

F1.022



Regional Files, Wash. D. C. .002  
Miyamoto

Memo from John Bird to Mr. Eisenhower  
April 6, 1942

I am somewhat concerned by the attitude taken in the meeting with the Indian Service April 1st regarding the use of Japanese language in reception centers. At this meeting it seemed to be the consensus - except mine - that while the Japanese would be allowed the freedom of religion, there would some question about services in the Japanese language. Further, there was doubt as to whether the Japanese-American newspapers, which usually carry a section in the Japanese language, would be allowed to come into the camp.

I think this is a policy that is very important from a stand-point of morale and civil liberties. By all means certain checks should be maintained to protect us against use of Japanese as a method of conspiracy and secret communication, and certainly some serious problems will arise regarding the Shinto religion, which has as a basis the worship of the Emperor. However, I think we should take into account the Army's policy on this matter as far as newspapers are concerned. Even the internment camps allow Japanese language papers to be sent in, and the Japanese-American press has been encouraged by the Army and the Department of Justice to print proclamations, orders and press releases in Japanese to assure that they will be well understood. From my standpoint, the closing of this channel would restrict our means of reaching the older group, who after all have quite a bit of influence. At the present time the Army is allowing the Japanese language newspapers to come into Manzanar.

In connection with the above Mrs. Yona Abiko of the Japanese-American newspaper, Nichi Bei, was in to see me regarding continuance of their newspaper. She was sent by Dick Meustadt. This is the oldest and largest Japanese newspaper and has the largest and newest supply of Japanese type. Half of their paper is printed in English and half of it in Japanese. I understand that their policy has been pro-American and that they have urged Americanization for many years, and that their publication is regarded as loyal by the F.B.I. This, of course, is all subject to check. Several of the other papers have rather shady records and a number of the editors are in internment camps. This paper ~~xxx~~ desires to continue publication and to maintain its list of subscribers who are now being scattered by the evacuation. They are up against these problems: (1) They definitely have to move out of the evacuated zone. Will they be permitted to move their newspaper and where? (2) They probably will need some assistance in relocating their newspaper. They had a plan developed for moving just outside the restricted zone to Del Rey near Fresno. This would cost about \$5,000. If they should move to Salt Lake City or Phoenix or some other point, the cost would be somewhat higher. They have about \$50,000 worth of equipment including a large duplex press, but are \$11,000 in debt as a result of a fire several years ago. (3) They have to know whether or not they can send their paper into reception centers, where most of their subscribers will be for some time.

I advised Mrs. Abiko to give us some more definite figures on the cost of moving and possible locations, and to submit the plan that they are now developing



Regional Files, Wash. D. C. .002  
Miyamoto

Letter from Coverley to Fryer  
May 5, 1942

Under the form of administrative organization we have adopted, it is difficult to determine how forcefully a staff division should interject its recommendations into administrative channels. Since responsibility should properly carry with it commensurate authority, it would appear that a staff division should play a minor role in making any decision for which the project director must accept final responsibility. On the other hand, the purpose of establishing the technical functions was to make available advice and guidance to administrative personnel in special fields. In order that this purpose may be accomplished, it is often necessary for the staff division to exercise, directly or indirectly, quasi administrative prerogatives.

This matter is being called to your attention at this time because project directors will be making selections of key personnel during the next few months. To a large extent, the wisdom of these selections will determine the success or failure of our agreed objectives. I understand that some appointments are being made to positions closely related to those activities in which I am interested without the appropriate persons in my divisions being consulted. This in itself is neither wrong nor objectionable so long as the full implications of such a procedure are fully understood by all concerned.

Under the circumstances, it seems important that you define at the earliest moment exactly what the responsibilities of those divisions under my supervision are in this respect. Our group will be very glad to help with the selection of qualified personnel for all activities coming under the head of "Community Services" if that is desired. If not, it will be entirely satisfactory to permit project directors to select any personnel they choose providing it is clearly understood that the regional divisions concerned are in no way responsible for the ultimate results. We will be glad to do the best we can under any set of circumstances, but I feel quite definitely that these circumstances should be made clear.

As far as I am concerned personally, it is my suggestion that at least all key personnel in the Community Services field should have the joint endorsement of the project director and the appropriate Division Chief or myself.



Regional Files, Wash. D. C. .002  
Miyamoto

Memo from Fryer to Project Directors  
May 12, 1942

Subject: Recruitment of project staffs.

It is the policy of the San Francisco Regional Office to authorize Project Directors, or acting Project Directors, to recruit staff personnel. However, it must be understood that all appointments must be made within Civil Service regulations and, furthermore, that such appointments, before becoming definite, must be approved by the Regional Director.

It shall be the policy of the Regional Director to refer, through Personnel, to the appropriate divisions for recommendations, the suggested appointments made by the Project Directors.



Regional Files, 109, General, Wash. D.C.  
Miyamoto

Letter from Alan Laflin, Public Works Division to Cozzens  
May 19, 1942  
Subject: Tule Lake Camp.

Following are my comments regarding the Tule Lake Evacuation Center, where I spent the last three days:

1. Administrative Set-up

The contractor is practically finished with the evacuation camp. No provision had been made for adding the facilities as outlined in Mr. Fryer's memorandum to Col. Evans. In fact, the layout for the administrative set-up was different from any I had previously seen; for example, there were two large equipment sheds included and already constructed which have no part in the administrative group and which we will have to either move or duplicate in the motor repair area. Just before leaving Klamath Falls Monday night, I talked with Director Shirrell by phone and he advised me that Captain Wilkes, the Engineer Department Officials in charge of the camp construction, had just returned from San Francisco where he had discussed the camp layout with Col. Hansston. Captain Wilkes had verbally advised Mr. Shirrell that he was authorized to proceed with the construction of the additional buildings as covered in the memorandum referred to above. In addition, the contractor was also going to sand the floors in the administration building, lower the showers in the evacuees bath houses, as well as make certain other minor improvements which Mr. Shirrell will cover in a memorandum to you.

With these additions, the minimum requirements for the administration group will have been met.

2. New Buildings Needed Immediately

It is recommended that an attempt be made to have the contractor now on the job build the motor repair shop and, if possible, the community center building. It will be some time before our own forces will have either the personnel or equipment to do this, while the contractor will be able to complete these two buildings in a relatively short time.

3. Suggested Improvements and Changes.

The evacuee barracks are Theater of Operations type and are not believed practical for the cold winters which they may have in the next few years. Green lumber has been used and buckling of the floors has already occurred in a number of places. Siding is of one inch finished lumber covered with a building paper and battens. I have no doubt that the building paper will tear off due to wind action in a relatively short time. In addition, daylight can be seen below the eaves. The suggestion is made as to the possibility of putting on an outer cover of sheathing, probably a shiplap. A preliminary figure indicated that the cost of the lumber for this would be about \$20,000. This could be put on with evacuee labor. It is also believed that the building paper on the roof will tear off in a short time and some improvement should be made here.

Mr. Shirrell is very much concerned over the heating facilities as set up. Each of the evacuee apartments has a Cannon stove and it is not believed that this type of stove will furnish adequate heat for very cold winters. These Cannon stoves have also been installed in the administrative buildings; for example, four of them are expected to heat the 40' x 100' administration building. Some more efficient type of stove will probably have to be furnished. I do not believe that this type of stove will be able to sustain a very hot coal fire for sustaining periods without burning out the side walls.



Regional Files, 109, General Wash. D.C.  
Miyamoto

Shirrell to Petrie  
May 20, 1942

4 I have been remiss in not getting away to you for your information and Mr. Fryer's any report on our progress to date but I am delighted with the way things are moving along.

Captain Wilkes is trying to rush to completion several blocks of evacuee barracks so that we ought to be able very shortly to tell you that we are ready for our first contingent as far as housing is concerned. Lights, water and plumbing in this area will be complete.

Supplies are arriving and we are busy unloading. Some cots are here, enough for our first contingent and this morning we are unloading ten cars of mattresses. We have received no Government trucks but Mr. Hayes, Transportation Officer, has borrowed ten trucks from a nearby CCC camp. Labor is difficult to find but we have worked out a deal with the contractor to call on his labor pool for what labor we need. He will render a bill for the same. My staff has volunteered to do truck driver duty and we expect to be able to handle car load lots as fast as they come in.

Colonel Christophel, Commanding Officer, Quartermaster Depot in Sacramento, called on me last Saturday and was delighted to find that our warehouses were ready and telephoned back to Sacramento, instructing them to start the ten day B ration rolling toward us. The requisitions for other rations have been made in San Francisco. Mr. Niesse informs me, by him and the chief steward.

The base hospital is rapidly nearing completion and I am certain we can set up an obstetrical ward and ward for contagious diseases at least. Personnel quarters are complete as far as the building, hot water and sanitary facilities are concerned and we are housing most of the staff here now. We have equipped them with Government cots and mattresses and while we have no chairs, the morale seems to be good. The additional administration building, additional personnel dormitories, personnel mess hall and recreation buildings are under construction today.

We have had excellent cooperation from the community and any "Anti" feeling has absolutely vanished.

My day is somewhat busy receiving callers, particularly applicants for work and salesman who have something to sell. The Military Police unit arrived yesterday. I paid a visit to Captain Patterson, the Commanding Officer, and found him very cordial. The unit is from Texas, almost 99 per cent Texans and I know we shall get along very nicely. We have loaned him fuel and various other things until he can get organized. He, in turn, has asked our personnel to eat at their mess. This is a great relief to us as the local restaurants around Tule Lake are not too good and their prices have sky-rocketed.

I am delighted with the spirit of the staff and their willingness to do anything that is to be done and their adaptability to somewhat primitive living conditions. I think we are very fortunate in the group we have and am very proud of them.

I shall try to give you another progress report on Friday.



Regional Files, 109 Gen. Wash. D.C.  
Miyamoto

Letter from Shirrell to Petrie  
May 22, 1942

This should be my final report to you and Mr. Fryer on the progress of the Tule Lake Project.

Captain Wilkes has turned over to us the necessary blocks for our first group and is putting the final touches on them today. The contractors should be almost clear by tomorrow noon. We are installing the cannon stoves in the evacuee apartments, distributing beds, mattresses and blankets. The mess hall is being equipped this afternoon. We have dishes and cooking utensils enough to handle the situation.

The base hospital is well along. The steam plant boiler is being installed today. Walls are being painted and we shall have ready by Monday the 25th, an obstetrics ward and a ward for contagious diseases. We shall have to handle the food situation from the first mess house which we are to use and which is within reasonable distance from the base hospital. Much of the medical equipment is here and in the medical warehouse and unpacked. As soon as Dr. Carson arrives and can identify material, we shall start placing them.

The staff is functioning very smoothly and I think we will know after our conference tonight what the duties of each person is in connection with the arrival of the first contingent of colonists. There is only one thing that is holding up my wire to you saying we are ready and that is the disappearance of four cars of rations which left Sacramento Quartermaster Depot day before yesterday. As soon as the Southern Pacific Company assured us that they are within close proximity, I will wire you that we will be ready on Monday next.

In this connection I believe that WRA owes a very large vote of thanks to the contractors, Ford J. Twaits Company and Morrison, Knudsen Company, Inc., and to their local agent, Mr. W. N. Drew, for their excellent job in building us a very fine camp in such rapid order. You will remember that they started construction on April 23. While the camp is not complete, the delays have been due to bad weather conditions of this very bad spring and the additional building requirements that we have given them.

Captain Wilkes of the Army Engineers has been most cooperative. His advice has been sound and he has guarded zealously the Army's and WRA's interests in every way. He has worked very closely with Mr. Slattery and his staff, giving us very helpful advice on future maintenance and future construction activities. I cannot praise him too highly.

We are most fortunate in the assignment of Captain Patterson as the commanding officer of the Military Police detachment. I can see nothing but complete harmony among us here.



Regional Files, Wash. D. C. .002  
Miyamoto

Memo for Regional Director (Petrie) from E. R. Smith  
May 25, 1942

Subject: Common Mess Arrangements vs. Individual Family Food  
Preparation.

On the occasion of Mr. Vance Rogers' visit here last week he reported that Mr. Wade Head urges that directors of projects that may be set up in the future consider seriously the pros and cons indicated in the matter under above designation. Mr. Wade feels, I believe, that to have families prepare their own food on the basis of a daily allowance in credit or of uncooked food per person would be considerably more acceptable to the evacuees and at the same time would relieve WRA of a great burden.

I am wondering whether the matter has been considered in your office. Despite the fact that such a change of plan would introduce serious problems of change for the Army in the matter of type of stoves, sinks, waste water disposal, etc., it may be that in the final analysis the Government would save money and the evacuees would be more contented.

I also realize that perhaps so far as Gila River Camp #1 is concerned, the die has been cast. But it may be that in camps that are to be built in the future the need for such change could be anticipated. I advance this thought for what it may be worth.



Tule Lake Project  
May 28, 1942

TO: Mr. E. R. Fryer, Regional Director

FROM: Elmer L. Shirrell, Acting Project Director

SUBJECT: Progress Report for Tule Lake Project

Yesterday Tule Lake Project received its first skeleton crew of 447 people. I was more than delighted with the way the staff functioned. There were but a few minor instances and these did not impede the program materially. Fortunately for us the storm subsided during the time of the arrival so that we could work without discomfort to the staff and colonists.

We had previously lined up all the personnel's cars, the one sedan belonging to the War Relocation Authority and the rented cars. We also had two CCC trucks with benches in them. Even the wives of staff members drove cars. These cars shuffled back and forth from the train to the processing center which was an empty mess hall. Our plan, agreed upon with Lieutenant Christianson of the Quartermaster Corps and the Southern Pacific Company officials, was to unload at our own railhead, making the presence of the Military Police unnecessary as this railhead is inside our own grounds. Five minutes before the train arrived Southern Pacific announced a change in plan and decided to unload at the railroad in front of our main gate. This necessitated a hurry-up call to Capt. Patterson for help in blocking the highway. His men functioned perfectly and I saw nothing but kindness on their part as they assisted elderly people off the train. Two of them even carried small children. We unloaded in forty minutes which military officials in charge of the train tell us was a record. Before the next arrivals Capt. Wilkes assure me that he will fill in the land and build a landing platform next to the railroad track.

The processing at the empty messhall proceeded smoothly with excellent cooperation from the Japanese. I knew that our own staff would be amazed at the competence and good spirit of the colonists and today I notice that they are all smiles because of the very able group who will now help us plan for the next group and who are already taking over numerous jobs in the camp. The only break in the processing was in the medical examination room as Dr. Carson was all alone. We finally discovered one Japanese nurse and from that time on things went a little faster. There were thirty-nine infants amongst them and with the assistance of Mrs. Halle, Assistant Community Worker, plans were quickly made for getting formulas. The doctor handled this from the base hospital and with the help of Japanese messengers correct formulas were sent to the various apartments of mothers during the day and night.

The Placement Bureau began functioning early in the afternoon, enlisting colonists and, as I told you in a wire just now the only difficulty was in Paragraph 3, sentence 2, "I may be transferred from one relocation center to another as determined by the Authority from time to time." The objection to this was that they were fearful of being separated from their families. This fear is a logical one based upon the disturbed conditions which have existed since Pearl Harbor and their fear of losing track of members of their family. It was almost pitiful the way they clung together. We shall have to have some advice and interpretation immediately or our entire War Relocation Work Corps program will be endangered.



At the end of the day we found that instead of averaging 250 people to a block as we had planned, we had spread out over three and one-half blocks. A check up last night showed us that we had but one large family and that was nine. The families average seem to be about three and one-half persons which I presume will be typical. We discovered also that we had no call for the use of the single women's dormitories. The single women had grouped themselves in parties of five or six and had been assigned to family apartments. In the three and one-half blocks we had only about thirty single men. This means that throughout our entire cantonnement we will have the single men's and single women's dormitories practically vacant. Even the single men quartered in the dormitory would have preferred going in groups of six. The dormitories are 20 X 100 and without partitions of any sort. I am asking Capt. Wilkes advice on this subject and will probably ask you for authority to have either the Army Engineers or the War Relocation Authority to negotiate with the contractor to make these dormitories into apartments. Because of the need for smaller apartments we are ~~rather than~~ planning to cut these buildings into six apartments approximately 15 X 20 rather than four-family apartments. Families consisting of man, wife and one child would then have plenty of space. Such alterations should not be difficult and would involve breaking one window down into a door and putting in five dividing partitions. I will get the result of this conference to you at the earliest possible moment because I feel these partitions should be made before we take our next group.

The mess hall functioned perfectly with the Chief Steward, Mr. Stultz, and the trainee, Mr. Hawes. They were well organized and the contractor, Ford J. Twaits Company and Morrison Knudsen Company, Inc., very kindly offered the services of their cooks and waitresses so that by one-thirty all the colonists had had an excellent dinner. I am sending a note to the contractor expressing our gratitude. By the evening meal the Japanese cooks took over and I watched both supper and breakfast this morning being served and they functioned like a well oiled machine.

Block managers were selected yesterday afternoon on a temporary assignment and Mr. Jacoby and Mr. Fleming are giving them their instructions today. The plan for block managers is proving to be very sound. Mr. Jacoby organized his wardens and they started walking their beats last night. They took over from the Military Police the night watch for everything except the warehouse, base hospital and administration area. As soon as we get our next group the Military Police will be relieved of all internal work and will handle only the external and main entrance gate.

Mr. Bauman, the Safety Engineer, moved in very quickly on the fire situation, establishing himself in the fire house which houses the temporary equipment which we have. He has picked some likely looking men to form the nucleus of the Fire Department and when our two engines promised by Captain Wilkes arrive on June 1st, we ought to be in good shape.

Mr. Smith's and Mr. Friedman's plans for assignment to quarters and keeping the records functioned very smoothly. We know where every colonist is settled and this morning will work out the locator and cross index files. In this connection, I hope Regional Office is planning a visible index system so that we can quickly locate any family or individual.

I was fearful of not having someone on duty at the Administration Building all night so for the time being have assigned Mr. Chambers to night duty there. He will keep contact with the Military Police at the gate and will be prepared for any emergency which might arise in the colony itself. He will also be on duty should we have bus loads arriving during the night.



Colonel Meade, who was in charge of the train bringing the colonists, informed me that the two groups of four hundred each from San Joaquin County, California, had been re-routed to Manzanar and I wired you for confirmation of this. He told me that the next group which were due on June 1st, 2nd and 3rd from Oregon and Washington will be here on June 1st in all probability. Practically all this group will be picked up at their homes, will have had no medical examinations and no experience in an assembly center. We cannot handle medical examinations of this group with one doctor and I was delighted to get your telegram assuring us that more medical personnel would reach us. We shall have a little trouble with morale with this new group as they will not have been at an assembly center. The contingent arriving yesterday was so delighted with Tule Lake because of its obvious advantages of improved facilities over the assembly center that their morale is at a very high pitch.

The storms continue and the wind is bitterly cold but with the added insulation we shall make everyone comfortable I know.

levee

The/levee situation is serious and will be serious as long as our storms last and the high winds prevail. Instead of evaporating, the lake is rising. Mr. Slattery and Mr. Sheehan have taken over this problem with the assistance of some heavy equipment from the United States Bureau of Reclamation and we hope to hang on to our farming land. I gave Mr. Slattery first priority for labor and this morning we are sending a large force of colonists to help. Baled hay has been purchased wherever we were able to find it. Sacks are being filled with sand and we have not given up hope. It is going to be fearfully expensive, however.

In closing I must repeat again to you how proud I am of the staff of the Tule Lake Project. They functioned like an organization that had been in existence fully a year. They are in excellent spirits after a very tough day and are on the job, doing their individual work and functioning as a team. Mr. Townsend, the trainee who arrived just in time to be in on the arrival of the train and subsequent settlement of the colonists, came to me last night to tell me that never in his experience had he witnessed such a smooth functioning organization and could not believe they had been together approximately a week.

I want to take this opportunity of thanking all of you at Regional Office for your support which has made this good start possible.



Regional Files, 710, Wash., D. C.  
Miyamoto

TT from E. R. Fryer to M. S. Eisenhower  
May 28, 1942

Approximately half of eligible persons in advance detachment Tulelake Center have refused sign enlistment form because of Provision Paragraph 3 sentence 2. Evacuees fearful this provision may mean separation of enlistees from other family members not enlisted. We are assuring Project Director this is not the case but believe revision of form might clarify point.

Tel from E. L. Shirrell, Acting Project Director Tulelake Center  
to E. R. Fryer, atten. Harvey M. Coverley  
May 28, 1942

About fifty percent of the colonists were interviewed for enlistment in the War Relocation work corps yesterday. Over half of those interviewed refused to sign because of promise in paragraph 3 sentence 2. All are fearful of this sentence objection being that they might be transferred away from their families. Please advise us on this.



June 1, 1942

The Honorable  
The Secretary of Navy

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The War Relocation Authority was established by President Roosevelt last March 18. The Authority is directed to cooperate with the War Department in evacuating, relocating, and providing work opportunities for all persons of Japanese ancestry who are removed from the strategic military areas on the west coast. As you know, the Western Defense Command has charge of the evacuation and the Japanese are being concentrated in assembly centers for subsequent relocation outside the military zone.

The main job of the War Relocation Authority to date has been to find lands upon which the evacuees could be resettled. During the past two months experts who know the western natural resources thoroughly have been searching out suitable relocation areas and so far provision has been made for 60,000 of the 120,000 Japanese on five separate projects as follows:

1. The Manzanar Relocation Area in the Owens River Valley in east central California (10,000 persons).
2. The Parker Relocation Area on the Colorado River Indian Reservation in southwestern Arizona (20,000 persons).
3. The Gila River Relocation Area <sup>situated</sup> on the Pima Indian Reservation in southern Arizona about 40 miles from Phoenix (10,000 persons).
4. The Tululake Relocation Area in northern California (10,000 persons).
5. The Minidoka Relocation Area in southern Idaho (10,000 persons).

The Army is building the essential housing and sanitary facilities and all of these projects will be ready for occupancy within the next few weeks. Negotiations are in progress in the States of Utah, Colorado,



New Mexico, and Arkansas for other relocation area sites.

Because of strategic and other considerations, each relocation project is itself a military area and will be guarded by the Army. Within the project boundary, however, it is desirable to provide as normal a community life as possible under the circumstances. The most important task ahead, therefore, is to provide year-round employment opportunities for the Japanese (both aliens and American citizens) being settled on the several projects. So far five lines of work activity have been projected:

1. The primary industry of most projects will be agricultural; first, for foodstuffs required by the relocated community and second, to aid in the national food production program. Roughly 50% of all the evacuees will be employed in agricultural pursuits.
2. Professional and other services, such as doctors, school teachers, etc., which are necessary and usual in any community.
3. Public works such as development of land for irrigation, conservation of soil resources, flood control operations and range improvement.
4. Private employment where opportunities are available and where protection of the evacuees can be assured.
5. Manufacturing - The production of goods needed by the evacuees themselves and in the national war production program.

One of the most urgent problems before the War Relocation Authority is to find manufacturing opportunities for approximately 20,000 persons not otherwise provided for. In view of the impending shortage of manpower it is our thought that this labor supply should be used as directly as possible in the war program. During the past ten days our Industrial Division and the several services of the War Department have been exploring items of supply which the War Relocation Authority can produce for the Army. Several articles such as work uniforms, camouflage nets,



leather work, tents, etc., appear to have real possibilities. A survey of the technical aspects of the problem is under way at the present time.

There are without doubt many items required by the Navy which could be manufactured, processed, or repaired by these persons of Japanese ancestry. It is requested, therefore, that the Secretary of Navy authorize the War Relocation Authority to undertake such work for the Navy Department. The feasibility of particular items can be determined by our Industrial Division and the appropriate officers of the Office of Procurement and Materials of the Navy Department. It would be very helpful if the Navy Department ~~should~~ would designate a liaison officer to work with our Industrial Division for a few weeks.

We are suggesting that, when the work is undertaken by the War Relocation Authority, it be handled as a book credit for cost accounting purposes, thus avoiding exchanges of funds or actual cash payments. The cost data for computing credits will be supplied to the War Relocation Authority by the Navy Department.

It should be emphasized that there are over 75,000 American citizens among those of Japanese ancestry who are being evacuated from the Pacific Coastal Area. The implication<sup>of</sup>/doubt as to their loyalty is obvious to them. They would welcome work of the type that is requested. It would give to these citizens a measure of assurance and trust ~~xxx~~ should we afford them an opportunity to do their part in the war effort, with the possibility that recognition of this contribution eventually may be accorded by the American public.

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Eisenhower  
Director



June 5, 1942

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

Dear Mr. McCloy:

The sites thus far recommended by WRA and approved by the War Department for relocation centers for evacuated Japanese will accommodate about 117,000 people. Such estimates as we have indicate that a total site capacity of 130,000 will be required to meet the immediate problem. Thus, we have yet to find a site or sites for 12 to 15 thousand people. Then the site selection job is done.

Among the sites vetoed by the War Department are two which in our opinion would make very fine projects. One is at Cambridge, Nebraska and the other at Beardsley, Arizona. The first was turned down because it called for some 22 tons of copper for a power line extension of 22 miles; and the second for military considerations. May I ask, in view of the urgency for completing the site selection job and my belief that substitute sites necessarily must be greatly inferior to either of these, a reconsideration of one of these proposals.

Of the two, I prefer the proposed Beardsley project. It has many advantages. In fact, I believe it rests on a more secure economic footing than any project thus far approved. Among its advantages are:

1. At Beardsley we can purchase 15,560 acres of land, of which 11,572 acres are now in cultivation, and shift almost immediately to the production of food crops not only for the evacuees on the project but for those on the Colorado River Indian Reservation, where an irrigation system must be installed before crops may be planted, and at Manzanar, where crop production prospects are poor. There should be no shipping difficulties; a railroad connects Beardsley and Parker.
2. Crops may be grown at Beardsley practically the year around.

At Cambridge, the growing season is shorter and the variety of



crops that may be grown is much more restricted.

3. The climate at Beardsley permits the use of less expensive construction.
4. The proposed contractor, Del Webb, can begin construction immediately upon completion of his work at Parker, without upsetting the local labor market, thus avoiding the creation of a labor shortage such as occurred in the Gila area. Most of Mr. Webb's employees move with him from job to job.
5. The Beardsley project will handle 15,000 people; the Cambridge project 10,000.
6. Irrigation facilities are already installed, and equipment for most of the farming operations can be bought with the land.
7. It will not be necessary to construct new power lines; and adequate facilities for transportation are already available.

Considering these advantages and the fact that a minimum amount of critical materials will be required for the development and use of this site, I believe the Beardsley project is worthy of reconsideration by the War Department. As you know, we obtained military clearance on this site more than a month ago. We then made detailed investigations and recommended purchase, when the military decision was changed.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ M. B. Eisenhower

Director



June 5, 1942

Mr. E. R. Fryer, Regional Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel Building  
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

I am enclosing, for your information, copies of the two letters I have received from Secretary of War Stimson dated May 23, granting to the War Relocation Authority a license to enter and occupy the lands on which the Relocation Center at Manzanar is located.

At my request the Secretary of War omitted from the letter conferring the license upon WRA the statement to the effect that the Army is granting to the WRA only such interest as it has, without warranty. This statement is made separately in the second letter. The two letters were, of course, signed and sent to me at the same time.

Our reason for not wanting the statement about the warranty to appear in the letter conferring the license is that we want to be free to show the Army's letter conferring the license to the City of Los Angeles if that should later prove necessary or desirable without being embarrassed by the statement with reference to the warranty.

The theory of this license is that the WRA is in possession pursuant to a grant of permission from the Army. Our possession is therefore subordinate to that of the Army's possession. You will notice that the Army has reserved the right to terminate our possession on 30 days written notice. If the city of Los Angeles should raise with us, therefore, the question of our right to be in possession of Manzanar, we should refer the city to the Army, and should state that any question that the city ~~has~~ has with reference to the right of possession should be taken up with the Army. I made it perfectly clear to the appropriate officers of the War Department that it is our intention to refer to them any claim of right that the city may raise with us.

Sincerely,

/s/ M. S. Eisenhower



June 6, 1942

Hon. John J. McCloy  
Assistant Secretary of War

Dear Mr. McCloy:

Yesterday I authorized the War Department, through Colonel Bendetsen, to proceed with construction on the Jerome, Arkansas site. This action brings approved relocation center capacity to 117,000. Should you be successful in securing clearance on the Beardsley, Arizona proposal, the grand total would come to 132,000 and completely fulfill present site requirements.

I submit the following recapitulation for your information:

Manzanar, California	10,000	
Tulelake, California	15,000	
Gila, Arizona	15,000	
Parker, Arizona	20,000	
Gooding, Idaho	10,000	
McCornick, Utah	10,000	
Shoshone, Wyoming	10,000	
Prowers County, Colorado	7,000	
Desha County, Arkansas	10,000	
Jerome County, Arkansas	<u>10,000</u>	
Total	117,000	
Beardsley, Arizona	<u>15,000</u>	
Grand Total		132,000

For some time I have been disturbed by the fact that site selection, land acquisition, and construction have not gone forward as rapidly as we had expected. Construction at Parker, Gila, and Tulelake is moving ahead rapidly but is lagging badly at some of the others. The delay at Gooding, Idaho, for example, has been rather prolonged. This site was approved for a relocation center on April 21. You may be interested



in the following progress report on Gooding:

April 21. WRA approved the site

April 22. WRA and WCCA agreed on the layout for the buildings

April 23. General DeWitt requested the Northern Pacific Division of Engineers to proceed with the construction

April 29. Colonel Parks of the Division of Engineers conferred with WRA and WCCA

May 18. The Division of Engineers submitted a new set of plans which changed the size of blocks from 300 persons capacity to 500 persons. All previous layouts had been designed for blocks of 300.

June 1. By the first of June two wells had been dug and I am told that the contract for construction is expected to be let some time this week.

More than six weeks elapsed between approval of the site and the letting of the contract.

I am afraid we are meeting with a similar delay on the Central Utah project at McCornick. WRA recommended this project on May 12 and authorized WCCA to proceed with acquisition of lands and water rights, provided military clearance was granted. On the same day Colonel Evans secured military clearance from General DeWitt who issued a directive to the Division of Engineers to proceed with water stock procurement and to file on water rights in accordance with WRA recommendations. Up to now no request has been issued to proceed with construction because a report has not yet been received from the Real Estate Division of the Army on progress in acquiring options on water stock for the project.

Military clearance for the Heart Mountain project in Wyoming was requested May 12. Military clearance was granted a week later. The



next day, May 20, the WRA San Francisco regional office recommended this project to me. On May 22 I approved the project, and Mr. E. R. Fryer, Regional Director at San Francisco, wrote to Colonel Bendetsen requesting that land for the project be acquired and plans be gotten under way for constructing a center for 10,000 evacuees. By June 1 the regional office had not received a progress report on Heart Mountain. Yesterday morning we received a call from the Real Estate Division of the War Department asking for a description of the land to be acquired. This description was submitted to Colonel Bendetsen on May 22. I believe that the contract for construction has now been let.

WRA's site selection force spent a large portion of its time in late April and early May investigating the Beardsley site in Arizona, first requesting military clearance. Clearance was readily granted on May 2. On May 11 a report was mailed to me at Washington requesting approval of the project. After further investigation here, and after clearing with Senators Hayden and McFarland, I approved the project on May 18. On May 27 the project was rejected by the War Department.

As you know, my purpose in writing this letter is not to place blame on any one for seeming delays. No one knows better than I that all personnel in WCCA and WRA have been working night and day; if they have been avoidable delays, we certainly accept responsibility for our share. The true purpose of this letter is to urge toward greater speed, both in land and water rights acquisition and in the construction of housing for relocation centers.

The reports all of us are receiving show how imperative it is, for military as well as other considerations, to remove the Japanese from assembly centers to relocation centers as quickly as possible. Delays result only in depressing the morale of evacuees. Even if all evacuees have been moved by early August to relocation centers, WRA will still face the problem of constructing school houses and school equipment so as to permit evacuees to re-enter elementary and high



schools early in September.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ m. S. Eisenhower

Director



June 8, 1942

Mr. E. R. Fryer  
Regional Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel Building  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Fryer:

I share the opinion expressed in your letter of May 18, regarding the wisdom of trying to secure authority for a revolving fund into which proceeds from the sale of farm products and other commodities produced on our projects could be deposited. The suggested appropriation language we have submitted to the Bureau of the Budget includes such authority. Whether it will be approved by the Budget Bureau and in Congress remains to be seen. I will let you know how this particular provision progresses.

Sincerely,

/s/ M. S. Eisenhower  
Director



Regional Files Wash. D.C. .002  
Miyamoto

Memo from Fryer to Project Directors  
June 10, 1942

Subject: War Relocation Authority Tentative Policy Statement

There are attached five copies of "War Relocation Authority Tentative Policy Statement", together with Mr. Eisenhower's covering memorandum.

It should be understood that the statement is as yet tentative and indicates the objects and the policy which should govern our efforts in the realization of such objectives as soon as possible.

Since the statement is as yet tentative, its circulation should probably be limited to employees of the War Relocation Authority and cooperating agencies.



Regional Files Wash. D.C. .002  
Miyamoto

Memo from Shirrell to Fryer  
June 13, 1942

Subject: Tentative policy statement

Mr. Eisenhower's policy statement of May 29, and his program statement are both receiving careful consideration by our staff. So far, no very vital changes have been suggested, except the one coming from the Community Services Division handed to me by Mr. Fleming, a copy of which is attached.



Regional Files Wash. D. C. .002  
Miyamoto

Letter from Shirrell to Fryer  
June 8<sup>th</sup> 1942

Subject: Letters to Camp Managers

Please not attached copies of my letter to camp managers in Wallergera and Marysville.

I hope I have not overstepped the bounds in writing directly to them. I think you will appreciate the fact as to how helpful this action and information will be for us.

Attachment.

Letter from Shirrell to Kenyon,  
June 8, 1942

*WGA*  
*Manager*  
*Wallergera Assembly Ctr.*

This is purely an unofficial letter to you with a request for help, if you can give it to us.

We are faced with a very definite shortage of cooks up here because most of our evacuee population so far has come from rural districts. If you can, on your first shipment of colonists to us, send up some of your cooks, we should appreciate it mightily. I know you probably will want to keep them until toward the last, but I am at the moment faced with a very serious situation and hope you can help us.

The same situation exists on the medical side, and I hope you can spare one of your doctors early in the evacuation proceedings.

It would also help us mightily if the completed Social Data Registration forms (WCCA Form S3, Revised) could be forward at least two days in advance of your shipment of colonists. If these forms are here we can use them as part of our reception procedure and it would greatly help to speed up matters.

I would also appreciate any advance tips from you on Japanese personnel whom you have found outstandingly useful in your administrative set-up. We are, of course, on the lookout for people in all divisions who will fit into the administrative set-up.



Regional Files, 001, Tule, Wash., D.C.  
Miyamoto

Memo to Duncan Mills from Helen F. Collins, Head, Mail and Files.  
Subject: Trip to Tule Lake Project, July 23 to July 31  
September 1, 1942

On July 23, I arrived at the Tule Lake Project to assist in the establishment of a mail and files procedure that would conform to that used in the Regional Office.

The main difficulty at Tule Lake seemed to be the routing of incoming mail. I found that all of the mail was sent to the Project Director for his review, then to the Administrative Officer, and after they had finished it was distributed to the various divisions. This delayed the delivery of the mail to the pertinent divisions and was causing considerable confusion in the office.

Telegrams were being received on the postal printer, five copies made and delivered to the Project Director's desk for routing. Since this system did not seem to be working to the satisfaction of all concerned in the office, it was agreed that they should be indexed with the original routed to the proper division or section for handling, and one copy made for the Project Director's information.

During a discussion with Mr. Shirrell and Mr. Niesse, we agreed on the proposed indexing of mail and routing to the division or section according to the subject matter, eliminating the prior review by several people.



Regional Files, 110 (General) Wash., D. C.  
Miyamoto

Letter from Fryer to Myer  
August 12, 1942

Attitudes expressed on the project indicate that serious objection will be raised to our accepting the services of conscientious objectors.

The presence of these people on projects will only complicate matters and will reduce materially, the respect of the evacuees for the administration. Furthermore, from a standpoint of public relations, it occurs to me that it would be highly undesirable for the War Relocation Authority, as a government agency interested in Japanese and aiding them in their return to normal civilian life--especially the citizen group--to become too closely associated with conscientious objectors. It was, primarily, on this basis that the Farm Security Administration declined to permit the assignment of conscientious objectors~~to~~ to its migratory labor camps.

Frankly, I believe that our load is heavy enough. We would only be adding to our troubles, if we accept for service within the camps, objectors to War Service, in most of whom there is an absence of any sympathetic attitude.



Regional Files .002 Wash. D.C.  
Miyamoto

Bulletin No. 12 San Francisco, California  
July 17, 1942

From E. R. Fryer to All Employees

Subject: Personal Transactions with Evacuees.

It is directed that the relations of personnel of the War Relocation Authority with Japanese evacuees be confined to official business, and that no personal business be carried on either directly or indirectly between personnel of War Relocation Authority and such evacuees.



June 15, 1942

Mr. E. R. Fryer  
Regional Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel Building  
San Francisco, California

Dear Sir:

After holding many discussions with the staff, I have broken the central WRA region into two parts. The North Central region will include Wyoming and Colorado and other nearby States, east of the Pacific region, which might come into the picture as a result of additional evacuation. The Delta region will include the States immediately adjacent to Arkansas, with only two projects for the time being.

Each of these regional offices--one at Denver and one at Little Rock--will have not more than forty employees headed by a regional director in the P-7 grade. The bulk of the personnel will be in procurement, accounting, personnel, transportation, and related work. For example, the Denver office will have only one P-6 man on agriculture and industry; only one on community management, with one assistant on health and one on education.

In other words, the Denver and Little Rock regional offices are project-management offices, operating within policies laid down from Washington.

Joe Smart, formerly FSA Assistant Regional Director at Denver and more recently Assistant Chief of the FSA Resettlement Division in Washington, will be in charge at Denver. E. B. Whitaker, formerly with the Arkansas Extension Service and more recently FSA Assistant Regional Director at Little Rock, will be in charge at Little Rock.

It seemed to me that it would not work to have the Shoshone and XY projects, or the Desha and Chicot projects, go all the way to San Francisco for service of supply and related affairs. I'm sure we in Washington could not handle the projects direct.



Your office will continue to be more than the Pacific regional headquarters. Since General DeWitt is authorized to deal with branches of the Army outside the Western Defense Command on all matters essential to evacuation, it follows that you must represent WRA as a whole in dealing with General DeWitt and Colonel Bendetsen. Further, all movement of Japanese for months to come will originate in your region, and all requests for recruitment of Japanese for seasonal agricultural work will affect your office.

While Smart and Whitaker are responsible directly to me, I shall encourage them, in expediting all work, to get directly in touch with you on problems that cut into your field or that must be taken up with General DeWitt or Colonel Bendetsen.

Another thing: Major policies are being shaped daily. Most should be settled within the next four to six weeks. It follows, therefore, that your office and the Washington office must work together very closely in getting all fundamental policies shaped up and put in writing. I'll issue these from Washington and make them applicable to the three regions.

Should we encounter German and Italian evacuation of a degree that requires a relocation project, I think we will go to the Delta country.

The budget estimates indicate 156 positions for your office. I hope these will go through Congress without change. Even so, I hope you can stay well below the 156 maximum because we did not provide in the estimates for the Denver and Little Rock offices. You might re-survey your situation and determine whether you could release a few people to Denver and Little Rock. For example, you may have a few extra men in the Lands Division when site selection is completed. If you do, please take the matter up with Smart and Whitaker.



At one time I considered the possibility of your office being moved to, say, Salt Lake City where it would be in a better position to manage all projects. I finally decided against that for two reasons: First, you obviously must be in San Francisco until all Japanese are moved to relocation centers; second, I feared that many employees, including Bob Cozzens, would resign in view of the fact that they own their homes in San Francisco.

By the way, your records and mine differ slightly on relocation projects. For the time being let's have all records corrected to the following:

Parker	20,000
Manzanar	10,000
Tule Lake	15,000
Gila	15,000
Beardsley	15,000
Minidoka	10,000
Utah	8,000
Shoshone	10,000
XY	7,000
Desha	10,000
Chicot	<u>10,000</u>
	130,000

This is sufficient to take care of the following evacuees:

Now in assembly and relocation centers	100,000
<del>For</del> zen in Area #2	15,000
Voluntary evacuees who will probably seek refuge at centers	5,000
From Hawaii	<u>10,000</u>
	130,000

Should we not actually reach these numbers (for example. if evacuees



are not brought from Hawaii) we will simply spread out a little thinner in all centers--we might make a large reduction at Manzanar. Should we have to plan for additional evacuees from Hawaii, then I think we will establish a third project in Arkansas; the Wilson school lands, suitable for rice production, will accommodate 5,000.

What is the situation at Gila? Was construction started on the third 5,000? Please wire me about this or remember to speak to ~~me~~ about it on the tactical line.

Our appropriation hearings begin today at 10:00 a.m. We simply cannot afford to lose a penny. We are defending a very tight budget. For example, we have thus far been allowed only 45 cents per day per person for food. The Army cost is now up to 62.37 cents a day.

Sincerely

/s/ M. S. Eisenhower

J Director



June 19, 1942

Mr. Samuel M. Dodd  
Chief Budget Examiner  
Bureau of the Budget  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Dodd:

I have separately brought to your attention the fact that in modifying the appropriation language recommended by the War Relocation Authority for submission to Congress the Budget Bureau omitted a provision regarding the transfer of employees. I should like to call to your attention one additional modification made by the Budget Bureau which we feel is of serious concern to the Authority.

Our recommended language provided for:

"payments, in the discretion of the Director, to States or political subdivisions thereof, or other local public taxing units, of sums determined by the Director to be equitable in lieu of taxes against real property under the control of the Authority or for the performance of governmental services required in connection with the administration of the program."

This was modified in the recommendation of the Budget Bureau to read:

"payments to States or political subdivisions thereof, or other local public taxing units, of sums in lieu of taxes against real property acquired by the Authority for the purposes hereof."

We should like to secure authorization from the Budget Bureau to request the Appropriations Committee informally to consider the addition of the following language to the clause just quoted:

"or payments for the performance of governmental services required in connection with the administration of the program."

Our reasons for submitting our original language and for reopening the question now are these; in virtually every area we have selected



for relocation centers we are bringing into the framework of local government a very much larger number of people than have been provided for heretofore. The law enforcement agencies, local courts, coroner's office, and other agencies of local government will be required to assume greatly increased burdens imposed by the presence of the evacuee communities. At the same time the tax base on which the local agencies of government are maintained will not be increased. The language recommended by the Bureau of the Budget will permit the Authority to reimburse units of local government for loss of tax revenue resulting from our purchase of land but will not permit us to contribute to the increased cost created by our bringing in large numbers of people. In fact, there is danger that the authorization will be construed as permitting us only to make payments in lieu of taxes which have heretofore been ~~assessed~~ assessed against lands that were in private ownership and have been acquired by purchase or condemnation by the War Relocation Authority. In most of the areas in which we shall operate this would permit no payment whatsoever since we are occupying land which was at the time of our initiating a project already in public ownership.

This problem is serious in every location but it is immediately critical in Inyo County, California in which the Manzanar project is situated. That project was started by the Army. Local people claim that definite commitments were made that no additional expense would be put upon the county as a result of the bringing in of the evacuees. They claim now that the Government has acted in bad faith because their courts are burdened with criminal and civil actions and other agencies of local government feel the pressure created by the evacuee community, yet while the War Relocation Authority has now taken over the management of the Manzanar Project, it has no authority to bear any of the additional costs. One of our most serious problems in local public



relations is greatly aggravated by this fact.

Authority to pay not only sums in lieu of taxes but also such other costs as are imposed upon local government units by the evacuee communities is essential to solution of our public relations problem at Manzanar. It may prove in most locations to be essential to proper community management, since without assumption of a fair share of the local government expenses by the War Relocation Authority, we may not be able to secure necessary local government services in the States and counties in which relocation centers are established.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

Director



June 25, 1942

Hon. Millard Tydings  
United States Senate

Dear Senator Tydings:

As requested in your letter of June 1, 1942 to Mr. Milton S. Eisenhower, I am submitting material to outline the organizational structure of the War Relocation Authority and define the functions of each organizational unit.

This includes three charts, one each at the Washington, Regional and Project levels. The Regional and Project charts show both organizational breakdown and functional descriptions. Please note that all details of administration are carried on at these levels, while a small Washington office is maintained to establish policies in keeping with the war program and the policies of other Federal agencies, and to exercise general supervision over the work of the organization. An outline chart for the Washington Office is enclosed, together with a statement giving the functions of each unit in more detail than space on the chart would allow.

Figures for the total number of employees as of the close of business June 23 are:

Washington	64
Regional	144
Project	79

Our organization as planned will include the Washington Office, three Regional offices, and thirteen projects. On projects every effort will be made to train and use Japanese in administrative positions with compensation at the regular rate for evacuees, and so cut down as far as possible the number of Caucasian Americans employed under civil service.

Sincerely,  
/s/ D. S. Myer



Regional Files Wash. D. C. .002  
Miyamoto

Memo from Stancliff, (Manager, Industrial Division) to R. B. Cozzens  
June 25, 1942

Subject: Food for Caucasian workers on the project

The first time I was at Manzanar I had luncheon at one of the regular Japanese mess halls, together with the other Caucasian workers on the project. While the Japanese at adjoining tables were eating their usual diet, we were served large steaks and rather an elaborate meal with special service.

It is my opinion that this custom has been discontinued since Mr. Nash has taken complete charge of the project.

It is quite possible that a policy has been established regarding this matter, but it seems to me that while Caucasian workers are eating in the same mess hall with the Japanese they should eat the same type of food and have the same type of service. If there is to be any difference in the diets of the Caucasian and the Japanese workers, they should be served in a separate mess hall. Under normal conditions, it seems to me that all the food on the project through the various mess halls should be the same; otherwise, bitterness will grow in the minds of the Japanese, and, I think, justifiably so.



June 26, 1942

Mr. Joseph H. Smart  
Regional Director  
War Relocation Authority  
c/o Office for Emergency Management  
Denver, Colorado

Dear Mr. Smart:

1. The purpose of these instructions is to furnish field guidance in the establishment of a regional office.

2. Basic considerations in the establishment and operation of the regional office are:

- a. THE RELOCATION CENTER IS OF FIRST IMPORTANCE. The regional office justifies its existence only to the extent that it provides competent personnel, essential services of supply, subsistence and transportation, and the necessary guidance and supervision to each relocation center within the geographical limits of the region.
- b. The regional office is assigned coordinating functions in order that maximum advantage may be taken of the facilities, products, personnel and experience of one relocation center to supply and assist other centers within the region or between regions.
- c. Strict economy in the expenditure of funds and maximum effort to place relocation areas on a self-supporting basis at the earliest possible date are imperative.
- d. Each member of the regional staff must realize that his duties are facilitating. He is to furnish guidance through the Regional Director to the project. If and when the necessity arises, he must be ready to carry on operative duties at any relocation center within the region on a temporary or semi-permanent basis in order to insure efficient administration of the particular center.



3. As soon as the Regional Director has established an office and has secured the necessary minimum of clerical help and office supplies, recruitment of personnel must begin. The first consideration is Project Directors. These persons should be selected with specific projects in mind. However, applicants should understand that the assignment to specific projects is within the province of the Regional Director. To assist the Regional Director in the further recruitment of personnel, it is desirable that either the Regional Principal Administrative Officer or the Procurement Officer be hired at an early date. In addition, the Regional Chief, Public Works and Agricultural Division, should be selected as early as possible.

4. The filling of positions on the regional staff and project staff should continue simultaneously. As a general policy no additional personnel, except stenographers, should be employed in the regional office unless the appointees have expressed their willingness to accept project assignment. Emphasis should be placed upon project recruitment. However, when circumstances appear to ~~require~~ require the appointment in the regional office of someone unwilling to accept a project assignment, if necessary, approval of the Director of War Relocation Authority is required.

5. Approved charts for project and regional offices are maximums as far as number and grade of personnel are concerned. The rate at which project and region are staffed to full strength should depend upon actual needs, and upon the utilization of personnel hired for projects but available at the region. Under no circumstances should this rate depend upon the fact that positions are authorized on the charts.



6. All personnel actions involving positions in P-4, CAF-11 and above must be approved by the Director of War Relocation Authority; and all personnel actions involving positions with an entering salary of \$2,000 or more per annum, when promotion includes an advance of more than one grade, also must be approved by the Director of War Relocation Authority. Under no circumstances should definite commitments be made to any personnel on appointments which must be cleared with the Director before final appointment.

7. In the recruitment of project staffs, Project Directors should be consulted whenever practicable and should be permitted to assist in the selection of personnel to be employed under them. The following project positions should be filled at an early date: Project Steward, Head Storekeeper, Motor Pool Superintendent, Assistant Project Director, Senior Administrative Officer, Principal Fiscal Accountant, Senior Procurement Officer, Superintendent of Education, Senior Medical Officer, Senior Engineer and Farm Superintendent. When no qualified person can be found to fill a given position without an unjustifiably large promotion, a position carrying somewhat less than the full responsibility of the approved position may be established at a lower grade than the approved grade. For example, if no qualified Assistant Project Director can be found for a given project, and it seems administratively desirable to fill the position with someone generally qualified, but lacking experience and training for the full grade, a position at CAF-12 may be established and filled by someone who will carry the working title "Acting Assistant Project Director". This procedure should be used only when efforts to secure a fully qualified person have been unsuccessful.

8. While the recruiting of personnel is continuing, the project



staff may be utilized to assist in the operation of the regional office; to assist in further recruiting; and to familiarize themselves with the work which they are about to undertake. All such personnel should read the compilation of memoranda by Lt. Com. K. D. Ringle on "The Japanese Question in the United States", and other policy and fiscal instructions issued by the WAR Relocation Authority. All personnel should be supplied with a file of Administrative Instructions of the Director's office of War Relocation Authority. During the same period, whenever practicable, requests should be made to the Washington office for authority for senior division heads to visit relocation centers which are in operation in other regions.

9. Project personnel can also make up lists of equipment needs and should be informed of the equipment and property which is initially placed on the project. The Transportation and Supply Division should be fully informed as to the motor transportation and the motor maintenance equipment which will be furnished; also, the Mess Management Section should be fully posted as to the subsistence system and sample menus which in general should be followed. The entire mess problems should be thoroughly considered and such assistance as is necessary should be obtained from regular Army personnel on duty with the War Relocation Authority in order that the scheme of supply and mess is thoroughly understood.

The Administrative Division should be thoroughly conversant with the fiscal forms and procedures of the War Relocation Authority and the methods of purchase in emergencies and by telegraphic bids.

During this same period, the regional office should make contacts with other governmental agencies and with officers in the region and initiate the exploratory work in the fields of manufacture, private employment, education and public health.



10. Usually the Project Directors and/or their assistants are required to be at the project during the construction period. During this time daily reports should be made to the region and estimates of requirements submitted. The Regional and Project Directors should both secure such assistance as may be needed in order that a fully developed plan, supported by estimates, may be prepared before the arrival of any evacuees. As soon as these estimates and plans have proceeded to a point where definite needs can be foreseen, the region should submit consolidated estimates of requirements and funds to the Washington office.

11. Throughout the entire period, the Regional Director should insure that all the personnel at the region and on the projects are acquainted with reports of progress and other pertinent matters of general interest. Reports should be submitted to the Director by air-mail, or by teletype if an Office for Emergency Management Office is located in the same city as the regional office.

Very truly yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director



June 30, 1942

Memo from Elmer L. Shirrell to Mr. Harvey M. Coverley

"We are encountering some difficulty with several groups of our colonists, some of whom are citizens of the United States, some are citizens but were educated in Japan and others are not citizens. A few of them show a defiant attitude, particularly toward the work program.

The Tentative Policy Statement of May 29, Page 27, Paragraph 3, would seem to indicate that such an evacuee, if all other methods fail, might be deported to another relocation area if he refuses to work. Would there be any possibility of deporting to such an area those who are incorrigible, trouble makers, who refuse to cooperate, etc. Does the Regional Office plan for some type of restraining institution devoted to such groups? Until we can know, we are somewhat in the dark as to how far we can go in our discussions with these people.

We had a little disturbance in the village last night that threatened to be serious but was nipped in the bud. The Japanese Council is handling it. We do not anticipate any further trouble from these individuals. However, we have already spotted some professional gamblers and know we shall have to be prepared to take rather stern measures to hold them in check.

I would appreciate an early reply on this matter.



Regional Files, Wash. D.C. .002  
Miyamoto

Letter from Durbin to Warren  
July 3, 1942

"Pursuant to our telephone conversation of July 1st am enclosing herewith the correspondence discussed with you at that time.

I would appreciate it very much if you would furnish us with the name of the individual or designation of the office of the WCCA who furnished Mr. Pringle with the information mentioned in paragraph 2 of his letter.

This matter has been discussed with the WRA and for your information you are advised that at no time has either the WRA or the Wartime Civil Control Administration issued any directive which would prohibit the free trade of evacuees with any business establishment, chain store or otherwise. We do have a restriction on the storage and cooking of foodstuffs in evacuees quarters. However, there is no restriction against their procurement so long as they are stored and prepared in established kitchens within the center.

Should you have brought to your attention any specific example of non-conformance with the above outlined policy of the WCCA, I would appreciate very much being informed so that appropriate action may be taken for correction.

*From Major W.F. Durbin, Q.M.C.*

*To Mr. L.G. Warren  
Safeway Stores Inc.  
Oakland, Cal.*



Manzanar, Cal  
July 11, 1942

Mr. E. R. Fryer  
Regional Director, W. R. A.  
Whitcomb Hotel  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Sir:

I desire to submit the following suggestions to your kind office for consideration as governing policies for W.R.A. camps:

I. Nisei, only, should be block leaders: As the nazi is again taking the offensive on the Russian front and Japan lands troops on the Aleutian Islands, Issei are talking loudly that "Victory for Japan is nearer." The enclosed copy of notes I made at the Manzanar Block leaders council meeting is self-evident. that all Issei block leaders, with one exception, are openly showing their pro-Japan feelings. These tendencies will germinate fifth columnist activity within camps. Therefore, I believe that block leaders should be Nisei. The majority of Nisei want to stay in America and their actions will be governed accordingly. Of course, this procedure will exclude pro-democratic Japanese nationals, and there are many, from participating in the self-government councils directly; however, the method of voting should be by secret ballot thus giving those friendly nationals a chance to vote for pro-America Nisei. If only Nisei are allowed to run the self-government body, at most camps there will be more pro-American Nisei on the council and they will be able to argue against pro-axis Nisei leaders, because after all they understand the English language as well as the workings of American Institutions. Even if pro-axis Nisei are a majority in a council, there will still be an opportunity to discuss the American way of life and perhaps convince some of them for easier than a council packed with Issei as is the case at Manzanar. Also allowing only Nisei to be block leaders or councilmen (or women) and thus run the civic affairs of their communities would be one step towards recognition of their citizen rights. And will encourage them to become better Americans. This will dispel the attitude of most Nisei - "I was put in with enemy aliens - what's the use - don't give a damn." Certainly the evacuation of Americans of Japanese ancestry created much confusion and bitterness among Nisei and I think it is the duty of the government - in this case the W.R.A. - to try to correct the situation as much as possible.

II. Separate camps for lesser (not internable) enemy aliens: I believe that the government has made a serious error in putting American citizens of Japanese descent together with undesirable enemy aliens. I would say that 90% of the Issei are for Japan and no self-government democratic set-up will change their views. Again may I refer you to the notes on the block leaders meeting of July 10th. These will show that those Issei will never be on side of democracy - they are not dangerous enough to be interned but have certain amount of influence among camp residents and are a detriment to camp operations on a real democratic basis. Many of those who came back from concentration camps are also undermining the morale of camp people. I gather from various sources that they are saying that concentration camps have better living conditions than evacuation camps and Nisei should not work on camouflage nets, etc. In this connection I am taking the liberty to quote from a letter I received from a friend at the Santa Anita Assembly center (his name is available if authorities want to question him): "Situation here became decidedly worse since several persons who were released from Montana and New Mexico came to live with center residents . . . There are strong suspicion they were under some sort of



guidance on the question of demanding investigation of camp conditions by 'neutral' minister - namely Spanish. I suspect here sinister hands of fifth columnists. I simply cannot understand why Attorney General Biddle released these men. If he did not know of the effects and influence these people might exert upon other center residents, he was politically ignorant. If he did, and still released them then he is either purposely encouraging anti-American fifth columnist elements or he has in mind other purpose, i.e., to use these elements as decoys to get the bit fish."

There is another group which has the privilege of coming and going into camp and bring all sort of stuff to their members - they are Catholic and Protestant priests. Most of them have been in Japan and their sympathies are not only with the Japanese but also the Japan empire. On March 29th, Dr. Smith, Protestant, stated in Japanese at church service "Japanese soldiers are very strong because they have YAMATO DAMASHI (the soul of Japanese empire). They are glorious fighters." He also stated that during his visit to Montana concentration camp he acted as interpreter for Alien Hearing Board and he noticed that majority of them are innocent. Father Levery (Catholic) told Tom Takeyama that 99% of those interned Japanese are innocent. The camp people are saying that many big shot Japanese were released because churches interceded and guaranteed "good character" of those interned people. On March 23rd aboard train to Manzanar, one Kibei - Hawaiian born Jichi Uyemoto loudly talked in Japanese that "we ought to have enough guts to kill Roosevelt. President is a damn fool, etc." - I was sitting three seats behind him and told him "to shut up or you'll go to Montana concentration camp." Father Clement (also Catholic) told Uyemoto, in Japanese, "don't worry I will go to Montana with you." On March 24th, I related this incident to the WCCA personnel but nothing has been done. Therefore, I feel that if at all possible separate camps be set aside for undesirable Japanese nationals.

The question then arises "what to do with Kibei majority of them are pro-Japan"? I believe that since they are Americans the only course left is to place definite charges against them and try them in the Federal Court. The Federal authorities have been too lenient to anti-American pro-axis activists, such as in case of Uyemoto. I will cite a few more that need weeding out as undesirable people in this camp on June 22nd, Frank Nobuo Hirozawa, Kibei, who was sent here from Santa Anita Assembly Center as a Guayule expert, told Obigane, "don't go to work on camouflage nets. You will get T.B." Another Nisei named Wilson Kaku, 25 years old, told me loudly, "those who work on camouflage nets are damn fools. U. S. Government is bunch of crooks, etc." Two Nisei went from house to house in block # 2 telling residents, "not to work in camouflage or else." The policy of camp right now seems to be to call them in and give them a lecture. In my opinion these fellows are attempting to interfere with national defense - they are abusing freedom of speech and morale in camp will be lowered if situation like this is not halted.

III. Americanization: Are we the evacuees to stay as good peaceful residents in evacuation camps and no attempts be made by the government agency to make us better citizens of the United States? I think the tendency in the camp is soft-peddling of everyone regardless of their loyalty or disloyalty to America and no recognition of Nisei citizen rights and friendly enemy aliens is made. Altho the Japanese population in the U.S.A. is 120,000 and 80,000 of them are American-born, evacuees are a product of this war and special consideration and effort should be made to bring them up as good citizens. What will happen to them when war is over? No one knows. However, I know that more good xxxxxx Americans in



evacuation camps will bring better relation with the American public. Issei don't want their children to become good Americans, for the most part. Some want to teach Japanese to the children "because Japan will rule California." There are very few Nisei who realize consequence of post war. Most Nisei are young - average age is 19 - and are busy with baseball, etc. instead of attending block meetings. Therefore, initiative should come from the top for program of Americanization. The U. S. Government is partially responsible for chaotic state in evacuation camps. There is the tremendous task of both spiritual and physical rehabilitation for democratic America. Nisei must be guided, not with words along but with deeds, so they can be assimilated into America as her builders.

IV. Increase of Cash Allotment: The present allotment to evacuees is very small. So far the WRA is not supplying clothing and other necessities for minors and heads of large families with many minor children are unable to buy enough clothing, shoes, etc. I don't believe in the dole system however some allowance should be made to non-working families. Increase of present cash allotment will definitely raise the morale of camp residents and will make it easier to carry on Americanization program. As to National defense projects - such as camouflage nets - why not enlist them in a Work Corps and pay them the army scale? Those who work on national defense projects must be American citizens and some recognition should be made for those citizens who work on national defense projects.

V. Public Relation: Experienced men - in minority problems - should be assigned as Public Relations men. One who undertakes this task must know difficulties and desires of Japanese evacuees. He should have close contact with churches, unions, clubs, press and public officials and be ready to assist and supply material for defense of Japanese such as in the case of the suit brought by Native Sons. It is not a pleasant job, for anyone, when this country and Japan are at war. Defense of loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry and pro-democratic Issei should be a full time job for public relations man. When they are confined to camps and some organization or press attacks their loyalty to this country who will speak for the rights of the Japanese people?

\*\*\*\*\*

In general, I think operation of camp is satisfactory in spite of many shortcomings, thanks to the democratic government of the United States. More and intelligent understanding of Japanese evacuees will bring idea of American way of living among us. Healthy gestures on the part of W.R.A. will win the evacuees confidence and cooperation. We the loyal Americans of Japanese descent are not disappointed in the American form of government, which recognizes everyone's right and is fighting for the four freedoms - freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom from want and freedom from fear.

Respectfully yours,

/s/ Karl G. Yoneda

Block Leader #4

4 - 2 - 2

Manzanar, Calif.

Copies to:

R. Nash, Manzanar, Calif,

Dillon Myer, Washinton, D. C.



AIR MAIL

July 14, 1942

Mr. E. R. Fryer  
Regional Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel Building  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Fryer:

There is enclosed herewith a copy of a letter from Assistant Secretary of War McCloy to the Honorable Norman H. Davis, Chairman, Central Committee of the American National Red Cross, dated June 19, 1942. You will note that because of unfavorable publicity in certain magazines, the Assistant Secretary of War has deemed it advisable to request the American Red Cross to make a thorough survey of the entire Japanese evacuation, and particularly living conditions in the temporary centers.

In connection with this survey, we believe it desirable that the same Committee of the American Red Cross follow the same procedure with reference to our relocation centers. Yesterday, the Red Cross was furnished with the necessary credentials to be presented to you prior to their visit to our relocation centers.

I understand that Mr. Harry A. Wann, Assistant Administrator of the Services to the Armed Forces of the American National Red Cross, will be in charge of the party making the survey. He will be accompanied by four persons; one who will inspect housing; one, medical services and supply; one, feeding and clothing; and one, social service. Mr. Wann, himself, will survey education and general administration.

The American Red Cross desires to visit all of our relocation centers which are in operation, in accordance with the schedule, which will also include the assembly centers. It is my hope that conditions at Manzanar will be such that they can visit there also. If you believe this unwise, will you please communicate with me before discouraging



the party from going to that center.

Perhaps it will be wise to have someone from the region accompany the party to our relocation centers and to obtain their reactions and impressions as the survey is made. However, this detail will be a matter for you to decide. I am especially anxious that the reactions of the party be favorable to the work we are doing in the relocation centers, and that the difference between the conduct of the assembly centers and the relocation centers be outstanding.

Very truly yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director



Memorandum

To: The Director

Date: July 27, 1942

From: The Solicitor

Subject: Eligibility of the evacuees to receive unemployment compensation benefits

Bob Frase asked us to look into the question of the eligibility of evacuees to receive <sup>unemployment</sup> compensation benefits under the unemployment compensation laws of the States of their original residence during the period that they are out of work in assembly centers and relocation centers. Many of the evacuees had become entitled to such benefits under their respective State laws, and if they had continued to live in their respective States and then lost their jobs, they would have been eligible to receive benefits.

In order to obtain unemployment compensation benefits, the claimant is required by law to be "available for work." The fact of evacuation probably will not destroy the right of the evacuees to unemployment compensation if they are "available for work" while in the assembly centers and relocation centers.

The Federal Security Agency has well established relationships with the several State unemployment compensation commissions. Moxley Featherston of this office, discussed with Miss Bernice Lotwin, Assistant General Counsel of the Federal Security Agency, the question of the eligibility of the evacuees for benefits. Miss Lotwin stated that if we would send a letter to the Administrator of the Federal Security Agency stating the employment opportunities available to the evacuees, the Federal Security Agency would assist in presenting to the appropriate State people the essential facts relating to the eligibility of the evacuees to receive unemployment compensation benefits and in protecting the rights of the evacuees in that connection. Moxley has worked with Bob Frase in preparing the attached letter for that purpose.



Office of the Director

July 28, 1942

Mr. E. R. Fryer  
Regional Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel Building  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Fryer:

Several of the members of our Washington staff have expressed an interest in seeing the circular letters, administrative instructions and other material issued from your office to the projects. At the present time I do not believe we have a complete set of such material in our files.

I would therefore appreciate your sending us all back copies of this material and would suggest that you make arrangements to have a copy of all future circulars and instructions mailed both to this office and to the Office of Reports for the attention of Mr. Baker.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director



Regional Files, 513, Tules, Wash., D.C.  
Miyamoto

Letter from Western Defense Command and Fourth Army to Walter T. Tsukamoto  
July 28, 1942.

Reference is made to your letter of recent date regarding the family allowances of the Wartime Civil Control Administration program and stating that considerable ill feeling exists in the project wherein you now reside because the former residents of Sacramento and Marysville Assembly Centers failed to receive such allowances.

You are advised that allowances were not received by the residents of Sacramento and Marysville Assembly Centers for certain specific reasons. In setting up a program of allowances it was necessary to take a number of steps. A number of these steps preceded approval by the War department of the program; and it was until there was approval that funds were made available. Then it became necessary to set up the mechanics of the operation. While these mechanics were being set up the entire was again reviewed.

It was found that the need in some Centers was greater than the need in others; and it was decided that whatever the circumstance no funds would be distributed once residents of an assembly center were transferred to a relocation center. This decision was made because War Relocation Authority, a civilian agency of the Government - and not the Army - became the responsible agency once a transfer was made. At that time it was also decided that in the event transfer was made prior to any distribution of funds that such allowances were not retroactive.

On this basis of need funds were distributed. The reason the residents of the Marysville and Sacramento Assembly Centers failed to receive allowances was because their need was not found to be so pressing as was the need of residents in other Centers; and, their transfers took place prior to completion of the mechanical requirements of distribution.



Regional files 513, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Letter from Japanese Council of Tule Lake Project, Walter T. Tsukamoto,  
to General DeWitt,  
August 8, 1942

You will please find enclosed certain correspondence between the Japanese Council of Tule Lake Project, War Relocation Authority, Newell, California, dated July 22, 1942, and reply thereto by Major W. F. Durbin, Asst. A. C. of S., C.A.D. on the subject of the W.C.C.A. program of family allowances to alien Japanese evacuees and Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Persons of Japanese ancestry residing in the City of Sacramento were evacuated to the Walerga Assembly Center commencing May 12, 1942, and evacuation was completed on or about May 16, 1942. Approximately 4,800 persons were finally evacuated to Walerga.

Approximately 2,500 persons were evacuated to the Arboga Assembly Center near Marysville, California, by May 25, 1942.

At the time of the evacuation and subsequent thereto, the evacuees were promised certain family allowances as set forth in the enclosed copy of letter dated July 22, 1942. This announcement was made public and was thoroughly and generally published through the press and the radio and definitely promised that each evacuee and evacuee family would receive a monthly family allowance.

Upon the expiration of 30 days after the date of the original evacuation, and at numerous times prior thereto, residents of each of these Assembly Centers made demands upon the Center Manager for distribution of family allowances and on each occasion were advised to wait; that upon completion of the necessary printing of scripts and auditing in connection therewith, the scripts would be issued to them.

The same explanation was given regarding the payment of earned wages, and it is significant that although not one cent was paid prior to the relocation of Center evacuees to the Tule Lake War Relocation Project, said wages were paid by the WCCA approximately 2 weeks after transfer to Tule Lake.

With reference to the reply of Major Durbin that family allowance payments to evacuees from Walerga and Arboga were not paid because: 1. "the need in some Centers was greater than the need in others", and 2. "in the event transfer was made prior to any distribution of funds that such allowances were not retroactive", we desire to respectfully call your attention in reply to 1 above, that no survey or investigation of Center evacuee residents was ever made either by the Army or by the Center Managements of Walerga or Arboga which could be made the basis of any comparison of the relative "needs" of evacuees residing in the numerous Assembly Centers in the Western Defense Command. It is the Council's studied opinion that the cross section average economic status of evacuees in any assembly center is no different from others. That in any event, no such difference exists with regard to the "needs" of evacuees from Arboga or Walerga on the one hand, and the needs of evacuees in other assembly centers.



Regional Files 513, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

(Tsukamoto's letter contd.)

Replying to 2 above, the records will speak for themselves. Major Durbin states that "no funds would be distributed once residents of an assembly center were transferred to a relocation center" and that payments could not be made where "their transfer took place prior to completion of the mechanical requirements of distribution" AND YET funds in payment of wages were delivered to Tule Lake two weeks after transfers were completed. If funds in the form of wages can be paid after transfer is completed, the theory of inability to pay because such payments would be retroactive is contrary to the actual facts, and there appears to be no reason why funds in payment of family allowances cannot be similarly made.

The Council which is composed entirely of adult American citizens (of Japanese ancestry) feels morally certain that a promise on the part of their Government either from Washington or through its executive officers is a sacred trust, and that if the facts were to be respectfully presented to higher authority, a complete and thorough investigation will be made to the end that my legitimate obligation owing to these evacuees will be completely discharged.

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Letter from Major W. F. Durbin to Tsukamoto  
August 15, 1942

Your letter dated August 8, 1942, addressed to the Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army has been referred to this office. As has been pointed out in previous correspondence, the matter which concerns you has been given careful consideration and the decision reached has been in the negative. There has been no change in that decision.



Regional Files 513, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Memo from Fryer to Shirrell  
Aug. 25, 1942

I write to thank you for keeping me informed of actions taken by the Tule Lake Council with respect to the controversy about WCCA family allowance payments to evacuees from Sacramento and Marysville Assembly Centers.

While I readily sympathize with the position taken by Tule Lake evacuees from these two assembly centers, I must, nevertheless, state WCCA's position. Family allowances were established as a relief measure. They were granted to those cases requiring relief and were never considered as compensation.

.....

Memo from Shirrell to Fryer  
Aug. 7, 1942

I attach herewith a copy of correspondence between the Tule Lake City Council and the W.C.C.A.

I stayed politely out of this argument because it did not concern the project. However, the argument is waxing pretty hot and the Council, at its meeting Wednesday night, desires to take action. After the letters were read to them they expressed the feeling that they were being given a decided "run around" by Major Durbin.

They have therefore instructed Mr. Tsukamoto to take the whole matter up with General De Witt.

I felt you should know what is happening as questions might be asked of the Regional Office.



Regional Files, 513, Tule, Wash., D.C.  
Miyamoto

Letter from Legal Aid Department, Tule, to WCCA  
July 22, 1942

At a meeting of the Tule Lake Project Council held on the evening of July 21, 1942, representatives of certain groups formerly evacuated to the Sacramento Assembly Center at Walerga and Marysville Assembly Center at Arboga requested the said Council to investigate the WCCA program of family allowances.

Evacuees formerly residing at the Pinedale Assembly Center and the Tanforan Assembly Center stated that they were given the following family allowances: \$2.50 per month per adult person, \$4.00 per month per married couple, and \$1.00 for each additional minor child under the age of 16 years, with a maximum of \$7.50 allowance per family.

Considerable ill feeling exists here by reason of the fact that whereas other Centers were paid these allowances, residents of Walerga and Arboga received no allowance whatever. The said representatives, representing 4,800 persons from Walerga and 2,500 from Arboga, have requested an explanation of this situation.

The next Council meeting will take place on July 28, 1942, and your early reply explaining the foregoing situation will be deeply appreciated.



Regional Files, 513 (Tule) Wash., D.C.  
Miyamoto

Appeal to President from <sup>Community</sup> Japanese Council at Tule thru Legal Aid Department  
August 31, 1942 (received)

In the matter of family allowances promised to Japanese and Americans of Japanese ancestry evacuated by the Western Defense Command and the Fourth Army

This appeal is respectfully directed to you as President of the United States and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces to alleviate a situation arising as a direct result of Executive Order No. 9102 and amendments thereto.

Petitioners, the Community Council of the Tule Lake Relocation Project, War Relocation Authority, Newell, California, hereafter called the Council, and members thereof, each of whom are citizens of the United States, respectfully show:

I.

That on or about May 12, 1942, all persons of Japanese ancestry including citizens of the United States, residing in certain portions of Northern California, were evacuated to the Walerga Assembly Center in Sacramento County, California, and Arboga, Yuba County, said state.

II

Persons of Japanese ancestry residing in other portions of the Pacific Coast were likewise evacuated to various other assembly centers.

III

Where evacuees generally were paid family allowances as set forth in the schedule announced by the Wartime Civil Control Administration, evacuees of the Walerga and Arboga assembly centers were discriminated in this regard, and said payments were denied to them. In this connection, reference is hereby made to a copy of a letter dated July 22, 1942, addressed by the Legal Aid Department on behalf of the Tule Lake Project Council to the Wartime Civil Control Administration, which said letter is attached hereto and is designated "Exhibit A" and made a part hereof.

IV

That on July 28, 1942, a reply was received by the said Council from the Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Division of the Wartime Civil Control Administration, denying the request of said evacuees for payment of family allowances on the ground (a) that the comparative need in Centers other than Walerga and Arboga was found to be greater and that therefore family allowances were not paid to the Walerga and Arboga Assembly Centers, and (b) that payments of allowances could not be made retroactively. A copy of said letter is hereto attached and designated "Exhibit B" and by reference made a part hereof.

V

That the Council, after a careful investigation among evacuees from Arboga and Walerga Centers as to whether or not an actual survey of the needs or conditions was ever made amongst them, found that no such survey or inquiry had ever been made. That payment of wages earned by said evacuees during their residence in Assembly Centers was delayed in every instance until approximately two weeks after relocation of said evacuees from the Assembly Centers to the Tule Lake Relocation Project. A letter of appeal to this effect was mailed under date of August 8, 1942, from the said Council to Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt, Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army. A copy of said letter designated "Exhibit C" is hereto attached and made a part hereof.

VI

That on August 15, 1942, a short, and as the Council feels, incomprehensible reply was received by the Office replying in the first instance. A copy of said letter designated "Exhibit D" is likewise attached hereto and made a part thereof.

VII

Said Council feels that this matter was not given either careful or due consideration by the Wartime Civil Control Administration or by the Office of the Commanding General and feels that a more complete and comprehensible reply should be given in answer to the Council's letter of August 3, 1942, in that evidence or other data used by the



Appeal to the President, cont'd.

Wartime Civil Control Administration in denying family allowances to the two Assembly Centers on the one hand and in granting this type of allowance to evacuees in other assembly centers should be specifically set forth in answer to said letter of August 8, 1942 ("Exhibit C").

#### VIII

That the action of the Wartime Civil Control Administration in denying equal relief, privileges, and allowances to such evacuees was needlessly discriminatory and unAmerican and that this discrimination has resulted in amoral breakdown of such evacuees. That the said Council feels that a thorough and complete investigation into this matter should be made by your office, and a comprehensible reply or adjustment made in the premise.

WHEREFORE? Petitioners pray that this matter be reviewed by your office to the end that this discrimination may be eliminated and corrected.

Dated at Newell, California, August 25, 1942.



July 29, 1942

Mr. Paul V. McNutt  
Administrator  
Federal Security Agency  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McNutt:

This office has received information to the effect that the agencies charged with the administration of the unemployment compensation laws of the States of California, Washington and Oregon have held that the Japanese who have been evacuated from the Pacific Coast military zones are not entitled to unemployment compensation while unemployed in assembly centers and relocation centers. We are informed that the principal basis for this decision was a determination that the evacuees are not "available for work" within the meaning of the unemployment compensation laws of their respective States.

The determination that the evacuees are not "available for work" was apparently made without complete information concerning the employment opportunities that they may accept. We have discussed this problem with Miss Bernice Lotwin, Assistant General Counsel of the Federal Security Agency, and she has suggested that we send you a statement of the War Relocation Authority's policies that are relevant to a determination of the eligibility of the evacuees for unemployment compensation.

The War Relocation Authority now has under its administrative direction three relocation centers to which evacuees have been removed. Seven other centers are in the process of construction. In the relocation centers which are now ~~in the process of construction~~ in operation, there is a wide variety of employment for which all able-bodied evacuees are eligible. The work which is available includes the maintenance and operation of the centers, the development of agricultural lands, the construction of irrigation facilities, and the operation of



farming enterprises. Some manufacturing is being conducted. The evacuees receive as compensation for their work, cash payments in addition to subsistence, medical care, hospitalization and educational opportunities for themselves and their dependents. The entire program for the relocation centers is designed to be as self-supporting as possible, with work opportunities for all able-bodied adults. In the early stages of the program, many of the evacuees will be unemployed but full employment is the objective of the Authority.

In addition to the work opportunities available to the evacuees within the centers, many of them are eligible to accept private employment outside the relocation centers. While in private employment, the evacuees, of course, retain their earnings but they are required to pay the Government the actual cost, exclusive of administrative expense, of the subsistence and related items for their dependents who remain at the centers. Arrangements for the private employment of the evacuees are of two main types, employment of single families or individuals and employment of groups of evacuees.

Under procedures which have just been instituted, individuals or single families who are American citizens and who have not lived in Japan are permitted, after investigation, to leave relocation centers to accept any type of employment outside the area encompassed within the Western Defense Command. Later, on the basis of this experience, it is contemplated that other evacuees who are not eligible under these procedures may also be permitted to leave the centers to accept employment.

Arrangements for the private employment of groups of evacuees are handled under different procedures. Recruiting is conducted by the United States Employment Service in accordance with the conditions set forth in the attached mimeographed statement. Approximately 1,600



evacuees have been recruited from assembly centers, relocation centers and Military Area No. 2 for agricultural work and are now engaged in work on farms in Eastern Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Utah. These persons will probably remain in such employment for the remainder of the agricultural season and additional workers will be recruited for similar work during the fall harvest season.

Some of the evacuees who accept private employment may remain outside the centers for several months and may eventually become unemployed. They will then be available to accept any work that they are able <sup>to</sup> obtain. If they become unemployed within the period during which they would otherwise be entitled to benefits and if they do not disqualify themselves in a manner specified in the applicable State statute, we can see no reason why such persons should not receive benefits under the laws of the States in which they formerly lived.

Most of the evacuees are now in assembly centers to which they were removed shortly after the issuance by the Army of the exclusion orders. The assembly centers are under the administrative direction of the War Department. In the assembly centers some of the evacuees are employed, mainly in the preparation and serving of food and the maintenance and operation of the centers. The evacuees within the assembly centers are also eligible for group employment under substantially the same conditions as relocation center residents.

In view of the various types of work opportunities that the evacuees may accept, a blanket ruling that all evacuees are ineligible for unemployment compensation on the ground that they are not "available for work" does not appear to be justifiable. All of the evacuees are available for work within the centers of which they are residents. They are available for private employment outside the centers subject only to



certain limitations which have been imposed by law due to military necessity and, in most instances, through no fault of their own. The only limitation on the availability for private employment of American citizens who have not lived in Japan is that the place of employment shall be outside the area encompassed within the Western Defense Command. Group employment within most of that area for all the evacuees is permitted subject to the conditions set forth above.

We believe that it would be much more equitable to have the availability for work of each claimant determined upon the basis of the facts involved in his individual case. Otherwise, many evacuees who could accept work and who would eagerly do so will be denied compensation<sup>to</sup> which they are probably legally entitled.

We should appreciate your assistance in presenting to the appropriate State agencies the facts relating to the employment opportunities that are available to the evacuees and in obtaining an equitable consideration of the claims of those who are unemployed. Some of the evacuees have now been unemployed for as long as five months of the base period during which they would have been entitled to compensation. We should also appreciate an expression of your views as to whether the facts relating to the availability of the evacuees for work justify steps to preserve their rights pending further negotiation with the appropriate state agencies.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director



July 30, 1942

CONFIDENTIAL

To: Elmer M. Rowalt, Assistant to the Director

To sum up the thoughts which have come to me as a result of our conversation this afternoon, it seems to me that inorganizing the work of the WRA, the following courses are open to us:

- (1) To move the Washington office to some central location in the field to direct all relocation centers; consolidate with the Washington staff the staffs of the Little Rock, Denver, and San Francisco offices; to set up the evacuee property function on the West Coast in somewhat the same relationship to the central office as the relocation centers would occupy; retain in Washington a small liaison office for supplying information to the public and making necessary routine contacts with other agencies.
- (2) Use the present regional set ups to establish staff and complete the relocation centers, but manage all administrative action with a view to discontinuing all three regional offices when evacuation to the relocation centers has been completed. In this plan it would probably be necessary to establish field representatives of certain divisions, such as the Employment Division and the Evacuee Property Division, at strategic points in the field. This plan would involve an increase in the Washington office which presumably would be provided by selecting as many as possible of the personnel now in regional offices.
- (3) Consolidate the three present regional offices into a single field operating office at some central location with relation to the centers, retain the present Washington staff to determine over-all policy and assume general responsibility for field work. (In my judgment, this plan would inevitably develop into plan No. 1 above, with considerable doubt arising as to whether the Director in Washington or the Field Director in the field operating office were actually in charge of the work.)
- (4) Combine the existing regional offices in Little Rock and Denver at an appropriate point to direct the projects at ~~San~~ Cody, Granada, and in the Arkansas delta; increase somewhat the plan for the reduced region which was worked out for both Denver and Little Rock, and reduce the San Francisco staff to the same size and composition,



except for such additional positions as would be necessary to carry the Evacuee Property and Fourth Army liaison responsibilities.

(5) Adopt a combination plan based on proposals 1 and 2 above; that is, until evacuation is completed, operate a managerial office at some point with the Director and his present staff members actively in charge and residing at the location until the completion of evacuation. Then withdraw the entire office to Washington and operate as under plan No. 2. (It may be too late to follow this proposal, but looking back at the position in which we found ourselves last March, it now seems to me that this would have been the best procedure.)

I agree with your feeling that at the moment we are drifting, so far as organization is concerned. Certainly, after spending a week in Little Rock I don't think the decision to allow Little Rock and Denver to operate as regional offices, with staffs supplied by Washington or by the employment of personnel who will receive eventual project assignments, is likely to be very satisfactory. At any rate, if we are to go ahead on such a basis, we ought to begin immediately to define what the functions of the Little Rock and Denver offices will be after the projects have been occupied. Mr. Whitaker is thinking in terms of employing two over-all assistants at \$5600 each and he has two specific men in mind, but he also has in mind, I think, performing virtually all the functions of a regional director but somehow doing it without a staff. One reason, in my judgment, that we seem to be drifting is that we have not determined precisely the eventual functions of the Denver and Little Rock offices and I might add, of the San Francisco office following the occupation of all the centers.

Leland Barrows  
Executive Officer

LBarrows:OD



August 9, 1942

Mr. M. S. Eisenhower  
Deputy Director  
Office of War Information  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Milton:

Concerning the letter of July 29 from Carl Crow to Elmer Davis, I think it can be assumed that the Japanese in the Relocation and Assembly Centers are receiving newspapers as are those of us on the outside.

If the Office of War Information considers this good propaganda procedure we would be glad to cooperate. I do not feel very strongly about it one way or the other.

Likewise, if the Office of War Information feels it can secure information in the Relocation Centers which would be valuable in the broadcasts to Japan we would be very glad to cooperate. I am slightly skeptical about the policy of having evacuees in the centers make broadcasts; however, I am open minded on the subject.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myer

Director, War Relocation Authority



Regional Files 004.2 Defense Migration 1942 Wash., D.C.  
Miyamoto

Letter from Myer to Nash, Head, Shirrell, Smith  
August 10, 1942

Congressman Tolan informs us that requests from evacuees in relocation centers and assembly centers for copies of the reports of the Congressional Committee investigating defense migration, in particular the evacuation of the Japanese, have been so numerous that the demand for individual copies cannot be met.



Regional Files 711, Wash. Dc  
Miyamoto

Potal Telegram from Elmer Shirrell to Joe Hayes

August 15, 1942

IN ACCORDANCE WITH INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED ME BY FRYER ONE WEEK AGO <sup>8</sup>SHES HAVE BEEN  
PURCHASED FOR ISSUE TO EMPLOYEES IN HARD OUTDOOR LABOR; COVERED BY NEW REGULATIONS  
ON CLOTHING ALLOWANCES WHICH I shall annouce on my RETURN TO TULE LAKE.  
IN THE MEANTIME IT IS URGENTLY NECESSARY THAT TULE LAKE EVACUEES DO NOTHING  
WHICH WILL IN ANY WAY DISCREDIT THEM. THEY HAVE ESTABLISHED AN EXCELLENT RE-  
PUTATION FOR LOYALTY WHICH I KNOW WILL MEAN A GREAT DEAL TO THEM TO WRA AND  
CREATE A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE WHOLE EVACUEE PROBLEM. PLEASE KEEP ME  
ADVISED.



Regional Files 711, Wash. D<sup>C</sup>  
Miyamoto

Memo from Shirrell to Fryer  
Aug. 25, 1942

Our Mr. Eric E. Eastman, Chief of Agriculture and Industry, informed us today that our farm workers are a little restless and concerned about the clothing and shoes so vitally necessary for their labor in the field.

Our requisition TL-122 covering this material was forwarded to you on July 22, and we will deeply appreciate your advice on the status of this order and when we may expect the clothing so urgently needed.

Some clothing from our army surpluses have been allotted to a few, but we are most concerned over boots, shoes, etc., of which we have none available.



Regional Files 471, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Memo from Fryer to Lt. Col. Foy  
June 5, 1942

Under Transfer Order No. 3, evacuees of the Sacramento Assembly Center, totaling 4,811, will be moved to Tule Lake beginning June 15 at the rate of 1,000 persons every two days until movement is completed. Under Transfer Order No. 4, evacuees of the Marysville Assembly Center, totaling 2,353, will be moved to Tule Lake beginning June 24 at the rate of approximately 500 persons each day until transfer is completed. This will bring Tule Lake census on July 6 to approximately 9,264.

In checking these movements with Mr. Shirrell, he has advised us by wire dated June 4 as follows:

"Retel total estimated evacuee population 2111 June 6. Are we to expect any arrivals between June 6 and June 15. If not population at end of Marysville evacuation Sacramento evacuation will be 6911 and at end of Marysville evacuation at June 29, 9264. We have mattresses for 10,000; cots for 6000, blankets for 4000, kitchen equipment for 5000. Urgent medical needs are autoclave, anesthetic machine, hospital kitchen and laundry equipment, 6 doctors, 40 nurses, one pharmacist, one laboratory technician, and one anesthetist. If all supply needs are brought to 9264 strength and medical personnel and equipment needs satisfied, we can receive Sacramento and Marysville evacuees."

Will you take whatever action is required to supply Tule Lake with additional cots and kitchen equipment required. I am referring the need for medical equipment (autoclave, anesthetic machine, and hospital kitchen and laundry equipment) to Doctor Thompson.



Regional Files 471, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

June 17, 1942

Project Director  
Tule Lake Project

Attention Chief Steward

As instructed in letter of June 9 Requisitions for August subsistence  
are requested forwarded to this office immediately

C Boyd Smith  
Supply Officer  
War Relocation Authority  
Frisco



Regional Files 471, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Memo to Shirrell from Fryer  
Undated, about June 10, 1942

Under the terms of the "War Relocation Authority Tentative Policy Statement," which motivated my letter to you of June 8 suggesting that you enter a requisition for clothing for enlistees, such clothing should be limited to "outer work clothing and footgear."

It would be our interpretation that the following items would be applicable for purchase. Head gear (hats), work shirts, work trousers, work shoes, work socks, sweaters or jackets, as climatic conditions warrant.

Items which might be considered as refinement above the actual necessity (such as underwear, mufflers, etc.) should not be purchased for issue.



Regional Files 471, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Letter Memo from R. J. Yust, Subsistence Officer, to Rachford, with  
attention Stulz  
June 23, 1942

Effective June 29, 1942, the Commanding Officer Quartermaster Market  
Center, 510 Battery St. San Francisco, will make all purchases of  
perishables formerly procured locally by you for the Tule Lake War  
Relocation Project.

We have been so informed by Lt. Galliday of the Quartermaster Market  
Center today. Therefore, all contracts for local purchases of peri-  
shables that you may have been making are to be terminated as of  
June 29, 1942, so that duplication of purchases may be avoided.



Regional Files 471, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Teletype from Shirrell to Fryer, attention Petrie  
June 26, 1942

BY BORROWING HEATING STOVES FROM THE MILITARY AREA AND CAPTAIN WILKES OF ARMY ENGINEERS PURCHASE OF ~~XXX~~ 100 FROM THE CONTRACTOR WE CAN HANDLE REMAINDER OF MARYSVILLE EVACUATION IF FIVE BLANKETS PER PERSON ARE SHIPPED TO US. AFTER MARYSVILLE EVACUATION WE CANNOT RECEIVE UNLESS HEATING STOVES CAN BE TRANSFERRED AS CAPTAIN WILKES CANNOT OBTAIN ANY MORE TEMPORARY STOVES. REQUEST IMMEDIATE STEPS BE TAKEN TO SHIP TEMPORARY STOVES FROM MARYSVILLE AND SACRAMENTO ASSEMBLY CENTERS.



Regional Files 471, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Memo from Fryer to Shirrell  
July 1, 1942

There are some new developments in connection with the initial supply of blankets by the Quartermaster which should be made known to you.

As you know, the evacuees were advised in the control stations to take personal bedding with them. The intent of the Army in making an initial supply of all items is merely to provide the minimum with which operations can be initiated. In the case of blankets, they determined that an initial supply of three per person for 70 percent of the total census should be adequate. If the Regional Office failed to advise you that this was the case, then your existing shortage is in part our responsibility.

We are advised that the WCCA cannot entertain a request from us for an increase in the blanket allowance for Tule Lake. If additional blankets are to be provided for your use, then they will have to be purchased by the War Relocation Authority.

It might be well for you to submit a requisition if you can determine what your shortage will be. Your total allowance will be 33600, or 2100 per 1000 individuals.

There is no inclination here to disparage your needs, but there is increasing difficulty in securing Army supply items of the type and quantities which we should like.

Is there any possibility of meeting a part of your shortage by a quick survey of their use by the block managers? Without question, there are some blankets which could be replaced by evacuee owned blankets ~~which~~ and perhaps some local redistribution in numbers would make additional ones available. The balance can be requisitioned for purchase; but since woolen blankets contain critical materials, we hesitate to purchase more than are absolutely necessary.



Regional Files 471, Wash, DC  
Miyamoto

Memo from Yust to Shirrell  
July 7, 1942

We have taken care of your requirements of perishables <sup>the</sup> for/week of July 14 to 21, and they have been forwarded to the Quartermaster Market Center for delivery.

Will you please send in your requirements from July 21, to 28, and from 28th to the 31st immediately? Also, we should like you to submit your September requisitions, following the procedure outlined in our Circular Letter No. 26, so that these requisitions will be in our office not later than July 15, 1942.



Regional Files 471, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Letter from Col. Foy, QMC, Chief, Service Supply, to Commanding Off.  
California Quartermaster Depot.  
July 11, 1942

Confirming telephone conversation between Mr. R. J. Yust and Major  
Brugger, regarding milk for Tule Lake War Relocation Project, Newell,  
California.

Milk is now being delivered to the Tule Lake Project on a daily  
basis, and there should be no reason for milk souring if it is consumed  
the same day it is delivered. ~~See~~

Copy of letter, received from the Tule Lake Project with reference  
to milk souring is inclosed, for your information.  
-----

Letter from Dr. Carson to Fryer  
July 7, 1942

When you were here on your tour of sanitary inspection, there was  
considerable discussion of the milk problem, particularly of pre-  
mature souring.

Following your departure, Doctor Murphey, of the California Public  
Health staff, and Doctor Sleath, here from the WRA office, made an  
official inspection of the dairy.

They found the dairy in generally good condition from a sanitary  
standpoint. They did, however, make some specific recommendations,  
one affecting the temperature of milk directly. We have found that  
the milk becomes warm in transit from Klamath Falls to the Project.  
As a consequence of this, the milk is sour within a few hours despite  
immediate refrigeration here.

It is, therefore, respectfully recommended that, through your good  
offices, arrangements be made with the milk contractors to ice the  
milk in transit or to use carbon dioxide snow or other means of keep-  
ing the milk at a refrigerated temperature until its arrival in the  
project.

Since this problem is growing more acute daily with the advent of  
very hot weather we, of course, will appreciate early action or other  
arrangement by your office to control this situation.  
-----

Memo from Yust to Shirrell  
July 14, 1942

We are in receipt of your letter of July 7 regarding milk control  
for your project.

We have contacted the California Quartermaster Depot at Oakland,  
California, and they have informed us that milk for your project will  
now be delivered daily and in the early morning hours. This should  
alleviate the problem of sour milk quite a bit. etc.



Regional Files 471, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Memo from Col. Foy to Shirrell  
July 23, 1942

We executed vouchers yesterday to pay for certain items of subsistence purchased by your project due to existing emergencies. This was arranged with the Depot for this particular time only and I wish to inform you that such practices will not be recognized in this office hereafter.

All subsistence must be requisitioned for thru the proper channels on the Quartermaster Depot.

In case it becomes necessary to procure subsistence due to one emergency or the other, your project has authority to make such procurement and pay for same out of funds which have been or should be allotted to your project for those purposes.



Regional Files 471, Wash. DC  
Miyamoto

Memo from Hall Stenz, Regional Procurement Officer, to Shirrell  
July 24, 1942

Because you have not indicated the number of people who are to use these uniforms (Requisition TL-95 - Shoes and Uniforms for Waitresses), and because you failed to state the length of time these are to last, it is necessary we reduce the amount by 50 percent. From all appearances you are making a request for from six months to a year in advance. It is obvious in an operation such as ours that only three months supply should be requested at one time.

In the future, when making requests of this type, we hope you will include a full justification and breakdown as to the number of people being furnished uniforms and where they are working.

We also ~~the~~ question the prices you have indicated because we do not believe that shoes can be obtained for \$2.00 per pair, or less.



Aug. 22, 1942

Mr. E. R. Fryer, Regional Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Whitcomb Hotel Building  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Fryer:

Your letter of August 6th, 1942 asked whether it would be advisable, in view of the contents of a recent letter addressed to Mr. Theodore H. Haas at the Colorado River Relocation Project by the General Council of the Federal Security Agency, to suggest to the evacuees that they apply for unemployment compensation under the provisions of the laws of the States of their original residence.

I am informed that the State agencies have held that the evacuees who have filed claims were not entitled to unemployment compensation. The decisions in such cases were apparently made without adequate information with respect to the employment policies of the Authority. I have sent to the Administrator<sup>or</sup> of the Federal Security Agency some information concerning the Authority's policies that are relevant in this connection and the Social Security Board, through its established channels for State relationships, will transmit this information to the appropriate State agencies. A copy of my letter to the Administrator of the Federal Security Agency and his reply are enclosed.

I suggest that it would be advisable for a representative of the regional office to discuss this problem with the appropriate agencies of the States of California, Washington, and Oregon. The discussions will afford an opportunity to present additional facts which may be needed by the agencies in considering the evacuees' claims. These agencies have much discretionary powers in the administration of the unemployment compensation programs of their respective States. They are authorized to prescribe regulations pursuant to which all claims are required to be filed. They are also authorized, in certain cases,



to modify some of the statutory requirements with which it would be difficult for the evacuees to comply. For example, the Washington and Oregon laws authorize the administrative agencies to waive a requirement that claimants report <sup>to</sup> an employment office each week in cases, or types of cases, with respect to which such requirement would be oppressive or inconsistent with the purposes of the laws. The California law authorizes the agency to designate and approve a place at which the claimants may report. In view of these facts, harmonious relations with these agencies would be very helpful in making arrangements for the presentation of the evacuees' claims.

Unless the discussions with the State agencies develop an alternative procedure, the Project Directors might suggest that the unemployed evacuees file claims if such evacuees believe they are entitled to unemployment compensation. In making this suggestion, the following points should be made clear:

(1) Each evacuee is entitled to have his rights determined upon the basis of the facts of his individual case. This means that some of the evacuees who are otherwise eligible for compensation may be in a more favorable position than others. For example, persons eligible to leave the relocation centers under the terms of Administrative Insutrection No. 22 are more free to accept employment than others who are not permitted to leave the centers.

(2) A person who is eligible for benefits is entitled to such benefits only for each week for which compensation is claimed. It will be necessary, therefore, for each evacuee to file a claim for each week during which he is unemployed.

(3) The decision of whether a particular individual is eligible



for compensation will be made by the State agency charged with the administration of the law under which the claim is filed and not the Federal government.

(4) Adverse decisions with respect to claims may be appealed. Such appeals, however, are required to be filed within the period prescribed in the statute under which the claim is filed.

If the State agencies, after receiving a full statement of the Authority's employment policies, hold that the evacuees are not entitled to compensation, it may be desirable for the Authority to assist some of them in arranging appeals. The Project organizations for providing aid to the evacuees may be helpful in this connection. It will be important, of course, to select for a test appeal a case in which the fact situation is as favorable as possible.

The Federal Security Agency is bringing this problem to the attention of its regional offices. The Regional Attorney of that agency and the Regional Attorney of the Authority should be able to be of material assistance in the negotiations with the State administrative agencies and in presenting the claims.

The base period during which persons eligible for unemployment compensation under the laws of these States may receive benefits is one year after the date of the beginning of the period of unemployment. Additional delay on the part of the evacuees in filing claims may result in additional losses of benefits. However, I am aware that filing large numbers of claims at this time might cause a serious public relations problem. The postscripts of your letter indicated that you question the advisability of suggesting that the evacuees



file compensation claims. If there are considerations which, in your opinion, make it undesirable to follow the procedure suggested above, I shall be glad to have you present your views before proceeding.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ E. M. Rowalt

Acting Director



C  
O  
P  
Y

September 14, 1942

AIR MAIL

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

Dear Mr. Smart:

We will do what we can on your proposed railroad spur for the Granada Project. I understand, however, that it is almost impossible to get approval for the use of railroad steel if any possible way of eliminating its use can be found.

I have asked Colonel Wilson and Leland Barrows to work on this and to discuss it with the Corps of Engineers, where, I understand, primary authority for the approval of the use of steel rails is exercised.

I might add that the problem at Granada is similar to that in a majority of our projects, so we will necessarily approach the problem from the point of view of the Authority as a whole. I will let you know as soon as we get definite information.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myer

Director

LBarrows:OD



Sept. 16, 1942

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

Dear Mr. McCloy:

As a part of the individual exclusion program now beginning on the East Coast and already under way on the West Coast, we believe there is a distinct possibility that within two or three months it may be necessary to establish two or three rather small camps. These camps would be for the purpose of affording accommodations and subsistence to persons who, having been evacuated from their former homes, find it impossible to obtain employment and who, as the result of exclusion, shall have become virtual outcasts in the community to which they go.

It is quite likely that it would be better for everyone concerned--the individual, his family, the community, and the Government--for food, shelter, necessary medical attention, etc. to be provided in a camp which would be entered voluntarily by persons who found their situation unbearable after evacuation. To meet this problem, we believe we must be prepared to establish, if the need materializes as we anticipate it may, from one to three camps with housekeeping staffs where individual evacuees--alien and citizen--could be cared for until they are able to reestablish themselves. Presumably, such camps should be located well back from the seacoast, possibly west of the Appalachian Mountains. Persons from the West Coast will normally move eastward, and if they desire to go to camps, might very well go as far as the Mississippi Valley. The central part of the United States should provide numerous opportunities for reemployment in activities not closed to such



persons by virtue of war restrictions. Therefore, it would appear desirable to explore locations for perhaps three camps, such locations to lie somewhere between the Appalachian Mountains on the east and the tier of States comprising Iowa, Missouri, and Arkansas on the west.

It would seem that CCC camps located on Federal or State land would offer suitable facilities for these camps with a minimum of new construction and other expense. It is my understanding that most of the CCC camps have been transferred, or are being transferred, to the War Department.

I should like to inquire as to the availability to the War Relocation Authority of three CCC camps to serve the need I have outlined. To expedite reaching a decision on which specific camps would be most suitable, I should like to suggest that a list of 15 to 20 200-man CCC camps in the general area indicated be made available to us for detailed study with the objective of selecting three for transfer if the need materializes.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director



UNITED STATES SENATE  
Committee on Commerce  
September 17, 1942

C O P Y

The Honorable Philip M. Glick  
War Relocation Authority  
Barr Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Glick:

I have been advised that Mr. Robert A. Leflar has been  
appointed Attorney for the Japanese Relocation Projects in Arkansas.

I would appreciate <sup>it</sup> if you would advise me upon whose recommenda-  
tion Mr. Leflar was appointed and how this selection was made. I  
do not recall endorsing him for the place.

Please do not take this letter as an objection to Mr. Leflar.  
I would like to know the situation regarding his selection.

Kindly mark your reply "Personal."

Very truly yours,

/s/ Hattie W. Caraway

d-



Spt. 18, 1942

Honorable Hiram W. Johnson  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Johnson:

The Secretary of State has forwarded your letter of September 7, 1942, inquiring about steps which have been taken to protect American citizens of Japanese ancestry who had property for which they were paying in installments. It gives me pleasure to report to you briefly on the manner in which property belonging to the evacuated persons has been handled.

During the early days of the evacuation, the Federal Reserve Bank assumed responsibility for protecting the interests of evacuees insofar as town and business property was concerned; the Farm Security Administration assumed responsibility for property interests of the evacuees where farm land, crops, farm equipment, livestock, etc. were involved. These two agencies continued to perform these functions until the evacuees reached our Relocation Projects, when their functions were transferred to the War Relocation Authority. Since some of the personnel was transferred from the Federal Reserve Bank and the Farm Security Administration to the War Relocation Authority, there has been continuity of administration.

In some instances the evacuees were able to make satisfactory disposition of their property before evacuation; in others power of attorney was assigned to a bank, or to a lawyer, or to a friend. But it was made known to the evacuees that an appropriate government agency would render all possible aid in disposing of property by sale, lease, or through some other means, always with the evacuee owner making the final decisions as to disposition.

Automobiles were sold privately or were sold to the Army, which



purchased them at standard rates. Farm equipment has been much in demand, and much of it was sold to the new operators of the land. Household goods, for the most part, was stored at government expense, and is being shipped to the families who owned it, at the relocation centers.

Farm land on which payments were being made for the most part was leased or sub-leased to other farmers, so those evacuees who owned land still may be able to derive an income with which payments may be continued. City property, and it includes houses, apartment buildings, business property of all kinds, insofar as possible is being leased or rented from the evacuees. Household goods being purchased on installments in some instances was turned back to the original purchaser, but usually the offices of the government agencies were used to arrange that an equitable return be made to the evacuees; in some instances, the "freezing" authority delegated by the Secretary of the Treasury was invoked to prevent injustice being done to individuals who otherwise might have been forced to lose substantial equities in their property.

There is no question that some of the individual evacuees suffered losses in disposing of their property, particularly when they attempted to make such disposition immediately upon publication of proposed evacuation. It may be that losses will be sustained under the more deliberate handling of property which this agency is able to provide. However, it is our intention to see that, to the best of our ability, all settlements are fair and equitable.

If we can provide you with further information, please command us.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director



Sept. 23, 1942

Hon. Harold D. Smith  
Director, Bureau of the Budget  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Smith:

The following information is submitted at the request of Mr. Dodd for your use in considering the request of the War Relocation Authority for its first quarter apportionment:

PROJECT POPULATION

	<u>Manzanar</u>	<u>Tule Lake</u>	<u>Minidoka</u>	<u>Central Utah</u>	<u>Gila River</u>
Jul 1, 1942	9704	9038	-	-	-
Jul 15, '42	9732	10946	-	-	-
Aug 1, 1942	9855	15020	-	-	2110
Aug 15, '42	9912	15078	212	-	6549
Sep 1, 1942	9912	15078	3852	-	11566
Sep 15, '42	9912	15078	9921	3800*	11566
Oct 1, 1942	9912	15078	9921	7812	11566

	<u>Heart Mountain</u>	<u>Granada</u>	<u>Rohwer</u>	<u>Jerome</u>	<u>Colorado River</u>
Jul 1, 1942	-	-	-	-	9271
Jul 15, '42	-	-	-	-	11654
Aug 1, 1942	-	-	-	-	13261
Aug 15, '42	3000*	-	-	-	16323
Sep 1, 1942	6557	2090*	-	-	17664
Sep 15, '42	11184	4529	-	-	17664
Oct 1, 1942	12000*	7539	2500*	300*	17664

Approximately 45% of the population have been receiving cash advances at the rate of \$14 for the month of July and August, and \$15 for the month of September. The average daily per capita cost of raw food for all projects is approximately 41¢.

\* Estimated



In considering our request, the following facts should be borne in mind: (1) Food is ordered 45 days in advance. (2) Since submission of our estimate we have placed into effect a system of payment for unemployment compensation; further, a change in our policies on public assistance grants and clothing allowances will necessitate additional funds over those previously requested. (3) The War Relocation Authority has now assumed responsibility for handling of evacuee property. The expenses incident to this work were not originally included in our estimate. (4) As you know, there is now being undertaken a program of individual exclusion from certain areas on the east and west coasts. The expenses of operating this program were not included in our original estimate.

We shall be pleased to furnish you any further information which you may require.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director



Sept. 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 <sup>in</sup> 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 and return the copy to me. The letter will then constitute an agreement for the proposed assistance on the terms indicated.

Sincerely,

/s/ J. H. Provinse

Acting Director

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Soil Conservation Service

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)



October 20, 1942

Mr. D. S. Myer, Director

Attention: Mr. E. J. Utz

Dear Mr. Myer:

Since your departure from San Francisco we have given considerable thought to the possibility of operating the farming enterprise with in the relocation areas on a private enterprise basis. This appears to be a rather difficult and long drawn out procedure and then may not result in us securing the proper type of a person to operate such an enterprise. We are not attempting in any way to criticize the suggestion of this type of proposal but are attempting to point out a few of the pitfalls and problems which may exist. WRA would, we believe, be seriously criticized regardless of who the individual might be if he entered into an agreement to operate the farm lands as a private enterprise due to the fact that the individual would be furnished a definite labor supply while farmers adjacent to the area would not be eligible for such a labor supply in any of the areas in Military Zones 1 and 2.

To put such lands up for bid on a rental basis and cover all the problems involved between Indian Service, Bureau of Reclamation and WRA would again present many problems. The low bidder would, in all probability, not be acceptable to WRA due to the standpoint of labor relations. If we then made the selection of a desirable person someone we knew, we would be open for criticism as explained in the previous paragraph. Just how such an arrangement could operate satisfactorily in line with the subjugation which we are undertaking in the management of the project, is somewhat questionable. However, it does have merit and you may have the solution.

On the other hand, if it is possible for WRA to clear with the proper groups, it is believed that WRA has the personnel, the ability, and the equipment to satisfactorily operate the farming enterprise under their management if a scheme of distribution of profits could be worked out so that those who participate could receive more than the WRA wage scale. We further believe that such an operation would greatly decrease the cost of project operation to WRA, would provide the necessary incentive for workers, and would produce large quantities of high grade agricultural products that are urgently needed by both the armed forces and lend-lease. At present the Quartermaster is finding it difficult to secure produce on the west coast and has approached us concerning the purchase of produce from relocation areas. There are in excess of ten buyers attempting to buy produce from Tule Lake but under the present method of procedure it is difficult to secure proper grading or to get the produce from the farm to the cars. We are far behind in schedules and will have for you, within the next two or three days, a report on the loss which we will probably take this year through our inability to have crops harvested.

We have enclosed two reports, one for Tule Lake on crops that were planted this year and one for Gila on some crops that were planted and others that are anticipated. Considering Tule Lake, we believe



that the following would be true if we had the evacuees pay all expenses for equipment and materials needed to produce a crop and then, in addition, to pay their subsistence for themselves and families and their own cash advances:

1. Assume 500 workers are necessary for operation of the farm on an 8 months' basis.
2. Total income from farm and agricultural enterprise would equal approximately (gross annually)..... \$822,295.00
3. Expenses to WRA for all equipment, operating supplies, etc., would equal approximately..... 471,423.00
4. Balance which could be distributed after deduction of all expenses, cash advances to 500 workers, subsistence to 500 workers, and subsistence to their dependents..... 350,872.00  
Or an average to the 7,000 workers employed at Tule Lake of approximately (per month)..... 4.17

GILA: The Gila River Project presents a somewhat different picture, but assuming that the figures are correct and are taken on averages over a number of years, Gila should produce approximately \$1,230,000 worth of produce, making a deduction for profit on subsistence items, the total figure should approximate \$1,206,803. The estimated expense is \$655,344.00 which would show a net return of approximately \$551,459. Assuming the same number of workers for the Gila Project as on the Tule Lake Project, the profits would equal approximately \$6.00 per month for each member of the work corps. You will note that the figures on Gila appear rather large.

(This is due to the fact that there is double crop on much of this land when climatic conditions are as favorable as they are at Gila.

Our further thinking on this matter is that two items should be protected. One is that whenever the income from outside sources or enterprises operated by WRA will equal \$35 per month on an annual basis to members of the work corps, that sums above this figure be divided on a 50-50 basis between WRA and the work corps, said division to WRA to go as an offset against subsistence for all workers within the area. Further, at no time should the evacuee's earnings from WRA exceed more than \$50 per month, the base pay of a private in the Army.

We hope that these figures may be of some value to you in arriving at an early decision and that you will forward to us your findings and decisions as early as possible so that we may carry on further negotiations with buyers who are anxious to get needed produce, not only for lend-lease, but for the Army.

E. M. Rowalt, Acting Reg. Dir.



Memo from B.Y. Read, Colonel, A.G.D. to Commanding Generals  
May 28, 1942

1. Prior instructions on the subject of functions of military police units at the assembly centers and relocation centers for Japanese evacuees are rescinded and the following instructions are substituted therefor:

a. Purpose of the evacuation center. The evacuation center has been established for the purpose of caring for Japanese who have been moved from certain military areas. They have been moved from their homes and placed in camps under guard as a matter of military necessity. The camps are not "concentration camps" and the use of this term is considered objectionable. Evacuation centers are not ~~separate~~ internment camps. Internment camps are established for another purpose and are not related to the evacuation program.

b. Operation of the evacuation center. The center is operated by civilian management under the Wartime Civilian Control Administration, Headquarters Western Defense Command and Fourth Army. A civilian director is in charge of each center. Civilian police available will be on duty to maintain order within the camp. The civilian police are responsible for the search of individual evacuees and their possessions for contraband. The civilian police are responsible for the escort of visitors and evacuees throughout the camp. The camp director is responsible for all means of communication within the camp.

c. (1) Functions of Military Police at evacuation centers. The military police are assigned to the center for the purpose of preventing ingress or egress of unauthorized persons and preventing evacuees from leaving the center without proper authority. The assembly centers in the combat area are generally located in grounds surrounded by fences clearly defining the limits for the evacuees. In such places the perimeter of the camp will be guarded to prevent unauthorized departure of evacuees. The relocation centers are generally large areas of which the evacuee quarters form only a part of the center. Those centers may have no fences and the boundaries may only be marked by signs. At such centers the military police will control the roads leading into the center and may have sentry towers placed to observe the evacuee barracks. The balance of the area may be covered by motor patrol patrols. The camp director will determine those persons authorized to enter the area and will transmit his instructions to the commanding officer of the military police. The camp director is authorized to issue permits to such evacuees as may be allowed to leave the center.

(2) In case of disorder, such as fire or riot, the camp director or interior police are authorized to call upon the military police for assistance within the camp. When the military police are called into the camp area on such occasions the commander of the military police will assume full charge until the emergency ends. The question of the disposition of unmanageable evacuees is not a responsibility of the military police.

(3) The commanding officer of the military police is responsible for the black-out of the evacuation center. A switch will be located to permit the prompt cut-off by the military police of all electric current in the camp. He will notify the camp director of his instructions relative to black-outs.



(4) The commanding officer of the military police is responsible for the protection of merchandise at the post exchanges furnished for the use of the military personnel.

(5) Enlisted men will be permitted within the areas occupied by the evacuees only when in the performance of prescribed duties.

(6) All military personnel will be impressed with the importance of the duties to which their unit has been assigned, the performance of which demands the highest standards of duty, department and military appearance.

(7) A firm but courteous attitude will be maintained toward the evacuees. There will be no fraternizing. Should an evacuee attempt to leave camp without permission he will be halted, arrested and delivered to the camp police.

(8) Commanding officers of military police units will be furnished copies of operating instructions issued to the camp director. They are required to maintain such close personal contacts with the camp director and his assistants as will assure the efficient and orderly conduct of the camp, and the proper performance of the duties of each.

By command of Lieutenant General DeWitt:

Signed B. Y. Read  
Colonel, A.G.D.  
Adjutant General

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Regional Files 510, Wash. DC  
Miaamoto

Memo from Kimball, Chief, Comm. Organization, to Fryer  
November 2, 1942

I have discussed with Mr. Shirrell most of the points made in this report. In our discussion of the general problems of Tule Lake he showed himself to be completely aware of the situation and of the need for taking the steps to remedy the conditions. Specifically we discussed the need for evaluating the present organization both as to its efficiency in operation and adequacy of personnel. Mr. Shirrell has already taken steps in this direction. We also discussed the need for establishment of devices which would permit a free flow of information from the administration to the evacuees and from the evacuees to the administration.

Tule Lake has now passed through its initial growing pains. The task of getting a community of 15,000 organized to do the essential jobs was tremendous. Our staff carried heavy burdens and there was confusion in lines of authority and responsibility since everyone had to pitch in to get things done. Much of this confusion has been straightened out but there remains the need for the administration to take stock and carefully define the working relationships of the personnel.



Regional Files, 109.2, Wash. D. C.  
Miyamoto

Letter from Sheriff Young of Salt Lake City to Rowalt  
November 6, 1942

I am enclosing a copy of a report <sup>that</sup> I made to Colonel Wm. A. Boekel on General DeWitt's staff, who is taking care of the investigation in the Civil Affairs Department of the Army.

This report was made after a conference with 400 Relocation and Army Officials in San Francisco, and I thought you might be interested, as it at least expresses our view of how the Japanese problem should be handled.

Naturally, it is very brief and possibly a little ambiguous, but I am sure that you can get the general idea of it.



Regional Files, 109.2, Wash. D. C.  
Miyamoto

Report from Young to Boekel  
October 12, 1942

~~For the purpose~~

For the purpose of illustrating the Japanese phase of the Evacuation and Relocation policies as now constituted and their effect on the individual citizen and society as a whole, I will use Salt Lake County as an example and start at the time present enemy activities were first noted.

Many months before Pearl Harbor officials of the F.B.I. began enlisting the cooperation of local enforcement departments to assist in the investigations pertaining to subversive organizations of the above mentioned "present enemies."

The Salt Lake County Sheriff's Office went on different occasions three of their officers to the F.B.I. school at Washington. Two of these officers subsequently joined the F.B.I. regular force as investigators. During this period and up to the present we have completed nearly two hundred separate investigations and have nearly one hundred additional assigned, some of these investigations require several days to complete. The reports of these investigations are turned over to the local F.B.I. chief as soon as completed.

The General deductions drawn by us from these investigations are that:

1. Our enemies have very complete organizations and plans. These groups are capable of expanding and executing prearranged plans for neutralization of our war effort.
2. The attitude of the principals involved is non-cooperative and obstructive to the development of a war spirit and a productive policy.
3. The Japanese are definitely regimented and are controlled by leaders tied in to organizations tracing to religious and military leaders of the Japanese Government. They rejoice at Japanese victories and in some cases are arrogant and have shown disposition to strike and possibly revolt.

There is a tendency to demand more all the time and to take advantage of the fact that there is a shortage of labor.

Their objective is to become sharecroppers on the farms abandoned by the whites, who are active in the war effort and to get a permanent foothold for as many of their race as possible.

4. There is indication that, agents of Japanese, regiment the individuals in assembly centers and deal with American agents and in some cases considerable amounts of money are involved in the deal.

The Japanese understand a language of direction and when loosely handled they soon learn to take advantage of this condition to advance their own interests to the limit.



## Report from Young to Boekel, cont'd.

I have been Sheriff of Salt Lake County for twelve years and naturally I have had opportunity to analyze the people who are affected by this problem. In the interest of the welfare of these people I am submitting to you my opinion of how it should be handled at this time. I realize there are many other opinions and I present mine for what it is worth.

The Americans definitely do not want the Japs to locate in their communities but they are desperate for labor and resort to almost anything to get it.

The better citizens hope to hold their farms intact to make them available for their sons after the war.

The Japs are splendid workmen and with their organization and regimentation they become very valuable to localities where labor is short.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Expression of Policy from Army Authority preferably, either advisory or authoritatively.

Policy should contain:

1. Advice or orders for all Japanese, German or Italian persons to realize at all times that we are at war with their countries and any act on their part that is not cooperative and in every way helpful in appreciating all officials problems and acting accordingly, would be considered at least an unfriendly act and could result in their being confined to Relocation Centers and being denied other privileges.
2. In the process of employing relocated individuals, the policy should be to impress on them that it is a distinct privilege for them to be allowed to leave and any attitude on their part to the contrary would be considered at least non-cooperative and should be considered in all appraisals of the status of these people when making decision on policy.
3. Local authorities should be contacted even if it is only to have them informed as to policies and objectives and to get their reaction.
4. Regulations and organizations that are set up should express the fact that they are necessary during the emergency and the problem ~~of~~ of rehabilitation in all its aspects must be postponed until the war is won.
5. There should be definite regulations maintaining control over individuals leaving relocating centers and rigid provisions for their return to the center when they finish their prescribed employment or should they quit, strike, or be found unsatisfactory for any other reason. The present policy of allowing the employment agency to transfer them from one employer to another is dangerous and will result in complete loss of control by the authorities.
6. We believe it should be the responsibility of all enemy aliens and citizens of enemy blood to make good with the American people



## Report from Young to Boekel, cont'd.

during the period of emergency and the final solution of the enemy problem following the war will be arrived at in accordance with the attitude and activities of all aliens and citizens of enemy blood during the war.

7. Permanent solutions of these problems cannot be arrived at during the emergency, all labor and intelligence should be directed to winning the war first and all policies should work to this end.



Regional Files, 109.2, Wash. D.C.  
Miyamoto

Letter from J.J. McCloy to Meiklejohn  
September 30, 1942

I have your note regarding the Japanese Relocation Centers in the Defense Zones.

I have just come back from the coast where I visited three of the camps. It was a most interesting experience, and some day I should like to tell you about it.

There are difficulties in redrawing the boundary zones at this time. The location of the camps do not particularly lend themselves to convenient redrawing ~~in~~ in the first place, and in the second place I think that until there is a real conflict of jurisdiction over substantial matters, there is no need for any such step. The Japanese in the Relocation Centers in the Defense Command will be permitted to leave the Centers, provided they do not remain in the Defense Zone, on exactly the same basis as the Japanese citizens in other areas. There will be no attempt to interfere with the administration of the Relocation Centers in the Defense Zones, at least until the point arises in which disturbances within the Camps assume proportions of military significance, which does not appear likely. I think, therefore, that the difficulty is much more theoretical than actual.

Although I am quite clear that the policy to be adopted is up to the War Relocation Authority to determine, I am doubtful about the wisdom of a widespread release of the Japanese at the present time. From my inspection of the camps and from talking with some of the administrators, I rather came to the conclusion that we would be missing a very big opportunity if we failed to study the Japanese in these Camps at some length before they are dispersed. We have not done a very good job thus far in solving the Japanese problem in this country. I believe we have a great opportunity to give the thing intelligent thought now and to reach solid conclusions for the future. These people, gathered as they now are in these communities, afford a means of sampling their opinion and studying their customs and habits in a way that we have never before had possible. We could find out what they are thinking about and we might very well influence their thinking in the right direction before they are again distributed into communities.

I am aware that such a suggestion may provoke a charge that we have no right to treat these people as "guinea pigs", but I would rather treat them as guinea pigs and learn something useful than merely continue to treat them, or have them treated, as they have been in the past with such unsuccessful results.

For the sake of the Japanese themselves, I would therefore wish that Dillon Myer would take some very long thoughts before committing himself to a principle of immediate and extensive release.



Regional Files, 510 Wash., D.C.  
Miyamoto

Letter from Kimball to Dr. Kneier, Urbana, Illinois  
Dec. 11, 1942

Dear Charley:

I expect you have heard by this time that the San Francisco Regional Office is to be no more. Most everyone here who is going to Washington is now busily engaged in finishing up the last details. Harvey Coverley is the Acting Regional Director. I have completed practically all of the necessary packing and other small things that need to be done and will leave for Washington next Tuesday.

I expect you have read about the flare-up at Manzanar. Out of the difficulty there will probably come a positive policy of segregation. This should prove very beneficial to most projects permitting them to rid themselves of the pro-Axis sympathizers and trouble-makers. The radio here last night announced that the pro-American element at Manzanar was being sent to a CC camp in Death Valley until arrangements had been made for their relocation in the eastern states. I think that if we can follow a positive policy of regarding those who are definitely pro-American by facilitating their relocation it will have a beneficial effect on the projects and will also be acceptable to the American public.

The Community Government work has proceeded nicely and very soon most projects will vote on their charters and establish permanent Councils. The relocation of the intelligent pro-American group is going to make community Government a much more difficult job but should still serve as a valuable instrument in project administration and in sifting out those persons who should be relocated.

Tule Lake adopted its charter and has elected its Council. Harry Mayeda whom you may remember as the most competent American at Tule Lake has been selected as Chairman.

Urbana is not far distant from Washington: at least when compared to San Francisco and I hope that I may see you at the W.R.A. offices there sometime when you are in the Capitol.



C  
O  
P  
Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
821 Pyramid Bldg.  
Little Rock, Arkansas

January 15, 1943

Honorable John L. McClellan  
Member of Congress  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator McClellan:

I appreciate your letter of January 11 in regard to the article which appeared in the Memphis Commercial Appeal under date of January 3. I am attaching a statement which was given to the press which, in my opinion, is as accurate as could be secured.

In addition to this information, I would like to tell you confidentially that the extreme shortage of labor, such as carpenters and plumbers, has slowed down the finishing of this Center by the War Department (United States District Engineers) to where it has taken twice as long to finish it as originally planned. They should have been out of the project on November 1. This is January 15 and the project is still not finished. No one is to blame for this. The War Department on the Pacific Coast insisted on moving these evacuees into the Center before it was completed. With the Japanese living in the center and hundreds of the contractor's workers working in there, they are constantly getting in one another's way.

The handling of this project is a difficult assignment. In my opinion, the personnel is patriotic, competent, and working awfully hard. As soon as the Center is finished, I believe the criticism will die down. Frankly, I think the people there have been so busy trying to get the Center completed that they have neglected to keep the people on the outside informed as to their problems, what the War Relocation Authority program is, and who the evacuees are.

I have known Eugene Rutland for a long time and he is a nice young fellow. The only way he could get anything in the



paper, however, was to write a sensational story. He is the only person who has ever been into the Center to investigate and did not come out feeling the job was being well done.

If there is any specific information you would like to have, this office is anxious for you to have it.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely

E. B. Whitaker  
Field Assistant Director

Attachment



Jan. 30, 1943

Mr. Wade Head  
Project Director  
Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Head:

You are already familiar with the War Department's announcement in Washington on Thursday of this week that a combat team of Americans of Japanese ancestry will be recruited by the United States Army for active service in a theatre of war.

This action is readily the most important development since the evacuation and relocation program was ordered almost a year ago. It is certain to affect all phases of WRA planning and in some respects, perhaps, our basic policies.

With this letter I am enclosing ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTION NO. 22 (REVISED) which was prepared after conferences with the War Department and is in harmony with the War Department's procedures governing registration for Army service. These instructions are for use in (1) registering male American citizens of Japanese ancestry at our centers who have attained age 17 and (2) registering all other persons, male and female, regardless of citizenship, who have also attained age 17. The registration will be compulsory except in the case of those who have requested repatriation.

When it became known that the War Department would make this registration of draft-age Nisei men, we decided to include in the registration all other adults, age 17 or more, as a means of speeding up our clearance procedure and with the object of providing a pool of workers, available for placement by WRA and the Manpower Commission in private employment including placement with companies working on war contracts, a matter in which the War Department is especially interested.

We believe that you should stress in your speeches before groups during this registration period that in addition to the opportunity for serving in the Army some citizen evacuees will be certified by a special inter-departmental board, composed of representatives of the Army, Navy, WRA and FBI, as eligible for work in war plants.

Please make it clear that we are not going to force people to relocate when they do not want to be relocated. The mass registration is to be accompanied by a greatly speeded up clearance system both in the WRA offices and in the FBI; we are changing from a "retail" to a "wholesale" basis of clearance. The rate of clearance will be changed from a few dozen per day to hundreds per day, and by the end of May, according to our present work schedule developed in cooperation with the FBI, everyone will have been cleared or denied clearance.



Letter from Rowalt to Head

Meanwhile, current requests for relocation should be sent to us as usual, even if this should mean some duplication.

The attached instructions set forth certain general procedures based on our conferences with the War Department. We are leaving the management of this program in your hands, knowing that the best way of handling it must depend on local situations. You will have to work out details with the team of Army personnel which will reach your center shortly.

The Army team to conduct the registration will include one commissioned officer, one sergeant of Japanese ancestry, and two other sergeants. The representative from your project who has been here in Washington will also be considered a member of the team. As a part of our courtesy to the Army representatives, we are asking that you accord them the same rate at the administrative mess as our own employees. Also, we are requesting that arrangements be made to accommodate them in our own administrative quarters. They should not be quartered with the Military Police. In several instances, we have learned, the sergeant of Japanese ancestry has relatives or friends at the project. If accommodations are available there and he should choose to stay with them, we would appreciate it if you would make the necessary arrangements.

Just now I am more concerned with the general significance of this undertaking than with procedural details and I should like to give you our own view of the import of the War Department's decision.

Most of all, this decision represents the successful culmination over the past several months of our discussions with the War Department in which we have urged that loyal Nisei of draft-age be taken into the Army. The decision has now been made, and it is now our serious responsibility to cooperate in every way with the War Department's representatives in the speedy, successful execution of the registration which is the first step toward formation of the combat unit. At the same time, please keep in mind the importance of the opportunity here presented to expedite the relocation program through this mass registration.

The registration must be given No. 1 priority. All other activities should give way to it to the extent that this becomes necessary. If, for example, after your discussion with the Army representatives you will find that all or a part of the schools should be dismissed to provide necessary space and interviewers, you should proceed to do so. Our only word to you is to plan the entire program carefully to the end that we will render a valuable service both to the Army and to loyal American citizens who have pleaded for their chance to share in the fight against the Nation's enemies.

Sincerely yours,

Rowalt