

Project Quarterly Report

---

Original - was mailed  
after office hours - 10-14-42

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

821 Pyramid Building  
Little Rock, Arkansas

*Make Narrative Report*

September 21, 1942

Mr. Ray D. Johnston ✓  
Project Director  
Rohwer Relocation Center  
McGehee, Arkansas

Mr. Paul A. Taylor  
Project Director  
Jerome Relocation Center  
Jerome, Arkansas

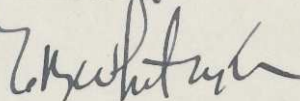
Gentlemen:

It is going to be necessary for us to prepare reports to the Washington Office on a quarterly basis. These reports will be used by Mr. Myer in making his quarterly report to the President. The last report was prepared as of June 30, 1942. The next report should be prepared as of September 30, 1942.

Please prepare and have in the regional office by October 15, 1942, a report covering developments at the project under your jurisdiction. This report will cover the period July 1, 1942 to September 30, 1942.

Your attention to the date your report should be in the regional office - October 15, 1942 - will be greatly appreciated. It is going to be necessary for us to follow this schedule if Mr. Myer has the information from this region to include in his report of the Agency as a whole.

Sincerely



E. B. Whitaker  
Regional Director



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Relocation Branch  
McGehee, Arkansas

October 14, 1942

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

Dear Mr. Whitaker:

In accordance with your letter dated September 21, 1942, there is attached, three copies of report covering developments in the Rohwer Relocation Center for the Quarter ending September 30, 1942.

You will note that this report has been prepared in narrative form. The project construction figures were obtained from the U. S. Area Engineer, and, of course, the data on the Administrative and Evacuee personnel was obtained from our records.

It is trusted that we have furnished you with sufficient information on the Rohwer Relocation Project to enable you to make an appropriate report to the Director's office.

Sincerely,

Ray D. Johnston  
Project Director

Enclosure - 3



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Rohwer Relocation Center  
Relocation Branch  
McGehee, Arkansas

October 14, 1942

ROHWER RELOCATION PROJECT  
REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING SEPTEMBER 30, 1942

Construction of the Rohwer Relocation Project is directed by the Vicksburg District of the United States Army Engineers. Major A. M. Niems, District Area Engineer.

Prime contracts were awarded as follows:

- (1) 2 for Building Construction
- (2) 1 for Water and Sewerage Disposal
- (3) 1 for Water Wells One and Two
- (4) 1 for Electrical Installations

The first excavation was started on the Project on July 2, 1942. The first contractor started work on July 29, 1942.

Buildings on a priority list for early completion included:

- 18 Blocks of barracks
- 12 Warehouses
- Military Police Group
- Hospital Group
- Sewerage Disposal System

The status of construction as of September 30, as reported by the Area Engineer was:

Military Police Group	99%	Complete
Hospital	70%	"
Warehouses	70%	"
Administration	60%	"
Sewerage Disposal	67%	"
Shelter	75%	"
Mess Halls	9	"
Laundry	11%	"
Water & Electricity	12	"
Blocks Available for		
Occupancy	9	"
Blocks Occupied	9	"



Construction was delayed due to difficulty in securing materials; especially plumbing fixtures and water heaters and boilers. None of the blocks were completely finished when occupied. All plumbing fixtures were not in and hot water was not available.

The first classified Administrative Personnel reported for duty July 9, 1942, and as of September 30, a total of 46 were on duty. Progress has been made in obtaining the Personnel in each of the divisions needed in the operation of the Project as originally outlined.

The first group of Evacuees were received September 17, 1942, which comprised a total of 249 as the advanced group from the Stockton, California Assembly Center. Regular movement started September 23, 1942 from the Santa Anita, California Assembly Center, and as of September 30, 1942, a total of 2,264 had been received in the Rohwer Relocation Center.

Since their arrival into the Relocation Center, there has been a very small amount of sickness among the Evacuees, and that has consisted of minor ailments with one exception. The temporary hospital facilities available on the Project have been able to care for all the illness. There has not been a single case that required overnight hospitalization. The one exception that could not be handled with local facilities was sent outside to the hospital at Dermott, Arkansas.

Of the total number of Evacuees received prior to September 30, 815 were employed in the various phases of the Project operation; and of the total number received, the Employment Division classified 815 for employment.

The key personnel for the operation of the schools have been employed and have reported. Considerable groundwork has been done in preparing for registration of school children and arrangements made for the beginning of classes at the very earliest date. To date, however, no construction work has been started on the school buildings.

The cooperation that the Project has received from the Military Police, the Area Engineers, and local citizens has been excellent. These groups have given able assistance in solving our most difficult problems.

The attitude and cooperation of the Administrative Personnel and the Evacuees has been excellent and the progress of the Project program toward its ultimate final objective is satisfactory; and it is believed that within a reasonable time the complete organization will be functioning in accordance with the outlined plans of the War Relocation Authority.

Respectfully submitted,

Ray D. Johnston  
Project Director



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

821 Pyramid Building  
Little Rock, Arkansas

December 30, 1942

Mr. Ray D. Johnston  
Project Director  
Rohwer Relocation Center  
McGehee, Arkansas

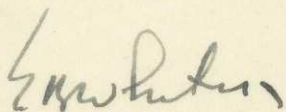
Mr. Paul A. Taylor  
Project Director  
Jerome Relocation Center  
Denson, Arkansas

Gentlemen:

Your attention is called to the next quarterly report to Washington covering developments at the project under your jurisdiction for the period October 1, 1942 to December 31, 1942. This report should be in the Washington office not later than January 20, 1943 so that Mr. Myer may use the information in making his quarterly report to the President. We hope that you will give this report your prompt and careful consideration.

Please forward a copy of the report to this office.

Sincerely



E. B. Whitaker  
Field Assistant Director





WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

JAN 14 1943

Mr. Ray D. Johnston  
Project Director  
Rohwer Relocation Center  
McGehee, Arkansas

Attention: Austin Smith ✓

Dear Mr. Johnston:

A quarterly report covering operations at your center during the period from October 1 to December 31 will be due in this office on or before February 1.

Our national Quarterly report for the period ending September 30, which should reach you within the next 10 days or so, will suggest the type of material that should be covered. Pending final clearance and reproduction of this report, however, I am attaching a few notes which you may find helpful.

If either you or your Reports Officer should feel the need of more detailed guidance at this time, I suggest that you forward all specific questions you may have directly to John C. Baker, Chief of our Office of Reports in the Washington office.

Sincerely yours,

*D. S. Myers*  
Director

Enclosure



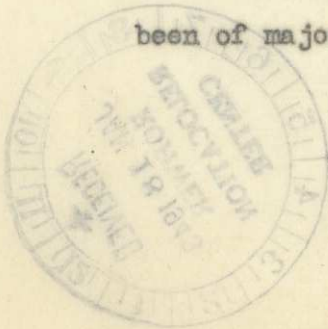
## Suggestions for Preparation of Quarterly Report

The quarterly report for each relocation center should be a concise, thoughtfully organized, and reasonably comprehensive account of the major developments at the center during the period. It should NOT be merely an aggregation of divisional or sectional reports. A conscious editorial attempt should be made by the Reports Officer to synthesize the materials from the divisions, to bring out the interrelations between various phases of project operations, and to present a well-balanced total picture.

In choosing between comprehensiveness and brevity, it is wise generally to lean in the latter direction. An incomplete report is never wholly satisfactory, of course, but it is more useful ordinarily than a voluminous tome. In short, the Reports Officer should edit his report with a highly selective eye, playing up the really important items--the facts and figures that other branches of the Authority should know about--and weeding out all the trivia and items that have only a local significance.

### What to Cover

Materials finally included in the report will, of course, vary considerably from project to project. Activities that have been of major importance at some of the centers have in all probability





been of only minor significance at others. As an example, it would seem (from the information we have available) that the report from Tule Lake should devote considerable attention and space to the development of evacuee self-government while the report from Minidoka should probably treat the subject only briefly.

Because of this variety in the story to be told at the several projects, nothing more than a rough and wholly suggestive outline for the report can be provided by the Washington office. The following, however, indicates some of the topics a project quarterly report might reasonably be expected to cover.

1. Introduction. A highlighted, quick, and sweeping picture of the major developments at the center during the quarterly period. ✓
2. Progress of Construction. If basic construction was not completed prior to October 1, indicate its status on that date, the progress achieved during the period, <sup>Oct 1 - Dec 31</sup> and the major construction problem encountered.
3. Evacuee Induction. This section will probably be included in the reports from only a few centers. ✓ It should indicate briefly the actual schedule of evacuee arrivals (how many, where from, and when) and the arrangements made at the center for receiving and processing them.
4. Housing. This section should be included only if housing presented serious problems during the quarter. ✓ If the evacuees were assigned to quarters with reasonable smoothness and without undue crowding, the topic may be omitted.
5. Employment at the Center. This section is quite important. ✓ It might well include a table indicating the number of evacuees assigned to various phases of work during the period, the number of employables, number applying for work, percentage of employables actually assigned, etc. Wherever possible, a detailed breakdown of evacuee skills





at the project will be highly desirable. The section should also include, of course, a narrative account of major developments in the field of on-project employment, problems encountered, etc.

6. Leave Operations. Indicate the set-up for handling leave at the project, the numbers who went out on various types of leave during the quarter, and the prospects for leave operations in the future as well as these can be predicted. ✓
7. Education. Since schools opened at most centers between October 1 and December 31, this section will probably be highly important in most reports. It should include, generally, a description of the school set-up, the number of teachers in each school (both evacuee and non-Japanese), the enrollment in each school, and any significant features of the curriculum. Specialized courses, adult education, nursery schools, and college extension work might also come in for some mention. ✓
8. Evacuee Self-Government. This section should cover the major activities of the temporary community government and should trace the principal steps leading up to formation of the long-range governmental set-up. Any especially significant resolutions or ordinances should be discussed. ✓
9. Consumer Enterprises. Indicate the specific enterprises in operation at the project, their total volume of business, and any other pertinent facts about them. This section should also include an account of any steps taken toward formation of a cooperative enterprise association at the project. ✓
10. Internal Security and Fire Protection. Describe the set-up for police and fire protection, the composition of the police and fire departments, and the major activities in each field. ✓
11. Health and Sanitation. This section should show the number of in-patients and out-patients treated by the hospital staff and should include a brief discussion of any significant health or sanitation trends. ✓





12. Community Activities. Since this heading covers an extremely broad gamut of activities (recreational, etc.), only the principal types should be indicated.
13. Land Development. Because of the season, most projects will probably not have much to report under this heading. Any development that was accomplished during the quarter, however, should be shown.
14. Agriculture. This section will probably be important only at the Arizona centers. It should indicate the number of acres planted to various crops, quantities harvested, and quantities disposed of in various ways. Any noteworthy problems or developments should also be discussed.
15. Manufacturing. This should cover progress in all manufacturing enterprises at the project, both WRA-sponsored and private.
16. Mess Operations. If the kitchens and mess halls operated without undue difficulty during the quarter, it may be that this section can be omitted entirely. It should include only especially noteworthy developments.
17. Evacuee Attitudes and Reactions. If properly handled, this can be one of the most valuable sections in the entire report. It should be confined to a factual reporting of trends in evacuee opinion, cleavages in the evacuee population, complaints, etc. It should not include material which is purely speculative or founded on nothing more than casual rumor. Major incidents should be analyzed for their causes, in so far as possible.
18. Public Relations. This section should indicate, in a general way, the reactions of nearby communities to the relocation center and to the evacuee residents. It might include quotations from outstanding newspaper articles, statements made by public officials, visits from near-by groups, and any other notable manifestations of outside community attitudes.

### Timing

In the interest of maintaining an accurate chronological account of the relocation program, it is highly important to confine each quarterly report rather strictly to the period which it purports to cover. In the case of the current report, this means that Reports Officers should approach the final editing as though they were writing on the morning of January 1. Any developments that occurred during 1943 should be saved for the next quarterly report which will cover the period from January 1 to March 31, and will be due in April.

\*\*\*





*ASmith*

RELOCATION BRANCH  
McGEHEE, ARKANSAS

January 30, 1943

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

Subject: Quarterly report

Dear Mr. Myer:

Enclosed are three copies of the quarterly report covering operations in this Center during the period from October 1 to December 31, which was requested in your letter of January 14.

Sincerely,

RAY D. JOHNSTON  
Project Director

Enclosures

cc - E. B. Whitaker  
Field Assistant Director

ASmith:ri  
1-30-43

WRA Library Washington

3

Ro

ROHWER RELOCATION PROJECT

REPORT FOR SECOND QUARTER COMPRISING PERIOD OCTOBER 1 TO  
DECEMBER 31, 1942

INTRODUCTION

On October 1 construction work, under the supervision of the U. S. Engineers, was entering its final stage. On that date only 2,434 evacuees had arrived. Most of the appointed personnel had been selected. A few hundred evacuees were already employed. Block managers were being selected as the blocks were occupied and this gave the people some representation in the administration of the project. The police force was not yet organized and the fire department was just being established. The kitchen and mess organization was still being developed. Land development had not started. A project canteen had been operating one week. The evacuees were still involved in the general excitement of moving from the Assembly Centers. The people living in the vicinity of the project were still very much confused about the true nature of the undertaking. In short, the whole project was just shaking down into a definite pattern and most of those concerned, appointed personnel and evacuees, were just beginning to realize the nature and the magnitude of their duties.



# CONSTRUCTION

At the beginning of this quarter, basic construction being done by the contractors was approximately 75% complete. At the end of the quarter the U. S. Engineers Progress and Financial report shows that physical construction was 98.7% complete and that it was 96.5% complete with reference to dollar value.

The construction program for which WRA is responsible had not been started on October 1, but on December 31 the quarters for the appointed personnel were approximately 65% complete, and foundation and excavation work had been started for the assembly hall of the school system. The superintendent of construction for the WRA entered on duty October 5, priorities on certain materials were received October 8, and clearing the ground for the site of the apartment buildings was started on October 12. At first considerable employment troubles developed. The employment of inexperienced men and others not particularly suited to this type of work resulted in an unsatisfactory labor turnover. Later, the policy was adopted of not employing anyone except after personal interview with the superintendent of construction, and this resulted in the beginning of a satisfactory organization.

Bids for materials were open on October 22 but no bids were received on some types of lumber; therefore, it became

necessary for this to be purchased through personal contacts and in small quantities. Of the men recruited for construction work only one had previously had any commercial experience in this type of employment. All foremen and supervisors had to be developed as the work progressed, and the way that these men have assumed responsibility is most remarkable. Termination of employment by choice or otherwise is now negligible. Construction machinery was so scarce that most of that now in use is supplied by the construction superintendent from his personal equipment. Considering these difficulties and handicaps, the progress of WRA construction is satisfactory and the development of construction workers, particularly supervisory workers, among the evacuees, has been one of the most gratifying results obtained in the field of employment.

#### TRANSPORTATION AND SUPPLY

The Transportation and Supply Division was originally organized to include four sections: Warehousing, Motor Pool, Motor Repair, and Mess Operations. A Property Control Officer was not appointed until November, and since it was necessary to keep some record of incoming property, the head of the division acted in this capacity for some time. Records on property already stored in the warehouses were prepared. As more warehouses became available, all property was placed in an orderly



manner. Procedure was worked out and forms prepared for orderly requisitioning by different Divisions. In December, Warehousing and Property Control were transferred to the Administrative Division. The organization of the Motor Pool was improved during the second quarter. A cost procedure for transportation was worked out so that these expenses could be charged to the proper divisions and sections. During the past quarter automobiles and pickup trucks were assigned to divisions and sections but trucks were pooled. Due to lack of building facilities and motor repair equipment, the Motor Repair Section is not equipped to make major repairs and has operated as a minor repair station. In December more space and equipment was obtained and this section will be performing its full function in a short time.

The Mess operated without undue difficulty.

#### EMPLOYMENT ON PROJECT

In the early part of October most of the workers were employed in the mess, in transportation, and in doing the many kinds of work in the blocks in order to make them suitable for housing the evacuees as they arrived. This type of work continued in the latter part of the month and in addition small groups were assigned to public works and to wood cutting. In November, many more were employed in wood cutting and land clearing. These two activities were naturally combined. More

men were also working in the Public Works Division, doing the advance work for the construction of apartments for the appointed personnel. In November, employment in the Community Services Division rose sharply. This was due largely to an increase in block workers under the block managers and to additions to the Community Activities Section in order to provide recreation and improve morale. The radical increase in Employment and Housing personnel in December was due to this section assuming the responsibility for janitor services. This work had formerly been done by the Maintenance Section. Approximately 1200 of the workers in Transportation and Supply are engaged in Mess operations. The rest were employed principally in transportation and warehousing.

As of December 31, it is estimated that employables numbered 4,800. The number of persons registered for employment was 4,408, and 84% of the employables were assigned. A detailed breakdown of evacuee skills was not available at the end of the quarter.

During the months of October and November, the principal problem was the tendency of youths in the 18 to 22 age group to request frequent shifts in assignment. There has been a marked decrease in requests for transfers during the month of December.



At the present time there is a shortage of carpenters, plumbers, and mature men able and willing to do manual labor. Nearly all the unassigned persons available for employment are women with no particular skills or work experience. Considerable difficulty has been encountered in obtaining workers for difficult and disagreeable jobs. For example, firemen for the hospital, school janitors, and men to unload coal are difficult to secure. These jobs involve disagreeable work and inconvenient hours.

As a whole, the work of the evacuees has been satisfactory, but there is a tendency toward slackness and lack of interest that will bear watching. This attitude appears to arise from the fact that there is too little incentive to do outstanding work. The difference in pay is not great, the rewards of advancement are not of a material nature, and there is no penalty for unsatisfactory work except dismissal, which, of course, is a drastic measure. Examples of this are evacuees who can do skilled or professional work but refuse to do so and take jobs requiring little effort and no responsibility. Whether or not this attitude will become more serious probably depends on the general morale of the people in the future.

On the following page a chart is shown which gives employment distribution for this quarter.

NUMBER OF PERSONS  
EMPLOYED AS OF OCTOBER 31st  
NOVEMBER 30th AND DECEMBER 31st  
BY DIVISION OR SECTION

DIVISION OR SECTION	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
Land Development	92	444	621
Public Works	98	161	189
Community Enterprise	6	15	15
Health & Hospital	130	173	194
Fire Department	28	46	55
Internal Security	29	51	57
Administration	46	48	30
Employment & Housing	17	65	341*
Maintenance	588	589	267
Community Services	274	459	583
Transportation & Supply	1940	1789	1794
Legal Department			2
TOTAL	3248	3840	4148

\*E. & H. assumed duties of supplying janitor services, formerly under Maintenance.



# AGRICULTURE AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

During this quarter the Agriculture Division was occupied more with land development than it was with actual farming. This involved principally the clearing of land. As of December 31, 270 acres of land had been cleared and 200 acres were in the process of clearing. Cutting and hauling wood for fuel was part of the responsibility of the Agriculture Division. Wood was taken from the land cleared and in this way the work served a double purpose. When the timber was cut for wood, the brush was piled and much other work was done toward preparing the land for farming.

Fuel has been one of the chief problems encountered. There has been considerable anxiety among the evacuees on this subject because they are not familiar with the weather here. Some were unduly apprehensive concerning the cold. Very few have had experience in timber work. This work involves a considerable amount of skill. Trucks for hauling were also scarce. At first, progress was slow, but now all the blocks are well supplied with fuel and most of the fears of the people on this point have subsided.

The U. S. Engineers are now digging a ditch that will help drain the agricultural area but other similar ditches are planned which will be dug by WRA. Soy beans are to be planted

on this fresh land. Plans are also being made to plant enough vegetable crops to make the Center self-supporting in this respect. For this purpose, 663 tillable acres of private land have been leased which will be more suitable for vegetable crops than the newly cleared land. Considerable difficulty has been encountered in securing farm machinery, and much of that obtained has been used equipment.

#### HEALTH AND SANITATION

Listed below in chronological order are the major developments in the hospital and health organization during the second quarter.

October 10, 1942 --	General Medical Ward ready to receive all types of patients
October 15	First patient admitted
October 19	Sanitary Corps organized (5 personnel)
October 27	Out Patient Department opened
October 27	Pharmacy opened
October 28	Bacteriological Laboratory opened
October 29	Department of Optometry begun
November 1	Medical Administration opened
November 10	Department of Dentistry opened (1 chair)
November 13	Portable X-Ray Machine with Fluoroscope set up



November 19	Ward 6 set aside for tubercular patients
November 21	Ward 8 opened for patients
November 26	Dental Room opened with three chairs
December 14	Temporary stoves for heating removed; steam heat from power plant turned on
December 13	Large X-Ray machine set up and functioning
December 31	Hospital Mess Hall opened

During this quarter, 19 births and 6 deaths occurred.

Most of the deaths were among the aged and infirm. In October, 17 patients were admitted to the hospital; in November, 50; and in December, there were 62. There were 3,065 out patients in November, and 2,999 in December. There has been no general outbreak of illness or contagious diseases. No cases of surgery were lost and there has been no mortality in obstetrical cases.

The Sanitary Corps consists of five inspectors. Weekly reports are submitted. The Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Steward cooperate effectively. Mosquito and fly control received due attention, and improvements in the drainage system now being carried on are expected to aid still further in malaria control.

Water supply has been a minor problem. The supply has been sufficient but there has been some coliform contamination

in the new water mains. The chlorination process was faulty for a time and did not take care of the contamination previously mentioned. This has now been remedied.

Of the 2,000 school children, 1,500 have been given a complete physical examination and have been indexed for defects as well as immunizations.

The food supply in the general warehouses is inspected and the supply of food to the blocks is adequate. The milk supply has not been certified by the State Health Department but this situation is now being remedied. Some 200 old men who do not require hospitalization but do require different housing, food, and supervision have presented quite a problem. Plans are now being worked out with the Welfare Department to provide these cases with special attention.

There has been some shortage in staff personnel. The Ear, Nose, and Throat section lacks a specialist. An orthopedic is also needed. A man is especially needed in Ophthalmology and Otology. This situation has made it necessary to refer some of the work to outside specialists. There is some shortage of material but sufficient requisitions are coming in to enable the department to function fairly well.

#### EDUCATION

The Superintendent of Education at Rohwer entered on duty August 18, 1942. By October 1, only 5 persons had been



added to the Education personnel. These were key people added to assist in the formulation of plans for organization of the school. These 5 people and the Superintendent worked together at the Regional Office until the first trainload of evacuees arrived. Then certain of the personnel were moved to Rohwer to conduct a school census of each block as it was filled.

A request was made early in October for two blocks centrally located to be reserved for school purposes. It was planned that schools would open November 9, and that a Pre-school conference would be held November 3 to 7, inclusive.

School opened November 9 with the elementary school enrolling 879 pupils, while 1,131 enrolled in the secondary schools. Although school equipment had been requisitioned, none had been received. A small amount of equipment which could be adapted to school use was received from Government surplus. By the end of the first week of school, the Public Works Division had constructed a few less than 500 six-foot benches which were used for seating pupils. A few weeks later these were supplemented by 1,500 folding chairs which are now being used.

Classes opened with too few teachers to meet the need. Recruiting of both appointed and evacuee personnel continued until by December 31 there was an appointed personnel of 25 in

the secondary schools, 18 in the elementary, and 4 on the general staff. The evacuee personnel consisted of 13 clerical workers, 32 secondary school teachers and assistant school teachers, 25 elementary school teachers and assistant school teachers, and 28 custodians. Since it was apparent that evacuee personnel would be constantly shifting because of relocation and job changes, it was decided to continue the recruitment of appointed personnel, with 10 to go on January 4 and others to follow as they were needed and as they could be secured. By December 31, there were 18 evacuee night school teachers at work, and the major part of the Adult Education program was not to begin until January 4.

Nursery schools are planned to begin sometime in January. College extension courses in Education for evacuee teachers were begun during this quarter in order to enable these teachers to qualify for a teaching license under the Arkansas standards. These courses as well as the regular teaching by the evacuee personnel are under the direction of a Supervisor of Student Teachers.

The administration has attempted to operate this school as any normal public school program in Arkansas would be operated, and at the same time to be cognizant of the California curricular background of these students. The school is organized in such a way as to be accredited by both State and National



accrediting agencies, so that when these children are relocated, their school records and credits here will be accepted without discount wherever they may go. An attempt has been made to relate the curriculum as closely as possible to community activities with emphasis on vocational training. In the secondary schools, vocational courses are being offered in home-making, industrial arts, business training, arts and music. Vocational agriculture will be offered when and if an instructor can be secured. The social science curriculum is particularly strong. This is also true of the curricula for the English, mathematics, and natural science departments. There is also a complete program of health and physical education for every boy and girl in school. In addition, a pupil activity program is being organized in the secondary schools to include a student council, clubs for all, and a school newspaper, the first edition of which has already appeared. The elementary curriculum follows the regular Arkansas courses of study for those grades. The entire school has already participated in such drives as the sale of tuberculosis seals and Junior Red Cross membership. The Industrial Arts Department is entering the nation-wide project of the construction of model airplanes for the Government.

It is evident that the schools have come a long way since November 9. The school spirit of both pupils and teachers is

excellent. School equipment and supplies are arriving daily, making it possible to enrich the school program gradually. Progress is being made, although we are faced with problems of appropriate space, inadequate number of teachers, and insufficient equipment. As time goes on, a relatively satisfactory solution to these and other problems is expected.

#### WELFARE

The Welfare Department set up the basic family cards and other records necessary for making the first payment of the cash clothing allowance. In December, clothing valued at more than \$10,000 was issued from stocks in the warehouse. The value of this clothing is to be deducted from future cash clothing allowances. A few cash grants were also made in December. In the same month, 135 grants in the form of clothing were made to a group of destitute old men.

The Welfare Section also handled short term leaves, indefinite leaves not involving employment or education, and all transfers between projects.

#### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Community Activities were first started by a volunteer group before the department was organized. This group constructed temporary volley ball courts and initiated other games. When the athletic department was organized, football games were



promoted. Weight-lifting, boxing, and judo were also on the athletic program. Much interest has been shown in this activity.

As the Center population increased, social activities such as talent shows, record appreciation groups, choirs, glee clubs, community sings, and block socials were organized. The talent shows were particularly successful.

The Arts and Crafts section included weaving and sewing classes, life drawing, wood carving, flower arrangement, and artificial flower making.

The Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts have been active. The latter held a public Court of Honor which was well attended. Part of the audience came from the outside.

The Buddhists have continued their services in their own fashion, and the Protestant groups have been quite active. Both English and Japanese services are held by the latter.

The Community Activities Section has also been active in promoting programs that have been very helpful in the public relations field.

#### EVACUEE INDUCTION

In the month of October, fourteen groups of evacuees totalling 5,968 persons, arrived at this Center. Approximately two-thirds of these came from the Stockton Assembly Center and the rest from Santa Anita. On November 15, forty-five workers

arrived from the beet fields in Montana.

Several days before each group arrived, a list of all persons in the group was received. Upon arrival of the train, the evacuees were counted and then carried in trucks to the mess halls of the blocks to which they were assigned. Each family head went to the Housing Section and was assigned quarters according to the size of the family. After this was done each family was given its quota of blankets and was then taken to its respective barrack.

#### INTERNAL SECURITY

The Internal Security organization was started when the Assistant Chief entered on duty October 8 and immediately employed ten evacuees as watchmen. They were assigned to watch the warehouses, canteen, administration buildings, and several stacks of lumber that were scattered over the Center. On October 19, the Chief of the Internal Security was appointed and applications for positions on the police force were immediately solicited. Block managers were asked to select five men from their blocks to make application for job as patrolman. They were asked to select men of good character and men who were well-respected by the people of their blocks. Of the names submitted by the block managers, several were chosen for investigation. This investigation covered the applicant's



character, background, adaptability, attitude, and reputation in the Center. On October 28, fifteen men were selected and hired as policemen. The watchmen previously mentioned were terminated at this time. Employment of patrolmen continued and by November 1, thirty-six men were working. By December 1, the Center had been divided into 12 police districts, 24-hour service had been established, and 55 evacuees were working as policemen.

At the end of this quarter, only normal police problems have confronted the Department and these have been of a minor nature. No arrests were made during this time. The Department operates under the theory that its chief duty is crime prevention and not crime detection. In line with this policy, one man is assigned to do nothing but this kind of work. This man is a very able Lieutenant who attempts to discover any trouble brewing in the various blocks and to prevent the trouble before it occurs. He has been very successful in this work.

#### FIRE PROTECTION

On October 1, the project Fire Department consisted of the Fire Protection Officer, 20 untrained men, 1,000 feet of hose, and a stake body truck. On December 31, the Department was equipped with one 750 gallon triple combination Mack pumper, one 500 gallon triple combination Mack Jr. pumper, one Dodge stake body service truck, and one Chevrolet pickup which is

used by the Fire Protection Officer. The Department has 2,000 feet of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inch hose, and 300 feet of 1 inch hose, and all necessary small equipment. It is manned by 61 men classed as follows: 1 Japanese Fire Chief, 4 Captains, 4 Lieutenants, 4 Inspectors, 1 mechanic, 1 secretary, 1 timekeeper, and 37 firemen who are working 12-hour shifts and alternating night and day shifts twice a month. These men are being trained by regular daily drills of about three hours' duration in addition to the regular Arkansas Fire College course. When this course is completed, they will receive diplomas from the College, as the Fire Protection Officer has been designated instructor by representatives of the College.

The Center is adequately protected from fire loss as there are more than the average number of fire hydrants for a city of this size, and the capacity of the water mains is such that good fire fighting streams are available at all times.

#### PROJECT ATTORNEY

The office of the Project Attorney was opened on the 20th day of October, 1942. At that time an evacuee attorney was assigned to duty in this office. However, no full time project attorney was assigned until January, 1943. During the past quarter, legal services rendered by appointed personnel were accomplished by regular visits to the project by the Regional Attorney and his staff.



Legal advice involving interpretation of administrative instructions and statutes, preparation of documents, and various other matters have been rendered to the administrative staff. In addition, assistance has been given on matters of leave, leave clearance, repatriation, and others of a miscellaneous nature. The Project Attorney also gave material aid in explaining and making plans for evacuee government.

This office also assisted in setting up a trust to operate the enterprise within the Center in accordance with WRA policies. In the preparation of the necessary documents and setting up of this trust arrangement, the office served both the evacuees and the staff. The Project Attorney has been giving advice and assistance in making plans for a cooperative association which will supplant the present trust arrangements.

Evacuee calls for personal legal advice and services were slow when the office was first opened but the demand has steadily increased with the passage of time. The problems submitted by the evacuees are of every kind and type. Many have dealt with right of transfer to other Centers, right to leave the Center, transfer of stored property to the Center, and other problems dealing with evacuation itself. Others deal with property rights in their home States, insurance problems, matters of taxation, collections, divorce, and many other personal

problems. The property problems important enough to be classified as "cases" numbered sixteen, and miscellaneous cases numbered fifteen. Every consideration is given the problems presented by the evacuees and all assistance possible is rendered. In return, the evacuees are quite appreciative.

#### SELF-GOVERNMENT

As the blocks were filled, the residents enjoyed some measure of self-government. This was effected through Block Managers. Technically, these were appointed by the Project Director, but these appointments were made on the recommendation of the residents of the blocks. These men are technically representatives of the administration but they are in fact also representatives of the people since it is through them that the people make known many of their needs and express many of their desires. These have a real influence on project policies.

Early in November, the Project Director called an election for a temporary council. Several nominations were made in each block, and one representative from each block was elected. Although Issei could not hold office, it was agreed that they could act in an advisory capacity. A committee of 6 council members was selected to work with 6 Issei in making plans for the Community Enterprise Cooperative. Another committee was appointed to draw up a constitution and make plans for a perma-



ment form of self-government. The constitution was completed in December and was approved by the temporary Council and the Issei advisory body. This advisory body is composed of a member from each block.

Much of the time of the Council has been spent in working on plans for a permanent government. Interest in self-government has declined because many of the evacuees feel that under the restrictions in Section VI-A of Administrative Instruction No. 34, a real system of self-government is not possible. The exclusion of aliens from office has also been a disappointment to the people in general. This is true of both Nisei and Issei. As a sort of protest against the restrictions in Administrative Instruction No. 34, no mention of self-government is made in the proposed constitution. This omission is approved by both the Nisei and Issei groups. Those most active in planning the permanent government want it understood that they do not consider that true self-government is possible under present restrictions. However, it is generally believed that the local administration will give the people as much freedom of government as it is possible under present regulations and no criticism of it has been expressed on this point.

## CONSUMER ENTERPRISE

A project canteen had been established one week when the second quarter opened. It had started operations with \$150 loaned from a local bank. The manager was one of the appointed personnel and the rest of the employees evacuees. On December 15, operation of the business was turned over to 6 evacuee trustees. These will supervise operations until the cooperative enterprise is formally set up.

A committee of six was selected from members of the temporary council to organize and set up the cooperative. Six more Issei business advisors were added, making an organization committee of twelve. A plan for the operation and organization of the cooperative has already been drawn up and is now being explained to two delegates from each block who will, in turn, explain it to the people. This educational campaign is progressing satisfactorily and approximately 5,000 persons have indicated that they wish to become members of the cooperative. When the cooperative starts functioning it will assume the assets and liabilities of the present trust.

At the end of the quarter, the canteen was the only form of community enterprise. It had stock and equipment valued at \$9,836.25. No funds had been added to the original capital except those taken from profits. Including the 7 days' operations



before October 1, total sales as of December 31 amounted to \$47,635.39. Net profit on these sales was \$8,945.35. Commissions from Montgomery Ward and cash discounts raised total profits for this period to \$9,836.25. This shows very satisfactory progress from a very modest beginning.

Shoes and dry goods are now being added to the stock. Beauty and barber shops are to be established in the immediate future. Watch and radio repair shops are also being set up. Arrangements for laundry and cleaning service on an agency basis are being made.

The canteen and related operations have been completely in charge of evacuee trustees since December 15. One member of the appointed personnel is still connected with the enterprise as outside buyer.

#### LEAVE

During the last quarter, the work of handling leaves was divided among three persons in different departments. All applications for indefinite leaves to take employment were handled by the Employment Officer. Leaves for the purpose of attending school were handled by the person in charge of Adult Education. All other leaves, including short-term, were handled by the Welfare Section. This divided responsibility was not altogether satisfactory since considerable difficulty was

encountered in keeping track of expiration dates and the different types of leaves. Leave operations were also hampered by the fact that during the first part of the quarterly period there were few specific instructions concerning leave procedure. This matter was remedied when the Administrative Instructions, accompanied by the proper leave forms, were received.

It is the duty of the Internal Security to make investigation on those requesting leave, and the Legal Division wrote the covering letter which accompanied the leave application to Washington. The Legal Department also checked the leave file to see that it was complete and that all requirements had been met.

During the quarter, the following types of leave were issued: indefinite--short-term. Considerable trouble was experienced in securing prompt action on leave application in the Washington office. In several cases, leave applications had been in Washington two months and no rulings have been received on them.

It is expected that applications for leave will increase rapidly in the next few months. Conditions under which leaves can be granted are better understood and the procedure has been better established. There is also some uncertainty on the part of the evacuees as to just how desirable indefinite leave is since they are in doubt as to what kind of reception will be met



on the outside. When more people have left and more reports have come back to the project as to what conditions are, we believe that more people will be interested in obtaining leave.

During this quarter, 26 short-term and 9 indefinite leaves were granted. There are 147 applications for leave or leave clearance awaiting action by the Washington office. When action on leave clearance is speeded up it is believed that general interest in relocation will be substantially increased.

#### PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public opinion in nearby communities with reference to this Center is fairly satisfactory. Naturally, there was a great deal of misunderstanding about the true nature of the project, about the type of people that are here, and about the Government's policy concerning them. Much of this misunderstanding still exists but it seems to be gradually disappearing. People are beginning to realize that most of the evacuees are loyal, that many are citizens who are sacrificing much in income, property, and freedom. In the nearby town of McGehee, sentiment has definitely improved but has not crystallized. Here tolerance of the Japanese is growing. This is especially true of the business men. Still, the situation is such that an unpleasant incident or some comparatively slight offense involving a Japanese might well destroy much of this good will. The

project is still on trial but it is gaining ground. Some 1,477 evacuees were allowed to go to McGehee for Christmas shopping and there were no serious objections from the public. The merchants were very cooperative but in some cases, individuals complained of the number of the shoppers and the fact that they depleted the stock of goods in the stores.

The editor of the paper at McGehee has been fairly friendly. The Arkansas Gazette, the State's leading paper, carried an editorial that was especially fair to the evacuees. This had a very beneficial effect throughout the State although it is doubtful whether public opinion in other sections of the State is as favorable as it is in this vicinity.

The most important anti-Japanese incident was the shooting of an evacuee member of a surveying crew by a hunter who apparently was either drinking or slightly deranged. This man claimed that he thought the survey crew was trying to escape. They were accompanied by one of the appointed personnel and this man was also threatened. The offender was arrested and is now under bond awaiting trial.

The Memphis Commercial Appeal which is widely read in this section has published what we consider unfair and prejudiced items concerning the WRA program.

Two of the evacuees have spoken before Civic clubs in four



nearby towns. These talks explained evacuee problems to the business men of these towns and much good will resulted. Two Civic clubs from Monticello visited the Center, ate dinner, and attended a program in their honor. At another time, similar entertainment was provided for the McGehee Rotary Club. The visits did much to explain the true nature of the Center and many friendly connections were established. Public address outside the project by residents of the appointed personnel have also helped to create better public relations.

Senator John L. McClellan and Congressman Brooks Hays visited the project during this quarter.

#### EVACUEE ATTITUDES AND REACTIONS

The delicate state of mind wrought by evacuation upon the minds of the Center residents has resulted in the people taking sensitive and quick reactions to almost everything occurring within and without the Center which concerned them directly or indirectly. The shooting incidents in November in which evacuees were involved did much to disturb the minds of the people. After the Japanese-American soldier was fired on in the nearby town of Dermott, the people were saying that if the United States Army uniform was not enough protection, what could those outside the Service expect. Parents with sons in the Army became worried, and in some instances pro-American

Nisei became targets for ridicule. When a member of a survey party from this Center was painfully, but not seriously, wounded by a hunter two days after the Dermott incident, the apprehension of the evacuees was greatly increased. Since similar incidents have not occurred recently, concern over this situation has somewhat subsided.

Since great emphasis is being placed on the relocation program, the attitude of the evacuees concerning this is most important at the present time. Many want to leave very much, largely to escape the tedium of the Center life, and would accept even domestic or other menial tasks as a means to the end of freedom. On the other hand, however, some have frankly stated preference for the "shelter" of the Center, to thus be free from the ordinary worries of food, shelter, clothing, etc. The younger Nisei seem to show more enthusiasm and are always talking about relocation but the Issei feel that they are not included, hence take part in very little, if any, discussion over it. That it would be best for the race group to scatter themselves over the country in the long run is recognized by many, yet a great number of them are reluctant to do so, fearing that their economic security depends upon the presence of other Japanese.

In a good many cases, relocation of the younger evacuees



has been discouraged by their families. This is due to several different causes. One is the uncertainty on the part of the people as to what kind of reception they will have on the outside. Another is simply the need of the older people for the assistance of the younger. In many cases, the younger act as the head of the family and represent it in many of its affairs. The trend of the war has considerable influence on whether or not the Center residents wish to relocate. Many of them feel that if the war is to be short, it will be to their advantage to remain here and make a final readjustment after the war ends. If the war is to be long, many of these same people believe that it will be wise to relocate. Because of this attitude many are waiting until the course of the war becomes more definitely settled before they make the decision on relocation. It should not be overlooked that the relocation program has somewhat increased the restlessness and the feeling of impermanence among the evacuees which characterized their attitude in the assembly centers. Many of them have felt that for better or worse they were finally established, and now the proposed relocation program has somewhat destroyed this feeling.

Smith

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

February 8, 1943



Mr. Ray D. Johnston  
Project Director  
Rohwer Relocation Center  
McGehee, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Johnston:

Many thanks for the copies of the third  
quarterly report which you sent in on January  
30.

Sincerely yours,

*John C. Baker*  
John C. Baker  
Chief, Office of Reports





# WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

IN REPLY, PLEASE REFER TO:

*ack.  
4/7/43  
as*

APR 3 1943

Mr. Ray D. Johnston  
Project Director  
Rohwer Relocation Center  
Relocation, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Johnston:

A quarterly report covering the period from January 1 to March 31, 1943, will be due at this office on or before May 1. The Office of Reports has prepared a suggestive outline which may be helpful to your staff in preparing the report.

The quarter just past has been a significant one, and I feel we should give the developments during this period the historical attention which they merit.

Sincerely yours,

*D. S. Myer*  
Director





### Suggestions for Preparation of Quarterly Report

The quarterly report for each relocation center should be a concise, thoughtfully organized, and reasonably comprehensive account of the major developments at the center during the period. It should NOT be merely an aggregation of divisional or sectional reports. A conscious editorial attempt should be made by the Reports Officer to synthesize the materials from the divisions, to bring out the interrelations between various phases of project operations, and to present a well-balanced total picture.

In choosing between comprehensiveness and brevity, it is wise generally to lean in the latter direction. An incomplete report is never wholly satisfactory, of course, but it is more useful ordinarily than a voluminous tome. In short, the Reports Officer should edit his report with a highly selective eye, playing up the really important items--the facts and figures that other branches of the Authority should know about--and weeding out all the trivia and items that have only a local significance.

### What to Cover

Materials finally included in the report will, of course, vary considerably from project to project. Activities that have been of major importance at some of the centers have in all probability been of only minor significance at others.

Because of this variety in the story to be told at the several projects, nothing more than a rough and wholly suggestive outline for the report can be provided by the Washington office.



The following, however, indicates some of the topics a project quarterly report might reasonably be expected to cover.

1. Introduction. A highlighted, quick, and sweeping picture of the major developments at the center during the quarterly period.
- Emp. R.* 2. Registration. As the outstanding event of the fourth quarter of WRA's existence, the registration for advance leave clearance and induction into the United States Army should have comprehensive treatment. A history of the registration at each center has been requested by the Director. A copy of this report might well be incorporated into the quarterly report.
- Emp.* 3. Indefinite Leave. Closely associated with the registration, of course, is progress of the indefinite leave program. The quarterly report should indicate the number of persons departing from the center on indefinite leave; a general breakdown of the purpose of their leave: to work, to join husband, fiancé, children, etc., etc.; (general attitudes of the evacuees toward outside relocation, indicating if possible those groups inclined to leave and those inclined to stay.
- Emp.* 4. Employment at the Center. This is quite important. It might well include a table indicating the number assigned to various phases of work, number of employables, unemployed, etc. The section should include a narrative account of major developments in employment on the project, shortages or surpluses of labor, training programs, and problems encountered.
- Agri.* 5. Agriculture. While crops were important during this quarter only at the Arizona projects, poultry and livestock activities started at several centers. This section should include not only activities actually carried on, but an indication of plans made during this quarter for the rest of the year.
- Comm. Serv.* 6. Community Government. This section should trace developments in self-government, activities of the council, development of the charter, work of the judicial commission, significant ordinances, etc.



7. Education. This section will be important in most reports, for schools have been prominent in the WRA program during the quarter. The statement should include the organization of the school, number of teachers, Civil Service and evacuee; number of pupils; significant developments in the curriculum; progress of activities such as adult education, nursery schools, extension courses, etc.
8. Consumer Enterprises. Indicate the enterprises in operation, volume of business in each, organization of a co-operative association, trends in business of each enterprise, and other pertinent facts. The effect of rationing should be noted.
9. Internal Security. Describe the set-up and principal activities carried on.
10. Fire Protection. Describe the set-up, number of fires, their seriousness, and fire prevention measures.
11. Health and Sanitation. This section should indicate number of patients treated, principal health problems, health education, sanitation problems.
12. Religion. Faiths and denominations in the center and contacts with outside religious groups.
13. Community Activities. Since this heading covers an extremely broad gamut of activities (recreational, etc.), only the principal types should be indicated.
14. Land Development. Because of the season, most projects will probably not have much to report under this heading. Any development that was accomplished during the quarter, however, should be shown.
15. Construction. This probably will be of minor importance in most centers and should be treated accordingly.
16. Evacuee Induction. New arrivals at relocation centers have been few, and probably should be dealt with briefly.
17. Housing. This should be included only if it has been a serious problem.
18. Manufacturing. This should cover progress in all manufacturing enterprises at the project, both WRA-sponsored and private.



STV 10057 Sup.

Reports

Reports

19. Mess Operations. This section should be restricted to principal developments, such as the effect of rationing, problems of procurement, if any, etc.
20. Evacuee Attitudes and Reactions. Perhaps the most significant reactions will be covered in the section on registration, but attitudes and reactions toward other things should be reported as well.
21. Public Relations. This section should indicate, in a general way, the reactions of nearby communities to the relocation center and to the evacuee residents. It might include quotations from outstanding newspaper articles, statements made by public officials, visits from near-by groups, and any other notable manifestations of outside community attitudes.

#### Timing

In the interest of maintaining an accurate chronological account of the relocation program, it is highly important to confine each quarterly report rather strictly to the period which it purports to cover. In the case of the current report, this means that Reports Officers should approach the final editing as though they were writing on the morning of April 1. Any developments that occurred after April 1 should be saved for the next quarterly report which will cover the period from April 1 to June 30.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
RELOCATION BRANCH  
McGEHEE, ARKANSAS

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

April 7, 1943

To: All Division and Department Chiefs  
From: Ray D. Johnston, Project Director  
Subject: Quarterly Report, January 1 - ~~March 31~~

We have been asked to prepare a quarterly report on project operations for the period beginning ~~January 1~~ and ending ~~March 31~~. In order to provide material for this report, please prepare a summary of the activities of your Division or Department throughout that period.

This summary should be in narrative form but may include any pertinent statistics that are available. It should also include a brief discussion of major difficulties encountered and any plans for the immediate future.

Please send this material direct to Austin Smith, Jr., Reports Officer, not later than ~~April 15~~.



RAY D. JOHNSTON  
Project Director



Mr. Ellen

Apr. 14, 1943

Austin Smith, Jr.

Outline for Cooperative Quarterly Report

1. Legal status, incorporation, charter, and etc.
2. ~~Describe present organizational set-up and management.~~
3. Different departments ~~March 31~~ compared to ~~January 1~~. *April 1 June 30*
4. Number of employees ~~January 1~~ and ~~March 31~~. *April 1 June 30*
5. Profits and gross sales for ~~January, February, and March.~~ *April May June*
6. Chief problems.
7. Plans for immediate future.

*ASmith*

RELOCATION BRANCH  
McGEHEE, ARKANSAS

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

Dear Mr. Myer:

This is to advise that the quarterly report which you requested in your letter of April 3 will be prepared along the line you suggested and will be forwarded to your office on or before May 1.

Sincerely,

RAY D. JOHNSTON  
Project Director

ASmith:ri  
4-7-43



## RODNER RELOCATION PROJECT

REPORT FOR QUARTER COMPRISING PERIOD JANUARY 1 TO  
MARCH 31, 1943

### I. INTRODUCTION

During the first three months of the year, steady progress was made at this center. Except for registration, there were no outstanding events, but on the other hand, there were no unpleasant incidents. Land was cleared and the fuel problem was solved. Planting of food crops was started. Construction of the apartments for the appointed personnel continued. The work of the Internal Security, the Fire Department, and the Hospital was of a routine nature. Registration was successfully completed with no disturbances, and relocation was well under way by the end of March. The schools received necessary equipment and the first graduation exercises were held. The Welfare Department operated smoothly in making clothing allowances and grants. In these three months the center settled into a routine of orderly operation and systematic progress.

## II. EMPLOYMENT DIVISION

The most important work of the Employment Division during the first three months of the year has been general registration and the relocation program.

Registration started February 10 and was finished March 22. Until March 1, it was on a voluntary basis but only 632 persons registered and the voluntary system was abandoned. From then until registration was finished, the program was compulsory and was successful. A total of 5897 persons registered and no one refused. Registration was never popular but there was never any open, and apparently no organized, opposition to it. Special meetings, addresses by the appointed personnel, the center paper and special bulletins were all used to explain the program but most of the evacuees were never convinced of the Government's good faith. Most of all, they distrusted the Army's participation in the program. Many were bitter because of evacuation. Some did not want to commit themselves on the question of loyalty. Many feared that they would be forced to leave the center or be inducted into the Army. A surprisingly great number were not interested in leaving the center. There was very little interest in enlisting in the Army. Only 39 volunteered. The Issei were particularly opposed to registration and Army service. All these things made the voluntary phase of the program unsuccessful, and while the compulsory phase was successful, it was accepted by the evacuees with resignation



and not approval.

Registration emphasized the following:

1. That the young men are not interested in military services.
2. That resentment because of evacuation is strong.
3. That many do not want, or at least are in no hurry, to leave the center.
4. That with many, the ties to Japan are stronger than was thought.

The vital but unanswerable question is: How much influence did evacuation have in creating the present attitude of the people? There is no way to determine this and there are nearly as many opinions as there are people.

By the end of the quarter all project operations had been made secondary to the relocation program. Before registration relocation was making slow but steady progress. During registration it was retarded. After that it picked up and is now better than it has ever been. By the end of March there were more job openings and more people interested in these opportunities. People were leaving more rapidly but in not as great numbers as was expected. In January, 3 persons left to take employment; in February, there were 24; and in March, 69. The following are reasons why people are not leaving more rapidly:

- A. Belief that some compensation for their losses should be made before expecting resettlement.
- B. Belief that the Government is obligated to keep them for the duration of the war.
- C. Fear of outside conditions.
- D. Lack of funds.
- E. Separation of families.
- F. Old age--would prefer to have others go first.

- G. Desire for repatriation or expatriation.
- H. Fear of quicker induction into the Army.
- I. Expectation of being allowed to return to California.
- J. Waiting for the Government to make relocation more attractive. (Farm loans, etc.)

On January 1, 4149 evacuees were working in the center, and on March 31, there were 4202 employed. On the latter date, the distribution of employees was as follows:

Project Director	6
Administrative Division	78
Project Reports	27
Division of Agriculture	548
Community Services	569
Employment and Housing	353
Public Works	423
Transportation and Supply	1758
Community Enterprises	88
Health Division	234
Internal Security	50
Project Attorney	3
Community Fire Protection	60
	<hr/>
	4202

Since January 1, there has been a definite decrease in interest in work among the evacuees. This has been especially true of the outside workers. Construction and agricultural work have been delayed because of it. A stricter work policy is being adopted but the results cannot be determined yet.

### III. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

#### A. Education Section.

School enrollment remained stable during the last quarter. Enrollment for January was 2021 and for March 2017. School attendance has been around 95%. Much needed school equipment was



received, which included desks, chairs, blackboards, textbooks, etc. The school is fairly well equipped in this respect. Housing facilities were also improved by removal of partitions in some cases, and building of partitions in others.

The turnover in school personnel has been great during this period. There have been 72 changes in approximately 120 members of the evacuee and appointed personnel. All but one of these have been evacuee resignations.

In the past quarter, a school and center library was established, and \$3,000.00 worth of books was ordered to supplement the 3,000 volumes donated by the Stockton Assembly Center. All the books on order have not yet been received.

A nursery school for 4-year olds has been established and 113 are now enrolled. An expansion of this school is planned. A special room for physically defective children has been established in elementary schools and this work will be expanded as soon as a satisfactory instructor can be obtained. The adult education program has been very popular, with more than 1700 people participating. Emphasis is being placed on vocational education and other subjects which may assist the people after relocation. A chapter of the national honor society has been established in the high school, and several PTA groups have been organized. The first commencement exercises were held March 20 with 53 seniors who were mid-term graduates.

### B. Welfare Section.

For most of the first quarter of this year, the Welfare Section operated without the services of a full-time supervisor. The Director of Community Activities and one of the appointed personnel from the Department of Education devoted part of their time to this work.

The clothing section prepared clothing allowance orders for October, November, and December, and these were paid before the end of the quarter. The preparation of the January allowance has also been completed but has not been paid.

Only a few emergency grants were made in January but in February 187 public assistance cases received \$1,063.75, and in March 185 cases received \$1,062.50. Public assistance grants were paid on the following schedule:

	Public Ass't Cash Grant	Public Ass't Clothing Grant	Total
Persons 18 yrs. of age or over	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.50	\$ 4.50
Persons 13 through 17 yrs. of age	2.50	1.25	3.75
Persons up to 12 yrs. of age	1.50	1.00	2.50

### C. Community Activities Section.

The Community Activities section was reorganized after the first of the year. The block organization was abandoned and was replaced by six districts with nine field workers in charge. This was helpful in preventing the people from becoming too block-conscious.



Considerable effort has been made to organize adult entertainment and these efforts have been rather successful. Different types of programs, games, and contests have been instituted for the older people. The Arts and Crafts Department has offered classes in weaving, sewing, woodcarving, and flower arrangement. The sewing classes have been particularly popular, and recent exhibitions show that other classes have made considerable progress. Athletics in the center have been well organized and supervised.

Many types of clubs and organizations are active. Among these are the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, YMCA, YWCA, YBA, and the Student Christian Association. The Boy Scouts have 4 troops with a membership of approximately 125, and the 9 Girl Scout troops are rapidly increasing in membership. The Community Activities section has been very active in public relations work and has provided speakers for church and civic groups. The Protestant, Catholic, and Buddhist churches are flourishing and the attendance is increasing. The Catholic church has been organized since the first of the year.

#### D. Self-Government.

During the first quarter of the year, the constitution was drawn up by the constitutional committee appointed by the temporary council. After some minor revisions it was approved by the Project Director and by the Washington office. It is now in the process of being translated into Japanese and will be

submitted to the people for their consideration within a short time. Interest in self-government is not as great as it formerly was but it is believed that after the constitution has been submitted to the people more interest will be shown.

#### IV. HEALTH

The general health of the people in this center from the first of January to the last of March has been good. All epidemics have been avoided by scrupulous care although there have been a few cases of chicken pox, pink eye, and trench mouth. These are promptly discovered and isolated, and no deaths resulted from any of those.

The death rate has been relatively low, and most of the people who have died have been very old people or those who had some type of incurable disease, such as cancer, advanced tuberculosis, and apoplexy.

There is no reason to believe that the satisfactory health record will not continue throughout the summer. The community is apparently well protected against malaria and typhoid fever. However, there are within the center, ditches which should be cleaned out, and small lakes of water which should be drained. For some time the State Health Department has assigned a malaria control man to this center and he is expected to remain here for the duration of the summer. The contaminated condition of the water supply has been cleared up, and the quality of the milk has



been improved so that it is now satisfactory.

The following tabulation gives a brief summary of the work done at the hospital during the first 3 months of the year:

I.	No. of persons admitted to hospital	<u>294</u>				
	No. of persons discharged from hospital	<u>278</u>				
II.	Major hospital cases	<u>294</u>				
	1. Medical	<u>121</u>	4. O.B.	<u>47</u>	7. C.D.	<u>22</u>
	2. Surgical	<u>35</u>	5. New Born	<u>44</u>	8. Mental	<u>1</u>
	3. Fractures	<u>7</u>	6. T.B.	<u>5</u>	9. Stillbirth	<u>2</u>
III.	No. of cases referred to outside hospital or doctor	<u>14</u>				
	1. Medical (Most of these were Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat)	<u>14</u>				
IV.	Total number of outpatients treated	<u>6073</u>				
	Total number of dental patients treated	<u>1110</u>				
	Total number of optometry patients treated	<u>795</u>				
V.	Communicable diseases:					
	1. Whooping Cough	<u>1</u>	5. Pink Eyes	<u>6</u>		
	2. Measles	<u>2</u>	6. Lues	<u>20</u>		
	3. Chicken Pox	<u>17</u>	7. Trench Mouth	<u>1</u>		
	4. T.B.	<u>3</u>				
VI.	Vital Statistics:					
	Births: Boys	<u>23</u>	Girls	<u>21</u>	Stillbirths	<u>2</u>
					Total	<u>46</u>
	Deaths: Men	<u>14</u>	Women	<u>0</u>	Children under 18	<u>2</u>
					Total	<u>16</u>

#### V. AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

The activities of the Agricultural Division during the first quarter of the year were confined mostly to cutting wood and clearing land. Approximately 3600 cords of wood were cut during this

period and this furnished fuel for the evacuee apartments. A large portion of this was not used this winter and will be held over for future use. Considerable difficulty was encountered in obtaining even enough coal for use in the mess halls and it was fortunate that it was possible to obtain fuel in this manner.

In addition to providing fuel, this work also cleared approximately 400 acres of land; half of this is ready for the plow, and the remainder will be after brush and other rubbish are cleaned up and burned. 19 tractors are now available for farm use and it is believed that this is a sufficient amount of equipment of this type. However, a great deal of difficulty has been encountered in obtaining cultivating equipment and a considerable amount of this is still needed. Sufficient fertilizer and seed for Spring and Summer planting have already been received. Unusually bad weather in March prevented a normal amount of farm work but good progress was made in February. In this month much of the tillable land was broken, and approximately 20 acres of early vegetables were planted.

Progress is being made in the construction of hog-feeding lots, and it is planned for the garbage in the center to be fed to hogs in order that the supply of meat may be supplemented. Labor for agricultural production is being shifted from timber work as it is needed.



## VI. TRANSPORTATION AND SUPPLY DIVISION

### A. Chief's Office.

The Chief of this Division has assumed two new responsibilities in addition to his other supervisory work. The Evacuee Property Officer has not yet been appointed for this project and the Chief of the Transportation and Supply Division has been acting in this capacity. The Chief's other new duties have been with reference to arranging for the transportation of those leaving on indefinite leave or being transferred. His office determines the best route, purchases tickets, checks baggage, and prepares Government bills of lading for freight shipment.

### B. Motor Pool.

During the last three months the Motor Pool has been more efficiently organized. A dispatcher's office has been set up with one of the appointed personnel in charge. Mileage, time, and trip records are kept on each vehicle and this information is used for making charges to the various sections for the use of the vehicles and for reports to the Office of Defense Transportation. 12 additional trucks, 6 automobiles, 2 ambulances, 4 truck tractors, and 4 dump trucks have been recently requisitioned to supplement the 86 trucks and cars which are now in operation.

#### C. Motor Repair Section.

Before the first of the year the Motor Repair Section was equipped to do only minor repairs. By the end of March the heavy equipment had been purchased piece by piece wherever it could be found and at that time the shop was equipped to do complete motor overhauling. All tractors used by the Agricultural Division are serviced in the fields, and minor repairs are made there.

#### D. Mess Section.

This section experienced no undue difficulty during the first quarter of the year. Of course, trouble was encountered in obtaining certain types of food but this was expected. The rationing program is being strictly observed with reference to both the evacuee mess and that of the appointed personnel.

### VII. WORKS DIVISION

In the last three months the Works Division has been occupied chiefly with the construction of apartments for the appointed personnel and with maintenance work. 15 apartments are being constructed. Ten of these are 90% complete, one 80%, one 50%, and three are 30% complete. The work on these apartments has progressed much more slowly than was expected. This has been due to unfavorable weather conditions and to a decrease in work efficiency.



The chief bottleneck in the Construction Department has been with reference to plumbing. It has been very difficult to obtain men who were skilled in this line of work. However, during this quarter, an additional men's dormitory and <sup>a</sup>/recreation hall for the appointed personnel were completed and are now in use. The high school library is now about 35% complete and the foundation has been laid for the high school auditorium. No other school buildings are yet under construction.

In the first part of the quarter the Maintenance Section was transferred to the Works Division. This work has been re-organized and is now carried on by Districts rather than by Blocks.

#### VIII. COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISE.

The Rohwer Cooperative is now operating under the supervision of 4 evacuee trustees and an advisor from the appointed personnel. Articles of incorporation and by-laws were drawn up and a petition for incorporation was presented to the local Chancery Court but was denied. The Project Attorney is now making other arrangements for incorporation.

At the first of the year the Cooperative was operating only the Canteen and the Mail Order Department. By the end of March the following departments had been added: news and magazines, motion picture, shoe repair, shoe sales, and coupon sales department. Since the first of February, coupons instead of cash have

been used.

On January 1 there were 44 employees; on March 31 there were 95. Gross sales and profits for the first 3 months of the year were as follows:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Gross Sales</u>	<u>Profits</u>
January	\$20,971.69	\$2,303.97
February	22,868.41	2,715.30
March	<u>22,205.94</u>	<u>3,160.39</u>
Total for quarter	\$66,046.04	\$8,179.66

The chief problem of the Cooperative is obtaining a sufficient amount of goods for sale. The evacuee trustees have also been somewhat hesitant in expanding and providing additional goods and services. Plans for the immediate future include the dry goods department, a barber shop, a radio and watch repair shop, a dry cleaning and laundry agency, and a photo studio. The expansion of the Cooperative has been rather slow but it is believed that it is on an unusually sound financial basis.

#### IX. PROJECT ATTORNEY

During the quarterly period beginning January 1 and ending March 31, the Project Attorney's office handled 65 property cases, 40 insurance cases, 25 collections, 40 miscellaneous cases, and referred 3 divorce cases to private attorneys in McGehee. The volume of requests for assistance with income tax returns was rather large, and about 265 people were aided in this respect.



Legal advice and interpretations concerning administrative instructions and statutory requirements were given the administrative staff. The articles of association and the by-laws of the Cooperative were drawn up with the advice and assistance of the Project Attorney. In the latter part of March, the Attorney submitted a petition to the local Chancery Court for an order approving the incorporation of the Cooperative. The order was refused but the Attorney's efforts in this respect are continuing. The Project Attorney also has worked closely with the leaders in Self-Government in giving advice with reference to the writing of the permanent constitution.

Since the announcement of the Japanese-American combat team was made and since the possibility of general application of the draft to these centers seem imminent, there has been a marked increase in the applications for repatriation. Of a total of 574 applications for repatriation, 216 were made in March.

The Project Attorney also assisted in the interpretations of rationing regulations and helped to set up an office to accept applications for special shoe certificates and for ration books for those leaving on indefinite leave.

#### X. INTERNAL SECURITY

The fact that Internal Security was required to handle only routine matters and minor problems is a good indication of its efficiency. During the first quarter, 8 criminal investigations were made, and a small amount of stolen property was

recovered. All of these thefts were in the petty larceny class.

Eight arrests were made during the three months. One of the offenders plead guilty to a liquor violation charge and was sentenced to three months in the State Penitentiary by a State Court. Five of the arrests were for leaving the center without a pass and the penalty was set by the Project Director. Four of these were sentenced to 7 days and one to 2. The other two left the center without a pass and were also involved in a liquor law violation. One was given 60 days and the other 10 days by the Project Director.

The Police Force is well organized and the morale of the personnel is good.

#### XI. FIRE PROTECTION

The fire protection has been adequate and the record of the Department has been excellent. During the first quarter of the year, loss by fire in this center has amounted only to \$109.00. The major portion of this loss occurred when a kerosene range became overheated in the Block occupied by the appointed personnel. The Department answered four or five other alarms which involved only brush fires or other fires of a minor type. The damage for these amounted to only a few dollars.

During the quarter the only new equipment which has been added to the Department has been 2,000 feet of hose.



## XII. PUBLIC RELATIONS

It is believed that the public attitude toward this center and evacuees has improved during the last three months. One of the most favorable indications is the fact that evacuees have been permitted to go to nearby towns in increasing numbers and no unpleasant incidents have occurred.

The passage of a bill by the State Legislature prohibiting the ownership of land by people of Japanese ancestry and the discussion of this bill by members of the Legislature tended to create unfavorable opinion throughout the State. This bill was passed with only one dissenting vote in each House. A short time ago, the Attorney General stated publicly that he believed the Act was unconstitutional.

Two American Legion Posts in towns in this vicinity passed anti-Japanese resolutions, but the Post in McJannet, the town nearest the project, refused to adopt such a resolution although one was proposed.

In general, the attitude of the press has been fairly reasonable. Senator Chandler's visit and investigation was not given undue publicity and was treated with reasonable fairness. A favorable feature article concerning this project appeared in the magazine section of the State's largest paper. The Memphis COMMERCIAL APPEAL continues to be somewhat antagonistic.

Practically every week some member of the appointed personnel appears before civic, religious, or educational groups in nearby towns and cities. Frequently they are accompanied by evacuees who also take part in the program. Several organizations such as the Business and Professional Women's Club from a nearby town have visited the project in a body as guests of some related group at the center.



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington

April 30, 1943

Mr. Ray D. Johnston  
Project Director  
Rohwer Relocation Center  
Relocation, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Johnston:

We wish to acknowledge receipt of the  
documentary material listed below. Thank you  
for submitting these reports.

Sincerely yours,

*John C. Baker*

John C. Baker  
Chief, Office of Reports

Reports sent:

3 copies of Quarterly Report covering the period from  
January 1 to March 31, 1943

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington

August 19, 1943

Mr. Ray D. Johnston

Project Director  
Rohwer Relocation Center

Dear Mr. Johnston :

The report for the <sup>Quarterly Report</sup> ~~(week of, month of)~~ to June 30, 1943 has not yet been received at this office. Since these periodical reports are invaluable to members of the Washington staff in formulating policy, we shall appreciate your efforts to get it into our hands at the earliest possible date.

Sincerely yours,

*H. S. Meyer*  
Director



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
WASHINGTON

JUL 20 1943

TO: All Project Directors  
SUBJECT: Project Quarterly Reports

The quarterly report from each of the relocation centers, covering the period from April 1 to June 30, 1943, should be submitted to this office as soon as completed and not later than August 10. In the preparation of this report you may wish to refer again to the suggestive outline which was sent in connection with the report for the quarter ending March 31.

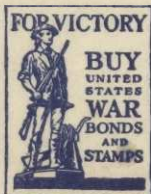
It is requested that the different divisions and sections make their quarterly reports as separate units so that distribution of the parts can be more easily made to respective divisions in the Washington office.

With completion of the above report, the relocation projects will no longer be required to submit quarterly reports to the Washington office, provided that other reports called for in Administrative Instruction No. 57 (Revised) are regularly submitted. Henceforth, the head of each administrative division in the Washington office will prepare the quarterly report of activities in his division, basing that report on information received in reports from divisions staffs at the projects through the reporting period.

Sincerely yours,

*E. M. Rowalt*

Acting Director.





WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
RELOCATION BRANCH  
McGEHEE, ARKANSAS

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

July 13, 1943

To: All Division and Section Heads  
From: Ray D. Johnston, Project Director  
Subject: Quarterly Report, April 1 - June 30

We have been asked to prepare a quarterly report on project operations for the period beginning April 1 and ending June 30. In order to provide material for this report, please prepare a summary of the activities of your Division or Section throughout that period.

This summary should be in narrative form but may include any pertinent statistics that are available. It should also include a brief discussion of major difficulties encountered and any plans for the immediate future.

Please send this material direct to Austin Smith, Jr., Reports Officer, not later than July 22.

RAY D. JOHNSTON  
Project Director

*Memo sent to:*

*Mr. Moulton*

*Dr. Hunter*

*Mr. Rhyme*

*Mr. Rains*

*Mr. Updegraff*

*Dr. Ramsey*

*Mr. Curtis*

*Chief Jones*

*Mr. Clayton*

*Mr. Ellen*

*Miss van Dusselhop*

*Mr. Price*



ROHWER RELOCATION CENTER

MEMORANDUM

August 3, 1943

To: Mr. Ellen  
From: Austin Smith, Jr., Reports Officer  
Subject: Outline for Cooperative Quarterly Report

1. Legal status, incorporation, charter, etc.
2. Different departments April 1 compared to  
June 30.
3. Number of employees April 1 and June 30.
4. Profits and gross sales for April, May,  
and June.
5. Chief problems.
6. Plans for immediate future.

*ASmith*

RELOCATION BRANCH  
MCKEE, ARKANSAS

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

Dear Mr. Myer:

You will find enclosed the quarterly report for this project covering the period of April 1 to June 30.

In compliance with the suggestions of Mr. Rowlett's letter of July 20, the sections of the report dealing with the different divisions and departments are prepared in separate units so that the distribution of these parts can be more easily made in the Washington office.

Sincerely,

RAY D. JOHNSON  
Project Director

Enclosures

cc - E. B. Whitaker

ASmith:ri  
8-25-43



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Washington

August 28, 1943

Mr. R. D. Johnston  
Project Director  
Rohwer Relocation Center  
Relocation, Arkansas

Dear Mr. Johnston:

We wish to acknowledge receipt of the  
documentary material listed below. Thank you  
for submitting these reports.

Sincerely yours,

*John C Baker*

John C. Baker  
Chief, Office of Reports

Reports sent:

3 copies of the Quarterly report for the period  
ended June 30, 1943.

## ROEYER RELOCATION PROJECT

REPORT FOR QUARTER COMPRISING PERIOD APRIL 1 TO  
JUNE 30, 1943

### I. INTRODUCTION

In the second quarter of 1943 the most important development was the expansion of the relocation program. Only a few people had left at the time the quarter started but by the end of June the relocation program was well under way. In this quarter the stress in farming operations had changed from land improvement to planting, cultivating, and harvesting of crops. During this period there were no major changes in the health situation at this center. There was little change in death and birth rates, and there was no outbreak of contagious diseases. In the Works Division, construction of apartments for the appointed personnel continued and other buildings of major importance were started. In the three months of this quarter the Community Enterprise was formally established and greatly expanded, and self-government at the center was put into operation. Schools continued to make progress, and were given an "A" rating by the State Department of Education. The efficiency of the Fire and Police Departments was indicated by the fact that practically all their duties were of routine nature.



Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

## II. EMPLOYMENT DIVISION

During this quarter all the work in this Division, and practically all other project operations, were secondary to the relocation program. This program was fairly successful in that 736 people left the center for outside employment. Of this number, 252 persons left to engage in farming, and the remainder left for jobs ranging from that of janitor and handy man to professional positions in the field of law and medicine. Of the total number going out to take employment, 176 were granted seasonal leave. Most of these people are engaged in farming but more than 50 are doing railroad work. 191 of the evacuees who have been given indefinite leave have relocated in Chicago, 126 in Cleveland, 94 in Denver, and 93 in Salt Lake City. Practically all of those on seasonal leave are men, while 210 of the 500 on indefinite leave are women.

A large majority of those who left were young single people and by the end of June most of these for whom it was easy to find suitable jobs had left the center. In other words, the easy part of relocation had been completed and the real and more difficult task of finding employment for the main body of center residents had just begun. Men with families are somewhat reluctant to leave the center since their responsibilities are much greater. It is necessary for them to have better paying jobs and they need more



Rohrer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

information about living conditions on the outside, such as information concerning housing, schools, etc. There is considerable inclination on the part of a good many people to remain in the center until better job offers are made or until the government offers more assistance in relocation.

Before the end of June, the number of persons relocated was beginning to decline, and it is believed that this decline will continue unless there is some definite change in the program or in the attitude of the people. By the end of the quarter it was apparent that a substantial number of people, particularly those in the older group, had no definite plans for leaving the center. In fact, there was considerable uneasiness on the part of the evacuees that they might be forced to leave the center against their will. A Relocation Advisory Council appointed by the administration was succeeded by a Relocation Committee appointed by the permanent Council. Several helpful suggestions have come from these committees.

At the beginning of the quarter, employment at the center was 4,202; and on June 30 there were 4,001 evacuees on the payroll. Because of relocation, skilled professional employees were difficult to find and there was considerable trouble in filling jobs at the center which required persons of this type. The Vocational Training Program is helping to fill the demand for typists and stenographers. By the first of April, practically all the confusion over registration had subsided and very little has been heard of this event since that time.



Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

### III. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

#### A. EDUCATION SECTION

As the result of the improvement in the first and second quarters, both the high school and the elementary school were given an "A" rating. Adequacy of the school plant was pointed out as the weakest point in the system but the ingenuity of the personnel and the adaptation of the school program to the needs of the children in the center were recognized as the strongest points.

The library system was reorganized during this quarter. All books received go into the community library and from there are sent out to the branch libraries located in the school barracks.

The quarter started with an enrollment of 2,017 and closed with 1,900. Practically all the reduction was due to relocation. School attendance has been excellent and has averaged well above 95%. In the elementary grades uniform tests showed that the greatest weakness of the pupils was in reading, and intensive work in the field of remedial reading had been undertaken and is continuing.

Thirty typewriters have been added to the high school commercial department, and 180 pupils are now taking typing. The addition of this course to the curriculum helps meet one of the most urgent needs of the project since so many workers are leaving for outside employment.

In this quarter, the emphasis in adult education was shifted to training for relocation and to morale-building courses



Rohrer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

for the older people. More than 1,500 persons were enrolled in April. The Vocational Retraining Program which is carried on under this department has made good progress and the center administration has given excellent cooperation in organizing classes for advanced typists and stenographers. Spanish and Chinese language classes were carried on, and the Japanese language classes were continued although the enrollment in these decreased somewhat.

Curriculum development was stressed during this period. Special emphasis was placed on the program of reading instruction throughout the 12 grades and in corrective speech procedures. Various types of information was collected which might aid in education for relocation.

Work on the high school auditorium was continued and many of the classrooms and study halls were improved by the removal of partitions in the school barracks. The intense heat of the summer made it necessary to cut additional openings in the walls of the barracks to obtain better ventilation.



Rehmer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

### III. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

#### B. WELFARE SECTION

This section was reorganized during the quarter. A Head Counselor was appointed in April and an Associate Counselor was added in June. At the end of the quarter, 11 counseling aides were employed, and 10 or 12 clerical workers were being used. The section carried on the following program of work: public assistance; transfers between centers; counseling to all people leaving on seasonal and indefinite leaves; establishing grants for transportation and subsistence to eligible people leaving for work assignments; administering the clothing allowance program; counseling service to families of men interned; and counseling service to residents asking for help with personal problems.

By the end of June, clothing allowance payments had been made for the month of April. These payments totalled approximately 23 or 24 thousand dollars per month. In the last month of the quarter, public welfare grants totalled \$1,516.79 as compared to \$1,052.50 for the last month of the previous quarter. The work of the Welfare Section has been substantially increased by the making of relocation grants for travel and subsistence. In June, 141 of these grants were made, totalling \$9,622.26. Virtually all persons being relocated are receiving these grants.



Rohrer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

### III. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

#### C. COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SECTION

The number of employees of this section has been considerably reduced but several of these vacancies have been filled by volunteer workers. The Arts and Crafts Department has continued its activities and some new work such as tailoring, millinery, and pottery has been added. The Athletic Department has been carrying on its program in an effective manner and there have been several inter-center activities with Jerome. The weightlifting and judo groups gave an exhibition at a Boy Scout jamboree in Little Rock and also at the Little Rock YMCA.

Clubs and organizations have made satisfactory progress during this period. This is particularly true of Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and YMCA. The Boy Scouts at this center held a Court of Honor and camporee which was attended by a group from Arkansas City. Scouts at this center were also guests of Monticello Boy Scouts at a camporee held in that town and the local group gained first place honors. Two Scouts from Rohrer attended a convention in Louisiana.

A Toyland is now operated by this section and is very popular with children. Religious activities continued in the usual manner. There has been a tendency throughout the operations of the whole section to place more emphasis on American types of entertainment and less on those of a Japanese nature.



Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

### III. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

#### D. SELF-GOVERNMENT.

The permanent Council was elected just before the opening of this quarter. There was an unexpected amount of interest in the election and a very large percentage of the people voted. The majority of the Council elected were Issei, and they are men respected both by the evacuees and the administration. They have cooperated satisfactorily with the administration, and committees appointed by the Council have been formed of men of more than average ability. Since most of the members of the Council are Issei, the discussions in the meetings are largely in Japanese. This created some difficulty for the Nisei members of the Council who have difficulty in understanding the formal Japanese which is sometimes used.

A Judicial Commission was appointed and it is expected to start hearing cases within a short time. Council leaders were consulted with reference to the best method of preventing unauthorized departures from the project and their cooperation has been helpful in this respect.



Rohrer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

IV. HEALTH

Health conditions at this center during April, May, and June have been satisfactory. This has been true in spite of the unusual heat to which most of the people were unaccustomed. There has been no outbreak of contagious diseases which have anywhere near reached the proportion of an epidemic.

During the three months, 297 persons were taken to the hospital. This compared with 294 of the previous quarter. At the end of June, only 66 of the hospital beds were occupied. The number of out-patients to return in this quarter was 8,952 compared with 8,073 for the previous three months. The number of dental cases remained practically the same. The 33 cases of chicken pox accounted for more than half of those in the communicable class. There were four new cases of tuberculosis, and one case of tubercular meningitis. Deaths for the quarter totalled 17 as compared to 16 for the first quarter; and there were 45 births during this period compared to 46 for the former period. There have yet been no cases of malaria among the evacuees, and the mosquito control program has been fairly effective. However, greater emphasis is being placed on this work at the present time.

The greatest difficulty the health program has encountered has been in maintaining an adequate medical staff. A few of the doctors have relocated and one has accepted a commission in the



Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

Army. At the end of the quarter only four evacuee doctors remained in the center. There has been some concern on the part of the center residents because of the small number of doctors available, and if others relocate, it will be necessary to make some other arrangement. As the situation now stands, it frequently is necessary for center residents to wait several hours before they are able to see a doctor. Appointments for dental cases must be made several months in advance. This has caused considerable complaint on the part of the evacuees. It would be desirable to have better facilities for caring for aged persons who are not strictly hospital cases but present facilities are not adequate to do this.

Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

#### V. AGRICULTURAL DIVISION

By the first of April most of the activities of the Agricultural Division had been turned from clearing land and cutting firewood to the planting of vegetable crops. Slightly more than 700 acres of land are available for agricultural production. 656 acres had been previously cultivated and is reasonably free from stumps but the remaining 57 acres is new ground from which stumps had recently been cut. Most of the land which had previously been in cultivation had not been properly tended. There was a large crop of weed and grass seed and this made it necessary to do extra plowing and land preparation. Planting of Spring vegetables progressed rapidly in April but some difficulty was experienced in getting the farm equipment and it was late in May before sufficient tractor equipment had been received. Ample seed and fertilizer had been purchased earlier and was on hand when needed. Yields of potatoes and peas were low because planting had been late for these vegetables. The yields of other crops have been fairly satisfactory.

The evacuee farmers were well pleased with the fertility of the soil but were handicapped by lack of uniformity in available moisture. At times there was too much rain and lately there has been a decided lack of it. In spite of this the Agricultural Division has done an outstanding job in land preparation and has



Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

given a convincing demonstration of intensive cultivation. No crop was planted unless the soil was in perfect condition. There have been excellent yields with reference to radishes, mustard, and cucumbers.

When the drouth became severe, investigation revealed that a bayou adjoining the farm would supply a good quantity of water for irrigation. At first only small pumps were installed for pumping the water onto the land but lately arrangements were made for others which would deliver approximately 2500 gallons per minute. Before these pumps were obtained, many of the vegetable crops were severely damaged by lack of water. It will not be possible to irrigate the whole farm land, but a substantial portion can be watered in this way.

The project nursery produced most of the plants needed for the farm with the exception of potato plants which were purchased on the outside market. It was fortunate that the nursery was established because most types of plants could not be purchased in any quantity this year.

To date, 657 acres have been planted. Of this amount, 92 acres are in hay, 85 acres in corn, and 462 acres are in vegetable crops, including soy beans. The acreage for some of



Rohrer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

the chief vegetable crops at the end of June are as follows:

Cucumbers	- 11 acres	: Potatoes	- 12 acres
Snap beans	- 11 "	: Spinach	- 13 "
Lima beans	- 6 "	: Carrots	- 10 "
Dried beans	- 16 "	: Mustard	- 7.5 "
Sweet potatoes	- 25 "	: Watermelons	- 22.75
Onions	- 12 "	: Cantaloupe	- 9.5 "
Radishes	- 14 "	:	:

253,513 pounds of vegetables have been harvested from the farm.

Of this amount, 16,751 pounds were sent to Jerome for use in that center.

Canning equipment has been received and plans are under way for the construction of a canning building. It is planned that all surplus vegetables produced in excess of immediate needs will be canned for future use.

Adequate labor has been available throughout the season and crops are now in very good condition except for lack of moisture. With water available for irrigation, it is felt that greater progress will be made during the late summer and fall months.

The hog lot and hog barns are practically complete, and 440 feeder hogs have been purchased.



Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

## VI. TRANSPORTATION AND SUPPLY

This Division is still handling matters relating to Evacuee Property. All applications for transfer of property or for storage in the government warehouses are handled in this office. Sales of property left in California are also made upon request of owners. Recently several transactions unusually favorable to the evacuees have been completed. The Evacuee Property work requires approximately 50% of the time of all the personnel of the office of the Division Chief. The work of this Department with reference to rail routings, shipment of freight, baggage, etc., for evacuees who are being relocated has increased a great deal since the last quarter. In addition to the work just described, the Chief's Office supervises the motor pool, motor repair, and mess operations.

### A. Motor Pool.

Within the last three months 12 trucks, 6 command cars, and 2 ambulances have been added to the equipment at this center. These were transferred from the Eighth Service Command and they were badly needed as some of the equipment that was being used was very difficult to keep in repair. At the beginning of the quarter a parking lot was constructed and with a few exceptions all vehicles are parked here each night. The dispatcher's office under this section sends out trucks as they are needed and keeps mileage



Rohrer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

time and trip records on each vehicle so that this may be used as a basis for charge against the various sections and divisions.

B. Motor Repair.

Work is still continuing on the new garage building which will greatly increase facilities for repair of vehicles. With the exception of a lathe, most of the equipment for use in the repair shop has been acquired. A storeroom for the motor repair section has been set up and all property and parts have been separated, identified, and bin cards prepared.

C. Mess Management.

During the second quarter of the year, the mess management section continued its operations much as it had in the past. There was a greater scarcity of meat, particularly beef, but this was offset in some respect by fresh vegetables which were produced on the center farm. These included mustard greens, radishes, potatoes, and cucumbers. The market value of the vegetables used in June was approximately \$8,000.00. Some surplus was sent to the Jerome project, and this center received some pork from Jerome. Arrangements have been made for the manufacture of miso, tofu, and the necessary machinery has been ordered for this work. The construction of an ice storage house was well under way at the end of the quarter. Throughout the whole period the rationing program was strictly followed and a daily inventory of warehouses was kept.



Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

#### VII. WORKS DIVISION

At the first of April the high school auditorium, the library, the apartments for the appointed personnel, and the new garage building were under construction. By the end of June the apartments were 93% complete, and most of the appointed personnel had moved in. Fairly good progress has been made on the garage but work on the library and auditorium was advancing rather slowly. The hog barns were started in May and by the end of the quarter were 50% complete. By the end of the quarter an ice house was under construction, and remodeling of the school barracks was in progress. This remodeling involved removal of partitions and cutting of openings for better ventilation.

In addition to this construction work, the Division also handled all types of maintenance jobs and also operated the water, sewage, and electrical systems. In the last three types of work only routine problems developed.

Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

#### VIII. ROHWER COOPERATIVE ENTERPRISES

Just before the beginning of the quarter, the Chancery Court for this District refused to grant articles of incorporation for the cooperative on the grounds that it was not a benevolent enterprise. Consequently, a petition for incorporation was filed in the District of Columbia. This petition was granted early in May, and the community enterprise officially became Rohwer Cooperative Enterprises, Incorporated. After incorporation, a petition was filed with the State Department of Arkansas requesting permission to transact business within the State. This request was granted just before the close of the quarter.

Not long after incorporation, the trustees of the previous organization made a formal transfer of all assets and liabilities of the cooperative to the new Board of Directors which was elected after incorporation.

During the second quarter, a beauty parlor, a dry goods department, and a photo studio were added to the departments operated by the Enterprise. In April, the number of employees was 117; in June, 108. Profits and gross sales for the three months of the quarter are as follows:

<u>Profit</u>			<u>Gross Sales</u>	
April	\$ 4,607.42	:	April	\$ 29,787.82
May	6,349.61	:	May	30,540.75
June	6,023.46	:	June	30,773.84



Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

The chief difficulties encountered by the Enterprise have been lack of equipment such as barber chairs and show cases, and there has been the usual difficulty in obtaining scarce articles for sale. It is planned that another canteen carrying a general line of merchandise will be opened in a more centralized position for the convenience of the people who live at some distance from the location of the present general store.

Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

#### IX. PROJECT ATTORNEY

During the second quarter the Project Attorney has handled 93 property cases, 47 insurance cases, 40 taxation cases, 9 miscellaneous, 30 collections, and 4 divorce matters. In this period the project cooperative was incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia, and an operations agreement and rental memorandum between the cooperative and the WRA were executed. In the latter part of June a permit was issued by the State of Arkansas to the Rohwer Cooperative Enterprises, Incorporated, authorizing the cooperative to do business in this state as a foreign corporation. A letter of notification was also prepared for the enterprise requesting the Security and Exchange Commission to authorize the issuance of 5,000 membership certificates.

The community government started functioning in this quarter, and the Project Attorney gave considerable advice and assistance with reference to elections held and boards and committees appointed. Also, the usual opinions and interpretations concerning administrative instructions and other matters of a legal nature were given to the administrative staff of the project.



Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

#### X. INTERNAL SECURITY

After April 1, the Chief of Internal Security enlisted in the United States Navy, and the Assistant Chief was advanced to fill the vacancy. During this quarter another assistant chief was added so that there are three members of the appointed personnel in this department.

At this time the police force is made up of 54 evacuees, most of whom are middle aged men who have families. They work in three 8-hour shifts and do some special patrol work such as directing traffic near schools. In this period there have been no unusual incidents. There were three liquor violations, and each of the offenders were given short jail sentences by the Project Director. There were 20 traffic violations, 5 cases of petty larceny, and 2 of grand larceny. There were also several cases of center residents leaving the center without passes but this has not been a serious problem. The first evacuee from this center was taken to Leupp. This man was a consistent trouble maker and had been convicted of a liquor law violation and had served a short sentence in the State Penitentiary. His transfer to Leupp was approved by the residents of his block. There was nothing of a subversive nature in connection with the case.

There is close cooperation between the Police department and the Block Managers. The latter have greatly assisted this division with many of its problems and have rendered appreciable assistance in maintaining a peaceful condition at this center.

Rohwer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

XI. FIRE PROTECTION

The work of this department has continued in a routine manner. The number of firemen is approximately the same, slightly less than 50. No new equipment was added during the quarter and that on hand is considered adequate. Fire losses during the period ending June 30 totalled \$72.36. Activities of the department included drill work, and a signal system was installed in the station. Some improvement was made to the fire station, and hose racks were constructed. An Associate Fire Protection Officer was employed in the latter part of June in view of the fact that the present Chief is expected to resign in the near future.



Reimer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

## XII. PUBLIC RELATIONS

Public relations have been fairly satisfactory during this quarter. There has not been a great deal of local publicity concerning this project and it has not been unfavorable except that a few unfriendly items appeared in the Memphis COMMERCIAL APPEAL. Arkansas papers have continued their reasonable attitude. One or two exceptionally good editorials have appeared in the ARKANSAS GAZETTE. The local Post of the American Legion at McGehee refused to pass an anti-Japanese resolution. The attitude of the people in the surrounding territory has been satisfactory and there have been no unpleasant incidents. Practically every week speakers either from the appointed personnel or from the evacuee group have left the center to make addresses in different sections of the state. Several have gone to surrounding states. Most of these addresses were made before church groups of some type.

The most important event in the field of public relations was Press Day which was held June 30 and July 1. Publicity resulting from this event was most satisfactory both with reference to the volume and content. Nineteen newspaper and radio representatives from this and 3 other states attended. The Memphis COMMERCIAL APPEAL which has been unfriendly sent two of its best men, one of whom was a photographer, and used a full page, including pictures, in describing conditions here. It was decidedly favorable.

Bohmer Quarterly Report, Apr. 1 - June 30, 1943

Two important Louisiana papers sent representatives. One of these carried a full-page article while the other carried a series of four. The only unpleasant note was an unfavorable statement by the United Press representative concerning work habits at the center. Representatives from the two leading Arkansas papers were present, as well as from the Associated Press and United Press. Most of the articles mentioned that the WRA fulfilled its agreement that no restrictions would be placed on the news men who attended.

It was found that the best impression was made by leaving the reporters to their own devices except that a selected evacuee was furnished to accompany them and act as guide. In every instance, the impression made by the center resident was very good and it is believed that this had much to do with the favorable publicity which resulted from Press Day.