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[Aug. 4, 1942]

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Rewritten

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have just received the letter from James Y. Sakamoto to you, dated July 20, and needless to say I am greatly impressed by the broad concept of the problem which he seems to have. I agree heartily with the general principle Mr. Sakamoto proposes, that it is desirable to give the Japanese-Americans the rights and privileges to which their citizenship entitles them.

It is coincidental that on the date on which Mr. Sakamoto wrote to you I issued to the staff of the War Relocation Authority an instruction covering procedures by which individual American citizens of Japanese ancestry whose loyalty can be established may be permitted to leave Relocation Centers, to accept employment outside the area of the Western Defense Command. With Mr. Sakamoto, I believe it is highly desirable to give loyal American citizens among the evacuees every opportunity and encouragement to re-enter private employment or enterprise, as a means of reducing the cost to the public and as a means of retaining the confidence of the evacuees in this nation and in the democratic, free way of life.

There was a period of voluntary evacuation in which a fairly large number of Japanese, citizens and aliens, left the West Coast and moved inland, where they attempted to buy or lease land. The reaction of the populace in the areas where these voluntary evacuees attempted to settle was so unfavorable that it soon became apparent that there was no possibility of general acceptance of the Japanese in other areas at that time. Hence, evacuation was put on a planned, orderly, protected basis.

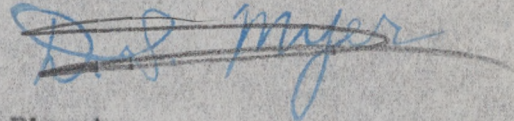
If such a plan as Mr. Sakamoto suggests were to be undertaken and Japanese were aided in purchasing land, it would need to be done with the approval of state and local officials responsible for maintaining law and order, and only after attitudes of local people had been sounded out and found favorable. Otherwise,

such a step might lead to incidents which would prevent further re-establishment of the evacuated citizens, and would deal a serious blow to all our hopes for enabling loyal citizens of Japanese ancestry to take their places as productive, free members of society.

Whether or not Mr. Sakamoto's plan is feasible at the present time, I believe his objective can be achieved.

In case you should be interested in more detailed information concerning the evacuation and the relocation of the Japanese, I should consider it a privilege to discuss the plans and policies of the War Relocation Authority at any time you may suggest.

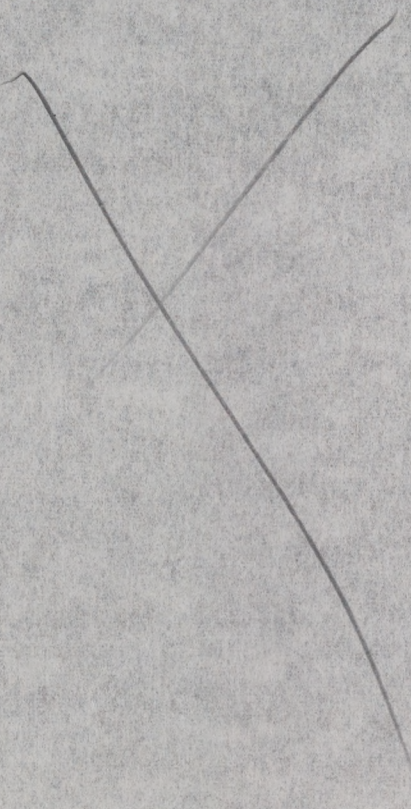
Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. S. Myers", is written over a horizontal line.

Director.

JCBaker:LH

August 4, 1942

A large, thin, handwritten 'X' is drawn across the lower half of the page, starting from the left margin and extending towards the right.

C O P Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

Office of the Director

Aug. 5, 1942

Mr. Joseph W. Smart
Regional Director
War Relocation Authority
Kittredge Building
Denver, Colorado

Dear Mr. Smart:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter to
Mr. E. B. Whitaker answering certain ques-
tions he raised about Administrative Instruction
No. 22.

Please note the change in procedure
regarding the check of names with the
Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director

Enclosure

C O P Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

Office of the Director

Aug. 5, 1942

Mr. E. B. Whitaker
Regional Director
War Relocation Authority
Pyramid Building
Little Rock, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Whitaker:

This is in reply to your letter of August 1 concerning Administrative Instruction No. 22.

Paragraph 2. The "Middle West", as used here, means the states between the Western and the Eastern Defense Commands. The eastern-most States included in the Western Defense Command are Montana, Idaho, Utah, and Arizona. The western-most States included in the Eastern Defense Command are New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida.

Paragraph 2. Since the issuance of Administrative Instruction No. 22, we have been asked by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to submit names directly to their headquarters in Washington. Therefore, instead of submitting the names of applicants to the Federal Bureau Form (WRA-26) to this office as soon as the application docket is received from the Project Director and, while you are making your investigation, we will submit the names to the Federal Bureau of Investigation here.

Paragraph 5. The investigation of the job and the local community mentioned in the third sentence of Paragraph 5 will be handled by the Employment Division of the Washington office.

Paragraph 6. With regard to the suggestion that the evacuee also notify the Project Director of subsequent changes of employer or address, I should like to have your reasons spelled out so that further consideration can be given to this point. We didn't want to tie any more strings to the persons leaving than were absolutely necessary. This office will need to have a record of where released evacuees are located in order to supply the information if requested by the President or the Congress, and also to exercise some control on resettlement if too many evacuees started concentrating in particular areas. We didn't see any particular use for

- 2 -

this information at the project. Persons leaving relocation centers under this procedure are not alumni. If all goes well, do not expect them to return.

Paragraph 9. Further information on the form of the permit to be issued will be sent to you well in advance of the arrival of evacuees at the Arkansas projects. We are working on the exact working of the permit now.

Sincerely,

Director

cc: Joseph W. Smart

P.S. Although not mentioned in Administrative Instruction No. 22, we have a definite agreement with the War Department to specifically clear with them any cases proposed for relocation in the Eastern Defense Command or the Gulf Coast area. Consequently, we should be cautious about making proposals in such cases, and certainly we should not make commitments until we have secured clearance.

WRA Library Washington₂

Attorney Gen

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C.

x-ref Leave

September 25, 1942

Mr. Dillon S. Myer
Director, War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Myer:

I have your letter of September 24, 1942 enclosing a copy of your proposed leave regulations. Your letter requests this Department to check the names of Japanese who are released against the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Army and Navy Intelligence, and to make any further investigation this Department thinks desirable. Your letter also requests advice as to whether the proposed leave policy is sound from the internal security standpoint.

It is believed that the program outlined by you, if administered with the utmost care, is sound from the internal security standpoint. This Department, through the Federal Bureau of Investigation, would undertake to check the names of such persons against the investigative records. Of course you have in mind that the information contained in our records relates in practically all instances to subversive activities and the like. Many of the persons involved in this program will not have records of such activity but may, on the other hand, be involved in other illegal or improper conduct which would bear careful investigation. Consequently provision will have to be made by you to cover that aspect of the matter.

Sincerely

(Signed) Francis Biddle

Attorney General

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

SEP 28 1942

Dr. H. H. Bennett
Chief of the Soil Conservation Service
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dr. Bennett:

The desirability of utilizing the services of Soil Conservation Service technicians in soil conservation work on War Relocation Authority projects has been discussed with Mr. Gaston. Such technicians are needed to advise the Authority what conservation practices are needed to insure proper land use and to assist the Authority to formulate soil conservation plans for project areas. This will require the interpretation of the information contained in existing survey data, the making of new surveys where the information is not now available, and the classification of lands according to use capability.

It is proposed, therefore, that technicians be made available to the War Relocation Authority, with the understanding that the Authority will reimburse the Service for the salaries of personnel engaged in giving this assistance for the time they are so engaged, and for their travel and per diem, except where only a small sum is involved for which the Service determines it is impractical to require reimbursement. In order to put the proposal into effect as soon as possible, the detailed arrangements for the assignment of personnel will be worked out between the Regional Directors of the War Relocation Authority and the appropriate Regional Conservators of the Soil Conservation Service. Of course it is understood that, in making such arrangements, due consideration will be given to the interests of both the Soil Conservation Service and the War Relocation Authority.

Your attention is called, however, to the following provision in the First Supplemental National Defense Appropriation Act, 1943, in Par. 13, under the heading "Office For Emergency Management", which is applicable to the appropriation for the War Relocation Authority contained in this act:

"There may be transferred from any of the foregoing appropriations for the constituent agencies sums to other agencies of the Government for the performance by such other agencies of any of the functions or activities for which these appropriations are made; Provided, That no other agency of the Government shall perform work or render services for any of the constituent agencies, whether or not the performance of such work or services involves the transfer of funds or reimbursement of appropriations, unless authority therefor by the Bureau of the Budget shall have been obtained in advance."

It will therefore be necessary for the War Relocation Authority to clear with the Budget Bureau any assignments agreed upon in the field pursuant to the preceding paragraph before such assignments become effective.

If you concur in this proposal, please indicate your approval by countersigning this letter and the enclosed copy and return the copy to me. The letter will then constitute an agreement for the proposed assistance on the terms indicated.

Sincerely,

(signed) JOHN H. PROVINSE

Acting Director

Approved:

(signed) H. H. BENNETT
Chief, Soil Conservation Service

OCT 6 1942
(Date)

Enclosure

Oct - 7 1942

Memorandum to; Mr. E. L. Shirrell, Project Director
Tule Lake War Relocation Project

Mr. Harvey M. Coverley, Acting Project Director
Manzanar War Relocation Project

Mr. Wade Head, Project Director
Colorado River War Relocation Project

Mr. E. R. Fryer, Acting Project Director
Gila River War Relocation Project

Subject: Parcel Inspection for Contraband *at*
Manzanar, Tule Lake, Colorado River and
Gila River. *) omit*

There are attached for your information five copies of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army directive of September 13 on the Subject: Parcel Inspection at Certain War Relocation Authority Projects.

The provisions of said directive apply only to those projects located within the areas now evacuated of persons of Japanese ancestry.

Project Directors will take immediate steps in cooperation with the Commanding Officer of the Military Police unit on duty at the project to:

1. Ascertain that all packages destined for delivery to any center resident, except the War Relocation Authority Caucasian employed personnel, are delivered to the Military Police Commander or his designated representative for requisite inspection.
2. Endeavor to provide a suitable existing building for said inspection in conformity with paragraph 3d of attached directive.
3. Accept custody of contraband items, if found, at the request of the Military Police Commander, and establish and maintain adequate records and safeguards for their storage.
4. Release custody of said contraband only to and upon receipt of written authorization of the local Military Police Commander or upon higher Military authority.

Page 2.

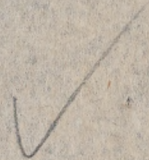
If a building suitable for this purpose is not available in a desirable location, or if a satisfactory substitute cannot be found, submit to this office immediately your recommendation for the provision of a suitable building. Preferably, this should be a joint recommendation of the Project Director and the Military Police Commander, containing pertinent data as to size and location.

s/ E. M. Rowalt
Acting Regional Director

WDC-WRA ES

CI.02

October 13, 1942



CONFIDENTIAL

Honorable John J. McCloy
Assistant Secretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Some days ago Elmer Davis wrote the President in his own behalf and mine recommending that the President come out with a fairly strong statement in behalf of the loyal American citizens of Japanese descent and that the President authorize the enlistment of such persons in the Army and Navy. A few days later at luncheon, the President told Mr. Davis that he would be willing for citizens of Japanese descent to enlist in the Army for restricted duty. I believe the President's thought was that at first the men would be assigned to functions not normally handled by soldiers and if everything went well there they could later be assigned to more normal tasks.

This letter is written to you only for your personal and confidential information and not for official action because, of course, if the President wishes to follow through on the matter he will speak directly to Secretary Stimson or yourself.

Sincerely,

/s/ M.S. Eisenhower

M. S. Eisenhower
Associate Director

MBE:FC
cc: Dillon Myer

*7 pages
Shawson*

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

Dis 002

OCT 17 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL REGIONAL DIRECTORS
AND PROJECT DIRECTORS

You will be interested in the attached copies of an exchange of letters with Mr. Roger Baldwin, Director of the American Civil Liberties Union. These letters relate to my memorandum to you of October 7, 1942.

Sincerely,

John H. Provine
Acting Director

PMGlick:HB



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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

OCT 17 1942

[Handwritten signature]
Acting

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

OCT 22 1942

GILA RIVER PROJECT
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION



Mr. Roger N. Baldwin
Director
American Civil Liberties Union
170 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Baldwin:

Thank you for your letter of October 13.

The factual error in the letter addressed by the American Civil Liberties Union to the President on September 8, concerning a bill introduced in Congress relating to the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast, did cause us some trouble. The evacuees in several of the relocation centers became deeply disturbed over the report that such legislation had already passed the House and had been favorably reported by a Senate Committee. I believe, however, that the true state of affairs has now been brought to the attention of the evacuees.


I am glad to note that the American Civil Liberties Union issued a correction as soon as it discovered the error.

Your courtesy in sending me this further information is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Director

PMGlick:HB
10-16-42





WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

OCT 22 1942

GILA RIVER PROJECT
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

(C O P Y)

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
170 Fifth Avenue • New York City
(at 22nd Street)

October 13, 1942

Hon. Dillon S. Myer
War Relocation Authority
910 17th Street N.W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Myer:

Dr. Meiklejohn calls our attention to a memorandum sent by you to regional directors concerning an error in a letter addressed by the Union to the President under date of September 8. We caught the error shortly after the letter was dispatched and sent a correction to all sources likely to get it into public print. Our mimeographed service carried the correction. So did our Pacific Coast papers, and the Pacific Citizen.

The mimeographed copies of the President's letter otherwise went to a comparatively few officials to whom corrections were not sent, on the assumption that if it were a matter of any consequence they would catch the error. We have taken the precaution now, however, of sending a correction to everybody to whom the original letter went.

We regret greatly that any such carelessness should have marked a communication to the President on a matter of such importance, and particularly the embarrassment caused the W.R.A. in handling an always delicate and difficult situation. The error was due, I may say, to the failure of a staff lawyer to check the Senate bill, trusting to his recollection of its provisions.

The form of the correction sent out is as follows:

"In the bulletin of September 21 an item reporting a letter from the A.C.L.U. to the President concerning the evacuations of the Japanese stated that a bill is pending before the Senate after passing the House to intern for the duration all persons of Japanese blood and to deprive American citizens of Japanese descent of their citizenship. The statement was in error. The bill is before the Senate on a favorable report, but has not passed the House. Nor does the bill deprive American-born citizens of Japanese descent of their citizenship. That was a recommendation of the Committee, but does not appear in the bill."

(COPY)

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION
170 Fifth Avenue • New York City
(at 22nd Street)

October 13, 1942

Hon. Dillon S. Myer
War Relocation Authority
910 17th Street N.W.
Washington, D. C.

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

OCT 22 1942

BILA RIVER PROJECT
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

Hon. Dillon S. Myer

October 13, 1942

We trust that the correction, which as far as we know was published promptly in every paper which carried the original, has prevented any appreciable confusion.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Roger N. Baldwin

RNB/sa

October 13, 1942

Hon. Milton S. Eisenhower

We trust that the correction, which as far as we know
was published promptly in every paper which carried the
original, has prevented any appreciable confusion.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Roger N. Baldwin

RNB/as

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

OCT 22 1942

GILA RIVER PROJECT
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

1. Cozzens
2. Handward

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

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WASHINGTON

NOV 9 1942

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Mr. Robert B. Cozzens
Acting Project Director
Gila River Relocation Center
Rivers, Arizona

Dear Mr. Cozzens:

The purpose of this letter is to bring about more uniformity of practice with respect to the determination of community sentiment in connection with applications for indefinite leave. This matter is so basic to the success of relocation outside of the centers that we must proceed carefully and in a reasonably uniform manner.

I am afraid that the leave regulations have been widely construed as requiring the applicant to secure evidence of community attitude. This is not the case. The War Relocation Authority is assuming this responsibility. The widespread practice among applicants of writing to police and other local officers for a statement of "permission" to accept employment or to reside in particular communities is likely to have an unfortunate effect in many localities. At the present time we are endeavoring to straighten out a situation in an important area of employment opportunities which resulted from this practice. The police authorities of two cities in the Middle West have received numerous letters from evacuees who had offers of employment in this area. Recently these police officials have informed us that they would issue no more "permits" for evacuees to work in these two cities.

I should like you to bring to the attention of all applicants and prospective applicants for indefinite leave that they need not try to secure statements of public acceptance for submission with their applications. There is no prohibition against such efforts, but it should be explained that this practice is likely to jeopardize the relocation program. There will be exceptions to this general rule. Some applicants or their friends and relatives may know particular public officials so well that they can be reasonably certain of securing a letter without disturbing the general situation.

At some projects WRA staff members have written to local officials to secure statements about community sentiment. In other cases employers have been requested to submit evidence of community



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acceptability. For the time being neither of these practices should be followed except when specifically requested in a particular case by the Washington office. We are making a study of the whole question of community attitudes in individual relocation and the most satisfactory methods of making this determination. Until further notice, the Washington office will handle the matter of community acceptance on all applications for indefinite leave, except for college students. The present practices under the Student Relocation Program will be continued.

The operation by evacuees of their own business or farming enterprises raises a particularly difficult problem of community reaction. Persons interested in applying for indefinite leave for such purposes should be advised to work or reside in a community for some time before arriving at a decision to set up in businesses for themselves. Applications for leave which contemplate a business or farming enterprise as an immediate means of support will be received and considered on their individual merits; but in such cases the applicants should be informed that an unusually favorable community attitude will need to be demonstrated.

A related matter concerns statements from the U. S. Employment Service. Because offers of employment under work group leave are received through the Employment Service, some project officials have assumed that a statement from the U. S. Employment Service stating that no other labor is available should be secured in connection with employment under indefinite leave. This is not the case.

I have attempted to cover in this letter the most important immediate aspects of the question of community attitudes in individual relocation. Questions, comments, and suggestions on this subject will be welcomed.

Sincerely yours,

D. S. Nyer
Director

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I have attempted to cover in this letter the most important immediate aspects of the question of community activities in individual relocation. Questions, comments, and suggestions on this subject will be welcomed.

Sincerely yours,

Director

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
NOV 13 1942
GILA RIVER PROJECT
ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

OFFICE FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
WAR MANPOWER COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 27, 1942

Dear Mr. Myer:

The War Manpower Commission heard with considerable interest the informative presentation, which Mr. Thomas Holland, Director of the Employment Division of the War Relocation Authority, gave at one of the Commission's meetings last month, on problems and relationships of the War Relocation Authority program for evacuees of Japanese ancestry with the general war manpower program.

The employment data which were contained in the written statement have given us a comprehensive background for study of this possible source of labor supply. As I understand it, the War Relocation Authority has formulated an employment program for those of Japanese ancestry who have been evacuated from the West Coast to encourage their employment and adjustment, under proper safeguards, into the customary channels of American life. This policy should have the dual effect of benefiting the evacuees, many of whom are American citizens, and of making available to the country several thousand people for employment on farms and in industry.

The War Manpower Commission thoroughly endorses the employment program developed by the War Relocation Authority and assures it the continued cooperation of the United States Employment Service in its recruitment and replacement activities.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Paul V. McNutt

Chairman

Mr. Dillon S. Myer
Director, War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington, D. C.

DJ-WRA

C 22

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 25, 1942

Mr. Dillon S. Myer
Director, War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Myer:

I have your letter of September 24, 1942 enclosing a copy of your proposed leave regulations. Your letter requests this Department to check the names of Japanese who are released against the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Army and Navy Intelligence, and to make any further investigation this Department thinks desirable. Your letter also requests advice as to whether the proposed leave policy is sound from the internal security standpoint.

It is believed that the program outlined by you, if administered with the utmost care, is sound from the internal security standpoint. This Department, through the Federal Bureau of Investigation, would undertake to check the names of such persons against the investigative records. Of course you have in mind that the information contained in our records relates in practically all instances to subversive activities and the like. Many of the persons involved in this program will not have records of such activity but may, on the other hand, be involved in other illegal or improper conduct which would bear careful investigation. Consequently provision will have to be made by you to cover that aspect of the matter.

Sincerely,

(Signed) Francis Biddle

Attorney General

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DEC 15 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Subject: Conversation with Mr. Smart by Long Distance Telephone
from San Francisco on about November 27.

I discussed with Mr. Smart the possibility of Mr. Nelson coming from Denver to Heart Mountain to meet Mr. Barrows; the timing of the change from our organizational policy regarding matters which would move through the regional office; the timing regarding the change of Project Directors at Heart Mountain; and my letter to Mr. Rachford concerning the fence and watch towers which had been subject to a great deal of discussion by a number of evacuees. Regarding the fence and watch tower matter I supplied a statement indicating that I had received a petition from a group of evacuees and that I hoped no real issue would be made of the question in view of our understanding with the military.

The major reason for my call to Mr. Smart was to tell him I felt Mr. Griffin, Head of Internal Security at Heart Mountain, by his actions was leading to more and more trouble, and suggest that he get in touch with Mr. Rachford immediately, advising that Mr. Griffin be relieved of his duties. This was recommended to Mr. Smart because of a report I had had from Mr. Rachford early in October. It was Mr. Rachford's belief that Mr. Griffin was incompetent and it was leading to difficulty within the center. I had a later report regarding incidents that developed the last part of October and the first part of November which covered the strike of the police force under Mr. Griffin's supervision. Finally, I received a report that Mr. Griffin had notified the military authorities in charge of military police regarding his analysis of conditions in the center and recommended certain action, which should have come through the Project Director and which I considered an act of insubordination.

D. S. Myer

Director

D/R

DEC 17 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

On December 4, in company with Mr. E. B. Whitaker, I called upon Governor Adkins of Arkansas in his office. Among other things, I discussed the general policies regarding indefinite leave and group leave, pointing out that our program requires community acceptance, and in the case of group leave, a statement by the Governor regarding the maintenance of law and order. After outlining this policy in some detail, I told him that many Western Governors had found it necessary to change their position and even though he felt he did not want people of Japanese ancestry outside the relocation centers in Arkansas, it might be better from his own standpoint if he did not make too many positive statements on the matter, in case he might wish to change his mind. I made it clear, however, that I was not dictating to him how to conduct his business.

It was my impression that the Governor accepted my suggestions in good faith, but he indicated he was still opposed to having people released from the relocation centers for labor in Arkansas and asked that it be left to him and Mr. Whitaker to determine when the time was ripe, if ever, for this to be done. I told him it was perfectly agreeable to me.

We talked briefly about the Governor's visit to the relocation centers. He said he enjoyed his visit very much and found things in good order. He did indicate his feeling that a number of young people of high school age were displaying some tendencies to be flippant. We discussed this matter and agreed that pulling loose from their moorings a large number of young people of high school age and congregating them in large groups presents somewhat of a problem in keeping them occupied under conditions existing in the center.

Our visit was very satisfactory and agreeable.

D. S. Myer

Director

DSMyer:VHC
12-17-42

Dir

DEC 17 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

On November 28, 1942, I spent approximately an hour with General DeWitt of the Western Defense Command discussing the policies of the War Relocation Authority and particularly the leave policies which relate to relocation outside the relocation centers. I also discussed the reorganization of the War Relocation Authority, some of the administrative problems we had encountered, and told him we had decided to make outside relocation a major objective. I added that we intend to devote a great deal of time during the next three months to tightening up our administrative procedures and program generally at relocation centers. We had a very frank discussion and while I am sure General DeWitt and I are not in full agreement as to policy, the discussion was on a very high level and I think there is no misunderstanding regarding general policies and the reasons for them.

I explained to General DeWitt that the matter of segregation along the lines of Kibei, Issei and Nisei was not a simple one, but that we did hope to develop a segregation policy based on positive plans for leave, as well as segregation of individuals who are disturbing factors in the government of the centers, and those dangerous to the internal security of the United States. I stated it would, of course, have to be done in cooperation with all agencies having any information that would be helpful in developing proper policies, as well as procedures.

D. S. Myer

Director

DSMyer:VHC
12-17-42

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Mr. Hayes
2/ Com. Services
3/ Com. Inding
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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

(Sir)

JAN 15 1943

Harvey M. Coverley, Project Director
Tule Lake Relocation Center
War Relocation Authority
Newell, California.

Dear Mr. Coverley:

For your information and guidance there is transmitted a copy of a telegram received from one of the projects concerning the payment of cash clothing allowances to employees of the Community Enterprises and the reply made by this office:

"Administrative Instruction 26-27 obligates Community Enterprises to pay clothing allowances to its employees. Does this obligation include payments to dependents of such employees. Basic Family Card on which initial payment clothing allowances calculated carries dependents who are employed by Community Enterprises. Please answer following two questions by fast wire:

"1. Are we authorized to pay initial clothing allowances for dependents who are on Enterprise payroll; if not, may we proceed with initial payments by billing Community Enterprise for payments made its employees.

"2. What is correct procedure in future."

The following was sent in reply:

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"Retel January 5 persons employed by Consumer Enterprises receive cash clothing allowance from Consumer Enterprises. Other persons in family group dependent upon enterprise employee but not employed by enterprises receive cash clothing allowance from W.R.A. by same procedure as dependents of W.R.A. employees. If enterprise employee is not head of family and family otherwise eligible for clothing allowances W.R.A. will issue cash clothing allowance to all eligible members of family group except enterprise employee according to usual procedure. Per Instruction No. 26, Supplement 2, you may bill the enterprises for clothing allowances advanced enterprise employees to date."

B





TO: DIRECTOR, WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

FROM: SAC, LOS ANGELES (100-100000)

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]

[Illegible text block]

[Illegible text block]

Very truly yours,

[Illegible signature]

[Illegible text]

RECEIVED JAN 21 1943

If you have any questions concerning this please
communicate with this office.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myer
Director

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MAR 11 1943

The Honorable
The Secretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Now that the War Relocation Authority program is approximately one year old, it seems appropriate that we sum up the progress that has so far been achieved, take stock of the outstanding problems we currently face, and suggest some of the lines that the program might take in the immediate future.

As you know, the first steps leading to mass evacuation of persons of Japanese descent from certain areas in the Western Defense Command were taken in late February and early March of 1942--almost exactly one year ago. Throughout most of March, the people of Japanese ancestry were permitted to leave the prohibited and restricted zones prescribed by the Western Defense Command and were allowed to resettle inland on their own initiative. In fact, it seems to have been the hope of the Western Defense Command in early March that a considerable portion of the people of Japanese ancestry might eventually be evacuated in this way. Assembly centers, I understand, were planned originally only for those people of Japanese descent who might be unable or unwilling to move out voluntarily.

Complications, however, soon developed. By the middle of March, the inland communities were protesting strongly against the influx of voluntary evacuees from coastal areas; and in some places violence appeared imminent. By the latter part of the month, it had become clear that voluntary evacuation would not be a feasible solution and that provisions would have to be made for quartering the entire evacuee population until orderly plans for their relocation could be developed.

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Accordingly, the "freeze" order affecting persons of Japanese ancestry in the restricted areas was issued by the Commanding General on March 27 to take effect on March 29. At about the same time, plans for moving the evacuees into assembly centers were expanded and selection of sites for the ten relocation centers to be administered by the War Relocation Authority was begun. The movement of approximately 110,000 persons of Japanese descent, first to assembly centers and then to relocation centers, was completed about eight months later in November of 1942.

During the period while this mass movement was going forward, beginning in May of 1942, an intensive demand for labor developed in the agricultural areas of the West. In an effort to alleviate this problem, a program permitting the employment of groups of evacuees on western farms was developed jointly by the Western Defense Command and the War Relocation Authority in the latter part of May. Recruitment was started both in the assembly centers and in the few relocation centers which were operating at that time. Throughout the summer, as the fall harvest season approached and the demand for labor on western farms became increasingly acute, the recruitment procedure was speeded up and the whole movement intensified. By October nearly 10,000 evacuees had been recruited from assembly and relocation centers for work on western farms.

On the whole, this movement into the harvest fields was carried out with surprisingly little difficulty. Although we had anticipated the possibility of serious trouble in some areas, there were no incidents of major proportions and in most communities the Japanese-Americans were well received and well treated. Despite a few minor incidents in some localities, it seems safe to say that the influx produced no more--and perhaps even less--social tension than the normal seasonal movement of migrant farm workers. And it is certainly significant that more than 2,000 evacuees who left the centers on temporary group leave during 1942 are still out working in agricultural areas of the West and have requested indefinite leave under the procedures developed last summer and fall.

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These procedures were first announced by the War Relocation Authority on July 30 and later broadened (to include aliens as well as citizens) on October 1. As finally developed, they provide that any resident of a relocation center may apply for a permit of indefinite leave to take a job or establish normal residence outside the center and away from the evacuated area. Indefinite leave permits are being granted in all cases provided: (1) the applicant has an offer of a job or some other means of support; (2) there is reasonable evidence that the applicant will be accepted without difficulty in the community of destination; (3) there is no available evidence indicating that the applicant might endanger the internal security of the Nation; and (4) the applicant agrees to keep the War Relocation Authority informed of any change of job or change of address.) e

Already approximately 2,500 people have taken advantage of these procedures and have re-established themselves outside the centers, mainly in communities throughout the mid-western sections of the country. Like the seasonal movement to the harvest fields last spring and summer, this exodus of people going out on indefinite leave has been accepted in the main with tolerance and understanding. Opposition has been expressed by some individuals and groups who do not have accurate information about the status of the evacuees and by some who have deep-rooted prejudices against all people of Japanese descent. The great majority of people with whom we have dealt directly on the leave program, however, have been wholly favorable and many have expressed a positive desire to assist American citizens of Japanese ancestry and law-abiding aliens in re-establishing themselves in normal American communities. We have had excellent cooperation in nearly all quarters once the facts are understood.) e

On February 1, there were approximately 107,000 American Japanese still in relocation centers, another 20,000 or so outside the centers within the limits of the continental United States, and still another 160,000 in the Territory of Hawaii. With the exception of the few thousand evacuees who have left the relocation centers on indefinite leave, all) e

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the people in the latter two groups have lived continuously in normal American communities and have been free (except for the Department of Justice restrictions applying to the aliens) to conduct their affairs on the same basis as other residents of the United States.

From the beginning, the War Relocation Authority has been carrying out its responsibilities under Executive Order No. 9102 with three basic assumptions in mind. The first of these is that all evacuees of Japanese ancestry, except those who request repatriation and those who may be deported for illegal activities, will continue to live in the United States after the close of the war. The second is that the United States has no intention of conducting the war on a racial basis and that the relocation program should be carried out at all times in harmony with this principle. The third assumption is that all American citizens and law-abiding alien residents of the United States should be treated by the government, insofar as possible under wartime conditions, without racial discrimination.

With these basic assumptions--and especially the first one--in mind, many of the problems which have arisen in connection with the administration of relocation centers take on added significance. Some of the problems were anticipated in the early days of the program. Most of them, however, have become far more acute and widespread than we originally expected and a few have developed which were not foreseen at all.

One of the most serious arises from the fact that we have thrown together in closely-packed, somewhat rudimentary communities thousands of people who have a common racial ancestry but who are highly heterogeneous in almost every other respect. Citizens are mixed in with aliens; the well-to-do with the poor; farmers with city-dwellers; the highly educated with the near illiterates; those whose cultural background is primarily Japanese with those who have never visited Japan and have no desire to go there. This mingling of people with widely varying economic status and cultural backgrounds under the conditions of relocation center life has created many conflicts and has intensified others which existed prior

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to evacuation. It has produced a widespread feeling of individual and collective insecurity and has led to frustrations, fears, and bitterness. It is, I feel, one of the fundamental causes lying behind nearly all the demonstrations that have occurred in assembly centers and relocation centers to date.

In the atmosphere of tension that prevails almost constantly at most of the centers, a few active agitators have been able to produce results out of all proportion to their numbers. They have been able to suggest, with considerable plausibility, that all alien evacuees will be deported to Japan at the close of the war and have hinted that any show of cooperation with the United States government now will be considered evidence of disloyalty in Japan after deportation. This kind of reasoning has gained considerable acceptance among many of the older people and has led them to bring counter-pressure on the younger citizen group whenever cooperation in the war effort becomes an issue. The recent experience with registration and enlistment is a specific case in point.

Another problem of serious proportions at the relocation centers is the gradual breakdown in the pre-war structure of Japanese-American family life. Older women who have spent virtually all their lives in hard physical labor are now reduced to idleness and find time hanging heavy on their hands. Youngsters who were formerly kept busy on the farm or around the household have virtually no required duties except attendance at school. Families eating in community mess halls and living in crowded barracks with thin partitions (sometimes two small families in a single barracks apartment) find privacy a virtual impossibility. In short, practically all the social and economic factors which tend to hold families together in a normal community have been thrown out of gear. As a result, many of the older people have found their parental control over their children seriously weakened and the whole problem of family discipline has increased. The Japanese-American youngsters who established an admirably low record of juvenile delinquency on the Pacific Coast prior to evacuation have already begun to form gangs at some of the relocation centers

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and have displayed definite rowdy characteristics at nearly all of them. Part of this, perhaps, can be explained in terms of wartime neuroses and anxieties which have recently produced a sharp increase in the juvenile delinquency problem in many of our larger cities. But much of it, I feel, is directly traceable to the extraordinary conditions of life at the relocation centers.

The economic situation at the centers is abnormal in two major respects. On the one hand, there is no necessity to work; the minimum essentials of life (food, lodging, and medical care) are and, under conditions of detention, must be provided by the government. On the other hand, there are no real opportunities for economic gain; the great majority of those who do work at the centers are paid \$15 a month plus small clothing allowances. The result has been a kind of levelling-off process. Hundreds of families who enjoyed comparatively high incomes before evacuation are now seriously depleting their reserves in relocation centers while some of the poorer families are perhaps realizing a better standard of living and more economic security than ever before. Under these conditions, large numbers of the evacuees, both old and young, are becoming apathetic and are losing nearly all incentive for achievement. Despite all our efforts to provide work for everyone, the use of manpower at the centers remains highly inefficient and probably always will. The full potentialities of this labor force can be realized, I am convinced, only in normal pursuits outside the relocation centers.

The problem of evacuee properties has been a vexing one since the early days of the program. From the beginning, we anticipated difficulties in connection with the management and disposal of these properties, but only recently have we come to appreciate the full scope and significance of the problem. Altogether there are about \$200,000,000 worth of properties belonging to the evacuees, ranging from household furnishings and purely personal effects to real estate such as farm lands and hotels in the coastal cities. A considerable portion of the real property, particularly in the fruit and vegetable areas of the West Coast, is of such a nature that it can probably be handled with full effectiveness only by

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Japanese-American families who have had long experience in this highly specialized type of farming. As long as the owners and operators remain in relocation centers, many of these farms, I am afraid, will never make their maximum contribution to the war effort.

Another problem is the growing drive against the citizenship of American-born persons of Japanese descent. This drive, spearheaded by certain small groups who seem to have interests other than the immediate problems of coastal defense, has continued over the past several months. If it gathers additional momentum, it may lead in these times of emotional stress to actions that would be out of keeping with our democratic principles--actions that might perhaps have serious international implications. Moreover, I cannot escape the feeling that the arguments of these groups will continue to have a superficial air of plausibility just as long as an official stigma remains attached, in the public mind, to all the evacuated people.

These are the outstanding problems which we now face. I have sketched them only rather briefly and have purposely omitted mention of some of our lesser difficulties. As we look ahead to the future, it seems to me we should analyze these problems and attempt to work out solutions for them in the light of several highly pertinent considerations. The first of these is that the danger of invasion has undoubtedly receded. Another is the increasing seriousness of the manpower problem. A third is the need for pushing food production and other production activities to the utmost. And a fourth consideration is the high desirability of eliminating, insofar as possible, all discriminatory actions against American citizens and law-abiding alien residents of the United States at a time when we are fighting abroad for the principles of freedom and democracy.

Keeping these things in mind, three possible plans of action suggest themselves for the immediate future.

Plan A would be simply to continue on our present course. Under this plan, we would push forward with our indefinite leave

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program and try to relocate as many qualified individuals as possible in agriculture or industry outside the evacuated area. We would also continue to provide seasonal leave for those who preferred to remain at the centers but who might wish to work temporarily in agriculture or other lines of activity in areas reasonably close to the centers. We would provide for Army enlistment in special units such as the combat team and the intelligence school. And we would continue our efforts under special procedures to clear citizen evacuees for work in war plants outside the evacuated area.

If this course is maintained, I anticipate that over the next four to six months we may be able to relocate between 10 and 25 per cent of the evacuees now in relocation centers. If we can gain the proper degree of public acceptance and if a sufficient number of evacuees are willing to face the public in unfamiliar areas, the volume may be somewhat larger. But in any case under Plan A, I feel certain we shall have to maintain ten relocation centers for some time to come.

Plan B would involve the removal of all those regulations and restrictions which now apply only to Japanese-Americans and not to the American population at large. It would mean elimination of the evacuated area as such, immediate reinstitution of selective service for all male citizens of Japanese descent, and release from relocation centers of all evacuees except those who would be designated by a joint board representing the War Department, the Department of Justice, and the Office of Naval Intelligence. This board would examine the dockets of all questionable individuals and would recommend some for internment, others for exclusion from specific areas. This latter group would be treated much as we now treat individual excludées. The War Relocation Authority, in other words, would assist them in finding work opportunities and in re-establishing themselves outside the excluded area.

Plan C represents a middle-ground approach. It would not involve elimination of the evacuated area but would in all other respects resemble Plan B.

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Under this plan, all American-citizen evacuees cleared by the joint board mentioned above would be permitted to return to the evacuated area and would be recommended for work in war plants throughout the country. Parents of men in the armed forces and other members of their immediate families would be released from relocation centers and allowed to return to the evacuated area provided their record was otherwise good. Provision would also be made for release of veterans of the last war and perhaps others whose record was in no way open to question. The remainder of the evacuees (except those who might be designated by the joint board for internment or some other special type of treatment) would be handled much as we are now handling the entire group. Those who wished to return to private life outside the relocation centers and outside the evacuated area would be processed under the regular leave procedures. Those who wished to remain at the centers would be permitted to remain. Selective service would be reinstituted immediately for all American citizens of Japanese descent. Evacuees cleared by the joint board for work in war plants and for return to the evacuated area would no longer be subject to discriminatory restrictions and regulations.

Plan A has the following advantages:

1. This program is now under way and, despite some criticism, is accepted in many quarters as sound procedure.
2. If the indefinite leave program works, it may lead to a more widespread dispersal of evacuees throughout the country. Such dispersal might well simplify the problem of assimilation for the Japanese-Americans both now and in the post-war period.

The disadvantages of Plan A are:

1. Since it involves the maintenance--for the time being at least--of all ten relocation centers, it is the most costly of the three plans suggested.

2. As compared with the other two plans, it will mean a slower and less effective contribution to the manpower problem.

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3. It will mean a continuation of the psychologically unhealthy conditions of relocation center life for many of the younger citizen evacuees who should be re-exposed as soon as possible to the Americanizing influences that operate in normal American communities.
4. Continued exclusion of the evacuees from the entire evacuated area will lead to serious property losses and an ineffective use of many farm properties at a time when food production is badly needed.
5. To a large degree, Plan A involves continued discrimination against American citizens and law-abiding aliens on the grounds of race.

The advantages of Plan B are:

1. It would permit full use of the available manpower in the most effective manner possible.
2. It would drastically reduce government costs.
3. It would alleviate property losses and eliminate most of the difficulties that now exist in connection with the management of evacuee properties.
4. It would restore all loyal and law-abiding evacuees to normal home life and normal economic opportunities and thus greatly simplify their problems of post-war adjustment.
5. It would go a long way toward eliminating racial discriminations and disproving the thesis of the Japanese militarists that the United States is conducting a racial war.

The disadvantages of Plan B are:

1. Because of the economic and racial emotions that exist, this plan would probably arouse considerable conflict and criticism particularly in the evacuated area and to some extent throughout the rest of the country.

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2. By permitting most evacuees to return to their former homes immediately, it might work against a dispersal of Japanese-Americans throughout the country.
3. It might evoke some criticism in the intermountain region and other parts of the West from farm operators who have been hoping to use evacuee manpower during the crucial periods of the coming summer and fall.

The advantages of Plan C are:

1. It would provide for a reasonably effective use of evacuee manpower.
2. It would go a long way toward alleviating property losses and would provide for more effective use of many farm properties.
3. It would restore a considerable group of evacuees to normal social and economic life and would simplify the problem of evacuee adjustment in the post-war period.
4. It would reduce governmental costs.
5. It would largely eliminate the charges of racial discrimination.
6. It would provide definite rewards for loyalty and sacrifice.

The disadvantages of Plan C are:

1. It would probably arouse some conflict and criticism.
2. To some extent, it would probably work against a dispersal of evacuees throughout the country.

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My recommendation is that we adopt Plan C or something similar to it immediately and that we move toward the adoption of Plan B as soon as all real danger of West Coast invasion seems to be eliminated. I should greatly appreciate receiving your comments and recommendations.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myer
Director

CC: Attorney General Biddle
Mr. Harold Smith, Bureau of Budget
Mr. Elmer Davis, OWI
Mr. John J. McCloy, Ass't. Secretary of War

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3/9/43

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Maj. Gen. James C. Magee
Surgeon General
War Department
Washington, D. C.

March 12, 1943

Dear Sir:

Our delay in replying to your letter of December 14 (SPMCF 701.-1) concerning medical care of military police at relocation centers has been due in large part to the continued absence in the field of our medical director, Dr. Carlyle Thompson. This Authority, as you probably know, is dependent almost entirely upon doctors of Japanese descent for hospital staff, only one Caucasian doctor being assigned to each project, and it is almost impossible to give assurance that all medical service can be furnished to the military police by Caucasian personnel or under their direct supervision. There are no non-evacuee dentists or laboratory workers available at the projects, and the majority of the nurses are also of Japanese descent.

In view of this, the WRA is not in a position to guarantee Caucasian staff medical services to members of the military police, but insofar as possible is willing to do so. In the hospital, it is not possible to set aside separate wards for military police, and private rooms are not available. Some segregation, with separate bathing facilities, can be provided at all projects except Manzanar and possible Tule Lake, and the Authority will be glad to furnish such accommodations.

All necessary medical services, including daily sick call and inspection, can be provided by the WRA. The daily sick call could be arranged for at the infirmary at the military police headquarters.

The rates suggested in your letter, \$3.75 per day for hospitalization and \$0.50 for each outpatient treatment, with other services at cost, are fair and quite acceptable to the Authority.

If the above arrangements are acceptable to the War Department, will you please indicate your acceptance on the attached carbon and return to this office. Instructions to all our projects will go forward immediately.

- 2 -

I regret our delay, but trust that the above arrangements will prove satisfactory to you.

Sincerely yours,

Director

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3/10/43

Discussed with Dr. Thompson on long distance phone before reply prepared.

MAR 20 1943

Hon. John J. McCloy
Assistant Secretary of War
War Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCloy:

In a Memorandum of Understanding between the War Relocation Authority and the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army dated May 5, 1942, signed by Lieut. Colonel E. F. Cress and Colonel Karl R. Bendetsen, the War Relocation Authority agreed to accept custody of all articles received as contraband from persons of Japanese ancestry in the Western Defense Command pursuant to WDC Public Proclamation No. 3. It was agreed, however, that no contraband articles delivered to the Authority pursuant to this agreement would be released to the owner or his agent without the express permission of the Western Defense Command.

In a letter from Lieut. General DeWitt dated September 13, 1942, addressed to the Commanding General, Communications Zone, entitled "Parcel Inspection at Certain War Relocation Projects", General DeWitt provided for the inspection by military police of packages addressed to evacuees at four of the War Relocation Projects, for the seizure of contraband contained in such packages, and for the delivery of any contraband that might be discovered to the Project Directors for safe-keeping. This letter provides that no items of contraband delivered to Project Directors for safe-keeping will be released to the owner or his agent without permission of the Western Defense Command; in this respect it merely restates the agreement set forth in the May 5 Memorandum of Understanding referred to in the preceding paragraph.

Many evacuee citizens of Japanese ancestry who surrendered contraband articles under General DeWitt's regulations while residing within the Western Defense Command are now residing in relocation centers located outside the Western Defense Command, and the articles surrendered are not classified as contraband for them as citizens at their present residences. Other evacuee

citizens will be given leave from time to time to relocate in communities outside the Western Defense Command, and articles surrendered as contraband under General DeWitt's regulations will not be contraband for them at their new residences. Under these circumstances, I assume that there can be no real question about the right of the evacuees to have the property returned to them.

Rather than secure the approval of the Western Defense Command for the return of many individual pieces of property in accordance with the May 5th Memorandum of Understanding referred to above, I should prefer to terminate that Memorandum of Understanding, with the understanding, of course, that the War Relocation Authority will not return to the owner any contraband received by the War Relocation Authority from the Western Defense Command as long as the property is classified as contraband for the owner at his then current place of residence under any applicable regulation or proclamation of the President, the War Department, or any other federal agency. If you concur, I suggest that you so indicate by signing the enclosed carbon copy of this letter and returning it for our files.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director

Approved: _____ 1943

Assistant Secretary of War

MAR 20 1943

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

Dear Mr. Ennis:

Please refer to Mr. Rowalt's letter to you dated January 28, 1943, and to your replies dated March 1 and March 6, 1943, with respect to the procedure to be followed in returning to United States citizens of Japanese ancestry cameras that were surrendered by them as contraband under regulations of the Department of Justice and Presidential Proclamation No. 2525.

Will you please consider also the problem of returning short wave radio receiving sets surrendered under the same circumstances?

Your March 6 letter suggested that citizens of Japanese ancestry probably surrendered such property because they were living with aliens and ^{their} continued possession of the property might subject the aliens to prosecution for violation of the Presidential Proclamation with respect to contraband. Assuming this is so, the fact remains that there is nothing that now prohibits citizens from having cameras and short wave radio sets in their possession if they wish to do so and they are presumably entitled to the return of property of this kind that was surrendered to local police officials in accordance with Department of Justice regulations. I should like to suggest that unless the Department of Justice wishes to prohibit United States citizens of Japanese ancestry from possessing and using cameras and short wave radio sets while residing within relocation centers in close proximity to Japanese aliens, they should be advised of the procedure to be followed in obtaining the return of their property.

I hope that the policy to be followed can be decided within the very near future.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

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March 23, 1943

Hon. Herbert B. Maw
Governor of Utah
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear Governor Maw:

This is in reply to your letter of February 19, 1943, in which you discussed the acute farm labor situation that is likely to develop in Utah this year and your suggestion that our regulations be modified to permit daily commuting of evacuee workers from Topaz during rush periods.

Last year we permitted some commuting from the centers because of the great need for workers and shortage of housing in the community. This year we definitely feel that it would be unwise to continue to allow commuting in view of the adverse effect it has on the broader, more fundamental aspects of our program. Let me point out a few of the more significant things that it does:

First. One of our primary objectives is to secure a rapid and widespread dispersal of the evacuees, thereby permitting them to regain their full rights as citizens or aliens as soon as possible without over-populating any particular areas. This policy contemplates the reduction of "permanent residents" of the centers with corresponding savings to the Government in administrative expense. Commuting runs counter to this purpose in that it, in effect, discourages relocation and encourages evacuees and their dependents to continue to live on the centers and make no efforts to become relocated.

Second. It discriminates against the more distant employer who may have as great or greater labor difficulties as the nearby employer but who, even though he furnishes housing, cannot attract the commuter away from the center.

Third. It makes a most difficult administrative problem on the centers. Cash allowances (wages) on the center to workers employed by WRA are limited to \$12, \$16 or \$19 a month, depending on the kind of work performed. To permit some of the workers to still live on the center with their dependents, utilize all of the facilities of the center and yet receive full remuneration (even if

we charge them board and room) makes too vast a difference in income between the worker on the center and the one who is commuting.

The result is almost certain to be resentment, discontent, and a great reduction in the efficient operation of the center. You can imagine trying to operate a farm program designed to provide the basic food needs of the center during the critical season with workers commuting but dependents staying in the Centers. If a shortage of workers on the centers arises from workers going out to accept permanent relocation where they can later take their dependents, we could have no objection. But permitting such seasonal disruption of center activities without achieving any positive relocation results does not seem to be good administration. Commuting also presents many other internal administrative difficulties that I need not discuss in this letter.

Fourth. Commuting creates excessive transportation difficulties. It has come to our attention that some evacuees commuted as much as 80 miles daily last fall. It might be far better to develop some temporary housing facilities on farms or nearer to the work.

Therefore, because of these primary points we have asked all Project Directors to discontinue the issuing of daily passes for the purpose of commuting to and from jobs.

We realize the great urgency of utilizing our manpower to the full, both in food production and otherwise, and we will always be open suggestion as to methods of solving this problem. What we don't want is for a comparatively small local problem, simply because of its concentration and pressure, to overshadow the broader issues involved. Possibly, where adapted, mobile or temporary housing facilities can be provided by employers, local organizations, county or State Governments, or even other Federal Governmental agencies. We are exploring here the possibilities of obtaining such facilities. You may have some resources at your disposal or may be in a position to make suggestions for local or community action.

On March 8 and 9 representatives of practically all of the sugar beet companies in the United States met with representatives of the U.S. Employment Service to discuss the recruitment of agricultural labor for this season. It will interest you to know that the conference adopted a resolution as follows: "As an initial understanding it is recommended that no contracts or arrangements be made that will necessitate the handling of evacuees on a commuting basis." They seemed to feel that the mere fact of commuting tended to freeze more labor in the center throughout the year than it released for seasonal work in nearby communities and the net result of commuting was therefore negative rather than positive in its labor gain.

It has been recently called to my attention that you vetoed certain restrictive legislation approved by your legislature. You are to be commended for your courage and foresight as displayed by this decisive action.

This relocation program has many angles -- human, economic, social, even international aspects. We must continuously balance one with the other. Therefore, it requires the best thinking of all of us. I assure you I will be most happy to receive any further suggestions you may have or any comments you wish to make.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

March 24, 1943

Mr. Arthur J. Altmeyer
Chairman, Social Security Board
1825 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Altmeyer:

Members of the War Relocation Authority staff have conferred with officials of the Bureau of Public Assistance regarding the possibility of furnishing assistance, under the program for providing temporary assistance to enemy aliens and other persons affected by governmental action, to former residents of relocation centers who have been relocated in a community and who need assistance.

Under existing regulations governing the relocation of evacuees, the Authority does not anticipate a great volume of cases which will need either assistance or service from some outside source. However, emergencies do arise and adjustment in a new community may fail unless emergency situations can be met. The budget of the Authority does not include funds for such assistance, nor will such funds be included in next year's budget.

At a conference held March 17, 1943, between members of my staff and officials of the Bureau of Public Assistance, the following plan was developed for providing public assistance:

- (a) The Authority will inform each evacuee leaving the center for outside employment that, should he need assistance or service in an emergency, it is available through the local public welfare agency.
- (b) Referrals to the public welfare agency may be made either by direct application of an evacuee, by a member of the War Relocation Authority staff, or through any other source.
- (c) Assistance or service will be given in accordance with state standards and with the agreement between the Social Security Board and the state agency.
- (d) After financial assistance has been furnished for a period of three months, the situation will be reviewed jointly by the Public Assistance representative of the Social Security Board and the Relocation Officer of the Authority. In those situations in which it is jointly agreed that a person is not able to adjust in the community, he may be returned to the relocation center.

This is in further clarification of the proposal contained in my letter of January 8 to Miss Jane Hoey, based upon earlier proposals presented by Miss Hoey as of November 28, 1942.

Very truly yours,

D. S. Meyer
Director

Mr. Elberson
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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON

(Dir)

APR 21 1943

AIRMAIL

Mr. Harvey M. Coverley
Project Director
Tule Lake Relocation Center
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Coverley:

Reference is made to your teletype of April 1 concerning cooperative problems and referring to recommendations regarding rent and clothing allowances included in the inter-project cooperative conference at Salt Lake City.

With regard to the rental rates, Supplement 4 to Administrative Instruction 26 was issued subsequent to the conference. This supplement revises the rental rates downward. The new rates are designed to cover the estimated cost to the War Relocation Authority for maintaining and servicing the buildings in question and are considered reasonable charges.

The conference also raised the question of using funds paid to the Authority for rental for community activities. Any funds paid to the Authority for the use of Government property must be paid into the Treasury as miscellaneous receipts. We have no authority to alter this and, accordingly, we cannot follow the suggestion of the conference.

[Handwritten squiggle]
With regard to the statement at the conference that it is the general opinion that between July 1, 1942 and October 31, 1942 the WRA paid clothing allowances to all evacuees regardless of whether or not they worked, this is based on incomplete information. When the payment of clothing allowances was initiated it was realized that many of the evacuees had not been in the centers long enough to have earned clothing allowances through employment. Accordingly, it was decided that clothing allowances should be given to evacuees who had not worked, on the basis of need, in the form of public assistance grants. In view of the numbers involved and the need for speed because of the cold weather, the procedure for paying public assistance grants was temporarily modified and the procedure for paying clothing allowances was used.

Sincerely yours,

E. M. Rowall

Acting Director

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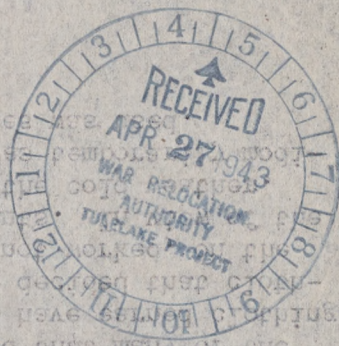




WAR RELLOCATION AUTHORITY

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STANDARD FORM NO. 64



that and the procedure for dealing with the situation. The procedure for dealing with the situation was discussed and the need for speed was emphasized. It was decided that the situation should be handled in a way that would not cause any delay. It was also decided that the situation should be handled in a way that would not cause any delay. It was also decided that the situation should be handled in a way that would not cause any delay.

and, accordingly, we cannot follow the suggestion of the conference. It is necessary to make certain decisions. We have no authority to alter the situation for the use of government property. We have no authority to alter the situation for the use of government property. We have no authority to alter the situation for the use of government property.

relating the situation in question and the suggested reasonable charges. The suggested cost to the War Relocation Authority for the situation and the suggested cost to the War Relocation Authority for the situation and the suggested cost to the War Relocation Authority for the situation.

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RE: THE SITUATION

APR 27 1943

WASHINGTON

WAR RELLOCATION AUTHORITY

File
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4-21-43



WE ARE ADVISED THAT WAR DEPARTMENT IS RECEIVING INQUIRIES FROM
EVACUEES OUTSIDE RELOCATION CENTERS AT TIME OF REGISTRATION WHO
WISH TO VOLUNTEER FOR COMBAT UNIT. WAR DEPARTMENT ADVISES THAT
THEY SHOULD REGISTER WITH LOCAL DRAFT BOARD WHERE FORMS DSS 304A
AND SSS 165 ARE AVAILABLE.

E M ROWALT WRA WA.

F. # 13,700

HUNT 380 FROM PD 320 ~~████████~~
FILEE 4-27-43
H L STAFFT

D WRA MINIDOKA REL CTR HUNT IDA

PRESENT OVERTIME BILL EXPIRES APRIL 30. INASMUCH AS THE HOUSE
OF REPRESENTATIVES IS IN RECESS AND WILL BE U NABLE TO PASS NEW BILL
PRIOR TO TIME MAY 1 TO 15 ~~████████~~ PAYROLLS ARE PREPARED, YOU SHOULD
PREPARE

1 SUCH PAYROLLS ON BASE SALARIES ONLY, NOT INCLUDING OVERTIME.
LELAND BARROWS WRA WA.

~~████████~~
AOH
1010A

James.
NO overtime to anybody

Spunkil

Rev'd 4-27-43 12751



May 10, 1943

Dear Mr. Myer:

I have given careful consideration to your letter of March 11, 1943, in which you review the history of the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry from certain areas on the West Coast, and subsequent developments. Your letter also analyzes certain problems which the War Relocation Authority is presently encountering, and you outline three alternate plans in solution thereof on which you solicit my comments and recommendations.

While under Executive Order 9102 promulgated March 18, 1942, the War Relocation Authority has been charged with exclusive responsibility for the care and resettlement of persons of Japanese ancestry evacuated from the West Coast, the Army has been in contact with several aspects of the program at first hand. For instance, the Army ran the assembly centers to which the evacuees were initially transferred, pending construction of the relocation projects by Army engineers. The Army supervised the movement of the evacuees from their homes to the assembly centers and from the assembly centers to the relocation projects. Recently the Army teams visited the relocation centers to procure, in cooperation with the War Relocation Authority, the accomplishment of loyalty questionnaires. In addition, there have been from time to time numerous consultations between the War Relocation Authority and the War Department on such miscellaneous matters as attendance of Japanese evacuees at educational institutions, entry of evacuees into critical defense areas, and the maintenance of order in the relocation centers themselves. I am glad to give you the views of the War Department based on this accumulated experience.

A serious deterioration in evacuee morale has been noted in recent months. This unsatisfactory development appears to be the result in large measure of the activities of a vicious well-organized, pro-Japanese minority group to be found at each relocation project. Through agitation and by violence, these groups gained control of many aspects of internal project administration, so much so that it became disadvantageous, and sometimes dangerous, to express loyalty to the United States. The fact that these groups were permitted to remain in power not only shock the confidence of the loyal ones in their Government, but also effectively stifled the expressed of pro-American sentiment. It has been, and remains, the opinion of the War Department, already frequently expressed to you, that such trouble could have been avoided if these trouble makers had been removed from the relocation centers and placed in rigorous confinement.

To be sure, there were other reasons for the decline in evacuee morale, some of which you have touched upon in your letter. There is little incentives at the projects to work. Relations between parent and child are difficult, with the child no longer dependent upon his parents for shelter, for food, or for clothing. Absence of the normal outlets for youthful enthusiasms brings an increase in juvenile delinquency.

I am compelled, however, to the conclusion that failure to take aggressive action against those individuals who were actively working against the interests of this Government is a primary cause for the marked deterioration in evacuee loyalty. You will understand, of course, that my purpose is not to criticize, but to lay the basis for intelligent future action.

SECRET

It is the War Department's considered opinion that the War Relocation Authority should take immediate steps to screen out from the centers and segregate in close confinement all individuals appearing to have pro-Japanese sympathies. This would include the already substantial number of individuals who have applied for repatriation, as well as the trouble makers. It is significant that the evacuees themselves propose segregation as a necessary step too long delayed, and volunteer the opinion that the situation will grow worse at an accelerated rate if action is not taken immediately. It seems clear to me that the problem of resettlement of persons of Japanese ancestry loyal to this country would be measurably simplified through segregation, as it would constitute an assurance to the American public that the bad actors had been effectively dealt with.

The importance which the War Department attaches to segregation renders premature any consideration of relaxing the restrictions in force in the Western Defense Command against persons of Japanese ancestry, as suggested in your Plans B and C. The War Department, however, is not necessarily committed to a policy of maintaining these restrictions for the duration of the war. The question can easily be reconsidered after the results of segregation have been observed.

In the meantime, the War Department will continue to do all it can to assist the War Relocation Authority in the permanent resettlement of all persons of Japanese ancestry loyal to the United States, so that their services may be profitably utilized in the war effort. In this connection, the reinstitution of general Selective Service procedures is being actively considered. The recent establishment by the War Department of the Japanese-American combat team should prove helpful in procuring general public acceptance for loyal Japanese Americans. Similarly, the operations of the Japanese American Joint Board initiated by the War Department, will clear the way to the employment of many loyal Japanese Americans in war industry.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Henry L. Stimson

Secretary of War.

Mr. Dillon S. Myer, Director
War Relocation Authority
Room 822, Barr Building,
Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

May 7, 1943

AIRMAIL

Lieutenant General John L. DeWitt
Headquarters, Western Defense Command
Presidio of San Francisco, California

Dear General DeWitt:

This will refer to a verbal request made to our San Francisco Office by Lieutenant Winnick for information concerning the number of American citizens of Japanese ancestry who have had some education in Japan.

Our only information on this matter is based on sample studies at the several relocation centers. During last summer and fall Form WRA 26 Revised was filled out for virtually all evacuees in relocation centers. A sample of approximately 25 percent of the population at each center was selected for analysis. We have available preliminary results of this analysis for eight relocation centers and the attached table brings together summary information for these eight centers. The two centers not represented are the Granada and Heart Mountain Relocation Centers. The data are preliminary and are subject to minor adjustments. As far as we have been able to ascertain the sample can probably be considered reasonably representative of the total population of the centers represented.

A copy of this table has been furnished to the Department of Justice for such use as officials of that Department consider appropriate.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

D. S. MYER
Director

Enclosure

cc to Ferguson for transmission to Bernhardt

RESIDENCE IN JAPAN AND SCHOOLING IN JAPAN FOR 22,530
RESIDENTS OF EIGHT RELOCATION CENTERS (APPROXIMATELY 25% SAMPLE)
BY AGE AND NATIVITY 1942

	AGE							
	Total	0-19	20-39	40 & over	Total	0-19	20-39	40 & over
RESIDENCE IN JAPAN								
Total	22,530	8,708	7,030	6,792	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Foreign Born	7,591	50	912	6,629	33.7	0	13.0	97.6
American Born	14,939	8,658	6,118	163	66.3	99.4	87.0	2.4
Never in Japan	10,757	7,456	3,229	72	47.7	85.6	45.9	1.1
Were in Japan	4,182	1,202	2,889	91	18.6	13.8	41.1	1.3
Under 5 yrs.	(2,292)	Not Available			10.2	-	-	-
5 yrs. or more	(1,890)	"	"		8.4	-	-	-
SCHOOLING IN JAPAN								
Amer. Born Who have been to Japan	4,182	1,202	2,889	91	18.6	13.8	41.1	1.3
No schooling in Japan	2,188	1,001	1,143	44	9.7	11.5	16.2	0.6
1-3 yrs schooling	120	30	89	1	.5	.3	1.3	*
3 or more yrs schooling	1,874	171	1,657	46	8.4	2.0	23.6	0.7
Elem. school only	860	Not Available			3.8	-	-	-
High school only	20	"	"	"	.1	-	-	-
Elem. & High school	869	"	"	"	3.9	-	-	-
Other	135	"	"	"	.6	-	-	-
Amer. Born 3 or more yrs. sch.	1,874	171	1,657	46	8.4	2.0	23.6	0.7
Ending 1930 or later	1,197	171	1,026	0	5.3	2.0	14.6	0.0
Ending 1935 or later	704	167	537	0	3.1	1.9	7.6	0.0

* Less than .05%

This is a preliminary report, based on hand tallies compiled from the Individual Records (Form WRA 26) at the Tule Lake Statistical Laboratory. The sample of 22,530 includes approximately 25% of the persons at the following 8 relocation centers: Central Utah, Colorado River, Gila River, Jerome, Manzanar, Minidoka, Rohwer, and Tule Lake. (Figures from Heart Mountain and Granada are not yet available.) The data are preliminary and subject to minor revisions.

C O P Y

WBA

May 20, 1943

Mr. Walter Winchell
National Broadcasting Company
Radio City
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Winchell:

While I did not hear your broadcast myself, I am informed that in your program of Sunday night, May 16, you made several statements concerning the people of Japanese ancestry now living in Relocation centers, under the supervision of the War Relocation Authority.

Three of your statements, if they were accurately noted by my co-workers, were incorrect:

- (a) only 4,100 out of 25,000 evacuees in relocation centers professed loyalty to the United States.

Actually, out of nearly 200,000 citizen males in the relocation centers, over 14,000, or 73 per cent, have signed pledges of unqualified loyalty to the United States, and 90 per cent of the alien evacuees signed pledges of good behavior.* (Orientals cannot become naturalized citizens of the United States.)

- (b) Only 1,400 of the American citizens were willing to fight for the United States.

Approximately 1,400 actually have volunteered for immediate induction, but approximately 8,900 others indicated their willingness to serve in the armed forces.

- (c) The evacuees are provided with foods not available to the civilian population.

The truth is, evacuees receive only the types of food available to other civilians and are subject to the same rationing restrictions as are applied to other institutional users of food. The War Relocation Authority has set an arbitrary maximum of 45 cents a day per person for food, and the actual food cost has averaged about 40 cents a day per person.

If you would like more information on any phase of the activity of this agency of the government, won't you let me know.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) D. S. Myer
Director

To CS Gillett 6/17
JE Power 6/17

Extracts from letter of Dillon Myer, Director of WRA to Walter Winchell, on May 20, 1943, to correct some reported mistatements by Winchell in his broadcast of May 16, 1943.

"Three of your statements, if they were ~~correctly~~ accurately noted by my co-workers, were incorrect:

Actually, out of nearly 20,000 citizen males in the relocation centers, over 14,000 or 73 per cent, have signed pledges of unqualified loyalty to the United States, and 90 per cent of the alien evacuees signed pledges of good behavior.

Approximately 1400 actually have volunteered for immediate induction, but approximately 8900 others indicated their willingness to serve in the armed forces.

The truth is, the evacuees receive only the types of food available to other civilians and are subject to the same rationing restrictions as are applied to other institutional users of food. The War Relocation Authority has set an arbitrary maximum of 45 cents a day per person for food, and the actual food cost has averaged about 40 cents a day per person. "

Extracts from letter of Dillon Myer, Director of WRA to Walter Winchell, on May 20, 1943, to correct some reported mistatements by Winchell in his broadcast of May 16, 1943.

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Extracts from letter of Dillon Myer, Director of WRA to Walter Winchell, on May 20, 1943, to correct some reported misstatements by Winchell in his broadcast of May 16, 1943.

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Mr Portner

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

To: ✓ John Baker
Leland Barrows
Philip Glick
John Provinse

JUN 22 1942

Subject: Manual Advisory Committee

Now that the new manual is in process of preparation, I am appointing an advisory committee to help the Procedures Office in carrying out the manual plan. This committee shall be composed of the following persons:

Moxley Featherston
Selene Gifford
Ray Miller, Chairman
Gladys Pearlson
Stuart Portner
Robert Seater

Please notify the persons on your staff named above of their appointment to the committee.

Dr. S. Myer
Director



INCOMING TELETYPE - #18

WRA WASHINGTON VIA PX
OCTOBER 14, 1943 3.23P

5

WADE HEAD

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED TO THE PRESS THIS MORNING FROM GENERAL CLARK'S HEADQUARTERS IN ITALY INDICATES THAT 100TH BATTALION COMPOSED OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY FROM HAWAII HAS BEEN ACTIVE SERVICE AS ADVANCE GUARD UNIT. BATTALION HAS DISPLAYED SUPERIOR COMBAT DISCIPLINE AND COOLNESS UNDER FIRE. HAS HANDLED WEAPONS WITH CONFIDENCE AND SKILL. MORALE HAS BEEN OF THE HIGHEST ORDER. GREATEST FEAR EXPRESSED BY MEMBERS OF THE BATTALION HAS BEEN THAT THEY MIGHT BE WOUNDED, SEND TO THE REAR, AND THEN SEPARATED FROM THEIR UNIT. SUGGEST YOU BRING THIS INFORMATION TO ATTENTION OF RESIDENTS EITHER THROUGH CENTER NEWSPAPER OR SOME OTHER MEANS.

D S MYER

HEAD
GELVIN
EMPIE
BROWN
POWELL
HUTLER

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

MAY 26 1944

Mr. Ray R. Best
Project Director
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Attention: Allan Markley

Dear Mr. Best:

This will acknowledge Mr. Markley's letter of May 13 to Mr. Baker concerning the proposal that the Newell Star be taken over by the cooperative enterprises in the center. It has been determined that the policies permitting evacuee control of the newspaper at other centers do not apply to Tule Lake. Therefore, the project administration should continue to finance and supervise the paper.

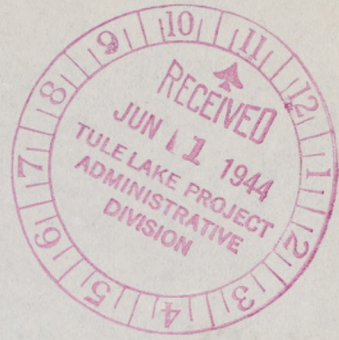
Sincerely,

D. J. Myer
Director

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

comment
proj Dir
Reports
JUN 19 1944

Mr. Ray R. Best
Project Director
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

RRB

Dear Mr. Best:

I believe that permission should be granted for the publication of a cultural magazine in the Japanese language at Tule Lake along the lines suggested in Mr. Markley's letter of June 6. Having such a magazine established with administration sanction would certainly be preferable to the present status of affairs.

I want to emphasize, however, that all copy for the publication should be checked in advance and that this function should be turned over to the non-Japanese translator as soon as he joins the staff.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myer
Director

B

36621





TO: SAC, ALBANY, NEW YORK
FROM: SAC, NEW YORK
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]
[Illegible text block]

DATE: 6/24/44

BY: [Illegible]
[Illegible text block]

JUN 26 1944

ADMINISTRATIVE
DIVISION

JUN 19 1944

Mr. Ray R. Best
Project Director
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Best:

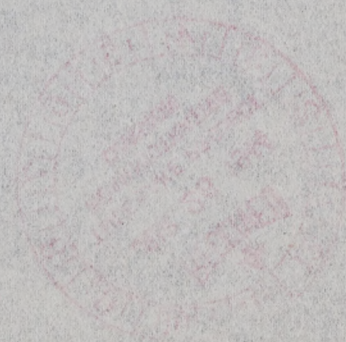
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I want to emphasize, however, that all copy for the publication should be checked in advance and that this function should be turned over to the non-Japanese translator as soon as he joins the staff.

Sincerely,

D. H. Myer

Director





Handwritten signature in blue ink.

STENOGRAPHER

RELEASED PURSUANT TO ORDER OF THE COURT IN CASE NO. 12345
THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS BEING MADE PUBLIC FOR THE
USE OF THE PUBLIC AND IS NOT TO BE USED FOR ANY OTHER
PURPOSE OR FOR THE BENEFIT OF ANY INDIVIDUAL OR ORGANIZATION

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF ALameda
I, the undersigned, being a duly qualified and sworn
steno-grapher, do hereby certify that the foregoing
is a true and correct copy of the original as the same
was presented to me for transcription and that I have
transcribed the same in accordance with the best of my
knowledge and belief.

WITNESSED my hand and seal this 1st day of June, 1944.

STENOGRAPHER
JULIA M. JONES
JULIA M. JONES
JULIA M. JONES

JUN 1 8 1944

COPY

COPY

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON

J
K. P. Sanford

Office of the Director

July 28, 1944

Mrs. Tome Takaha
30-3-E
Topaz, Utah

Dear Mrs. Takaha:

Your letter of June 12 has been translated by one of the evacuees on our staff. I am sorry that my letter of May 24 did not appear to make clear to you the issues involved in the induction of eligible Nisei into the army.

It seems that in your approach to this problem, you have overlooked the most obvious fact; that most Nisei and Issei are not confined in relocation centers. All those with leave clearance are encouraged to leave and settle throughout the country, at their desire excepting in the military area, and aid is given them in so doing.

As far as taking physically unfit among persons of Japanese ancestry is concerned, there is absolutely no basis for such a conclusion. Japanese Americans are given exactly the same physical examinations as any other American eligible for service, and they are rejected upon exactly the same qualifications. This is not a protection to the individual so much as it is a protection to the army. They do not want the physically unfit; but they are the sole judges as to physical fitness.

With the world as it is today, with people suffering deprivation and death everywhere, it would seem that self-pity by any one group for its condition in this country is out of place. Persons of Japanese ancestry have great personal pride. Each one who is accepted into the American stream of life, in the army or in a new community, makes it easier for all other persons of Japanese ancestry. In a similar way every minority group has had to win its place in America. And in the same measure as each person is courageous in the solution of his own problems, he becomes of value to his country.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

TELETYPE

Mr. Cagene
Frank
SEP 12 1944
9-21-44

Teletype to all Centers except Tule Lake
(See attached list)

The War Department today released the following story to the press:

"Americans of Japanese ancestry will help to produce munitions at military ordnance depots, with their first employment to take place in the Army Ordnance Departments Tooele, Utah and Sioux, Nebraska depots, the War Department announced today.

"Only those of unquestioned background and loyalty will be chosen for employment by the representatives of the civilian personnel section of the Office of the Chief of Ordnance, Army Service Forces, who are now at several war relocation centers selecting qualified male workers from among those evacuees not eligible for military service. Entry of many men into the Army as volunteers and inductees has reduced the pool of available male evacuee labor.

"The plan to use Japanese Americans to meet part of the urgent need for male workers in the depots has the cooperation and approval of the War Relocation Authority, the Office of the Provost Marshal General, the Civilian Personnel Branch, Industrial Personnel Division, ASF and the Civil Service Commission.

"If the employment of evacuees proves successful at Tooele and Sioux it is expected that more of them will be recruited for similar work at other military depots. Selection of the first two installations was based on an extensive field survey of ordnance depots, including a study of the jobs most suitable to evacuee skills and an analysis of the communities involved.

"Local merchants, civic officials, church leaders and labor unions in the Tooele and Sioux communities have signified their willingness to accept Japanese American workers and their families into their communities. Adequate housing facilities are available in both localities."

This story should be carried in project newspapers together with the following quote by Director Myer:

"The action of the War Department in making employment available in ordnance depots to Americans of Japanese ancestry opens the way for citizens at relocation centers to make an important contribution to the production of weapons for victory. The communities of Tootle, Utah and Sioux, Nebraska, the location of the first two military depots to initiate employment of Nisei, have stated their readiness to accept evacuees and their families. It is hoped that the opportunity to do vital war work and to be welcomed to these communities will attract as many eligible evacuees as possible."

SIGNED
M. M. Tozier
Chief, Reports Division

✓ cc: Mr. Cozzens

ASerwer:imh
9/12/44





cc: Mr. Consensus

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

October 19, 1944

Hon. Robert Kenny
Attorney General
State of California
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Kenny:

The State of California, through the Offices of the Attorney General and District Attorneys, has instituted a number of court actions under the California Alien Land Law to accomplish an escheat to the State of title to lands owned by persons of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated from the West Coast and are still excluded therefrom by military order. Some of the evacuee defendants are still resident in relocation centers; others have located in other parts of the country.

It is obvious that these persons operate at a serious practical disadvantage in defending these actions. Many of them know no California attorneys and it is necessary for them, at a distance, to retain attorneys about whose experience or qualifications they know very little. Preparation of defenses is made quite difficult by the barrier of distance. Communication by mail between attorney and client is necessarily cumbersome and inadequate, particularly where there are language handicaps, and many evacuees do not have assets which would enable them to pay the expense incident to personal interviews. Returning to California for the purpose of attending court proceedings involves obtaining a military permit and abiding by the conditions imposed in the permit. It also involves an expense to the evacuees much greater than they would have to meet if they were still in California, as would be the case under normal circumstances. This expense often pyramids because many of the witnesses, also persons of Japanese ancestry, have likewise been excluded from California or are scattered over the country. The matter of expense is very important because the evacuees' financial losses incident to the evacuation have been severe and income opportunities in relocation centers, except for enough to meet subsistence needs, have never existed.

In the interest of justice and fairness, your office should consider the desirability of deferring--and recommending to district attorneys that they defer--further action on escheat proceedings

66014



Robert Kenny - 2 -

already instituted, and further action on the institution of additional escheat suits, until the military exclusion orders are lifted and the evacuees who wish to return to California can elect to do so. Such a temporary postponement might well prevent injustices being done to evacuees who may have a valid defense but feel that they cannot under present circumstances afford to defend. I am sure that the evacuees, and many other persons who are interested in the protection of their rights and of the rights of other minority groups, would regard such a move as a statesman-like recognition by the State government of the peculiar and unfortunate status of the evacuees. On the other hand, I do not see how deferral of escheat proceedings for the time being would affect the interests of the State adversely.

I wish to emphasize that the War Relocation Authority has no desire to interfere with enforcement of the California Alien Land Laws, and our established policy is to this effect. So long as those laws are the policy of the State, it is also, I realize, incumbent upon you to enforce them. If, however, a temporary deferral as suggested above would not affect the interests of the State adversely, I should like you to consider the suggestion and let me know your decision.

Sincerely,

/s/ B. S. Myer

Director

cc: R. E. Cozens

66014



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

Russell Robinson
WRA-WDC
R.R.
11/2/44
NOV 1 1944

Mr. Dillon S. Myer
Director
War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Myer:

This will reply to Earl Brooks' letter of October 16 requesting a draft of a Manual release covering contraband surrendered to the Western Defense Command.

As you know an agreement was entered into between the Western Defense Command and War Relocation Authority covering the handling of contraband surrendered to them and subsequently transferred to us for safe-keeping. This agreement which the military classified as "confidential" authorizes us to release certain articles to exempt individuals in the WDC area and to citizens in other areas. In some respects, however, it imposes restrictions on citizens who are technically not under the jurisdiction of the Western Defense Command. A day or two ago we wrote to the Commanding General requesting a modification of the agreement to eliminate these apparently unwarranted provisions and to request his permission to include in our Manual whatever information was necessary to establish procedures for the release of contraband to eligible applicants. This was necessary because of the confidential classification of the document.

As soon as we receive a reply from the General we shall be glad to submit the material that you have requested for the Manual. We should like to point out, however, that we are having to set aside evacuees' requests for contraband for at least the next thirty days in order to give precedence to the many pending applications for the shipment of household goods and other necessary items. We will resume the handling of contraband as soon as our Transportation Section is current on these more important shipments.

With reference to property picked up by the F.B.I., we feel sure that there is no need for specific instructions in the Manual regarding its return. There were relatively few cases and there seems to be no uniformity in the way the property was handled. In practically every case

it is necessary to get in touch with the agent who receipted for the articles and then try to locate the property. Usually, if the articles are not prohibited by the Presidential or military proclamations, the articles can be obtained upon delivery of the F.B.I. receipt. If any mention is to be made in the Manual it should be merely that evacuees wishing to recover property surrendered to the F.B.I. should execute Form WRA-153 giving full details and forward it to the nearest area office of the Evacuee Property Division.

Yours very truly,

R. B. Cozzens
Assistant Director

cc: Russell Robinson

VL: Furth:pme
11-1-44

Amish

OCT 16 1944

Mr. R. B. Cozzens
Assistant Director
War Relocation Authority
Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

Attention: Mr. Russell T. Robinson

Dear Mr. Cozzens:

Reference is made to Emergency Instruction issued on October 2, 1943 on the subject "Release of contraband in the custody of the Western Defense Command."

The last paragraph in this Emergency Instruction states that "This office is now making inquiry of the Commanding General, Western Defense Command, as to procedures which he may wish to employ in reference to articles to be released. When we have received information concerning such procedures, we will forward it to you at once so that the evacuees concerned may be notified." We have no further information concerning specific procedures to follow with reference to contraband which was in custody of the Western Defense Command. In revising our Administrative Manual we would like to include this material. Will you please prepare a rough draft of the Manual Release affecting contraband which was in the custody of the Western Defense Command.

Emergency Instruction dated March 22, 1944 was in reference to release of property held by the F.B.I. for "evidentiary purposes".

No procedures are included in our Manual for the return of property of this type, other than that covered in the Emergency Instruction of the above date. If you think it is advisable to cover this question in our Manual, will you please prepare a rough draft for the Manual Release.

We have recommended that all regulations affecting evacuee contraband covered in Chapter 50.3 be moved to Chapter 100.4, and the suggestion has tentatively been approved by the staff. It is our intention to revise the



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regulations in line with Mr. Furth's recent letter, as well as to include definite procedures for the release of contraband surrendered to the Western Defense Command and the F.B.I, if you feel this is advisable.

Very truly yours,

Earl D. Brooks
Acting Executive Officer





RECEIVED
OCT 19 1944

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

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OCT 19 1944
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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

Adm mgmt
Leave
Statistics

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Gloria *DIA*

WASHINGTON

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NOV 28 1944

Mr. Ray R. Best
Project Director
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Best:

According to information received in answer to a routine query by the Statistics Section in Washington regarding Daily Population Reports from your center, it appears that in some instances indefinite leave is granted to persons who leave the center for court hearings.

According to the Leave Handbook, indefinite leave should be granted to persons who are committed to an institution, whereas the intent of the Handbook suggests that short-term leave should be issued to those who will be away from the center for a short period of time. When a person on short-term leave is committed to an institution a Change of Status Advice may be prepared in accordance with the Statistics Handbook.

In the case involved, 16 men left the center on July 16 for hearings at Eureka and the Statistician reported them under "Other Indefinite Leave". Upon query, it was suggested in a letter from you dated October 26, 1944, that these leaves might be credited to short-term leave rather than indefinite leave.

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Your Statistician is responsible for summarizing the number of persons leaving the center on various types of leave as reported to him by the Leave Officer, and, of course, should not tabulate them as a kind of leave different from the kind actually granted by the Leave Officer. However, I believe that the Statistician should be encouraged to take up such matters with the Leave Officer so that necessary adjustments may be made before the Daily Population Summaries are prepared.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myer
Director



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Richard
Nishimoto

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

E 204

Washington

January 2, 1945

AIRMAIL

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

Dear Mr. Mills:

With the lifting of the blanket exclusion orders and the decision to close Relocation Centers at an early date, the Evacuee Property Section at the Center faces a tremendous task of moving all evacuee property from the Center. This will include shipping property for evacuees returning to the evacuated area as well as for those relocating elsewhere.

Experience gained during the segregation program and with the closing of the Jerome Relocation Center shows the necessity for planning well in advance for the administrative task we shall have to assume. It is suggested that the Project Director set up a committee made up from among members of his personnel to develop plans for orderly procedures and to fix definite responsibility for all the various jobs connected with the movement of evacuee property.

This committee should be made up from the following: Relocation Program Officer, Property Control Officer, Procurement Officer, Traffic Officer, Project Engineer, and any other member of the appointed staff who in the judgment of the Project Director should be included. This committee should:

1. Develop plans and recommendations for keeping an adequate personnel staff in the Evacuee Property Office.
2. Come to complete agreement as to who will do crating, how material is to be issued, and when and where crating and packing will be done.
3. Plan an orderly pickup for shipment of property and assign definite responsibility. Designate warehouse space for temporary storage of evacuee property.
4. Designate warehouse space or other spaces for packing and crating.
5. Develop policy to be followed and the responsibility of the designated personnel in contacting railway official for ordering cars.
6. Fix the policy for the use of trucks and drivers in picking up and transporting property.
7. Develop procedure for keeping Evacuee Property Officer advised well in advance of the date of departure of the evacuees.

This committee should serve as a steering committee and meet from time to time during the closing operations to coordinate all activities connected with the movement of evacuee property.

After the over-all policy has been worked out by this committee, the Evacuee Property Officer should be placed in charge of the administrative job of moving all household goods. The Evacuee Property Officer will need to set up an organization adequate to handle all matters pertaining to the movement of all evacuee property. This will include an office force to handle the necessary office routine and outside details for handling the pickup and loading of property to be shipped, a warehouse detail to provide temporary storage for property which cannot be shipped immediately, and a detail to assist evacuees in packing, crating, and marking property for shipment. Some of the tasks outlined above should be assigned to other sections, but the over-all responsibility will be that of the Evacuee Property Officer.

The movement of the evacuees from the Center will depend largely upon relocation plans worked out with the Relocation Division. It may be that a considerable number of evacuees will return to the evacuated area in groups. Wherever possible property for evacuees moving in group should be shipped in carloads if the group is large enough to make up a car. The evacuees returning singly or in groups too small for carload shipment will have their property shipped LCL. The Evacuee Property Officer, wherever possible, should have his office adjacent to the Relocation Office to enable him to keep in constant touch with respect to relocation plans.

One problem facing the Evacuee Property Section will be that of keeping an adequate staff of evacuee personnel. The Evacuee Property Officer should staff his office with evacuees qualified to handle the work who will not leave the Center in the immediate future. It will not be possible, however, to maintain an adequate evacuee staff until the Center closes. It will be necessary therefore for the Evacuee Property Officer to secure assistance from the appointed personnel at the Center. Plans should be developed well in advance for the personnel needed and arrangements made for assigning such personnel when needed.

It will be necessary to set up a detail for packing, crating, and marking evacuee property. It is suggested that this detail be made up of evacuee carpenters working for the Engineering Section.

In the closing of the Jerome Center, the Engineering Section had the responsibility of making the necessary packing boxes and supplying crating lumber needed by the evacuees in the movement of their household goods. Arrangements were made with the Cabinet Shop foreman and his crew to make the packing boxes in the Cabinet Shop. Lumber was delivered to the Cabinet Shop from the project lumber yard. The lumber was then cut to the proper length, edges dressed, and boxes assembled. Boxes were stored in the project warehouse from where they were delivered to the evacuee families upon requisition. Three sizes of boxes were made, 16x16x24, 18x18x30, and 20x20x36. The medium size box was in great demand

Next in line of popularity was the small size, while the large size was very unpopular. It is suggested that Centers make boxes 20x20x30 with handles at the ends.

In the disposition of lumber for crating, a meeting of Block Managers was called and it was agreed that the Block Manager would be responsible for furnishing the Engineering Section a list of evacuee families in his block, the number of person in each family, their names, ages, and destination, and approximate date when the crating lumber would be required. Lumber was then delivered to the block by the Engineering Section as requisitioned by the Block Manager. Several difficulties were encountered in this method of disposition. In many instances, the Block Manager was not present to supervise the distribution when the material was delivered. Consequently, it was picked over and carried into the barracks and not always used for crating. Pieces that were slightly crooked or weathered were not used at all. Lumber was cut into short pieces and crated with pieces of furniture. Many persons had no lumber to do their crating, consequently more lumber had to be delivered to the block. Carpenter crews and Cabinet Shop workers had to be rushed in at the last minute to complete the crating in order that the general program would not be disrupted.

In order to conserve material and do a better crating job it is recommended that where the Center is not operating a carpenter shop a temporary shop or shops be set up in one of the project warehouses or other building in the Center of ample floor space. Power tools should be installed, such as two stationary bench saws for rip and cross cut, one smooth planer, and necessary hand tools. If these power tools are not surplus items they may be borrowed from the school manual training shop. Lumber should be delivered to the shop from the project lumber yard. Crating lumber one inch thick and wider than 4 inches to be resawed to approximately 3 and 4 inches width, this will effect a considerable saving in material. If one inch lumber is not on hand, and there is a surplus of 2 inches lumber suitable for crating, this can be ripped to proper width and split to near one inch in thickness. Centers that do not have the necessary equipment to do this work should make arrangements to have this work done by contract by a local saw mill or planing mill at an early date.

Amount of materials suggested for packing boxes and crating of evacuee and Government property is 50.2 board feet of lumber and 1.5 lbs. nails per individual in the Center. The calculations are based on the Jerome closing needs. This estimate can be broken down in the following manner:

26.2 board feet of lumber per individual for packing boxes for evacuee property.

19.8 board feet of lumber per individual for crating evacuee property.

4.2 board feet of lumber per individual for packing and crating Government property.

Information regarding the purchase of this material will be forth coming at an early date under separate cover.

It is recommended that all evacuee property which needs to be crated be brought to the central shop so that this work can be accomplished with minimum amount of material. The Engineering Section should be held responsible for the delivery of evacuee property to the crating shop. When the crating is finished, the package should be weighed and properly marked by the painting crew and either stored in the project warehouse temporarily or shipped.

Proper marking is the final and vitally necessary step to insure delivery of the right property to the right person. The following outline indicates major points of emphasis for proper marking.

How to Mark: Marking should be legible above all. If old containers of any type are used, former markings should be removed. Numbers should be checked and re-checked.

What to Mark: Each item must be marked with the name, family number, and destination of the owner.

If the evacuee has more than one piece, each piece should be marked to show how many are in the lot. For instance, if there are 4 pieces, they should be marked: 1 of 4; 2 of 4; 3 of 4; 4 of 4; etc.

What to Mark With: Use crayon, or lacquer-based paint, or ink for stenciling. All marking materials should be water-proof and fadeproof against sun and weather.

Miscellaneous Markings: Additional information, such as "Fragile", or "This Side Up" are important. Such markings should be emphasized.

It may not always be possible to secure cars immediately and it may be necessary to place property in the warehouse temporarily awaiting shipment. LCL shipments should be separated from carload shipments. This will expedite the flow of property and avoid delay and confusion. It shall be the responsibility of the designated officer to provide adequate protection for the property in the warehouse.

Due to varying distances from the railhead to the different Centers, the importance of setting up a schedule for trucking and estimating accurately the amount of labor needed for handling household goods and transporting to the railhead cannot be over-emphasized. The amount of equipment assigned for this purpose must be adequate. WRA-owned and operated equipment shall be used wherever possible. If such equipment is inadequate, arrangements for additional commercial vehicles shall be made and their use coordinated.

Truck details of handlers and drivers will be required. Routines and schedules should be given these men in order to effect a systematic operation. If Block Managers are used to expedite the work, they should be informed of the schedules and routines that will be followed.

Each evacuee or family group shall be notified of the time of pick-up in ample time to allow for proper preparation for shipment of household goods.

In the closing of the Jerome Center very good results were obtained by enlisting the assistance of the evacuees themselves in trucking and loading their own property. The advantages of such a plan are: The property is more carefully handled, the evacuee is better satisfied because he knows how his property has been loaded, and sufficient labor force is insured for handling the property at point of departure. This system could be utilized both for LCL shipments and for carloads. The evacuee is usually not only willing but anxious to assist because by so doing he insures safe handling of his own property. If such a plan is used, it should be worked out well in advance and the evacuees informed of their responsibility. A definite schedule should be prepared and the evacuees informed well in advance of the time of the pickup and loading. If possible all property, whether by LCL or carload, should be shipped from the Center prior to the departure of the evacuee. The shipping date should be well in advance of the departure of the evacuee in order to make delivery at point of destination as near the time of arrival of the evacuee as possible.

The Evacuee Property Officer should assist evacuees in executing Forms WRA-156 for shipment of property stored in Government storage in the evacuated area which the evacuee desired moved to his new address. For property in Government storage, the Forms WRA-156 should be prepared from the Evacuee Property Report and articles listed in the same order. Reference should be made to the EPR by number. These forms should be routed to the Area Supervisor in the ordinary manner.

Since the WRA does not have facilities nor personnel on the West Coast adequate to receive property for distribution, all shipments from the Center will be consigned to the evacuee and not to the WRA. Standard Form Government Bills of Lading will be used to cover cost of shipment of all evacuee property for evacuees whose relocation plan is approved by the WRA. These forms will be prepared and routed in the usual manner.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director

*Project Director
Adm. Mgmt
Personnel*

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

File **E 704**
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MAY 29 1945

Mr. Ray R. Best
Project Director
War Relocation Authority
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Best:

As we move into the final stages of liquidation of the relocation centers and as the relocation movement steps up, there may be a number of occasions when change in organization seems necessary for a successful completion of the job.

We will be willing to consider any reasonable combinations or reorganization plans. However, any organizational change which contemplates a different organizational structure or a change in the line of authority should be submitted to Washington for prior approval. This should not be confused with the detailing of an individual from one position to another, for example, the detailing of an Assistant Farm Superintendent to Assistant Evacuee Property Officer does not constitute an organizational change and, therefore, will not require prior approval.

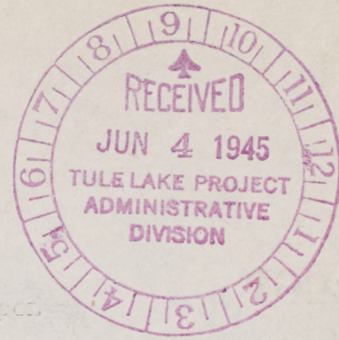
Any request for organizational changes should be sent to Washington with charts, job descriptions, and detailed justifications, giving the reasons for the change and the effect of this change on the rest of the organization.

Sincerely,

D. J. Myer
Director

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WRA-DT

May 30, 1945

MEMORANDUM for the Secretary:

I am attaching a copy of a news story which appeared in the Fresno, California BEE on May 28. The case described raises a number of important issues, but the most urgent by far, it seems to me, is indicated by the underscored passage in the story.

Time and again recently it has been made inescapably clear to us that people on the West Coast generally still do not understand or appreciate that the decision to revoke the exclusion orders was a War Department decision and that the returning evacuees are coming back with full War Department approval. As long as the Western Defense Command persists in remaining publicly silent on this question, the race baiters are able to spread the impression that WRA is responsible and that public security is being endangered by the return movement. This basically incorrect set of premises creates the atmosphere in which the incidents happen and in which they are being so flagrantly condoned or disregarded.

I am convinced that a clear-cut statement by the Western Defense Command setting forth its responsibilities in connection with the return movement and clarifying its attitude on incidents (particularly those involving the families of servicemen) would be enormously beneficial in eliminating the present public confusion and in leading to more energetic and effective pattern of local law enforcement. Although it is true that the Western Defense Command can take no direct action in local law enforcement, the mere weight of its moral influence in this situation could be almost incalculable.

I am attaching a draft of a release of the type which I think Western Defense Command should issue. I recommend most strongly that you urge the War Department to see that some such statement is made public in the immediate future.

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

Suggested Press Release for
Western Defense Command

The return of evacuees of Japanese ancestry to their former homes in the West Coast area has the full approval of the War Department and the Western Defense Command, Major General H. C. Pratt, Commanding General, said today/

"The people of Japanese descent who are coming back ~~xx~~ into this area," Gen. Pratt stated, "have been made the subject of a most careful check by the Western Defense Command and have been cleared for movement anywhere in the United States. Many hundreds of them have sons, husbands; and brothers serving with our armies overseas not only in Europe but against the Japanese enemy in the South Pacific. They are entitled to all the rights of loyal citizens and law-abiding aliens, and should receive the fullest protection possible under our local State, and Federal laws. The Western Defense Command unreservedly condemns the assaults which have been directed against these people in certain parts of the West Coast area by lawless and irresponsible individuals."

Myer-
corresp.

AUG 30 1945

~~Tracy~~
~~Tracy~~

Honorable Jack B. Tenney
State Senator
State Building
Sacramento, California

Dear Mr. Tenney:

I have received a letter from our Relocation Supervisor in California, Mr. Charles F. Miller, referring to a meeting held by your State Legislative Interim Committee on Un-American Activities at which a WRA Relocation Officer, Mr. Cecil Morgan, appeared to answer questions. Mr. Miller indicated that a number of the questions asked were of a kind to be answered by the national office of WRA, and he has accordingly, summarized them so that I might supply you with the information.

1. The loyalty question in the Army questionnaire, as presented to citizen registrants, read: "Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States of America and faithfully defend the United States from any or all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and foreswear any form of allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor, or any other foreign government, power, or organization?"

a. The reasons why many evacuees changed their answers to the affirmative were almost as numerous as the number of evacuees who changed their answers. The confusion surrounding the registration, the embitterment of many Nisei over the evacuation, the insecurity of their citizenship status and family ties, were instrumental in causing original negative answers from many Japanese Americans who later, after further consideration, decided to change their replies.

Here, for example, is the statement of a 20 year old Japanese American boy, holding American citizenship only, unable to speak Japanese, who answered "no" and then asked to change his answer: "Well, see, I volunteered for the army when I was outside. This was in February, when I got out of school. They wouldn't accept me because they said I was Japanese. I was pretty sore. Then I was a member of the California State Guard, Company F, Second Infantry. I joined right after Pearl Harbor

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and trained every night until evacuation. After doing what I could to show my true loyalty I didn't like being put behind barbed wire and having questions like this pushed at me."

Another young Nisei, holding American citizenship only, in the course of an interview explaining why he had answered "no" said: "I thought that since there is a war on between Japan and America, since the people of this country have to be geared up to fight against Japan, they are taught to hate us. So they don't accept us. First I wanted to help this country, but they evacuated us instead of giving us a chance.....We have a Japanese face. Even if I try to be American, I won't be entirely accepted.....I don't know Japan. I'm not interested in Japan.....But if they are still alive we can go with our old parents.....I believe in democracy as I was taught in school. I would have been willing to go out forever to fight before evacuation. It's not that I'm a coward or afraid to die. My father would have been willing to see me go out at one time. But my father can't feel the same after this evacuation and I can't either."

Many individuals who felt in this way at the time of registration later decided on further reflection that in spite of their embitterment they wished to remain in the United States as Americans.

b. Only the State Department can answer your question as to the number of persons who have applied for repatriation or expatriation. We have not been keeping records of this kind since last December.

c. With reference to the conditions under which such persons can relocate, the general statement applies that all evacuees are now free to relocate with the exception of those specifically designated for detention by the Department of Justice and Western Defense Command.

2. With regard to the legal provisions permitting dual citizenship, the pamphlet "Myths and Facts About the Japanese Americans" states as follows:

"Children born in the United States of alien fathers from almost every country in the world, outside of South and Central America, are dual citizens, at least until they become of age. In the great majority of cases, they remain dual citizens for life unless they renounce allegiance to one country or the other. The Japanese law which resulted in dual citizenship for some children born of Japanese parents in the United States before the war was not at all unique and was, in fact, more liberal than the nationality law of Germany and many other



sanctions, the principal factors are as follows:

1. With regard to the legal provisions permitting and restricting entry, the principal factors are as follows:

2. With regard to the legal provisions permitting and restricting entry, the principal factors are as follows:

3. With regard to the legal provisions permitting and restricting entry, the principal factors are as follows:

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9. With regard to the legal provisions permitting and restricting entry, the principal factors are as follows:

nations.

"Dual citizenship arises because countries apply different tests of citizenship. Jus sanguinis holds that a child acquires the citizenship of his father regardless of where he is born; jus soli holds that he acquires the citizenship of the country of his birth. Consequently, every child born in the United States (which holds to the doctrine of jus soli as well as jus sanguinis in a modified form) is a dual citizen if his father is a citizen of a country that adheres to the doctrine of jus sanguinis. Every American-born child of an alien father from any country in Europe is at birth a dual citizen, and in the majority of instances he retains the dual status until he renounces his foreign citizenship. Every American-born child of an alien Chinese father is a dual citizen for life, unless he renounces allegiance to China after his twentieth birthday and has legal capacity under Chinese law. (See A Comparative Study of Laws Relating to Nationality at Birth and Loss of Nationality, by Durward V. Sandifer, American Journal of International Law, Vol. 29, p. 248 et seq.; A Collection of Nationality Laws, by Flournoy and Hudson, 1929.)

".....According to the German law, every child born of a German father, regardless of the country of his birth, was a German citizen; and under a decree of April 19, 1937, every man of German parentage was subject to conscription into the German army, regardless of where he was born or where he was living. Persons who had expatriated, or who had naturalized in a foreign country, were not excepted by the decree.....

"Before 1924, all children born of Japanese aliens in the United States were claimed as citizens of Japan. This law was radically changed, however, by an Imperial Ordinance, effective December 1, 1924, which decreed that no child born of Japanese parents in the United States (and certain other countries) was to be claimed as a citizen of Japan unless the child's father, or legal representative, registered the birth at a Japanese consulate within fourteen days, and unless the intention to retain Japanese citizenship was expressed at the same time. (Former Ambassador Grew in Hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Military Affairs, United States Senate, 78th Congress, 1st Session, on S. 444, p. 116.).....

"Even after the Ordinance of 1924 became effective, many Japanese Americans were still unsatisfied. They continued to petition for further relaxations in the law. As late as January, 1941, 30,000 Japanese Americans in Hawaii petitioned Secretary of State Cordell Hull to seek a way in which they could more easily expatriate themselves from Japan. This action brought a letter from Lieut. General C. D. Herron,

commanding the Hawaiian Department of the U. S. Army, in which he said: "In the willingness of the younger Japanese to sign this petition and in their loyal and eager compliance with the draft, as in the attitude of the older generation in accepting the new (Selective Service) order for their children, there is complete refutation of the suspicions of their loyalty." (Japanese American Review, Jan. 25, 1941, p. 6.)

"The Imperial Ordinance of 1924 permitted children born in the United States before 1924 of alien Japanese fathers to renounce their Japanese citizenship, and in the next six years, according to a census taken in 1930, approximately 40 per cent of the Nisei born before 1924 had made formal renunciations. Of the younger children, who were American citizens only unless they had been registered at Japanese consulates, about two-thirds were American citizens only. Of the total Nisei population, 24,263 held American citizenship only, and 22,027 (mainly in the older group) were dual citizens. (The Second Generation Japanese Problem, by Edward K. Strong, p. 142.)

Investigations by the War Relocation Authority indicate that the percentage of Japanese dual citizens has been much reduced since 1930. In the registration conducted at the centers in February, 1943, many of the citizen registrants reported that they had renounced their Japanese citizenship since 1930, and few of the number born since 1924 were reported to have been registered at Japanese consulates."

A copy of this pamphlet is enclosed for your more complete information.

We do not know whether a dual citizen would be considered to have repudiated his Japanese citizenship by answering the Army questionnaire in the affirmative. Since such an individual's allegiance to Japan exists only in Japanese law, not in our law, this question could be answered only by reference to the existing nationality laws of Japan.

3. Your question with regard to a conference held by the Japanese American Citizens League last summer in Denver would best be answered by the president of that organization, Mr. Saburo Kido, who may be addressed at the National Headquarters of the JACL, Beason Building, Salt Lake City, Utah.

4. The monument in the Manzanar center about which you inquired was erected in the cemetery by the evacuees as a memorial monument to the dead there. The inscription on the front of it means literally, "Monument to Console the Souls", or more freely, "Memorial Monument". An inscription on the back of the monument says, "Erected by the Japanese residents of Manzanar, August 1943".

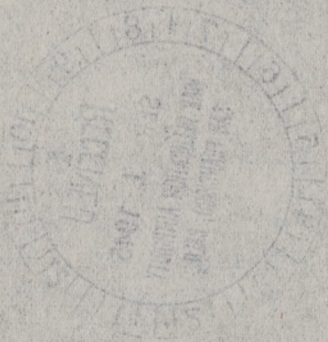
I hope that this will give you the information you require.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myers

Director

cc: Cozzens





cc: CONNERS

I hope that this will give you the information you require.

Yours truly,

W. J. L. L.

W. J. L. L.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Office of the Director

NOV 10 1945

Miss Mary Wilson, Secretary
Evacuation and Resettlement Study
University of California
207 Giannini Hall
Berkeley 4, California

Dear Miss Wilson:

In answer to your letter of October 23, 1945, Administrative Instruction (unnumbered), dated February 16, 1943, "Removal from Relocation Centers of Aggravated and Incurable Troublemakers," has been declassified from "Confidential" to "Free."

For your information this unnumbered Instruction was superseded by Administrative Instruction No. 95, a copy of which is enclosed. Administrative Instruction No. 95 was superseded by Manual Sections 30.1.100 to 30.1.113, to be found in Manual Releases No. 6 and 39. These Manual Releases were cancelled by Manual Release No. 84.

We assume that you have copies of Manual Releases in question.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myers
Director

Enclosure