHARLES FAHY

War Relocation Authority proposal to release
more Japanese.

On August 29, 1942 the Director of the War Relocation Authority, the Assistant Director and the Acting Solicitor conferred with me on the formation of a new policy of releasing more Japanese from relocation centers for resettlement in communities not in the coastal military areas. The Director has just returned from a trip thru the camps and conferences with his representatives in San Francisco. The proposal contemplates a very substantial change of policy under which the emphasis and most of the activities of WRA will be devoted to resettling the Japanese throughout the country rather than to building up permanent war relocation centers alone. The Director believes that the approval of the President should be obtained but before doing so he wishes to have the views of the Attorney General.

The Director states that the conditions in the various Army and War Relocation Camps indicate that tension is going to increase greatly if a plan is not placed in operation to release a great many more Japanese. At present over 1500 have been released for work in the beet sugar fields without one complaint or improper incident. A few hundred other persons have been released but this number is insufficient to meet the problem of the large number of idle persons in the camps. In the Army assembly centers the detention has caused dissatisfaction and tension which increases as time goes on, but the problem is not serious there because of the temporary phase of Army assembly center detention. The Army, however, is turning over the problem to WRA as rapidly as possible and the same situation is developing in the WRA centers.

1946
WRA
Education

September 3, 1942

D9.

A7.01

Pierce W. Bradley, Esquire
Special Assistant to the Attorney General
Antitrust Division
422 U. S. Post Office Building
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Bradley:

Could you get up a list of prospective BEW men for us from the California area? We do not want to pay more than \$4,000, if possible, and it should be possible to get men for less than that, since so much of the work will be "leg" work. We are terribly short-handed for men and will be interested in lawyers, economists, brokers, or any other type of person you think might be able to do the work. Possibly older men whose law business should have gone to seed will now be available.

I have been in touch with Lewis Sigler of the War Relocation Authority. Some time ago I spoke to Phillip Glick and Phillip said that we would be able to interview the Japanese held in relocation centers after these Japanese had been classified, so that we could tell which ones might have had useful experience in Japan and could give us information about Japan. We would have proceeded with this before now except that we did not have the money.

Lewis Sigler suggested that you have someone call on the Regional Office of the War Relocation Authority at the Whitcomb Hotel. It is believed that the classification cards are in that office. If they are in that office, it should be possible to determine which of the Japanese ought to be interviewed, or at least what steps will have to be taken in order to find this out, then it may be possible through that office to get the necessary permission to visit the projects in order to do the questioning. This latter step, however-that is-the actual visiting should not be taken without consultation with us because there will be a lack of manpower for this and possibly Garry Neville or McFadden should be used for this if we can pry them loose. In addition, we ought to obtain for you certain directions as to what specific questions we would like answered.

By talking to the Regional Office you will be able to form a judgment as to how big a job this will be. The Director of the Regional Office is E. R. Fryer and the person in charge of occupational questionnaires is Rex Lee.

Sincerely yours,

Edward H. Levi
Special Assistant to the Attorney General

Thuman Arnold's lunch with
"learn more in diligence" Justice
Dept. +. Did do some in reviewing,
cf. staffers of this office to Reg, Dec 24, 42

— Rowatt to Kimball, Nov 27, 42
Restrict on — so ~~that~~ as to avoid
its leading to the circulation of disturbing
rumors.

1st letter asking cooperation:

Thuman Arnold to Nyer, Dec. 29, 1942
Nyer says OK will cooperate, Nov. 7, 1942

Three men visited Heart Mountain
(Sedler, Eble + Warner) in late March —
failed — blamed non-coop. of project admin.
Project admin. denied non-cooperation and
blamed lackadaisical attitude of REW men.

Department of Justice

September 7, 1942

F-5

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CHARLES FAHY
DIRECTOR, WAR DIVISION

Re: War Relocation Authority's New
Evacuation Policy.

Mr. Myer, Director of WRA, 'phoned me that he had talked to Mr. McCloy who had indicated his sympathies to the new policy although admitting that some officials of the War Department, particularly the Western Defense Command might raise some opposition. I advised Mr. Myer that the Attorney General had indicated that he was sympathetic with the plan and in a general way approved the development of the idea.

Mr. Myer stated that he also discussed with Mr. McCloy a suggestion of some of the Army officials in the Western Defense Command that Kibei and Nisei be separated and that he, Mr. Myer, wanted it clarified whether the internal security problem was not for the Department of Justice rather than for the War Department. Mr. McCloy and Colonel Tate were more or less of the opinion that it was for the Justice Department except possibly in the Western Defense Command.

Mr. Myer feels that it is primarily the Attorney General's responsibility to say whether internal security permits development of the new plan although he is equally willing to go on a joint memorandum with the Attorney General and with the War Department, if it will agree, to the President stating what the new plan is. I suggested to him that concretely he might draft a letter to the Attorney General stating that he has concluded to follow the new plan based on his experience if internal security permits and that we could draft a reply for the Attorney General and then go over it with the Attorney General before the letters were actually exchanged. Then we could get the War Department's approval and draft a joint memorandum for the President.

The next thing to do is to get FBI to go along on the internal security factor. I would like your views on how we should proceed from this point.

Edward J. Ennis
Director

Department of Justice

September 24, 1942

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

Japanese Relocation Program

Mr. Myer, Director of WRA, advises me that he had a completely satisfactory discussion with Mr. Hoover who fully endorsed the program of relocation of Japanese. Mr. Myer is leaving Saturday for a tour of the western relocation camps and is very anxious to sign the Leave Regulations to be published in the Federal Register before he goes. But he would like a reply to his letter to you before doing so.

I annex a copy of Mr. Myer's letter with changes made along the line of your suggestions. I also annex a proposed reply.

Before sending the reply I suggest that you telephone Mr. Hoover and obtain his version of the conversation with Mr. Myer. If he expresses complete approval it may not be necessary to send him a copy of Mr. Myer's letter and your reply. If it appears to be necessary, I annex a proposed memorandum transmitting a copy of the letter and Leave Regulations to him with the request that he give you his answer tomorrow so that you may reply to Mr. Myer.

Respectfully

Edward J. Ennis
Director

1/20/42

J

Hon Leland Ford

~~Le Roy~~

E, Le Roy M.
Vice President and General Counsel,
Southern California Gas Co.
Los Angeles

Beleive Japanese farmers giving military information to ~~Empire~~

GRODZINS IN WASHINGTON
REPORT #7
SEPTEMBER 28, 1942

FORD

~~47020~~

A 7.01

Entire day spent examining Justice Department files, briefing California letters and copying pertinent documents. Results of briefing will show when cards are analysed. Have one hundred cards to date, preponderantly anti-Japanese.

Mr. Leland Ford'd early interest in the problem is seen in his letter to the Secretary of State of January 6th, urging evacuation. Ford wrote to J. Edgar Hoover, Frank Knox, and Attorney General Biddle on January 16th, again urging evacuation. The significant fact is that on January 27th, the Attorney General replied to Mr. Ford saying in part, "...the decision of this department is that the program I have outlined above, together with the extensive investigations which have been carried on by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, would adequately control the problem of the Japanese population of the Pacific Coast. For this reason, and also because of the legal difficulties presently involved in attempting to intern or evacuate the thousands of American born persons of Japanese race, who are, of course, American citizens, this Department has not deemed it advisable at this time to attempt to remove all persons of the Japanese race into the interior of the country."

I consider this statement exceedingly significant. It demonstrates that as late as January 27th, the Justice Department was opposed to mass evacuation. I discussed this problem last night with Leo Gitlin. He said that it was his opinion that the decision for mass evacuation did not actually take place until after February 12th. This fits very well into the scheme of Justice Department mail. The greatest flood of mail came, I think the cards will show, between February 1st, and February 15th.

Gitlin believes (and I will check this with Ennis, who unfortunately had to leave for New Orleans last night for a week) that evacuation was actually decided upon only after Stimson, under pressure from DeWitt, asked Biddle for it point blank and Biddle replied, "This is war and you can have anything you want." The Justice Department did not back out until Ennis insisted it was not capable of handling the situation. Gitlin affirms that with the terrific public pressure that had been aroused, Biddle would have

1. If an evacuation
lost his job if he had said no to Stimson. ~~If and~~ Japanese forces had been active,
on the other hand, Biddle could have refused mass evacuation.

Gitlin is obviously trying to justify both Biddle and Ennis. Nevertheless, it is obvious that a fundamental clash existed within the Justice Department itself. Ennis was adamant in arguing for the retention of the old system. Biddle, with terrific public pressure opposed to him, with Clark on DeWitt's side, and with Stimson applying personal coercion, wavered and the thing was carried.

There are still many gaps in this story but I do think it is beginning to approximate a complete picture. The gaps I am quite sure I will be able to fill in conference with Ennis, Rowe, and Lamb.

*Reports and brief -
I'm building up 4 more on
documentation, though.
To find to analyze further*