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## COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION PROJECT

Poston, Arizona

May 18, 1945

### RESUME OF RELOCATION PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING

The first meeting of the delegates from the community council regarding relocation was held in Mr. Mill's Office, May 17, 1945. It was decided that each camp should have a relocation planning committee who would be responsible for sending relocation planning executives to serve on a Relocation Advisory Board composed of four members of the appointed personnel and four residents of the evacuee community. These relocation planning executives will be paid \$19.00 a month and an office will be provided in each of the three camps. It was also recommended that each camp be authorized a secretary.

The functions of the advisory board are to be as follows:

1. To act in an advisory capacity both to the administration regarding its problems of the residents and to the residents regarding the possibilities for future planning.
2. To furnish information both to the residents of the project and to the administration on reports about outside areas, both by persons who have made short-term trips and from persons who have already relocated and written back to people in the center. To bring to the attention of the administration, the problems faced by these people and by people on the project contemplating relocation. To bring all available information to the residents of Poston regarding resources and facilities available through the War Relocation Authority and other agencies.
3. On the basis of information obtained, to make recommendations for changes of policies when deemed necessary, both on the project level and to the Washington Office through the project director.
4. To act as an appeal body whereby residents of the center may make appeals and complaints regarding the problems which they do not feel have been adequately settled when it relates to relocation plans.



5. To recommend approval of the administration of contemplated group relocation plans initiated on the project.

In order to carry out these functions it was decided that copies of all relocation material and information pertaining to opportunities and conditions from the outside, which arrive at the project shall be routed to the relocation planning executives. There will be one complete manual pertaining to the relocation regulations of the projects assigned to the Relocation Advisory Board.

The board will have regular meetings each Thursday at 10:00 A.M. and will hold special sessions as needed to consider specific problems as they arise.

The members of the board are as follows:

Mr. Minoru Okamoto - Unit I  
Mr. Ayaka Takahashi Unit II  
Mr. Masao Nakamura Unit II  
Mr. Chosuke Himaga Unit III  
Mr. Duncan Mills  
Mr. C. R. Carter  
Miss Dorothy Stevick  
Miss Lou Butler

/s/ C. R. Carter  
C. R. Carter  
Relocation Program Officer

cc: Mills  
Stevick  
Butler  
French  
Okamoto  
Takahashi  
Nakamura  
Himaga



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

Minutes of the Meetings of the Relocation Advisory Board

May 24, 1945

At the meeting of the Relocation Advisory Board with all but one member present the Reverend Nishi, representing the Church Council of Cleveland, was present in order to give the Advisory Board his impressions on relocation opportunities. He spoke regarding the situation on the West Coast, on the East Coast and in the Middle West. Concrete suggestions made during the meeting were in regard to the need for Issei interviewers in the field WRA offices, and regarding the possible continuence of WRA furnishings to be available to hostels after the Centers close at the end of this calender year. Both suggestions are to be transmitted to the Washington WRA. Arrangements have been made for office space for the Relocation Planning Executives in Camps I, II and III. The office space is available now in Camp I and will be available the first of June in Camps II and III. Letters from the Washington Office with news as to the availability of insurance on the West Coast, both for property and automobiles was read; a copy of which is being attached. A teletype from Washington changing the policy in regard to Resettlement Assistance giving the Project the authority to give certain forms of Resettlement Assistance was read. A copy of this teletype is attached. It was suggested that each Relocation Executive would meet with the Relocation Planning Committee in his unit in order to report the discussions of the Advisory Board and to be able to bring back to the Advisory Board the suggestions from that Committee.

C. R. Carter  
Relocation Program Officer

Attachments-3

MEMORANDUM FROM REX LEE TO ALL PROJECT DIRECTORS, ATTENTION  
EVACUEE PROPERTY OFFICER, DATED  
MAY 17, 1945

Subject: INSURANCE FOR PROTECTION OF PROPERTY FOR EVACUEES

I believe you will be interested in the following item from the April 28 report of Mrs. Mima Pollitt, Acting Project Attorney at Granada, to us:

"Policies were received this week from the United



States Fire Insurance Company of New York with branch offices in San Francisco. William A. Kempenich, 444 California Street, San Francisco, is the issuing agent. Another evacuee secured insurance on his automobile from the Fireman's Fund Group, San Francisco.

/s/  
H. Rex Lee  
Acting Chief, Relocation Division

COPY OF MEMO FROM REX LEE TO RELOCATION PROGRAM OFFICERS  
DATED MAY 19, 1945

SUBJECT: Insurance

We are quoting the following excerpt from the May 11 report of Mr. Edgar Barnhard, Assistant Solicitor in San Francisco in reference to evacuee insurance. This is for your information and should be made available to all your staff members.

"Perhaps we have ridden out the insurance storm once again. I can now report that the whole situation is very much improved. You will recall that early in 1943, we went through a period when it was almost impossible to place any kind of insurance for evacuees. But once we obtained a single source which could be depended upon to issue policies on acceptable risks--whether the property was owned by evacuees or others--the whole difficulty died down. I trust this will happen again, now that I am able to report once more that we have reestablished a good dependable source.

"Our old standby, William Kempenish, 444 California Street, San Francisco, has somehow worked it out so that he is once again able to place fire insurance on real or personal property owned by persons of Japanese descent on the same basis and on the same rates as on property owned by anyone else.

"In addition, with certain very substantial restrictions, automobile insurance of all kinds, including even liability insurance, may now be placed for evacuees. The first restriction is that alien owners cannot be covered; only American citizens. Next, the insurance company has indicated that applications from certain localities--in which there seems to be somewhat more vigorous opposition to the return of evacuees than elsewhere--will not be accepted. Finally, top limits are \$2500 on property damage, \$10,000 to \$20,000 on liability (which is certainly not bad)-and there will be a premium surcharge. On that portion of the premium which represents automobile, fire and theft insurance, the increase will be 100%; on



that portion which represents public liability, the increase will be 50%.

"The company is the Fireman's Fund Insurance Company. Simultaneously with the mention of this company in Mima Pollitt's report, Bob Cozzens received a letter from an insurance agent in Los Angeles which mentioned the same company. Vic Furth took up the matter with them and was given the above limitations."

/s/  
H. Rex Lee  
Acting Chief, Relocation Division

INCOMING TELETYPE 33 FROM MALCOM PITTS, ATTENTION WELFARE  
SECTION RELOCATION DIVISION, MAY 19, 1945

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 1945, RESPONSIBILITY FOR RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE RELIGNED AS FOLLOWS-- 1. WRA WILL PROVIDE AID THROUGH GRANTS COMPUTED AND ISSUED AT CENTER FOR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE SUCH AS FURNITURE, ADVANCE RENT. ONE MONTH'S FOOD AND TRANSPORTATION OF PERSONAL EFFECTS FROM RAILWAY STATION TO RESIDENCE TO THOSE NEEDING ONLY THIS TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE, WRA WILL ALSO ISSUE GRANTS FOR FURNITURE TO DEPENDENCY CASES. 2. SOCIAL SECURITY BOARD THROUGH STATE AND LOCAL WELFARE AGENCIES WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FOR MAINTENANCE NEEDS AND MEDICAL CARE, NOT INCLUDING FURNITURE, OF DEPENDENCY CASES NEEDING CONTINUING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. 3. SSB, THROUGH STATE AND LOCAL WELFARE AGENCIES WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FOR UNFORESEEN NEEDS OCCURRING AFTER RESETTLEMENT.

PROCEDURE FOR ITEM (1) NOW BEING DEVELOPED AND WILL BE SENT TO CENTERS AND FIELD OFFICE NEXT WEEK.

GRANTS FOR FURNITURE LIMITED TO FAMILIES OF 3 OR MORE MEMBERS WITH DEDUCTIONS FOR ADDITIONAL WAGE EARNERS. FURNITURE OWNED, AND CASH RESOURCES. NO GRANT FOR FURNITURE TO EXCEED \$300 AND AVERAGE GRANT TO BE \$150 PER FAMILY. FAMILIES EXPECTED TO USE \$25 PER PERSON LEAVE ASSISTANCE GRANT TO MEET ADVANCE RENT AND FOODS COSTS UNTIL RECEIPT OF PAY CHECK BUT TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE MAY BE GRANTED NOT TO EXCEED \$12.50 PER WEEK FOR FOOD. GRANTS FOR ADVANCE RENT AND TRANSPORTATION OF GOODS ACCORDING TO SCALE IN PROCEDURE BEING DRAFTED. GRANTS FOR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE SHALL NOT BE MADE MORE THAN TEN PERCENT OF NON-DEPENDENT FAMILIES IN CENTER. THIS LIMITATION WILL NECESSITATE CAREFUL EVALUATION OF EACH APPLICATION BY RELOCATION AND WELFARE STAFFS TO ASSURE EQUITABLE TREATMENT.

TOTAL APPROPRIATION YOUR CENTER FOR TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE DURING REMAINDER OF PROGRAM \$166,405, BASED ON 346 DEPENDENT FAMILIES NEEDING \$150 EACH AND 266 NON-DEPENDENT FAMILIES NEEDING \$242.50 EACH. ALLOTMENTS WILL BE PREPARED AND FORWARDED UNDER OBJECTIVE CLASS 11.3 PM FOR \$33,000 OR ESTIMATED 2/7th NEEDED DURING JUNE WHICH CAN BE FINANCED FROM 1945 APPROPRIATION. COST OF REMAINING 5/7th CAN BE MET FROM 1946 APPROPRIATION IF CONGRESS APPROPRIATES FUNDS REQUESTED. YOU MAY REQUEST



ADDITIONAL ALLOTMENT FOR JUNE, PROVIDED EXPENDITURES DURING  
REMAINING 6 MONTHS WILL NOT EXCEED TOTAL APPROPRIATIONMENT.

MALCOLM E PITTS

MILLS  
C CARTER (ACTION)  
LIPAIN  
CONNOLLY







COMMISSION  
GIVEN  
C. G. WILSON (ACTION)  
MILLS

MILTON E. WILSON

REMAINING 9 MONTHS WILL NOT EXCEED TOTAL VETERAN'S BENEFIT.  
ADDITIONAL ATTORNEY FOR LAW, PROVIDED EXPENSES DURING



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COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

Mr. Carter  
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MINUTES OF RELOCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

July 5, 1945

Present: Mr. Carter  
Miss Stevick  
Miss Butler  
Mr. Seitz (Washington)  
Mr. Sumida  
Mr. Iseda  
Mr. Horibe  
Mr. Wada  
Mr. Hunter  
Mr. Wells

Miss Stevick reported on the progress of relocation in Unit I during the month of June, stating that the resettlement assistance grants were helping with the relocation of families but still on a comparatively small basis. There are still a number of requests for assistance where families are not eligible, either because of the amount of money in their possession or the size of the family. She stated that there are many requests for couples and single people and that one request which was thought justified, since there was a job and housing but no furniture, had been sent to Washington requesting exception to the ruling, but a reply wire has been received to the effect that no exception could be made. Miss Stevick said that Mr. Sumida had also reported a number of couples had come to him with the same problems.

Miss Stevick also reported that appointments for interviews in Camp I had almost doubled over the month of May. She stated, however, that there is some difficulty in sending summaries to the field; replies have been received to the effect that plans will be made after people come out, but people feel they can't go out until they have more assurance than that.

Mr. Sumida suggested that steps be taken to arrange for door-to-door transportation of property, since people living in rural areas are handicapped in that there is no provision for the transportation of their furniture to their homes. He asked if some arrangements could not be made for the provision of \$25 as the maximum amount to cover the transportation of property from the depot to the residence of the family relocation. Mr. Carter stated he would contact Washington on that point.

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Relocation



Mr. Sumida also brought up the problem of housing. He reported that many people who have relocated are still at Evergreen Hostel in Los Angeles, saying that people who would ordinarily leave are still at hostels due to the inability to obtain housing and that dissatisfaction among many people has been reported because of lack of help in obtaining housing.

Miss Butler reported that in Units II and III there has been considerable correspondence with District Offices this month regarding members of families who relocated previously. She stated that District Offices have been very cooperative in giving information in regard to the individual on the outside as it concerns the making of family plans for relocation in the center. Miss Butler also mentioned the need for hostels, stating that reservations would help relocation in Camp III for people desiring to go to Visalia and Dinuba. Mr. Carter commented that an attempt is being made to open hostels in both Dinuba and Visalia, and that he will emphasize to Mr. Fisher the necessity for hostels in Visalia. He said that so far there is nothing concrete in regard to hostel development. Miss Butler also reported that a group of people, formerly residents of San Luis Obispo, are anxious to go back. She hopes to have a reply soon to a wire sent in that regard, and it was suggested that if no reply is received a phone call be placed.

Mr. John Hunter, Evacuee Property Officer, reported on the functions of the Evacuee Property Section. He reported that since the establishment of shipping and receiving stations in each of the three camps, the Evacuee Property Section is able to move property within just a few hours, whereas previously it took from 48 to 72 hours from the time the boxes were received into the warehouse until actual movement out of the Center took place.

The question was brought up regarding notices of eviction to be given to present occupants of homes owned by evacuees. Mr. Carter stated that Mr. Robertson, in a phone call, had informed him that word had just been received from Washington to the effect that all evacuees are classified as evictees, so that they can get priority on housing.

Mr. Seitz, of the Washington Office, brought up the question of people who are unable to return to their property because of certain types of leases, particularly where a lease has expired or a month-to-month lease. He posed the question: What is going to happen in the case of a person or family having property in the name of a son or daughter who is not returning with the family; what would OPA or the courts do about property owned by the family but in the name of a member of the family who is absent? Another question was the one of the lease with the "duration" clause. Mr. Seitz suggested that several good cases be taken to court as test cases to establish



precedence. He said he would like to know the number of people who would be involved and whether it would be necessary for WRA to do anything in Washington with OPA to clarify the meaning of owners or property where the owner, the individual person in whose name the property is listed, is not actually going back to the property but may be going either to the Army or elsewhere. Mr. Carter suggested the possibility of having a survey made by block managers to get the volume of problems as well as getting individual cases from Advisers so that Mr. Seitz can use them as test cases to take back to Washington.

Mr. Wada of Camp II mentioned the problem a farmer who had returned to Watsonville and had trouble disposing of his harvest. Mr. Carter explained that in crops such as lettuce nothing can be done to force the marketing, since they are considered "luxury" crops, but that with spinach, chard, etc., which are considered essential crops, WRA can force the marketing of that type of production; also large van companies are in operation now which were not in operation prior to the war.

Mr. Wada also stated that the CIO workers refuse to harvest the crops in that area, to which Mr. Carter replied that he was under the impression that the CIO has gone on record as working with the Japanese people now, and that he was going to call Mr. Lewis in Watsonville regarding the CIO in Watsonville. He was also going to send a wire to Mr. Cozzens regarding van service for the marketing of crops.

Mr. Wada also mentioned the possibility of having WRA pay the expense of one or two people, representing about a half dozen families, to go to California for the purpose of investigating housing, etc. It was explained, however, that Washington's reply to that has been in the negative; that WRA would pay expenses for investigatory trips anywhere except to California.

In connection with Mr. Wada's suggestion that permission be given to people to work on short term leave for a period of two or three months, it was explained that the problem has been presented to Washington and to date a negative response has been received. It was also suggested that it would be of considerable help for WRA to work in conjunction with WFA in certain area, and it was explained that WFA is now limited to the importation of Mexican nationals into the country and has nothing to do with domestic labor. Mr. Wells stated that the Mexican nationals program will continue to exist for the remainder of the calendar year.

Mr. Wada mentioned the fact that his office in Camp II is inconveniently located at the present time, since it is entirely



separated from the Relocation Office, where it is necessary for him to spend quite a bit of time. He and Miss Butler were advised to contact Mr. Uyeno, Unit II Administrator, in regard to space for the Unit II Relocation Advisory Board. The necessity for increasing the express office in Unit II by four members to handle outgoing express was also mentioned.

Mr. Wells reported that in regard to the Wilson Plantation offer, Mr. Ragon of the Little Rock, Arkansas Office, is getting out a pamphlet with the agreement, signed by Mr. Crain of the Wilson plantation, on the reverse side. The pamphlet requires Washington approval before it can be given to the Project, but advance copies are being sent to us.

Mr. Wells also reported that the Santa Fe Railroad can provide for West-bound coaches to accommodate about thirty people on Wednesday nights, and suggested that people traveling west be advised to leave Wednesday night. That depends on whether or not there will be enough people scheduled to leave for one particular city or vicinity.

Mr. Carter suggested that Relocation Advisory Board member keep a tally of the number of interviews held over a period of a week regarding relocation problems. He also stressed the importance of obtaining reports from people who return from short term trips as to the advantage and disadvantages of the areas visited.



G. I.

COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

May 31, 1945

MINUTES OF THE RELOCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

A regular meeting of the Relocation Advisory Board was held at 10:00 o'clock A.M., Thursday, May 31. The following suggestions were brought from the respective Unit Council Relocation Planning Committees:

1. It was suggested that the WRA give financial assistance to people wishing to travel from the project on a short-term basis, depending upon their financial resources. It was felt that this would develop a better understanding of the outside world on the part of people who had been in centers for three years.
2. Committees from all three units felt that the limitation in the amount of money provided for resettlement assistance on the project level was too great. It was also felt that limiting such assistance to families of three or more was not realistic, since there are many old couples and individuals who would also need help.
3. It was suggested that payment of relocation assistance grants be made in all three camps, rather than requiring that recipients come to Camp I prior to departure for receipt of such assistance.
4. Representatives of groups of families desiring to investigate opportunities in parts of the United States other than the Pacific Coast are provided coach transportation only, and it was suggested that they also be provided subsistence on route, in order to facilitate such investigations.
5. Due to the type of lumber used in the preparation of boxes for departing evacuees, those boxes which are used for express shipments are so heavy that it limits the amount of goods which can be packed. It was suggested that the lumber be selected in order that the lighter pieces could be used specifically for express shipments. It was also recommended that steel bands or wire be provided for the reinforcement of boxes.

Each of the above suggestions will be investigated or referred to Washington for consideration and reports will be made as to the action taken.

It was decided that in order to facilitate investigation by the Relocation Planning Executives of conditions at points of



relocation, the Leave Office should provide them with lists of names of those individuals who made short trips to various points in the United States, in order that they can interview them and ascertain conditions in those districts.

It was recommended and decided that representatives going out to explore group relocation opportunities should be required to give written reports as to the results of their investigations.

It was reported that a rumor is abroad to the effect that the County Hospital in Los Angeles is refusing to give service to people of Japanese ancestry. A telephone call was placed to Paul Robertson, the Area Supervisor of Southern California, who investigated the report and later in the day called back to the effect that there are two persons of Japanese ancestry at present in the hospital; that several had been served in the past and that the hospital expects and plans to give the same service to other persons of Japanese ancestry.

It was reported by one of the Planning Executives that several families in Poston are interested in settling here in Parker Valley after the closing of the center. It was explained that the WRA has no jurisdiction in this matter and that such persons should make their applications directly to the Indian Service.

It was also decided that all recruiters from private organizations or companies approaching the project will be asked to report to the Planning Executives in all three camps.

In line with the recommendation of last week that the WRA make more utilization of Issei in outside Relocation Offices, it was suggested that it would be of considerable value to the community if Issei could be employed on the project level to assist people in making their relocation plans. The suggestion was approved and all members of the Advisory Board will attempt to locate qualified people for this work.

It was announced that arrangements have been made with the Santa Fe Railroad for the provision of a Pullman coach going straight to Chicago, whenever we have a minimum of 15 eligible persons.

It was announced that a Mr. Kent in Los Angeles, an insurance agent, has expressed his willingness to insure real property and automobiles, both commercial and privately operated, to persons of Japanese ancestry. A request was made of Mr. Robertson in Los Angeles to give us the complete details as to the premiums.

A report was made as to the progress of relocation during May, which was as follows:

Pacific Coast, 124; Middle West and East, 326; making a total 450 who relocated permanently during the month of May. It was pointed out that this represented the month during which more people relocated than have ever done so since the history of the



project. Since January 1, 1945, 458 people have relocated from Poston to California and 1156 to other parts of the United States, making a total of 1614 persons who have re-established themselves since the first of the year.

There considerable discussion of general relocation problems and the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

C. R. Carter  
Relocation Program Officer



Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

MINUTES OF THE  
RELOCATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
JUNE 7, 1945

*Mr. Carter*  
*Distributed:*  
*Mr. Iseda* *Miss Stevick (+ advisors)*  
*3 Unit* *Miss Butler (+ advisors)*  
*Administration* *Mr. Mills*  
*Mr. French*  
*Mrs. Brown*  
*Mr. Okamoto*  
*Mr. Nakamura*  
*Mr. Haniyama*  
*Wells*  
*Mr. Suzuki*

At the regular meeting of the Relocation Advisory Board, Thursday morning, June 7, 1945, a report was made by Mr. Carter in regard to the request of last week that the Agent Cashier make payments of relocation assistance grants in all three camps, rather than requiring people to come to Camp I. It was found impossible for the Agent Cashier to make such trips, due to the lack of personnel in the Finance Section. However, in order to alleviate the problem of people rushing up on the afternoon of the last day on the project, arrangements were made to provide that recipients of the grants could come two days in advance of the departure. A memorandum is being prepared and the new system will go into effect in the near future.

In regard to the complaint about the weight of the lumber being used in the preparation of boxes in reference to express shipments, contact was made with the Evacuee Property Officer, who agreed to sort the lumber being used in order that the lighter materials be specifically set aside for the purpose of express shipments. It was also reported, in regard to the request for reinforcements for boxes, that bailing wire was at present being used for boxes, particularly for those which are being shipped by freight to the East. It was explained that most things going to the Pacific Coast were taken by truck lines where there was no transshipment and, therefore, very little in the way of rough handling, and that quite often the reinforcement was not used. The bailing wire, however, is available and is being used wherever necessary.

It was reported that during the first six days of June, 89 people had left on terminal leave.

Miss Stevick gave an outline of the first case of people receiving resettlement assistance on the project, showing that a family of five had obtained \$199.

The request was made by Mr. Nakamura of Camp II that crating be done in the respective camps, rather than having everything transported to Camp I for such crating. It was explained that such a procedure had already been determined administratively and that it was anticipated that such a change would begin on June 15.

The problems of persons expecting to relocate were discussed, and it was suggested that duffel bags or burlap be furnished to relocating persons who had considerable bedding to transport.

Mr. Okamoto, of Camp I suggested that some provision be made for persons going out to farm who could not anticipate an income until the first crop was harvested.

The suggestion was made that, in order to alleviate the housing situation on the West Coast, as barracks become empty, they be demolished, the lumber salvaged and furnished to persons who wish to go back and



utilize the lumber to build temporary housing. It was suggested that the Government thereby furnish the material and transport the lumber, but that the relocating evacuees themselves finance the construction of the houses. This suggestion will be transmitted to the Washington Office.

There was some question about the possibility of the utilization by evacuees of Government equipment, and Mr. Mills explained the surplus property procedure, which requires that all such property be turned back to the Government for sale on the open market.

The Advisory Board members reported on the number of people who had come in requesting information from them, and it was indicated that this number is increasing.

The time of the meeting was changed from 10:00 o'clock to 9:00 o'clock, every Thursday morning.



# MINUTES OF ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 14, 1945

Present: Mr. Mills  
Mr. Carter  
Mr. Cozzens  
Miss Stevick  
Mr. Okamoto  
Mr. Nakamura  
Mr. Himaga  
Rev. Yasumura  
Mr. Nishimoto

It was requested at the meeting that there be a more expeditious handling of the minutes, and an effort will be made to take care of this problem. It was also requested that the Camp I Advisory Board be given five copies of the minutes, and Camps II and III four copies.

Mr. Richard Nishimoto, Block Manager Supervisor for Camp I, gave a report on his trip to the Bay Region. He stayed in Berkley and saw the entire Bay Region and Los Angeles. He stated that the reception by the people there was wonderful and much better than before the war. There are lots of good jobs available, particularly high-class domestic positions. He made a personal investigation and reported that the best types of domestic jobs were being obtained through the WRA rather than through the United States Employment Service or the Inter-Racial Committee. He stated that when he first arrived he was worried about some kind of trouble but was very much surprised to find that everything was perfect. After three weeks time, he had no consciousness of being a Japanese. He even found that strangers were friendly. It is true, he said, that there are still groups working against the Japanese but that friendly groups promoting civil rights were stronger. He reported that the housing situation in San Francisco is practically impossible and that, although it is a little better in the East Bay Region for single individuals, that complete housing units are practically impossible to find. Los Angeles, too, he found better than before the war, although the housing situation in Los Angeles seemed to be better than that in the Bay Region. He spoke to two audiences totalling about 400 people, and was very much pleased by his reception.

Mr. Cozzens, Assistant Director in charge of the West Coast Region, made a report to the Advisory Board in which he, also, stated that acceptance was perfect. He said that boycotts could not be successful, pointing out that never in the history of the country, has such action been successful. He stated that reports of the difficulties of evacuees on the Coast had been grossly exaggerated, pointing out for example that he had talked to Sumio Doi who was having no difficulty at all in spite of the so-called boycott. He reported on the Watsonville-Salinas District, stating that he had worked and lived there for over thirty years and knows the district well. There was an attempt to freeze out the Japanese but if people will



return there, they will be able to break the resistance. He felt that even the marketing problem could be solved since the C.I.O. Packers Union has resolved to work on Japanese crops, and that in a similar situation in Hood River and Gresham they were able to break the boycott through use of vans engaged in Inter-State Commerce. He reported that in regard to Mr. Sumida, who was refused service on a bus at Chittendon Junction, the Greyhound Bus Company has issued very strict instructions to their drivers that such incidents must not occur. He recommended that Mr. Sumida sue the company. He summarized his report to the effect that California is in much better shape than before the war. He agreed that housing is the major problem on the Coast and pointed out that the turnover is high, and that people should be in the city to take advantage of this turnover.

Both Mr. Nishimoto and Mr. Cozzens pointed out that more different kinds of jobs are available on the Coast, than ever before, for people of Japanese ancestry. Mr. Nishimoto gave as an illustration such openings as accountant jobs and so on. He, also, pointed out that Liebes, one of the largest and most exclusive department stores in San Francisco, had hired an accountant, some shipping clerks and other workers. They immediately lost five accounts. However, within a short time, they had picked up fifteen new accounts and received a large number of letters and retained their evacuee workers.

Reverend Yasumura of the American Baptist Home Mission Society in New York reported on the possibility of resettlement in New York and stated there is no discrimination problem there toward the Japanese. He explained there are many jobs available in New York City stating that particularly skilled workers could do better there than in most other places. He added that housing was a problem in New York and that the best time for resettlement, in order to obtain housing, was from now until the end of September. He spoke highly of the efficiency of the New York WRA Office and explained in addition to the WRA, there are three Japanese Christian Churches and the Buddhist Church assisting in finding housing. Philadelphia, he stated, was very similar. He also gave a report on the Springfield Education Plan, which is educating the children in breaking down racial prejudice. They are, also, starting adult education classes there for the same purpose.

Mr. Himaga reported that he had interviewed Mrs. Matsui and Mr. Izushita, who had recently returned from short term leave. Mrs. Matsui went to Wichita Falls, Texas to visit her husband there. She noticed that there were not many Japanese located there but that the residents of the city were all right in their treatment of them. Mr. Izushita went to Midvale, Utah for about two months. He said that the people there are very good to the Japanese and have leased land to them. However, it is difficult to find housing. He said there are lots of jobs available on farms. He stated that although they grow only one crop, it produces twice as much as the same crop grown in California.



Mr. Nakamura, from Camp II, complained that express shipments were too slow and it was decided that Mr. Carter and Mr. Mills would take up the matter with the Evacuee Property Section. Mr. Okamoto made the same complaint. It was pointed out, during the meeting, that people in need of resettlement assistance should apply ten days in advance of departure, so there would be no delay in receipt of checks.

C. R. Carter  
Relocation Program Officer



Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

MINUTES OF A DVISORY BOARD MEETING

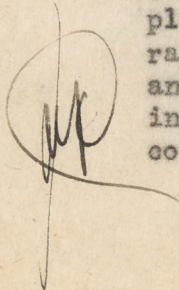
June 28, 1945

Present: Mr. Mills  
Mr. Carter  
Miss Stevick  
Mr. Sumida  
Mr. Suzuki  
Mr. Himaka  
Mr. Tsuroka

Mr. Carter reported on the progress of relocation during the month, stating that 555 people had relocated since the first of June--238 of them departing to California and 317 eastward. Twenty-six applications for re-settlement assistance have been approved since the starting of the program on the 6th of June, involving an outlay of \$3,694.27, an average of \$149.77 per eligible family.

Mr. Tsuroka, a former resident of Poston Camp III, reported on his experiences in New York where he has been very happy. He stated that there was no discrimination in New York and that the state even has a law prohibiting such discrimination. He told about the various jobs he had had and about his experiences while there. He stated that no one has any reason to fear relocation in New York although housing is quite difficult. He emphasized that now is the time to go there. He said there was considerable opportunity for skilled and unskilled workers, and that there are many opportunities for people to work in hotels and restaurants as janitors, elevator operators, domestics and clerical workers. Jobs are available in practically all fields where persons have skills or professions. He said there were many opportunities for older Issei, particularly working in the restaurants and hotels. There is, also, the opportunity to start small business. He said that a single person can obtain housing easily at \$7 per week, and couples for about \$10. Small apartments, on the west side of New York in the district in which he lives, he states are very good and can be obtained unfurnished for about \$45 per month, and furnished apartments with a kitchenette for about the same price. Food, for a family of three, costs about \$15 per week. He stated that due to the fact of a fairly rapid turnover, housing was not too hard to find.

Mr. Sumida reported on his trip to observe the Wilson plantation in Arkansas, and stated it was an excellent opportunity for group relocation. The Wilson plantation involves 72,000 acres of which 69,000 are planted. They have refrigeration plants, dehydration plants, canneries, railroads, stores and schools on the plantation. The soil is very rich and no irrigation is necessary. The plantation owners are particularly interested in obtaining Japanese farmers since they plan to change from cotton in the post-war period to vegetables.





Land is available for rent at \$17 per acre per year, and all farming equipment will be furnished for \$5 more per acre. Housing is furnished for family units, and although the houses are not wired for electricity the plantation owners will do such wiring if people are interested in coming. Credit is available for everything from crop raising to food in stores. He emphasized there was no danger of flood although it is near the Mississippi River. Marketing, he stated, was very simple since the plantation is only 140 miles from Little Rock, Arkansas and 40 miles from Memphis, Tennessee, and 18 hours from Chicago. He did not feel that it would be good land for strawberry or tomato production due to the heavy rainfall. He, also went through Denver and said there were many jobs available in packing houses and foundries but housing was very difficult. He stated that in Greeley, Colorado, farming was very risky since they are only able to raise one crop a year and there was considerable danger of that crop being destroyed by hail. However, there are root crops, such as sugar beets, potatoes, and onions. He suggested a hostel be established in Denver to alleviate the housing situation.

Mr. Suzuki presented two individual rationing problems which the program officer followed up on individually.

Mr. Himaka, from Camp III, gave the following report: He had a talk with Mr. Kushino, who was in Chula Vista. He stated that Mr. Mc Clendon of the San Diego WRA Office was very helpful and very nice. There were 4,000 people in Chula Vista before the war and now there are 14,000. One third of them are old friends, and two thirds are new comers. There are about 1500 people leaving San Diego daily but there are many people coming in, indicating that the housing situation is fairly tight. He stated that his old friends were very nice and welcomed him back. He contacted Mrs. Peters, the girls' leader there, who was very nice to him and told him their old friends would welcome the Japanese back, but that the newcomers do not know the Japanese and will not welcome them as well. Japanese are returning to that district little by little. He felt the housing situation would improve as time goes on. Mr. Kushino's personal belongings, which he had left behind were stolen or broken beyond use. He left for a trip to Salt Lake City to look over the situation there.

C. R. Carter  
Relocation Program Officer



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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington

July 5, 1945

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

Attention: Relocation Advisory Board

Dear Mr. Mills:

Thank you for the copies of your minutes for the May 31 meeting. We are glad to have your suggestions and recommendations.

In regard to the first suggestion concerning financial assistance to people wishing to travel from the project on short-term basis, we feel that the assistance for investigation trips partially meet this need and is as far as we are able to go. Investigation trips were developed in order to have representatives of various community groups report back the conditions and opportunities which they found in outside areas. It is obviously impossible for us to financially support each person while he again becomes acquainted with the outside world.

Since your fourth point is closely related to number one in that additional funds for subsistence enroute are recommended, we will answer that next. Investigation trips are really joint ventures between WRA and the people. It has been our experience that where investigators have a stake in their visits, such visits have become more beneficial in relocating their own families and the families of others. In cases of real hardship where an exploratory trip is mandatory or where the group is reported financially unable to pay for such minor expenses as subsistence, we will consider a request from the Relocation Advisory Board and Project Director to provide necessary aid.

The second point concerning the limitation for resettlement assistance at the project level is also worthy of comment. The financial assistance is limited because of the amount of money available for this purpose and because more cannot be justified on a basis of need. The fact that it is limited to families of three or more is realistic because couples, whether young or old, and single individuals, are able to secure furnished housing and become reestablished much more readily than families in which there is a child or other dependents.

Your other points, three and five, relate directly to project procedure. We commend you on the consideration of such matters and hope that you will continue to give us the benefit of your suggestions and recommendations.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer  
Director

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
3208 Hamilton Avenue  
Fresno 2, California  
July 9, 1945

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

Dear Mr. Mills:

A delegation representing the Board of Directors of the Japanese Language School at Reedley were in the office today and discussed the use of the school facilities for temporary family housing. The committee was composed of Messrs. S. G. Sakamoto, Jitaro Kodama, Denroku Sasaki, Terashi Ihara, and Charles K. Iwasaki.

They state that the Board will make the facilities available immediately to returning evacuee families, who have their own furniture. Ten to fifteen families can be accommodated in the various buildings.

This is not a WRA hostel arrangement but is an enterprise undertaken by the Board of Directors on their own initiative. They will have complete supervision of the housing project. Preference will be given to former Reedley residents. Poston residents who are interested in securing housing accommodations should communicate directly with Mr. Denroku Sasaki, Rt. 1, Box 276, Reedley, California - Telephone 26 F 3. It is our understanding that a reasonable rental charge will be made for use of these premises and that there will be a maximum length of time that facilities may be used by a single family.

In our opinion, this arrangement should do much in speeding up relocation in the Reedley district. Every family will either have furniture in storage that can be transferred to this location or will be eligible for resettlement assistance at the Center, for the purchase of furniture.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Cecil Morgan  
CECIL MORGAN,  
Relocation Officer



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

MINUTES OF THE RELOCATION ADVISORY BOARD  
July 12, 1945

Present: Mr. Carter  
Miss Stevick  
Miss Butler  
Mr. Okamoto  
Mr. Wada  
Mr. Sumida  
Mr. Suzuki  
Mr. Wells  
Mr. Derrickson (Washington)  
Mr. Yasukochi

At the regular meeting of the Relocation Advisory Board, held Thursday morning, July 12, 1945, Mr. Carter read Mr. D. S. Myer's letter of July 5, 1945, received by Mr. Mills, and addressed to the attention of the Relocation Advisory Board. The letter was in reply to the suggestions and recommendations of the Relocation Advisory Board submitted at its meeting of May 31, 1945, minutes of which meeting were forwarded to Washington. Copy of the letter is attached hereto.

In regard to the fifth recommendation submitted in the minutes of the meeting of May 31, relating to express shipments, which of course, is Project procedure and does not concern Washington, Mr. Carter mentioned the fact that lighter weight boxes are being used now, but that these are still heavier than they should be. He said, however, that heavy burlap is going to be issued for the purpose of packing clothing, blankets, etc., for express shipments, thereby saving on weight.

A letter from the Fresno District Office, dated July 9, 1945, relative to the efforts of the Board of Directors of the Japanese Language School at Reedley to establish housing for evacuee families, was read. A copy of this letter is attached.

At the meeting of July 5, 1945, it was reported that the CIO in Watsonville had refused to give help to Mr. Hirahara (first farmer to return to Watsonville) in harvesting his crops. Mr. Carter reported that he called the Watsonville office in regard to this matter, and he had been informed by Mr. Lewis, Relocation Officer at Watsonville, that this apparently was merely a rumor not at all based on truth, since Local 78 of the CIO Union in Watsonville had passed unanimously a resolution, presented to the full membership of Local 78, supporting the return of the evacuees. At Mr. Carter's request for verification, a copy of the resolution was forwarded by the Watsonville Office and is attached. It was also mentioned that the Fishermen's Union in Monterey (AFL) has gone on record as inviting evacuees to return.

In regard to "door-to-door" delivery of freight for people living in rural districts, which was discussed at the previous meeting on July 5, Mr.



Carter read a memorandum received from Mr. Hunter, Evacuee Property Officer, in reply to his inquiry. Mr. Hunter stated in his memorandum that contact had been made with the Universal Carloading and Distributing Company, Inc. of Phoenix, Arizona, and that this company had offered to give such service; that it would be necessary to ship goods by Santa Fe to Phoenix, from there to be routed through the company for delivery to destination. The Bill of Lading would show the rural route, box number, etc., and upon arrival at the Company station or town nearest the address given, a card would be sent to the individual (or family) to whom the goods belonged, requesting that he report at the Trucking office to give exact information regarding his place of residence. This would possibly necessitate the storing of the goods for a day or two but would permit the delivery desired. It was stated that similar arrangements could probably also be made with Western Truck Lines, who at the present time are making door-to-door delivery only within city limits. More definite information on the subject was expected within the next few days. Mr. Derrickson mentioned the fact that at Gila they have found that Western Truck Lines and Pacific Freight Lines give more satisfactory service to the West Coast, and they are therefore planning to use Universal Carloading primarily for eastern shipments. He went on to say that Western Truck Lines will give door-to-door delivery service within city limits and will offer the service for rural deliveries at an additional charge.

Mr. Okamoto mentioned the dangers of the use of milk trucks as a form of transportation to the Coast, to which Mr. Carter replied that WRA could assume no responsibility for such transportation. Mr. Carter also suggested that an attempt be made to schedule westbound departures for Wednesday night, since Santa Fe would provide a special coach for that night if a minimum of thirty people were scheduled to leave. He stated that the possibilities of a special bus would also be explored. In connection with the westbound departures (30 or 35 people), it was suggested that arrangements be made with hostels at a date far enough in advance, since it is difficult for them to accommodate a large number of people at short notice.

In connections with hostel reservations, mention was made of the fact that many young people are merely vacationing on the Coast, Los Angeles, in particular, thereby occupying space which might be used by people who have relocated and are in need of temporary housing.

Mention was made of the fact that many older and middle-aged people now going to Los Angeles are totally unfamiliar with the city and therefore have great difficulty in seeking employment and housing. Inquiry was made as to whether it would be possible for the WRA field office to arrange for transportation, as well as for someone to contact the prospective employers and assist these people in getting to them. Mr. Carter stated that although WRA was able to contact the employer and prepare the way for the individual to go to the employer, WRA has never felt that it could arrange for transportation, except in special instances where someone is investigating for large groups of people. He said, however, that he would contact Mr. Robertson of the Los Angeles Area Office in regard to obtaining help for these people, possibly through volunteer committees from different universities would probably be interested in



doing this type of work. Miss Butler also suggested that Miss Alice Grube at the International Institute in Los Angeles be contacted in regard to this matter.

Mr. Wells stated that in a phone call from Mr. Lewis in Watsonville he was told that a Mr. McCarthy, who owns land in that district, is anxious to have a group of people come out if they are interested in share cropping. Housing would be provided. Mr. Carter suggested that Mr. Wada work with Sid Shiratsuki and look into the matter and that a delegate be sent to Watsonville. In regard to housing in that area, Mr. Sumida made mention of the fact that Mr. K. Sakata, Route 2, Box 55, Watsonville, had offered his home for temporary use by three families.

Mr. Carter stressed the importance of letting people know what is being done at the Relocation Advisory Board meetings.

C. R. Carter  
Relocation Program Officer



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UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington

July 5, 1945

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

Attention: Relocation Advisory Board

Dear Mr. Mills:

Thank you for the copies of your minutes for the May 31 meeting. We are glad to have your suggestions and recommendations.

In regard to the first suggestion concerning financial assistance to people wishing to travel from the project on short-term basis, we feel that the assistance for investigation trips partially meet this need and is as far as we are able to go. Investigation trips were developed in order to have representatives of various community groups report back the conditions and opportunities which they found in outside areas. It is obviously impossible for us to financially support each person while he again becomes acquainted with the outside world.

Since your fourth point is closely related to number one in that additional funds for subsistence enroute are recommended, we will answer that next. Investigation trips are really joint ventures between WRA and the people. It has been our experience that where investigators have a stake in their visits, such visits have become more beneficial in relocating their own families and the families of others. In cases of real hardship where an exploratory trip is mandatory or where the group is reported financially unable to pay for such minor expenses as subsistence, we will consider a request from the Relocation Advisory Board and Project Director to provide necessary aid.

The second point concerning the limitation for resettlement assistance at the project level is also worthy of comment. The financial assistance is limited because of the amount of money available for this purpose and because more cannot be justified on a basis of need. The fact that it is limited to families of three or more is realistic because couples, whether young or old, and single individuals, are able to secure furnished housing and become reestablished much more readily than families in which there is a child or other dependents.

Your other points, three and five, relate directly to project procedure. We commend you on the consideration of such matters and hope that you will continue to give us the benefit of your suggestions and recommendations.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer  
Director



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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

211 Lettunich Bldg.,

Watsonville, Calif.

July 6th, 1945.

Mr. Corliss Carter,  
Relocation Program Officer  
War Relocation Authority  
Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

Dear Corliss::

Enclosed you will find a copy of the  
resolution presented by the C. I. O. - Local 78 of Watson-  
ville.

This is the resolution promised you in  
our telegram of today.

Yours very truly,

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/s/ T. Lewis

Theodore R. E. Lewis  
Relocation Officer



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RESOLUTION PRESENTED BY: H. E. HAMCOCK

Mr. Chairman:

Brothers and Sisters:

Knowing full well that the interests of the working class are best served by presenting a united front against Fascism and that the foremost weapon of the Fascists is racial discrimination, I offer this resolution:

We resolve that we will always abide by our pledge to not discriminate against "anyone" because of race, creed, color, religion or political belief; and we especially pledge ourselves to uphold the United States Government in its decision to return loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry to their rightful homes and further uphold the rights of said citizens to engage in any lawful or useful occupation and we further pledge that we will assist any American of proven loyalty to enjoy the rights and privileges granted to them by our democratic constitution.

RESOLVED and passed by the entire body of Local 78.



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

Miss Butler  
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MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF  
RELOCATION ADVISORY BOARD - JULY 17, 1945

Present: Mr. H. Rex Lee, Chief  
Relocation Division, Washington  
Mr. Carter  
Miss Butler  
Mr. Mills  
Miss Stevick  
Mr. Okamoto  
Mr. Horibe  
Mr. Wada  
Mr. Katow  
Mr. Suzuki  
Mr. Wells  
Mr. Yasukochi

A special meeting of the Relocation Advisory Board was called by Mr. Carter Tuesday morning, July 17, 1945, in order that the Board might have the opportunity to discuss some of its problems with Mr. Lee, Chief of the Relocation Division in Washington, during his stay in Poston.

It was reported that the number of people who had come in for interviews regarding relocation problems on Monday, July 16, was far greater than that of any other day in the past. This was true of all three units.

Mr. Lee was called upon to give a summary of some of the things which are occurring in some of the areas he had visited, as well as in Washington. He stated that he had just visited several of the areas, including New York, Boston, Chicago and Salt Lake, as well as San Francisco and Los Angeles and that things are going very well in all of these areas. He stated that the problem of housing exists in all these areas but that it is being met very well in most of them, with the problem more acute in Los Angeles and San Francisco than in the eastern areas. Mr. Lee stated that the Chicago area has a registry system which enables them to assist in the finding of housing for evacuees in spite of the fact that the housing shortage itself is becoming more serious. They also call upon local committees to find housing and to sponsor hostels, and Federal housing which may be available is also being investigated. Mr. Lee stated that an attempt is being made to increase the number of hostels on the West Coast, but that it is impossible for WRA to find housing for people unless they are present in the location in which they wish to find housing, since WRA acts as a service organization, giving leads, making referrals, etc.

In regard to Federal housing, Mr. Lee stated that some progress is being made but there is not a great deal of Federal housing in existence; people going into war work or related activities will be afforded the same opportunities as those who are not of Japanese ancestry in obtaining housing.



Mr. Lee stated that the President has signed an act which provides that families of veterans, or veterans themselves, are now eligible for Federal housing on the same basis as war workers, so that families in Poston with sons in the service will be eligible for that type of housing; this, of course, means that they become eligible but not that it will be found for them; that when vacancies occur, veterans' families are eligible for them on a priority basis.

Mr. Lee mentioned the fact that jobs are plentiful and will become increasingly so with the increase in the number of people who relocate; packing industries, shipping industries and farmers, particularly, are anxious to take on evacuee crews, if they can get crews. Mr. Lee stated that antagonism on the Coast cannot be broken down without the presence of the evacuees, saying that community attitudes are not going to improve after the war unless evacuees return now. He urged people to go back to their former homes now, rather than elsewhere with the intention of going back after the war.

With reference to the over-all situation, Mr. Lee stated that WRA has been allotted sufficient funds to operate for approximately six months, during which time WRA is going to be able to help the evacuees to relocate; but the sooner they reach their destination the better service WRA will be able to render, since WRA's time in which to operate is limited. He said that the same thing applies here in camp; those who leave now are able to get better service than those who wait. Congress has decided that camps are going to close. As long as WRA is in operation it has the facilities with which to help evacuees. After that period ends the evacuees are going to be entirely on their own. He stressed the fact that no help can be given to people who do not go to the Advisors stating their problems and asking for help.

Mention was made of the fact that certain West Coast offices have failed to render services which are expected, to which Mr. Lee replied that the reason some of these offices are unable to render services which are as good as those of some of the eastern offices, is that they have been established for a shorter period of time and are not organized to give that service. He said, however, that WRA expects to give the same type of service on the West Coast as is being given elsewhere, and that it is trying to gear those offices to give that service until January or February. He stated that some of the West Coast offices did not have the staff with which to operate as well as they might, but that every effort is being made to have these offices adequately staffed and that it is the intention of WRA to give full, adequate service on the Coast; that therefore Washington would like to be informed as to any failures on the part of West Coast offices to render necessary services so that the situation can be remedied. He asked that all specific incidents be reported to Mr. Carter.

In regard to the employment of Issei in WRA field offices, Mr. Lee stated that WRA has been attempting for about two years to hire Issei in these offices, but that the Civil Service Commission has a



regulation, passed down to them by Congress, to the effect that aliens cannot be employed under Civil Service if there are citizens who can perform the work. Special funds have now been allotted to WRA for the purpose of employing Issei on a non-Civil Service basis, but because of limited funds, Mr. Lee stated WRA is unable to employ as many Issei as it would like.

Mr. Okamoto raised the question regarding the possibility of changing the regulation relative to working while on short-term leave. Mr. Lee replied that the chief reason for converting to terminal leave any individual who was known to be working while on short term, is that it creates ill-will among employers, since people would work for a period of fifteen or twenty days and then leave to return to the project. He stated that in many of the larger cities they simply stopped employing evacuees because they considered them very unstable and unreliable, since they were unable to distinguish between those who had relocated and wanted permanent employment and those who were merely on short-term leave. Mr. Lee stated that Washington feels that employment while on short term leave jeopardizes the chances of evacuees who have gone out to take jobs on a long-term or permanent basis. Mr. Wada stated that he thought it would aid relocation at the present time to allow people to work while on short-term leave, since it would give them the opportunity to earn some money and find housing before removing their families from the center. Mr. Lee replied that he would be glad to take it up with Director Myer, but that the problems of housing, etc., would have to be weighed against some of the others such as labor relations, which he considered very important.

Mr. Wada brought up the question of the segregate and excludable status of evacuees, saying that in many cases, he thought, people were on the stop list for no apparent reason and relocation had to be postponed pending the hearing. Mr. Carter stated that since the lifting of the Exclusion Orders, the Army has had control over the situation and that WRA now has no jurisdiction in the matter. It was explained that WRA is doing all it can in requesting the Department of Justice and the Army to expedite hearings in these cases and to clear them up; for those definitely on the segregate list at the time of center closure, some other agency will take them over, whereas excludables remaining on the project at the time the center is scheduled to close will be expected to relocate to places other than the West Coast.

The question, regarding the future of couples with sons in the Army, was also raised. Mr. Lee replied that these people are eligible for benefits from the Army, and if that amount is insufficient, they are also eligible for assistance from the community of relocation; that funds have been set up, through WRA's agreement with the Social Security Board, in cases where allotments are insufficient, to supplement them. In many cases, Mr. Lee said, allotment requests have been turned down because the people requesting them were in centers and getting support from a Federal agency, but once they are outside, they will be given aid. Mr. Carter stressed the importance of bringing these problems to the Relocation Advisers, since they can help by giving information as to the help which can be expected on the outside, as well as by writing



to the Office of Dependency Benefits, Red Cross, etc.

Mr. Okamoto raised the question of obtaining cash loans for the opening of hostels, etc., and Mr. Lee replied that WRA has not the authority to make cash loans of that kind; the only way to do that would be to get another agency or organization interested in it so that it may sponsor it and give some assistance. WRA would get an over-all sponsoring agency to help the hostel. Local support behind the hostel move is needed, he stated. Organizations such as the Elks were mentioned, and Mr. Lee said there were no objections to any agency, and suggested that if anyone had any information on prospective hostel organizations he contact Mr. Carter, who in turn will contact Los Angeles, etc.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M., and Mr. Carter announced that this meeting was to take the place of the regular meeting of the week, usually held Thursday morning, the next regular meeting to be held the following week.

C. R. Carter  
Relocation Program Officer



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

July 23, 1945

MEMO TO: Corlies Carter  
FROM: Relocation Planning Board  
Unit I  
SUBJECT: Time of Relocation Planning  
Board Meeting, Unit I

*SM 7/24*

Please be advised that Unit I Relocation Planning Board meeting will be held 9:00 a.m. on Friday, that is one-half hour prior to the meeting of Relocation Advisory Board. This meeting is to be held in Executive Board Conference room.

Unit I Relocation Planning Board is sponsoring this meeting open widely toward those who are interested to listen to first hand reports and also the Board is interested in gathering the news of those who come back from exploratory trips. This meeting will be conducted in Japanese language as the majority will be for the benefit of the majority of Isseis. If you have any evacuee who have returned from an exploratory trip to be present on the Advisory Board will you kindly arrange him to be present at this Planning Board meeting from your office.

*M. J. Suzuki*  
M. J. Suzuki

cc: ✓ Duncan Mills  
M. Okamoto