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H143: SECOND Community Council
IS INDUCTED

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Topaz H143
Community Council
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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
TOPAZ, UTAH

THE SECOND COMMUNITY COUNCIL IS INDUCTED

by

Russell A. Bankson

July 14, 1943

PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION
HISTORICAL SECTION

- P R O G R A M -

INDUCTION
OF
COMMUNITY COUNCIL

* * * * *

July 3, 1943

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Charles F. Ernst, Project Director

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
TOPAZ, UTAH

BANQUET PROGRAM

6:30 P.M.

Dining Hall No. 10

Toast Master

Rev. M. Kumata

1. Opening Address
2. National Anthem
3. Grace
4. Dinner

Toast Master
Miss Mitzi Shiraishi
Rev. M. Nishimura

Introduction:

- a. Project Director and Ass't. Directors
- b. Guests from Delta
- c. Mr. H. Ieyki--General Election Board
- d. Mr. Mike Maruyama--Past Chairman of
Community Council
- e. Dr. George Ochikubo--Temporary Chairman of
Community Council

5. Entertainment

- a. Violin Solo:
"Meditation"

Miss Ernestina Teranishi
By Massenet

Accompanist:

Miss Emiko Komiya

- b. Sankyoku
"Matsukaze"

Koto:

Miss Sachiye Mizota

Koto:

Miss Taeko Honnami

Samisen:

Miss Sumi Honnami

Sakuhachi:

Mr. H. Honnami

- c. Japanese Dance

Master Keigo Takeuchi

6. Closing Address

Toast Master

INDUCTION CEREMONY

8:00 P.M.

High School Plaza

Chairman

Mr. Toby Ogawa

1. Star Spangled Banner

Vocalist:
Accompanist:

Miss Lorraine Yamate
Miss Emiko Komiya

2. Invocation

Rev. E. Suyehiro

3. Introduction

Mr. Daniel Shield

U.S. District Attorney
By: Mr. Charles F. Ernst

4. Induction

Mr. Daniel Shield

5. Address:

Mr. Daniel Shield
U.S. District Attorney

6. Benediction

Bishop of Delta

7. Entertainment

Vocal
Harmonica

Miss Mitzi Shiraishi
Mr. Tosh Suzuki

8. Closing Address

Chairman

Transfer to High School Plaza for Induction Ceremony

War Relocation Authority
Zapaz, Utah,
July 3, 1943

Exhibit B.

MEMBERS OF COMMUNITY COUNCIL:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Akiyama, Fred | 18. Nakajima, Kichiro |
| 2. Bando, Hiroshi | 19. Nakamura, Mataichi |
| 3. Fujii, Masuji | 20. Ochikubo, George |
| 4. Fujita, Seinosuke | 21. Sakai, Yukichi |
| 5. Hagiwara, George | 22. Sakurai, Toyohiko |
| 6. Hashimoto, Kinnosuke | 23. Sato, Eichi |
| 7. Honnami, Hikoroku | 24. Shigezumi, Kyonosuke |
| 8. Hoshiga, Genichi | 25. Sugawara, Akimi |
| 9. Kanzaki, Kichizo | 26. Takahama, Iwao |
| 10. Kawaguchi, Sanjiro | 27. Tanaka, Kojuro |
| 11. Kudo, Motoki | 28. Tawa, Harry |
| 12. Kurokawa, Matsuzo | 29. Tsugawa, Hisaichi |
| 13. Matsueda, William | 30. Tsuzuki, Takashi |
| 14. Morioka, Shiro | 31. Yamamura, Seichi |
| 15. Muneno, Saiki | 32. Yasuda, Nobu |
| 16. Muramatsu, Somenosuke | 33. Yoshida, Toshio |
| 17. Nakai, Michikazu | 34. Yoshioka, Giichi |

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT

TOPAZ, UTAH

THE SECOND COMMUNITY COUNCIL IS INDUCTED

by

Russell A. Bankson

July 14, 1943

PROJECT REPORTS DIVISION

HISTORICAL SECTION

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Central Utah Project

THE SECOND COMMUNITY COUNCIL IS INDUCTED

The evening of July 3, the eve of the nation's birthday, was chosen as the date for induction of the second Community Council at Topaz.

There was unusual significance in this event--both in the selection of the time and of the make-up of the Council itself.

The time stressed the democratic way of America and the make-up of the Council further stressed this point, for it was the first Council in which both Issei and Nisei were eligible for election. As a result of the election, a majority of the Council, or 22 out of the 33, was made up of non-citizens, older men who now take their place with the younger Nisei to work out the problems of this center and to guide its people along the democratic way.

Long and careful plans were laid for the induction. Newly elected members of the Council formed themselves into an election committee which took charge of the details which followed a pattern similar to the induction of the first permanent Council six months earlier.

The ceremony began with a banquet set for 6:30 P.M. in Dining Hall 10. Although food rationing was felt in sharp contrast to the less stringent food curtailment of six months previous, the committee offered a course dinner which included as

its main feature roast pork from hogs raised and slaughtered on the project.

Leaders of Topaz from among the residents constituted the greater number of guests although administrative officials from the Appointive Staff were present together with a number of prominent guests from adjacent communities.

The Rev. M. Kumata presided as toastmaster at the banquet, and besides brief talks by special guests, several entertainment numbers were featured.

The guests at the banquet transferred to the high school plaza for the induction of the Council so that greater numbers might witness this ceremony.

(The detailed program for the banquet is attached as Exhibit A, and the names of the members of the Community Council are attached as Exhibit B.)

The induction itself was solemn and dignified throughout. The chief speaker was the Hon. Daniel Shields of Salt Lake City, U. S. District Attorney for the State of Utah. Toby Ogawa presided as chairman and the ceremonies carried out on the raised platform of the plaza with a large audience seated in the open, began with the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner," by Miss Lorraine Yamate accompanied by Miss Emiko Komiya.

The invocation by the Rev. Isao Tanaka is attached as Exhibit C.

Mr. Charles F. Ernst, Project Director, introduced Mr. Shields in the following words:

"I do not know Mr. Dan Shields by reason of having played on any ball team with him, or having had the pleasure of being a neighbor of his, or of having gone to school with him, or any of those ways by which men sometimes introduce one another. But I know somewhat of the responsibilities of the position which a man in carrying out the work he is required to do must perform.

"It goes without saying then that through all these difficult years, through which the country went before the war; through all the period of a depression which we sometimes forget; through all the difficulties of war and the life leading up to the war when it would have been a very easy matter and, unfortunately it has been too easy a matter, for even men in high places to lose touch with the ground and become as you and I have become, somewhat jittery.

"It is to the credit of the nation, it is to the credit of the state of Utah, that a man who has been able to keep his guidance through the common sense and through the common unity of experience and character that Mr. Shields, through all that period has been able to give his service in helping steady this state, and through conference with attorneys in other states throughout the nation has made it possible to have for Utah, representation in matters of law and in matters even reaching down to Topaz.

"We were talking today about experiences and Mr. Shields told me that more than 70,000 persons requiring to register with him to go from one place to another have come to his office

to do so. He knows not by reading a book, he knows by having met men and women and by knowing their needs, their ambitions and the motivations that prompt them to do the things they want to do.

"Through it all they have developed a faith in humanity, knowing that given a right chance most people will come through in that chance. So, I don't know of a better man whom this Council could have had to induct them, particularly this first Council made up not alone as the previous Councils were, of Nisei, but mostly of Issei. And together through working, together through interpreting to each other and then to us in the Administration who need their help, who need their interpretation that they and we together may carry forward here at Topaz.

"I want to assure you at this time, as Project Director, that I and the staff to the best of our abilities will work with the residents through the Council which they have chosen. You will have to be patient with us in the Administrative Staff; you will sometimes have to be patient with your Council; so it adds up that you will have to be twice as patient with the Administration and the Council working together.

"I can assure you that we will try to work for your interest together. So, now it gives me great pleasure and, I consider it truly an honor, as has been said before by the chairman--this night before the Fourth--to have the privilege of presenting to you Daniel Shields of Salt Lake City."

Immediately upon taking the platform, Mr. Shields said:

"Mr. Ernst, ladies and gentlemen: I am going to just take up the formal part of the inauguration for the moment, and when that is done, I may say two or three things to you that may or may not be interesting. At least you will have to stay awhile. It is interesting to me to see democracy at work. The election of men and women to represent the people in this country of ours is the pinnacle of democracy. Sometimes we fail in our choice, but nonetheless we have an opportunity to express our view and pick our government.

"These men about to be inducted into office are the choice of the people residing in the various blocks of the community in which they live. There have been contests and these people are the choice and they are to be given the trial--and it is a certainty in a situation such as you people are confronted with that it will be a blood test--and when they have finally finished the term and someone is here inducting their successors, it shall be necessary that these people will go out with your blessings and your praise, 'Well done, thou good and faithful servants.'

"We will proceed with the induction."

He then administered the oath to the newly elected councilmen in the following words:

"Will you raise your right hand and say after me, each man pronouncing his name: 'I ____ do solemnly affirm and swear that I will support the constitution of the United States, the constitution of Utah and that I will uphold and obey the two constitutions and the rules and regulations and the ordinances

adopted for the government and the control of Topaz, so help me God."

Mr. Shields' address in part is attached as Exhibit D.

The benediction was given by Bishop Warren Henderson of Delta, Utah, of the Mormon Church in the following words:

"Our Father which art in Heaven, as we pronounce this benediction, we have many things to be thankful for--we are thankful that we live in the United States of America and that we enjoy the privileges and the opportunities that this government affords; that of freedom and a unity and of association one with another.

"We are thankful unto Thee for the privilege and opportunity of this night, this evening, of associating together and of installing a new Council in the city of Topaz, and we pray unto Thee, our Father in Heaven, that Thy blessings will aid the men who have been chosen and selected to reign and carry on the affairs of government in this city.

"We are thankful unto Thee for the men who have been selected as the directors of this city. Let Thy spirit and Thy blessings attend them that there will be unity and consideration and faith and confidence one with another.

"And we pray, our Father in Heaven, that Thou will watch over us at all times, guide us, and direct us that our lives will be fruitful and we ask it all in the Name of Lord Jesus Christ. Amen."

Two vocal selections were offered by Miss Mitzi Shiraishi,

retiring woman member of the Council, and a harmonica selection by Tosh Suzuki.

The closing address of the induction ceremony was given by Toby Ogawa. His talk is attached as Exhibit E.

The entire ceremony was conducted in the soft warmth of a summer evening as the sun settled behind the rugged distant ridges, slanting its rays out across the level barren desert. Throughout the entire ceremony there was a feeling of the importance of this occasion which is now recorded as one more forward step in the great experiment which marks the building and the conducting of the affairs of a community so strange as this.

The detailed induction program is attached as Exhibit F.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
 Topaz, Utah
 July 3, 1943

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT
 BANQUET PROGRAM

6:30 P.M.

Toast Master

Rev. M. Kumata

1. Opening Address
2. National Anthem
3. Grace
4. Dinner

Toast Master
 Miss Mitzi Shiraishi
 Rev. M. Nishimura

Introduction:

- a. Project Director and Ass't. Directors
- b. Guests from Delta
- c. Mr. H. Iyeki--General Election Board
- d. Mr. Mike Maruyama--Past Chairman of
 Community Council
- e. Dr. George Oshikubo--Temporary Chairman
 of Community Council

5. Entertainment

- a. Violin Solo: Miss Ernestina Teranishi
 "Meditation" By Massenet

Accompanist: Miss Emiko Komiya

- b. Sankyoku
 "Matsukaze"

Koto: Miss Sachiye Mizota
 Koto: Miss Taeko Honnami
 Shamisen: Miss Sumi Honnami
 Shakuhachi: Mr. H. Honnami

- c. Japanese Dance Master Keigo Takeuchi

6. Closing Address Toast Master

Transfer to High School Plaza for Induction Ceremony

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Topaz, Utah
July 3, 1943

Members of Community Council:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
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| 2. Bando, Hiroshi | 19. Nakamura, Mataichi |
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| 10. Kawaguchi, Sanjiro | 27. Tanaka, Kojuro |
| 11. Kudo, Motoki | 28. Tawa, Harry |
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| 13. Matsueda, William | 30. Tsuzuki, Takashi |
| 14. Morioka, Shiro | 31. Yamamura, Seichi |
| 15. Muneno, Saiki | 32. Yasuda, Nobu |
| 16. Muramatsu, Somenosuke | 33. Yoshida, Toshio |
| 17. Nakai, Michikazu | 34. Yoshioka, Giechi |

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Topaz, Utah
July 3, 1943

Invocation by the Rev. Isao Tanaka:

"Our dear Father, we thank Thee that we are privileged to be able to praise Thy Name always and especially at an occasion like this.

"Grant us, O Lord, that we may be thankful to those who faithfully served as the first councilmen of Topaz in the past period of time. Bless their good work done and its fruits which we reap with joy and thanksgiving now and in the future.

"Bless, O Father, our new councilmen of Topaz now to be inducted before Thee and before the fellow residents of Topaz. O God, anoint them with the spirit of righteousness, of loving kindness, and of unselfish devotion, so that the community of Topaz may be directed and guided by them into a higher living physically and spiritually.

"Help, O God, our appointed staff and all the residents of Topaz at this time to be able to cooperate fully with the new councilmen. Bless, O God, each and every activity in the community especially that of the education of youth, for the youths are our only life in future.

"Bless the state of Utah, of which we are a part, and Governor Haw under whose care we have our security. Bless Mr. Shields, our District Attorney, who enabled us to perform the rite of this induction today and to whom we are so grateful.

"At this time of trial we pray Thee, O god, that Thou let the old liberty bell ring with its new sound, let the victims of the war free from their bondage, and let all nations of the world be free from their brutal actions. O God, help us to let the religion of Pilgrim Fathers, the braveness and righteousness of George Washington, and the love of humanity of Abraham Lincoln shine.

"O God, so bless and guide America, whose birthday is to be celebrated tomorrow, that she may, through Thy help, continue to be Thy faithful servant in bringing the world freedom and peace.

"Now may this ceremony be the one that is helpful to this great cause of Thine. In Jesus' Name we ask. Amen."

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Topaz, Utah
July 3, 1943

Address by the Hon. Daniel Shields, U. S. District
Attorney for Utah:

"Ladies and gentlemen: To me a ceremony such as we have had here is always inspirational. I have lived long enough in this United States of ours to have seen the effects of three wars and the making of the end of the fourth. I was a very, very young fellow when the men who fought in the Civil War and upheld the government of ours by their blood were finishing their effort. In other words, men that I knew in those early days were still wearing on many occasions the uniforms of the North and the uniforms of the South. I hate to tell you how old I am, but let it be remembered that way back some 40 or 50 years ago, many of those people were still alive.

"There came out of that war a government of the people, by the people, for the people, as Lincoln said, and there came in addition to that, over the blood and carnage of a war, a centralization of people's thoughts, notwithstanding the fact that they differed vitally on how restrictions should be made, and many people suffered out of the greed of this country and then as this country grew, it was the beginning of the greatness of this country. Then as we proceeded and grew a little older, one morning the newspapers carried the word that the 'Maine' had been sunk in Havana Harbor.

"A great concern that the downtrodden people who lived in the adjoining islands were being oppressed, people were being imposed upon, lives were being destroyed, was raised and there was a hue and cry among the people for this country to step in and take up the cudgel for the oppressed people.

"At that time, this warship, for the purpose of impressing perhaps some of the power of the country which was interested in the rights of people, was sent to Havana Harbor. Now most of you know nothing about that experience in this history, but I remember the morning when the newspaper carried the word that the 'Maine' had been sunk and of course then President McKinley had been in office, and those people who had been asking for war doubled their interests and doubled their pressure and insisted that this country of ours should do something for those people who were oppressed.

"Accordingly, war was declared on Spain and the government asked for volunteers. I was just a youngster but I felt in me the urge to do the best I could do for this country of ours and I was among the first 20,000 who enlisted. I take no credit for it. There was in me a yearning to do those things--a marked appreciation for the things this country had done.

"There was written in the pages of the history of 1898, by this country of ours, a chapter which will go down in the few grim pages of world history. There began an altruistic war. The United States got practically nothing out of that thing.

"We went down there and in a short time we went over to the Philippines and paid with money of this country for the property which we took over in order that people might be free.

"This brought about an additional war in 1899 and the Philippine insurrection was carried on and the United States made them a definite promise that they would be free, and just about that time we all know what happened.

"By interfering we had this war result--World War No. 1. This war was on a basis of doing away with oppression forever, and a war to end war, if you please. Nevertheless, the minute it got to the people that peace was about to be brought about, the politicians went to work. Those people who had a desire for prestige, power and property asserted themselves.

"During the years of war, we gave and gave and gave, not only of funds, but of our blood for this country. But we were left, if you please, by these politicians outside of control and I think the partial result of that thoughtlessness is this war we are in now.

"I know that this is a dangerous ground if we talk about it too much. But, particularly to the people of Japanese origin, the citizens, there isn't any reason why we should hesitate to talk about it or of your thoughts.

"You left that country--this you wanted to do. You thought this a better place to live. You grew tired, if I may appraise your outward action, you grew tired because of that sort of life.

"You came and you had an opportunity to grow and make your home here. Your children--you wanted to educate them and become a part of this country. Now it is tragic, of course, that such trials as we have to go through now may have had to be. The remarkable part of it is, to me, that the members of this race, the Nisei, the American-born Japanese who are citizens of this country, are able to accept a necessity and make a philosophy of need and go ahead and smile in a time like this.

"I have not heard one word of reproach in all the time that I have had occasion to contact the Japanese people.

"I don't pretend to know a thing about your language and I want to say to you that I have the greatest respect for it. Fortunately, that little fellow over there can understand that stuff better than I could. In talking about your language, you may think that I am presumptuous but any advice that I originally came with, and I came with entirely different speech prepared, but when I stood down there in this meeting and I saw you people stand up and heard the singing of the national anthem and the reverence with which you people met there, I declared that here was a group of people as American as any other.

"But one thing only I am going to tell you. As the result of this contact which I have had, and I earnestly believe that I have had contact with more people of the Japanese race indirectly or directly in the last year and a half, more than

any man except General DeWitt, and my contacts were entirely different.

"I have seen you under all sorts of circumstances, I have seen you in trouble, I have seen you under pressure, I have seen you asking for information, but I have never seen the time when any member of your race came into my office and pulled a 'fast one' on me. They have told me the truth then, and I've been told that your race never does it. Understand, you never, so far as I have known, have done anything that wasn't the right way.

"Of course many of you have seen us. We are able to grant various privileges. Now my privilege consists primarily in the ability to travel, authority to change your job, authority to change your residence. Now those people come in and the longest travel permit they get is about a month, and they come in to extend it over and over. In the office, one stenographer and one clerk spend all their entire time seeing just people of the Japanese race.

"We also see some Germans and we also see some Italians and I don't think I will be lying when I say to you folks that I would rather see a thousand Japanese people than 10 Germans any time. I have had that experience--those others just aren't on the square. They just don't know what they got when they came to this country. A few of them have been picked up--some of the Italians have been picked up.

"As a result of the contact I had, I would rather deal

with the Japanese people and the Americans who have Japanese ancestry than any of the other people. There is just no comparison between them. I have concluded what I think is to be good to you.

"As a result of this experience, you may be sure your home and mine, your men and women are in this country. You have come here to live. You are not going back or if you are going, you are going on a 'Cook's' tour. You have come to this country to make this your home.

"Therefore, why waste time talking Japanese.

"Now that may seem funny to you, but I have never spoken more earnestly in my life about that very thing to you.

"Here, the English language is the language which you are going to speak, which you have got to speak while doing your job. Therefore, everytime you stand in a group and talk Japanese you are calling attention to yourself by somebody who is going to be critical of you. It is silly to turn the hose on yourself.

"Why do you want people to be critical of you?"

"I have deplored this of you. There was an experience at my counter. I have seen people come in and stand--there was a young man, a Japanese, able to speak just as well as I can, or better perhaps on matters in English. No one pays any attention to him, but all of a sudden they switch into the Japanese language and it is a foreign language. The American citizens who are there, the English-speaking public

there, are immediately looking and criticizing you.

"No one likes to have someone eternally talking about you and pointing at you.

"You are in a country where people speaks English. Now your language is all right, but it is like a plug hat. You are in a country and you, young and old, will do yourself more good by doing that one single thing than any other one thing.

"You must have absolute devotion to the perpetuation of the liberty which has been given to you. Now get at this thing--let your elderly people sit down in your homes. Learn to speak this language and it will be worth 100% dividends every month. You sit back in your homes and learn to speak the English language.

"Get through with the other one. Don't use it unless you have to.

"Don't speak to me in another language. I want to know everything you say.

"Now this is the Fourth of July, tomorrow will be, and I am sure that you people have the fullest appreciation notwithstanding the circumstances.

"There never was a cloud that didn't roll by and there never was a long storm that didn't make you appreciate the sunshine more. You people will be just as happy as before, and even prouder that men gave their lives and blood to this country.

"With that, I'm leaving you, but don't forget the English language.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Topaz, Utah
July 3, 1943

Closing remarks by Chairman Toby Ogawa:

"The historians of Topaz will record another noteworthy event in the history of our Center.

"This occasion has been made more significant by the presence of the Hon. Daniel Shields, U. S. District Attorney for Utah. His participation in the ⁱⁿauguration is truly appreciated by the people of Topaz.

"We are gratified to know that the community life of Topaz will be more closely knit with the full cooperation between the young and older members of the Council.

"We recognize the Council as our representative body dealing with every problem in Topaz.

"Greater harmony and better understanding can be effected only with the full realization that leadership and responsibility go hand in hand.

"We feel confident that this newly elected governing body has the capacity to deliberate carefully on all matters--grasp and present facts as they are--be unbiased in judgment--and be practical at all times.

"Those of us who have elected the councilmen have an obligation--an obligation to be intelligent.

"We will not be overly concerned by the few misleading observations of some individuals.

"More than ever before, we must be levelheaded.

"We must direct our thoughts into constructive channels.

"The various problems of Topaz notwithstanding, we must think objectively on resettlement which is our eventual inter-gradation into the community of our choice.

"Our thoughts and actions during our stay here--whether long or brief--will cast a reflection on our lives when, once again, we resume life under more natural conditions.

"Let us therefore give full support to our Council, and with the aid of the Administration, strive for a more healthy and pleasant way of daily living. Thank you."

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Topaz, Utah
July 3, 1943

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT

INDUCTION PROGRAM

8:00 P.M. High School Plaza

Chairman	Mr. Toby Ogawa
1. Star Spangled Banner	
Vocalist:	Miss Lorraine Yamate
Accompanist:	Miss Emiko Komiya
2. Invocation	Rev. I. Tanaka
3. Introduction	
Mr. Daniel Shields	U.S. District Attorney
	By: Mr. Charles F. Ernst
4. Induction	
Mr. Daniel Shields	
5. Address:	Mr. Daniel Shields
	U.S. District Attorney
6. Benediction	Bishop of Delta
7. Entertainment	
Vocal	Miss Mitzi Shiraishi
Harmonica	Mr. Tosh Suzuki
8. Closing Address	Chairman