June 8, 1942

Producer's co-op.

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

710
Hare

Employment Division June 17, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. E. R. Fryer, Regional Director
War Relocation Authority

SUBJECT: Employment of Japanese evacuees

I am leaving this afternoon on the Streamliner, and I am sorry that I didn't get a chance to say goodbye and to talk over some of the things that I think are most important in the employment work. However, I will be back in about six weeks and I am thoroughly confident of the ability of Mr. Frase, Mr. McEntire, and Mr. Lee to carry on and develop the employment work out here.

What I am anxious to get back to Washington for, besides seeing my family, is to talk with Mr. Eisenhower about the possibility of outside employment for smaller groups or individuals. I see by a memorandum from Colonel Bendetsen that the Army is willing to release people from the Assembly Centers for outside employment provided it is beyond the limits of the Western Defense Command. Also, the Army is willing to allow permits for University students to go out of the Assembly Centers.

It seems to me that we should be equally as liberal. To my mind, the most important thing that can be done to benefit our Relocation Centers would be to allow those Japanese who have propositions for outside employment to take advantage of them freely. I am convinced that the great majority of the people will want to stay in the Relocation Centers for the duration of the War. There is a percentage of the more active ones who are just dying to get out of the Western area and to take advantage of jobs that they already have lined up. If we discourage such outside employment, it means that we have penned up against their will probably the most vocal and disillusioned of the Japanese. I am confident that all

work are not clearcut enough. The latter thing needs a considerable amount of study before we will get ahead very fast; the former thing I'm confident can be satisfactorily taken care of if we have a liberal policy toward outside employment.

I will see Mr. Eisenhower the end of this week, and hope to be able to persuade him, if he needs any persuading, as to the desirability of a liberal policy on departures for outside jobs.

In conclusion I do want to thank you for your kind reception to me out here. I have enjoyed working with you tremendously and am looking forward to being back with you in a few weeks for another stint of it.

(SIGNED)
Thomas Holland
Chief
Employment Division

THolland:VS 6/17/42

Regional Files516, Wash. DC
Miyamoto

Work Cop

Memo from Shirrell to Fryer
July 10, 1942

In Mr. Eisenhower's June 5th memorandum, C-5, under the section "Employment" states "The Relocation centers will be operated as non-profit community enterprises". We are asking you for additional information on this sentence and the accompanying paragraph because of the great number of questions which have been asked about the way in which project operations are going to be organized.

It appears that some, both evacuees and staff members, feel that the project operations are to be organized in a sort of cooperative. In answering questions at meetings on this subject, one is placed in a very real difficulty of not knowing just how far the policy of ccoperative organization and operation will be carried out in agricultural and industrial operations. It appears proper to ask the question whether these operations are expected to be organized as (a) producers cooperatives with the Japanese assuming a substantial amount of the responsibility of the organization and operations, (b) a government project operation with the primary responsibility for its organjzation and operation being assumed by the project personnel or (c) a type of organization and operation somewhere in between but with definite enough description so that many of the questionsnow coming to us from the colonists can be answered adquately.

This information will be of great aid to us in our educational program here and we will, therefore, appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible.

.....

Memo from Cozzens to Shirrell
Aug. 29, 1942

Your letter of July 10, relative to the cooperative nature of project operations was not answered immediately due to the fact that we knew all our project directors would be in the regional office for the conference.

Practically all of the questions asked in your letter will be covered by the administrative instructions in the near future.

July 24, 1942

To: Office of the Assistant Secretary of War

From: Director, War Relocation Authority

Subject: Manufacture of Tents by War Relocation Authority for the Army

ESTIMATE OF THE SITUATION

The following is an estimate of the situation relative to the above subject.

1. Informal discussions with personnel of the OQMG and the Jeffersonville Quartermaster Depot indicates a highly cooperative attitude and at the same time a hesitancy to make a definite commitment, presumably impelled by fear of labor organization resistance, Congressional criticism, and public resentment.

2. There is believed to exist a current shortage in plant facilities to meet current production requirements.

3. Tent manufacturing production schedules by private industry in some cases are not on time, by reason of:

(a) lack of basic materials

(b) lack of necessary sewing machine equipment or repair parts

(c) delays involved in acquisition, training and utilization of new personnel

(d) other related matters incident to the establishment of a new tentage manufacturing production line by private contractor, such as the wrong kind of sewing machine equipment in some instances.

4. The feasibility of the establishment of a WRA-operated, American-Japanese-manned, Government owned tent manufacturing plant at Tule Lake, California, within the jurisdiction of that War Relocation Center, equipped with suitable industrial second-hand sewing machines equipment procured from private industry or transferred from NYA or WPA surplus inventory for Army use, has been surveyed, investigated

and recommended by the following:

Roy I. Kimmel, Chief, Industrial Division, WRA, Washington, D. C.

E. P. Stancliff, Regional Director, Industrial Division, WRA, San Francisco, California

John W. Cull, Production Branch, Resources Division, Office of Director of Purchases, OQMG

Lt. Col. Hugh S. Harpole, Chief, Engineering Division, Jeffersonville Quartermaster Depot

Lt. Col. Roy E. Hughes, QMC, Liaison Officer, WRA

5. There is now in process of acquisition the required second hand industrial sewing machine equipment for the purpose above indicated, a building is in process of completion for this purpose, and the available evacuee Japanese-American help is considered adept and adaptable, ready and willing to perform a portion of this work for the Army.

6. There exist esveral urgent compelling reasons, better known to your office, for the utilization of Japanese evacuees in this manner.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that approval be given to aggressively pursue the completion of a tentage manufacturing plant at Tule Lake, California, manned by properly trained and supervised Japanese-American evacuees under War Relocation Authority direction and supervision for Army production, and that appropriate allocations of basic materials by the OQMG to this plant be directed for the commencement of production about October 1, 1942.

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

Aug. 26, 1942

F5

Mr. A.Shuman
Polarizing Instrument Co.
630 Fifth Avenue
New York City, New York

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of August 22, 1942 in which you propose to erect a plant for the grinding of lenses and prisms at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center, Wyoming, and to employ evacuees residing there - in in the manufacture of optics.

I am pleased to advise you that your proposal is herewith accepted by the War Relocation Authority, subject, of course, to the negotiation of a lease for the necessary land within the Relocation Center upon which to erect your factory. We are prepared to discuss the terms and conditions of such a lease at your earliest convenience. In employing these evacuees it will, of course, be necessary for you to comply with Federal wage and hour regulations and such Federal or State statutes governing industrial operations as may be applicable.

We understand that incompany with officials of our Denver regional office, you have already made a tentative selection of a site within the Heart Mountain Relocation Center. We assume that you have assured yourself of the availability at this site of the necessary electric power and other facilities which you will require, since the War Relocation Authority is not in a position to supply them.

In view of the urgent need for speed in erecting the factory before the cold weather starts, you may take this as your authority to proceed immediately with the erection of the factory on the site selected. Mr. Smart, Regional Director, and Mr. Rachford, Project Director of the Heart Mountain Center, are being advised to this effect and will cooperate with you to the fullest extent.

The War Relocation Authority will render you every assistance in bringing the employment possibilities of your factory to the attention of the evacuees, in supplying you with information on the characteristics of the evacuee population and in providing you with the necessary opportunities to interview and recruit the necessary workers. The actual recruitment of the workers will, of course, be your own responsibility. In order to be of maximum helpfulness to you in this regard it will be appreciated if you would provide us with the following information regarding your labor requirements and working conditions:

1. Types of labor and preferred characteristics
2. A schedule of wages to be paid
3. Information regarding general working conditions and types of work involved

The enlistment of these colonists is, of course, on a voluntary basis and we, therefore, deem it advisable to inform them fully in advance of the conditions surrounding the employment which we are bringing to their attention. The transfer of evacuees to the Heart Mountain Relocation Center will probably be completed some time between October 15 and November 1, and the census of these people will be undertaken as soon thereafter as practical. While we cannot guarantee that complete information on these people will be available by November 1, we will make such information available as soon thereafter as the census is completed.

For your information we desire to call your attention to the policy recently established by the War Relocation Authority with respect to wages to be paid evacuees residing in Relocation ~~Authority will~~ Centers but employed in private industries. It has been agreed that the final determination of whether or not evacuees so employed will retain

the full amount of wages earned in such employment or will deposit in a common fund the difference between such wages and the cost of subsistence plus a nominal standard wage which will be paid to all evacuees, shall be left to the determination of the Community Council in each Center. In keeping with this policy the Community Council at Heart Mountain Relocation Center will determine the policy to be followed in this Center with respect to such wages after the Center has been fully populated. We call this to your attention because it may possibly have some effect upon the recruitment of workers for your factory and we desire that you be fully informed of all conditions surrounding the operation of the Center.

We are also calling to your attention the fact that since the products to be manufactured in your factory are intendee for the armed forces, the provisions of the Geneva Conference with respect to the employment of aliens will apply and the employment of evacuees in your factory will, therefore, be limited to citizens of the United States. The Geneva Convention provided that no enemy aliens may be employed in industries relating to military operations.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

Aug. 27, 1942

Hon. Frederick Van Nuys
United States Senate
Washington, D. C.

Dear Senator Van Nuys:

This will acknowledge your note of referral dated August 25, 1942, and a letter to you dated August 21, 1942, from Angeline Maynard Recording Secretary, United Garment Workers of America, Local 193, 818 West Fourth Street, Mount Vernon, Indiana. Miss Maynard states that at a recent convention of the United Garment Workers the question was raised regarding the use of Japanese workers in the garment industry.

A small garment factory is now being established at the Manzanar California Relocation Project which will manufacture work clothes solely for the use of evacuees on the various projects. These products will not enter into commercial trade channels, nor compete in any way with private interests or existing labor supplies, but will serve only to service the Relocation Centers.

It is also anticipated that certain agricultural activities will be established on the projects best suited to agriculture, in which a number of the evacuees might participate.

The War Relocation Authority is deeply concerned with the effect of its operations upon the labor supply of the Nationa, and is making every effort to see that no action is taken which would in any way tend to interfere with it.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

Aug. 29, 1942

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

Attention: Mr. R. B. Cozzens

Dear Mr. Fryer:

As a result of the telephone conversation under date of August 28, 1942, Lt. Colonel Roy E. Hughes - Mr. R. B. Cozzens, it is understood that the San Francisco Regional Office will:

1. Assume full responsibility for the location, acquisition, induction, and assimilation of a properly qualified ~~ccc~~ Caucasian tent and canvas goods plant superintendent for Tule Lake, California, capable of supervising machinery installations, etc., at a salary of not to exceed $3200 per annum, with actual production to start November 1, 1942.
2. In the meantime, a crew of Japanese-American colonists will be selected and vocationally trained for this work.
3. The responsibility for production of one hundred pyramidal tents per day for the Quartermaster Corps, staring November 1, 1942, is fully assumed by you.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

Aug. 29, 1942

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

Dear Mr. Whitaker:

In our negotiations with the Quartermaster Corps in relation to the erection of a tent manufacturing plant at Tule Lake, we have determined that the armed forces are so badly in need of fabricated canvas goods that it appears desirable to erect a second manufacturing plant for this purposes.

It appears desirable to locate this second plant at Rohwer and will probably be of such size as to employ from 75 to 100 persons per shift, or, on a three-shift basis, from 225 to 300 persons. We would appreciate your advising us immediately regarding the desirability of such procedure and of your recommendation for a suitable site for the plant.

In the meantime 60 sewing machines previously acquired by the War Relocation Authority and not needed in connection with the Tule Lake plant are being shipped to you from Detroit where they were formerly used. It is requested that you provide proper storage for them pending the decision on the tent plant at Rohwer or its construction.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer
Director

Regional Files, 470, General, Wash. D.C.
Miyamoto

ES

Letter from Colonel L.W.Foy, QMC to San Francisco Engineer Procurement District
August 31, 1942

Attached is a certified copy of a letter issued by the Army and Navy Munitions Board and signed by Major Joseph C. Wilson, advising the Priority Rating of A-1-j, Code No. 1, is applicable for all purchases made for the War Relocation Authority.

Regional Files - 470, gen. Wash., D.C.
Miyamoto

FS

Memo from Powers to Cozzens
September 8, 1942

The following is a list of projects that willbe undertaken at the various relocation centers and for which it will be necessary to obtain approval by preparing and submitting a form PD-200 before a priority rating can be extended to us. These listings cover only buildings which it is known will be required at the various relocation centers.

Project directors should prepare requisitions listing all material required to construct a building, remodel a building or extend an existing building. This should include all materials that are on hand, specifying, of course, the material to be purchased and that which is available. This application should include materials required for the extension of all utilities and should be accompanied by a brief justification forthe project to be undertaken and supported by at least three complete sets of plans and details.

Tule Lake

1. Factory buildings
2. Butcher Shop
3. Garage repair shop
4. Carpenter plumbing electrical shop
5. Additional office space
6. Remodeling of five warehouses into dormitories
7. Remodeling of barracks into 4-family apartments
8. Hog project buildings
9. Chickens - project buildings
10. Ice House
11. Railroad spur requirements
12. Root cellars
13. Machinery sheds
14. Coal storage

Gila River

1. Garage repair shop
2. Carpenter plumbing & electrical shop
3. Ice house
4. Railhead improvements other than provided by U.S.E.D.
5. Root Cellar
6. Machinery sheds.

Manzanar

1. Garment factory
2. Garage repair shop
3. Plumbing, carpenter and electrical shop
4. Root cellar
5. Butcher shop
6. Ice house

Abraham

1. Garage repair shop
2. Carpenter, plumbing and electrical shop
3. Root cellar
4. Rail head improvements
5. Coal storage
6. Machinery storage sheds
7. Ice house

Minidoka

1. Garage repair shop
2. Carpenter, plumbing & electrical shop
3. Root cellar
4. Ice house
5. Machinery sheds
6. Coal storage

It will be advisable to point out to the field that none of the material purchased by the Army and left for our use in improving and extending the project should be listed since the projects for which this material has been purchased donot require authority or additional priorities by War Relocation Authority. It should be noted that this covers only buildings that are known to be needed and that any additional projects, new, remodeling, or extensions, for which critical materials are required in excess of $500 will require approval and a priority.

ES

C
O
P
Y

September 11, 1942

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

Dear Mr. Fryer:

Mr. Smart, regional director at Denver, has been very much interested in the possibility of raising angora rabbits as an occupation for the evacuees, and as a means of meeting some of the possible demands under the Lend Lease program.

We understand there is a rabbit Experiment Station located at Fontana, California. Mr. George S. Templeton is director of this station. In order to secure some information relative to the raising of angora rabbits, I would appreciate it very much if you would have some one contact Mr. Templeton, and secure such information as will be valuable to us in determining the feasibility of such a program. I am attaching some correspondence which Mr. Scheidt has had with the Fish and Wildlife Service, and some information which he has collected from other sources, as a basis for your understanding of the questions which have been discussed in connection with this project.

We would appreciate it very much if you could report rather fully to this office on the results of your contact with the Experiment Station, giving us their recommendations with respect to the angora rabbit wool industry. We would appreicate having this information as early as possible.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myer
Director

C
O
P
Y

September 12, 1942

Administrator
Federal Loan Agency
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

As you know, the War Relocation Authority has been directed by the President to relocate and to provide useful employment for persons of Japanese acestry who have been evacuated from military zones on the west coast. One of our specific tasks is to encourage the establishment of industries which will make full use of this manpower in the war effort.

In the course of our discussions with the War Department, it has developed that there is a serious shortage of optical instruments, especially those required by the Air Corps. It has been determined, therefore, that the establishment of a lens grinding plant on one of our projects is practical and feasible. Accordingly, we have entered into negotiations with Mr. Albert Shuman, Polarizing Instrument Company, New York City, a partnership, with a view to his starting operations at our Heart Mountain Relocation Center near Cody, Wyoming. The Army Air Corps has agreed to furnish the machinery for this plant from the optics machinery pool under the control of the Frankford Arsenal. The War Relocation Authority desires to sponsor aloan from the Defense Plant Corporation to Mr. Shuman for the construction of a building which is estimated to cost approximately $60,000. This building will be a one-story structure, made of concrete or cinder blocks, will be heated by fuel oil mechanisms, and will involve air conditioning equipment for the polishing room, an area involving about one third of the floor space of the entire building. Because of the severe weather conditions which prevail in this part of Wyoming after the first of November, it is urgent that construction be completed before that date.

It is our understanding that if Mr. Shuman's application is approved, the Defense Plant Corporation will construct

the building and leases it to Mr. Shuman in accordance with regularly established policies. The War Relocation Authority is willing to agree to pay to the Defense Plant Corporation the difference between the cost of the building, plus 1½% interest, and the amount which has been paid to the Defense Plant Corporation in rental, in the event the emergency should end before the building has been liquidated, provided that appropriations are available to the Authority at that time out of which such payment can be made.

For your information, there are enclosed herewith (1) a copy of the Executive Order establishing the War Relocation Authority, (2) a copy of a letter from the Secretary of War to the Director of the Authority concerning the production of goods for the armed forces and (3) a copy of a letter from the Air Corps indicating their interest and participation in this particular project.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director

Regional Files, 511, General, Wash., D.C.
Miyamoto

Memo to Rowalt from Cozzens
October 8, 1942

Subject: Suggestion for Controlling Japanese Labor

Lack of incentive on the part of evacuees to work in relocation areas is of great concern to WRA. It was my privilege to give this problem considerable thought after making observations at Gila and Parker. Also, I have had many discussions with the Agricultural Division concerning the problem existing at Tule Lake. The following are some of my thoughts and opinions and have been put together rather hurriedly, but I feel they are vital to the success of WRA:

1. Wra must immediately make up its mind whether the project are going to be run by WRA or the evacuees. We cannot proceed in the present manner having projects partly ruu by evacuees and partly run by WRA, and have the project succeed.

2. The evacuees' nature is such that we must either administer the project or run the project or the evacuees will run us. This appears to be what is happening at present.

3. WRA will be more respected by the evacuees if we take a firm hand and dictate the policy which is to be put in force on the projects and enforce it than if we proceed as at present.

4. Each project has a group of issei varying in number from 15 to 50 who at present are controlling the amount of work and labor performed by the evacuees. They are recommending to their own people and getting support in a definite slowdown of work on all projects. Cost of work with the present number of workers is prohibitive.

5. I believe WRA should determine the number of workers that are to be employed in each position--that is, k tchens, recreation, construction, agriculture, etc.-- and immediately take steps to lay off all unnecessary evacuee employees.

6. Before doing this we should announce on the project exactly what we have in mind and exactly the way it is going to run, seeing to it that it does run on that basis.

7. In addition to these items, it will be necessary and advisable, I believe, to create on the projects definite incentives, such as cash remuneration, that would cause the evacuees to work and also cause them to more or less police the workers and see that all that were on jobs would work by putting into effect the following procedures:

   A. Net Projects.- We can negotiate with the Quartermaster for a price on the manufacture of nets from 1 cent to 1½ centers per square foot. It is my belief that this fund should be kept separate, that all evacuees who work on the project should

      a. Pay to the Government their $20 for subsistence and $16 for susbsistence of their dependents;
      b. Receive $16 per month from the fund which they have created as their wages, and
      c. The balance to be deposited in a fuud which would be distributed among all workers on the project;
      d. This would equal from $8 to $10 per month for all workers on the project in addition to their regular salaries;
      e. Attached is a report which has been prepared by Mr. Stancliff of this

Division which we both believe is somewhat optimistic. It points out the maximum that could possibly be made by the evacuees and probably the figure of $4 to $6 per month would be more accurate. However, in preparing this for you I felt we should use the maximum figures rather than the minimum.

B. Agriculture.- The agricultural program at Tule Lake is at present being definitely sabotaged, and I fear the same thing is beginning to happen at Gila, Parker, and to some degree at Manzanar. It would appear to me that we could do one of two things. First, take a very definite stand that we are going to operate the farm with a certain number of people and lay everyone else off who does not work and see to it that they receive no remuneration unless they will work. Or we could form a producer enterprise of the whole farm project, manage it as to plantings, acreage, and crops to be planted, and then charge the producer enterprise with all expenses connected with farm operation --that is, rental on the land, o. & s.(?) charges on water, gas, oil, and maintenace of equipment, rental on equipment, packing sheds, and root cellars; and costs of seeds and other incidentals connected with the operation.

All evacuees working on the farm would pay subsistence for themselves and family, they would receive $16 per month, and after deducting all expenses enumerated or those that are necessary to the operation of the project would have the fuud available for distribution among all workers on the project.

C. The same procedure suggested for the nect factorywould, I believe, be applicable for the tent factories or other war works projects which we may undertake. With these types of operations, being the major types of income operations on the projects, it is believe that, if WRA took a definite stand as to the number of workers that could work in nonproductive programs and that all workers would participate in profits from productive programs, the evacuees immediately would see to it that those who worked would produce, or I am sure they would not let them work. I believe such a procedure would create the necessary incentive, and I believe WRA would be in control of the situation. Unless some such a procedure is inaugurated at an early date, it is my belief that the entire WRA program will suffer.

Saboteurs on the Projects

I further recommend that immediate study be made to locate those who are saboteurs on the projects and that they immediately be separated by groups, and only one or two shipped to projects where they have no friends or immediate relatives withwhom they can operate. We may find in this investigation that a number of them will be eligible for concentration camps; and all those that are eligible, I believe, should be sent to such camps.

I believe the above suggestions have some merit and trust that you and Mr. Myer will give them serious consideration.

June 19, 1942

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

International aspects

Dear Mr. Fryer:

This will amplify my teletype message of June 16, concerning the use of Issei labor on camouflage nets.

Our policy on the employment of Issei labor derives from the Convention between the United States and other Powers on the subject of prisoners of war, which was signed at Geneva at June 27, 1929, was subsequently ratified by the Senate and by the President, and formally deposited with the Government of Switzerland on February 4, 1932. Its provisions prescribe the treatment that is to be applied to prisoners of war. At the outbreak of hostilities the State Department informed the German, Italian, and Japanese Governments that the United States intended to apply the provisions of the Geneva Convention to civilian enemy aliens taken into custody insofar as those provisions might be adaptable to civilians, and that it expected enemy governments to extend like treatment to American citizens taken into custody by them. The Japanese replied that they would extend the provisions of the Convention to American civilian internees provided that the American Government did not make use of the provisions of the Convention to compel Japanese civilians in its hands to work against their will, to which the United States agreed.

The Geneva Convention, Article 31, states "Labor furnished by prisoners of war shall have no direct relation with war operations. It is especially prohibited to use prisoners for manufacturing and transporting arms or munitions of any kind, or for transporting material intended for combatant units."

Although this expression of intent by the State Department to extend the Convention to civilian internees does not have the full force

of law as would a treaty ratified by the Senate, it constitutes a statement of policy on the part of the State Department on behalf of the United States. Should we fail to carry out our declarations with respect to citizens of Japan or should the Government of Japan believe we were hiding behind any subterfuge, we can expect retaliation on the part of Japanupon American citizens and American soldiers in their hands.

The Issei are legally citizens of Japan and we may expect Japan, therefore, to insist that they be treated in accordance with the Geneva Convention insofar as the rpovisions are applicable. Representatives of the State Department have strongly urged, therefore, that in the interests of avoiding retaliation upon Americans in Japan, civilian and military, we should not use Issei labor upon any supplies or in any activity which is obviously and clearly directed toward manufacture of munitions for war use. Thus, raising of food, making of clothes not clearly intended for soldiers, and manufacture of articles not clearly associated with military purposes would not raise questions. But use of Issei labor on cartridge belts, camouflage nets, soldiers' uniforms, military shoes, or the repair of articles used by the military, would almost certainly lead to complications.

One further point may be of interest. There has been reference from time to time to the so-called dual citizenship of Japanese, and the claim that Japanese born in this country are claimed as citizens by Japan. A representative of the State Department has indicated that we need have no apprehensions on this score, that no country would consider as citizens of another country individuals born within its own borders, except in the cases of individuals who, by their own specific choice, definitely renounced citizenship in the country of their birth, or are for other reasons not made citizens by birth under the law of the country in which they are born. In other words, this country

would not consider for a moment any Japanese claim that Japanese born in this country are Japanese citizens, and it is not likely that Japan will seriously advance such a claim. Therefore, the use of Nisei labor on military articles should not cause us any embarrassment from the standpoint of retaliation.

In summary then, I think it wise to continue our present policy of avoiding the use of Issei labor on articles directly associated with the conduct of the war effort. Their labor should be directed to the improvement of the Center, to the production of food and articles needed for general consumption, and for other non-military purposes. Deviation from this policy would sooner or later in all probability cause retaliation upon Americans abroad, and I think the WRA cannot afford to take the responsibility or the risk of providing the excuse for such retaliation on the part of our enemies.

I believe that if the reasons for our policy are explained to evacuees they will see its reasonableness and will be glad to cooperate.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

September 24, 1942

Brigadier General R. F. Fowler
Chief, Supply Division
War Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear General Fowler:

This is in reply to your letter of September 19 concerning the garnishing of camouflage nets by persons of Japanese ancestry who have been evacuated from the West Coast.

1. You expressed some concern over what we call the third phase of relocation; that is, the finding of private employment for these persons in various parts of the country. Although the carrying out of this policy is definitely a part of our program, it should be pointed out that every evacuee who leaves a relocation center must have a job ready for him* ~~and must have satisfied the authorities of the Department of Justice that he is loyal to the United States~~. Every case has to be handled on an individual basis, and we will feel that we have accomplished a great deal if we are able to so relocate ~~10,000 families~~ during the war period. I feel, therefore, that I can say to you with complete assurance that this policy will in no way interfere with the net production program. This matter was discussed in person with Colonel George K. Withers in my office last Tuesday.

specific

applications for permission

Quote

25 to 50% of the families

2. The second point of your letter concerns the question of reimbursement for the work which is being performed for the Corps of Engineers. When we asked your office to provide work for the evacuees last May, we had two things in mind: first, to give the evacuees a chance to make a useful contribution to the war effort, and second, to avoid idleness in the camps. The question of compensation was secondary and for that matter still is. However, since last May we have negotiated with other supply services in the War Department and with those in the Navy Department. We have learned that the usual practice where work is performed by one government agency for another is to compensate by an actual transfer of funds. Any other procedure is outside the Federal accounting system, and even though we ourselves proposed the book credit arrangement, we feel that the original

agreement should be reconsidered. We feel that such a change of accounting methods would in no way affect production schedules. Under our employment policy, evacuees employed by the War Relocation Authority receive $12, $16 and $19 a month, plus subsistence, clothing allowances, medical care, etc., for each member of the family. Any funds received by the War Relocation Authority for work performed go into a special revolving fund provided for by Congress in the appropriation for the fiscal year 1943. This revolving fund may be used in a number of ways by the Director, including a general raising of the indicated wage scales.

3. As you know, the War Relocation Authority has faced a tremendous job during the past few months in the actual physical arrangements incident to taking over the 120,000 evacuees from the Western Defense Command. There have been certain difficulties in stabilizing the work on camouflage nets, but we feel that such difficulties will diminish as the relocation centers settle down to a regular routine. We are delighted that 700,000 nets are in prospect to be garnished, and I feel that we can meet any agreed upon schedule at the three centers of Manzanar, Parker (Poston, Arizona), and Gila (Sacaton). It is our thought that a considerable part of the industrial program for these three centers will consist of net garnishing. If enough nets are available to do so, it is our thought that a backlog could be built up during the winter months which would free many workers for agricultural activity during the summer and early autumn months of the year.

Nets are initialed in paragraph 5 letter of one.

4. You may rest assured that sufficient labor will be made available to meet the Corps of Engineers' requirements for ~~the duration of the war. If necessary we can shift workers to Manzanar and the two Arizona centers from the seven other projects.~~ ~~the immediate future.~~

~~If we find we can not meet the requirements by the date we will give ample notice so other arrangements can be made.~~

5. The purpose of my letter of September 10 was to inquire whether or not the War Relocation Authority could produce additional essential articles for the Corps of Engineers. Will you be good enough to let me have your reaction on this point.

Sincerely,

Director

~~If it develops that we cannot meet the requirements beyond that point we will give ample notice so that arrangements can be made.~~

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

8717
-408

nets

Oct. 9, 1942

Check PM

MEMORANDUM TO: The Solicitor

I went, with Mr. Kimmel, to Colonel Withers'office this morning to discuss an arrangement with the War Department for compensating the War Relocation Authority for garnishing camouflage nets. Colonel Withers has recently returned from a trip to Manzanar, Sacaton, and Parker where he inspected the camouflage net work. Upon the basis of the information that he obtained on his trip he stated that he has made the following recommendations to his superior officer concerning the program:

(1) that aliens should be permitted to work on the camouflage nets; Yes

(2) that arrangements should be made to give the evacuees some additional incentive to meet production schedules in the camouflage net work; ?

(3) that the War Department should reconsider its policy with respect to permitting evacuees to leave relocation centers to engage in private employment within the restricted areas, especially in cotton picking work in Arizona. He stated that he disagreed with the policy announced by General DeWitt. His thought was that this policy would make it impossible to recruit enough workers to do the camouflage net work. ?

(4) That the War Department should proceed to place orders with private firms for camouflage net work. ✓

Mr. Kimmel pointed out that recommendation No. (1) would have to be cleared with the State Department and suggested that No. (3) should be discussed with Assistant Secretary McCloy.

Colonel Withers indicated that the War Department would be willing to transfer funds to the War Relocation Authority for the camouflage net work. He stated that he thought that the figure 1½¢ per square foot, proposed by his West Coast office, was entirely too high. He suggested a figure based on 50¢ per hour for the work and stated that this would amount to a little more than ½¢ per square foot; however, he had made a mistake in

81104

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Office of the Solicitor

WASHINGTON

computing the price per square foot and agreed to submit, informally, his proposal to Mr. Kimmel. Upon the basis of his proposal, Mr. Kimmel agreed to discuss the matter further with Mr. Myer, and the members of the staff of the Regional office.

Colonel Withers stated that the price agreed upon was not so important but that he wished to set the figure low enough to prevent any criticism by private individuals and outside groups. My impression was that he was not too serious about opening negotiations with private business firms for doing the work but I may be wrong.

Mr. Kimmel later asked me to listen as he outlined his proposal to Mr. Myer over the tactical line. Mr. Myer indicated that he did not wish to make a decision on the question of additional compensation at this time. He stated that the same problem has arisen at Tule Lake and if we would give in to the demands of the evacuees at one place we might have to do so at the other places. He also stated that he wanted to see what could be done about permitting aliens to work on the nets.

C. Moxley Featherston

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Office of the Solicitor

WASHINGTON

LAW OFFICES
ROGERS AND CLARK
LESLIE C. ROGERS
WEBSTER V. CLARK
WM. BEATTY WRIGHT
JOHN A. O'KANE
JOHN H. PAINTER
RICARDO J. HECHT

ONE ELEVEN SUTTER BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO
EXBROOK 1869

October 22, 1942.

War Relocation Authority,
Hotel Whitcomb,
Eighth and Market Streets,
San Francisco, California.

Attention: Mr. E. L. Stancliff,
Manager Industrial Division.

Dear Sirs:

We are informed that your Authority would be receptive to a proposal for the garnishing of camouflage nets, urgently needed at this time by our armed forces; and in this connection you have also given us the following information:

(1) The United States Army Engineers are constructing or have constructed at three of the evacuee Centers, namely those known as the Gila River, Colorado River and the Manzanar War Relocation Centers, suitable buildings and equipment for the work of garnishing, packing and warehousing these nets.

(2) The Engineers will furnish the nets for garnishing, patterns and all other materials necessary to complete the work, as well as inspectors and instructors for the evacuee workmen.

(3) The buildings and equipment provided, as above, will accommodate 960 evacuee workmen at each of the two Centers first mentioned and 655 at Manzanar, making a total of 2575 workers.

(4) Suitable heating facilities have been or are to be installed at Manzanar, but at the other

two Centers no such facilities are necessary because of weather conditions.

We further understand that there are presently 700,000 nets of the average size of 484 square feet, making a total of 338,800,000 square feet of nets to be garnished, and that with proper wages and working conditions this work should be completed within a period of from ten to twelve months.

PROPOSAL

Based upon the foregoing, our proposal is as follows:

The work: We propose to supply a central administrative staff, a manager superintendent at each Center and such additional Caucasian personnel as may be required. (See organization chart attached)

Required financing: We will supply sufficient funds to meet all payrolls for our Caucasian employees, as well as for the 2575 evacuees who will be employed in this work. We expect to commence with a cash working capital of at least $100,000.00, and will satisfy your Authority that this amount as well as any further required amounts are available prior to the signing of any definite contracts.

Contract price: We assume for the purposes of this proposal that the Engineers will pay at the rate of 1¢ per square foot for all nets garnished, packed and warehoused and which pass the inspection of the Engineers.

Our compensation and expenses: This contract price of 1¢ per square foot, we propose to allocate as follows:

(a) 7% thereof for payroll and expenses of our Caucasian personnel including all our administrative expenses, any excess to be our profit.

(b) 8% thereof to be set aside to cover our operating overhead, including federal social security taxes, state and federal unemployment insurance, workmen's compensation insurance, public liability insurance, stationery and printing, telephone and telegraph, traveling expenses, postage, heat, light and power and miscellaneous expenses; upon the understanding that if this 8% is more than sufficient to cover the foregoing items mentioned in this subparagraph (b), then the overage is to be paid to your Authority for such disposition as you prescribe.

(c) 85% thereof, plus any overage from (b) above, will be available to your Authority for payment to the evacuee workers, or for other purposes of W.R.A.

Payrolls: Payrolls to be paid semi-monthly.

Payment schedule: In turn we shall expect to receive payment for all nets completely garnished, packed, warehoused and approved by the United States Army Engineers in cash at the rate of 1¢ per square foot; and in this connection we would expect a daily inspection by the Engineers of all nets ready each day for inspection.

Miscellaneous: Of course, we shall comply with all Federal laws and the laws of California and Arizona, pertaining to this type of work.

If the foregoing proposal meets with your tentative approval, we would like to have the opportunity to negotiate final contracts both with your Authority and the United States Army Engineers.

War Relocation Authority. October 22, 1942.

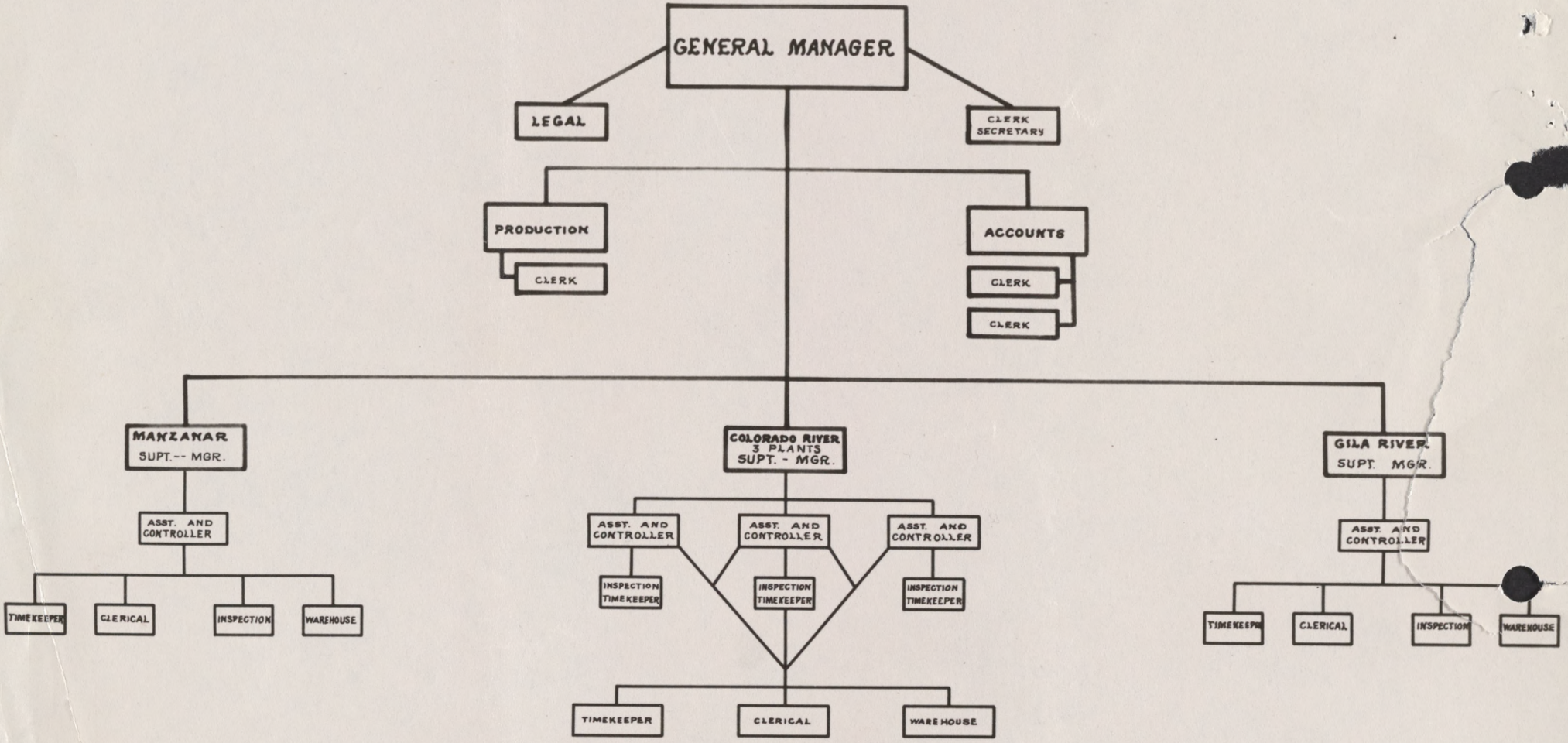
The client for whom we are acting in this matter is Mr. Irving E. Kesterson, President of the Kesterson Lumber Corporation, of Klamath Falls, Oregon, but if we should be successful in negotiating final contracts this work would undoubtedly be carried out by a separate corporation organized for this specific purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

ROGERS and CLARK,

By Leslie C. Rogers

LCR:MLR


GENERAL MANAGER
LEGAL
CLERK SECRETARY
PRODUCTION
CLERK
ACCOUNTS
CLERK
CLERK
MANZANAR SUPT.-- MGR.
ASST. AND CONTROLLER
TIMEKEEPER
CLERICAL
INSPECTION
WAREHOUSE
COLORADO RIVER 3 PLANTS SUPT. - MGR.
ASST. AND CONTROLLER
ASST. AND CONTROLLER
ASST. AND CONTROLLER
INSPECTION TIMEKEEPER
INSPECTION TIMEKEEPER
INSPECTION TIMEKEEPER
TIMEKEEPER
CLERICAL
WAREHOUSE
GILA RIVER SUPT. MGR.
ASST. AND CONTROLLER
TIMEKEEPER
CLERICAL
INSPECTION
WAREHOUSE

Center Bus

MEMORANDUM FOR: The Files November 21, 1942

From: Mr. Camp /S/

Subject: Camouflage Nets

When Col. Withers called with regard to the camouflage net factories at Manzanar, Colorado River and Gila River he indicated that the Engineer Corps' representative in Los Angeles had been unable to find a private contractor in accordance with their agreement covered in General Fowler's letter to Mr. Myer of November 4. He said that one of the difficulties in obtaining the agreement was that WRA had not decided on the disposition of the wages and the establishment of a trust fund. Also, that no private contractor was interested in the project until this matter was settled. He said that if they were not able to obtain a private contractor he would like to go back to the original basis for manufacturing camouflage nets, that is the $12, $16 and $19 wage basis. He further indicated that this whole project would be discontinued sometime after the first of the year and that the Engineer Corps was shifting its camouflage manufacturing activities to the east, the reason being they were able to get private contractors in New England to take this job at 30¢ an hour wage and that they had contracts signed that would bring the cost of camouflage nets to a little over $7.00 per thousand square feet. This was less than it cost them to make the nets at the relocation centers in spite of the fact the government provided the buildings.

I agreed to get in touch with Mr. Myer to find out whether a return to the original wage basis would be permissible as a private contractor could not be obtained. About this time a call came in from Mr. Coverley in San Francisco in which he informed me that the Engineer Corps had recently obtained a contractor and that a temporary agreement had been signed which will carry forward until December 15 when a permanent contract must be agreed upon. The contractor is Mr. John M. Stahl, 2035 A Street, Los Angeles. The temporary agreement was signed November 16. It covers 75 million square feet of camouflage nets at a price amounting to $7.08 per thousand. The temporary agreement was signed for the Corps of Engineers by Major Earnest Sheble. The permanent contract must be drawn up in Washington before December 15. Coverley was also given to understand that this contract would terminate camouflage net manufacturing activities for the WRA.

Then I called Mr. Myer at Gila River to determine his attitude on the continuance of the camouflage manufacturing activities and he said that he was agreeable to the proposed contractual arrangement with the understanding that there would be no new business after this first contract was fulfilled. Mr. Myer indicated his willingness to go back to the $12, $16 and $19 wage if for some reason or other the Corps of Engineers could not obtain a private contractor. I endeavored to get in

touch with Col. Withers but he called me in the afternoon and told me he had just learned from Major Eaton that they had been able to get a private contractor. He was quite perturbed that Major Eaton had just received a call from Stancliff saying the whole deal was off and that there must be some misunderstanding. I told him that insofar as this office was concerned we were agreeable to going ahead with the arrangements with Mr. Stahl with the understanding fulfillment of his contract would terminate the WRA's camouflage manufacturing work. I also told him I would inform Coverley or Stancliff to that effect. Then I got in touch with Stancliff and told him that everyone was in agreement that we should go ahead with this contract - that I had talked with Mr. Myer about it and he was agreeable to going ahead with it - or if it could not be worked out to return to the $12, $16 and $19 basis. Stancliff said he would get in touch with Major Eaton that afternoon and they would proceed to Gila River with the contractor. I then called Col. Withers back and informed him of this.

NOTE: After first talking with Col. Withers I called Phil Glick and he informed me that the San Francisco office had received a working basis for disposition of funds and that a letter covering it had gone to Ferguson November 17, copy of which is attached.

Enclosure

JRC:LD

December 23, 1942

Meyer, DS

To: The Director

Subject: Excerpt from report of James H. Terry dated December 12, 1942

You will be interested in the following excerpt from the report of James H. Terry, Project Attorney at the Gila River Relocation Center, dated December 12, 1942:

"Camouflage Net Project. This is proving troublesome. I assume that Mr. Stancliff has satisfied himself as to the responsibility of Stahl, the operator. Nevertheless, Stahl is not, apparently, obtaining legal advice as I think he should. He is an individual doing business in California under a tradename. Nothing has been submitted to me to show that he has obtained an Arizona license, that he has registered a tradename here, that he has applied for a workmen's compensation bond, that he has made any arrangements to keep required social security or unemployment insurance records, that he has bound or applied for fire insurance, that he has investigated his duties under the wages and hours and other labor laws. Some of the employment men on the staff and the representatives of the operator (who know nothing of the contractual phases of the matter) express great anxiety to start operating at once. While decisions on such matters are, of course, the responsibility of the Project Director, I cannot but feel concern at the haphazard manner in which the affair is proceeding. Stahl, it seems, argues that the factory buildings are the property of the Army, having been built by the U.S.E.D. and therefore the WRA is offside in providing for rental and insurance. I should interpolate that since Mr. Cozzens was away for more than a week after my arrival, then was devoting most of his time to our 'incident' and is now in the process of turning things over to Mr. Bennett, who takes over Monday and has not yet been available for conference, it has been impossible to obtain a definite policy from the head of the project so far. I have suggested to Stahl's representative here that, if Stahl is willing to accept the agreement in the proposed form with the corrections and additional representations,

81.104

necessitated by reason of the fact that the operator is an individual and not a corporation, he so notify the Director in Washington and suggest that to save time he execute the contract in Los Angeles and forward it to Washington for final approval and execution. Apparently, however, Stahl is not willing to accept all stipulations of the contract in the proposed form. After all of the publicity, voting on plans, etc., it may be difficult to explain any substantial delay to the community and the program may get off to a bad start."

In the absence of Mr. Kimmel and Mr. Camp, I don't know to whom you want to refer this for administrative consideration.

Philip M. Glick
Solicitor

EEFerguson:FSP
12-23-42

I hereby authorize and direct John M. Stahl or his duly authorized agent to make the following payments from my earnings as an employee of the camouflage net factory operated by him at Colorado River War Relocation Project and agree that such payments by him in accordance with these instructions and assignments will constitute receipt by me in full of all wages due from said Stahl:

1. The sum of $12.50 for each full half of each calendar month of my continuous employment and the sum of $6.00 for each week or fraction thereof for any employment period of less than a full half of a calendar month shall be paid to the War Relocation Authority as reimbursement for my subsistende during said employment period.

2. The sum or sums provided to be paid to me in cash or by check, in accordance with the provisions of the camouflage net factory pay plan which will be approved, adopted and placed in effect at said camouflage net factory, with the consent of the Temporary Community Councils of Units 1, 2, and 3, or one or more such units, and duly authorized Committees thereof, John M. Stahl and officials of the War Relocation Authority (copies of which plan, signed by authorized representatives of all consenting parties shall be permanently kept on file during the term of this agreement in office of Stahl's representative in charge of the net factory and in the files of the unit or units of the Temporary Community Councils which consent to said pay plan; and said pay plan is hereby incorporated into this agreement by reference and made a part hereof as if fully set forth herein), shall be so paid directly to me.

3. Any and all other sums earned by me as employee of said Stahl shall be paid into the Trust Fund to be established to receive, administer and distribute such sums, pursuant to the aforesaid pay plan, on or before the fifth day following each pay period subsequent to the establishment of such trust.

4. My earnings shall be subject to all deductions, required by law to be made by an employer, before any of the foregoing payments shall be made and such deductions shall be prorated upon my earnings between the amount payable to the Trust Fund and my other earnings.

_____
Employee

Accepted:

_____
John M. Stahl

By _____
T. I. Reynolds

Memorandum Authorization & Assignment re Net Factory Wages

(1689)

1942
5/13 Eisenhower to Stimson
Wants Camouflage net garnishment work for evacuees. Handled as bookx credit for cost accounting purposes avoiding exchange of funds.

5/29 Approval of Stimson

7/8 Fryer to Myer At Manzanar 546 men working on project under WRA. Also at Santa Anita

7/20 Kimmel to Myer -- "One of the first tasks undertaken by the Industrial Division was xxx to enter into negotiations with the Services of Supply, War Department, with regard to the manufacture of supplies and equipment for Army use. At first the attitude was negative because of complaints about the garnishing of camouflage nest by Japanese which had been passed on to the Army by Donald Nelson. When these difficulties were brought to the attention of Assistant Secretary McCloy, he not only quieted Mr. Nelson't fears, but was instrumental in obtaining from a written statment from the Secretary of War that the War Department will be glad to cooperate in any way it can. . . ." (Liaison officer with WRA designated." Col Hughes Wrote memo to Quartermaster Corps recommending allotment of clothing and other sewing items to WRA for mfr. Reply from Col Winston: Not feasible. Constracts already out, also civilian facilities for sewing far in excess of gov't need. Then Gen. Corbin, formerly sympathetic, decided that with existing unemployment among N.Y. needleworkers, inadvisable to set up. Mayor La Guardia had made views felt in Washington. Writer feels that if supply services feels it must bow to such pressured chances for WRA doing work for War Dep't diminished.

8/8 Baker to Edwin Bates. Army will release no camouflage net publicity because of manufacturers' complaints.

undated unsigned memo concerning conflict between Myers and Withers re: who would pay when Santa Anita plant moved to Gila, Engineering Corps or xx WRA

8/28 Col Hughes and Co.l Withers re: payment. Withers said objection to paying WRA like regular contractor was that because of demand for work on outside, if Engineers paid Japanese for work, mig t be polit or labor trouble, unless price differential liw enough. Hughes said this bad in final analysis __ would make better cost accounting system if handled on same basis. Also basic objectives of WRA to rehabilitate Japs, make centers self-sustaining. Hughes said difference between base pay rates to be distributed in some manner decided bu higher authority. Withers suggested piece work, said Japs working half-heartedly. Never up to goal. Hughes : could promise production if facilities expanded. Withers: Corps would pay for work, but not as much as would pay outside, or polit difficulties. Could get plenty of contractors. Hughes: Get private contractors to employ Japanese, impound difference between normal pay. Withers: Nope. Hughes: Have Glick discuss with Someone in Eng' Corps.

2- Camouflage nets

9/10 Rowalt to Myer "Recommended that contractsbe enteretd into between WRA and U.S. Eng. whereby latter will pay for work on piece work basis, based on prevailing wage, not less than 60¢ nor more than 75¢ and hour.

9/10 Scheidt to Kimmel A rmy moving into several other relocation centers without so much as a by your leave, assuming that previous negotiations give them authority to set up camouflage operations . . .but that no financial consideration or reimbursement is involved.
People here in S.F. convinced that Army should be required to pay regular commercial prices . . .or withdraw from opeerations.

9/14/ 42 Kimmel and Col. Hughes negotiate with Col. Withers of Eng Corps. Withers accepted proposal of Kimmel re: transfer of funds, but questioned various factors: 1) Complications if commercial rates paid because of outside firms wanting business. 2) Whether contractual relations could be worked out between U.S. eng and evacuees directly. 3) Whether transfer of funds would be more satisfactory from WRA point of view than present arrangement. 4) View of U.S. Eng Office in L.A.

9/17 Kimmel to Fryer Probable that the desired accou ting arrangements . . . can be worked out and put into effect after present contracts or perhaps before.
9/19 Brig. Gen R.F. FOwler to Myer "The agreement was that the work would be don without actual tranfer of funds with the Corps of Engineers supplying all materials, facilities and necessary supervision, and the WRA furnishing the labor. . . . . At th t time theis office was subjected to severe criticism and great pressure , . . .fo give this work to private contractors . . . . It is felt that the WRA should take no steps to jeopardize the continuation of this work since we are now committed to this m thod of production and a serious delay in the productin of needed war supplies will be involved if a change is necessary. . . .
In respect to your recent request in that arrangements be made o pay for the garnishing of camouflage nets by an actual transfer of funds from this office to the WRA, a study is now being made. . . . It is understood that such fuuds would be transferred durect to the WRA and that the relocatees would not receive more than the standard rates of pay determined by your office. . . . In case actual payment is made by this office it is felt that the WRA should guarantee to supply ufficient labor to meet the required production schedule.

undated phone conversation, Withers and Kimmel. Production not going on at Parker or Gila after Santa Anita closed. Alarming situation.

9/22/42 Wither and Myer converse. Withers: Payment shuuld be low enough to preven outside enterprises from wanting business. Myer: High enough to prevent difficulties with labor unions.Withers asked that work be begu at Gila and Poston so production schedules could be met

Insert letter excerpted --Sept 24, Director to Fowler

3-Camouflage nets

9/28 Document from Henry Ishizoka. Protests putting of camouflage plant under hour system. No incentive, as previously men had been permitted to go home early if finishing their quota ahead of time on piece work.

10/12 Embree. Call for workers at Boston not being answered: sugar beet picking is a) patriotic and b) profitable, since prevailing wages are paid. Camouflage project also patriotic, but feeling exists that workers exploited when asked to do it for $16.00 a month

12/7 Stancliffe to Coverley. Merritt opposed to establishement of camouflage net plant as being opposed to purposes of WRA, lead to further unrest in already bad situation. Warned representative of contractor who was present.

12/23 To director, excerpt from report from Gila of J.H. Terry dated Dec. 12. Project proving troublesome. Stahl not obtaining legal advice. Nothing to show he has Ariz. licence. (Excerpted from file)

1/2/43 Payments from earnings: 1) $12.50 for each half month and $6.00 for each week or fraction for employment period of less than half month paid to WRA for subsistence. 2) sums provided to be paid in cash according to provisions of net factory pay plan approved, etc., with consent of the Temporary Community Coucils of Butte and Canal Communities, John M. Stahl and WRA Authorities shall be so paid directly to individual. 3) Other sums to be paid into trust fund. 4) Earnings subject to all deductions required by law, prorated between amount payable to trust fund and other earnings.

5/3/43 Letter from Trustees of Gila River Center Trust Fund, demanding payment from Stahl. Discussions follow regarding Stahl's failure to make payments, Stancliffe's cumbersome plan, disliked by Terry, imminent closing of plant (No reason appearing so far) disconent of workers mentioned, refusing to set up grievance committee.

5/22/43- Closing plant next week. Payment in full promised.

5/28 - Brown & Myer - Decided last Dec. to close plant (during riots, probably)

Stahl finally pays $125,000 into Escrow.

Gila River plant transferred to WRA for $25,000

5/15 new block fund plan in effect - redistribution of trust fund for hospital, tractors, division among work crews & camouflage workers. For Unit 1 at Poston

F5

APR 8 1943

To all Project Directors:

From time to time Members of Congress and others have raised questions relative to the agricultural policies of the War Relocation Authority. We have from time to time made certain commitments to Members of Congress and others relative to our agricultural program. These commitments, together with other information relative to our agricultural production and distribution program are summarized below for your information:

It is our policy to produce on each of our relocation areas as large a percentage as possible of the crop and livestock products needed in feeding the evacuees. In the determination of the vegetables to be grown preference is given to those vegetables which are most needed in the diet, which will produce large yields per acre, which can be stored for future use and which can be shipped from one center to another in bags or in bulk.

Special attention will be given to the production of leafy, green and yellow vegetables as early and as late in the season as possible thereby reducing to a minimum the amounts of vegetables which must be shipped in. Where climatic conditions permit, vegetables such as cabbage, onions and potatoes will be stored for future use thereby further reducing the need for in-shipments.

There will be a need for vegetables for consumption at periods of the year when they cannot be provided from production on the area or from stored products, therefore such necessary products must be shipped in. In order to reduce to a minimum the vegetables which must be purchased on the open market in competition with the armed forces and the civil population generally, it is planned to ship vegetables from one project to another. For example, vegetables can be harvested at the Gila River area in Arizona during the winter and early spring months when they cannot be produced in the northern areas.

Normally, practically all of these vegetables would be shipped in crates, thereby requiring considerable quantities

51. 100

of shock. It is our plan, however, to ship such vegetables as cabbage, carrots, onions and beets, constituting about one-half of our total shipments, in bulk or in burlap bags. Crates will be used only for leafy vegetables requiring internal icing.

Shipments of vegetables are ordinarily made in standard containers specified by Federal or State regulatory agencies. Since it is not necessary that the Government, in shipping produce for its own use, comply with grading and packing regulations, maximum use will be made of other containers such as orange and egg crates and apple boxes in which in-shipments have been received. Such usable containers in which in-shipments are received should be carefully preserved for such use. Used containers should be obtained from nearby Army posts or other sources where possible in order to reduce to the absolute minimum the amount of shock purchased.

Our present production program provides for only the amount of vegetables needed for our own consumption. However, if yields per acre exceed our expectations, or if a larger number of evacuees obtain outside employment than now seems probable, thereby reducing the amount of food required, it is possible that we may have vegetables in excess of our own needs. If such is the case, and if there is a market demand for such products it is our plan to sell such products. If there is a demand for such products which are surplus to our needs we shall, of course, not allow them to be wasted. In the event of sale, we will of course comply with Federal and State regulations relative to grading and packing in standard containers currently in use at that time.

Sincerely,

D. S. Myer

Director

E.H.R.

EHREED:DMG
4-5-43