

DOCUMENT TL-17

THE MARUMOTO FAMILY

CONFIDENTIAL

This document contains no disguises. All names, dates, places, and events are accurate to the best knowledge of the investigator. No part of this document may be used for any purpose whatsoever without sufficient disguise to conceal the true identity of the persons involved.

Sources of Information:

1. Case record on the Marumoto family in the files of the Social Welfare Department in Tule Lake. Permission for the use of this data given by supervisor Miss Naoko Hoshino. Record face sheet included in Appendix I.
2. Individual Record forms, WRA-26 for both Mr. and Mrs. Marumoto. This data made available through the cooperation of Miss Dorothy Montgomery of Social Welfare and Miss Hannah Uyeno of Housing Department.

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
Family Organization and Disorganization
Tule Lake Project
Shibutani, 3/22/43

THE MARUMOTO FAMILY

1. Introduction

The Marumoto family consists of Mr. Hanzo Marumoto (62) and his wife Yasu (48). They have one married daughter who is living apart from both of them. The Marumotos have been separated for some time, but had some difficulty in Tule Lake when the Housing Department started an inquiry to find out why man and wife were not living in the same apartment.¹

Both the Marumotos were educated in Japan and can understand only Japanese. Their daughter was educated in the United States, but she speaks to them in Japanese. Their religion is Buddhist.

Mr. Marumoto was a rather prosperous farmer in the vicinity of Seattle, Washington. His position was relatively high in the social structure of the Japanese community even though he was a farmer.²

2. The Individuals in the Family

Hanzo Marumoto

Hanzo Marumoto was born on October 25, 1879, in Yota mura, Yamaguchi ken, Japan, where his father was a farmer. He attended the Yota mura grammar school from April, 1886, to March, 1892. Upon finishing school, he helped on his

1. There was such a shortage of rooms that the Housing Department had to force related people to live together whenever possible.

2. Data from WRA-26 and CWD files.

father's farm until August, 1899, when at the age of 20 he migrated to the United States.

Upon his arrival in the United States, Hanzo Marumoto did odd jobs in homes and in farms in the state of Washington. In March, 1916, he finally settled down in Auburn. With his young bride, he worked on his truck farm and developed it so well that by twenty years later it was paying over \$3,000 a year in profit. He built his home here and settled down to rearing his child.

Marumoto is 5'4" tall and weighs 145 pounds. He has no physical defects. He can read, write, and speak Japanese only. His faith is Buddhist.³

Yasu Marumoto

Yasu Nishino was born on May 3, 1894 in Soomura, Yamaguchi ken, Japan, where her father was a farmer. She attended the Soomura Grammar School from April, 1902, to March, 1906. She remained with her father for four years and then at the age of 16, in August, 1910, she migrated to the United States to marry Hanzo Marumoto, a man from the same ken.

From the time of her marriage she worked with her husband in the field. She did the work around the house and helped with the vegetables. She reared her daughter and sent her to American schools and prepared her for her marriage.

Mrs. Marumoto is 5'1" tall and weighs 125 pounds. She has had hay fever and has suffered yearly for over fifteen years, but is otherwise healthy. She can read, write, and speak Japanese, but has little understanding of English. Her religion is Buddhism.⁴

3. WRA-26

4. WRA-26

3. The History of the Family

The Marumotos had never gotten along too well since their marriage, however, they managed to remain together. They had frequent quarrels, but somehow or another they managed to make up and go on with their work. Both worked hard in the fields to send their daughter through school. Finally the daughter, Rose Ayako Marumoto married a Mr. Iseri and left the household to live with her husband's parents.

Just prior to the evacuation the two quarrelled and separated. They have not been together since. Mrs. Marumoto went to stay with her daughter at Route 6, Box 535, in Tacoma, Washington. Mr. Marumoto remained at his farm at P.O. Box 435 in Auburn. The entire area, however, was evacuated to the Pinedale Assembly Center on May 24, 1942. The couple lived apart from each other. On July 21, 1942, they were both sent to Tule Lake.

In Tule Lake, Mr. Marumoto was assigned to room 6817-E; while his wife was assigned to 5411-E at the other end of the camp.⁵ Ayako lived with her husband at 7012-F, but her father-in-law lived at 5405-A, the same block as her mother. Since housing was scarce and since more people were expected in the center, some question was raised about the wisdom of this separation. On July 27, the matter was brought to the attention of the Social Welfare Department.

A family friend, a Mr. Takuji Yamashita, was contacted and he felt that it would be better for the Marumotos to live separately for the time being. Mr. Iseri, Ayako's father-in-law, also vouched for the separation of the two. Ayako herself was contacted and she gave the following reply:

"It is best for my mother to be separated from my father. If at any time she is in need of care, I am willing to take the responsibility, but I will not be responsible for my father."⁶

5. Block 54 is at the extreme eastern end of the camp; while block 68 is at the extreme western end. It is impossible for them to be further apart.

6. CWD files, July 27, 1942.

Mr. Marumoto was then contacted and he declared that he wished to get a divorce from his wife because of her disobedience to his wishes. He stated that she always did whatever she pleased and would not listen to him. He stated further that he did not miss her and wished to be rid of her.

However, Mr. Marumoto did not take any legal action to get a divorce. Nothing further happened. The housing difficulty was not pressed in this particular case, since the Social Welfare Department recommended a separation.⁷ In the fall, Mr. Marumoto suddenly left the center for work outside.⁸

4. Tentative Conclusions

Although it is rather difficult for us to attempt any analysis on the basis of such scanty data, we may here hazard a few guesses. It is conceded by all persons that the two were incompatible. Apparently they had never gotten along well together. The question arises: why did they not separate before? Their daughter had left them long before and yet they managed to live together. Whereas prior to evacuation they had always managed to settle their difficulties, why did a final break come immediately or simultaneously with the changed conditions?

Mrs. Marumoto married quite young and perhaps she was always dissatisfied with the life that she had to lead.⁹ The evacuation with the changed economic conditions may have given her the independence that she had long wanted.

7. The recommendation of Social Welfare is next to final (project director's word is final) in decisions relating to disposition of domestic problems.

8. The writer does not know whether or not Mr. Marumoto has returned. Data from CWD files, July 27, 1942.

9. Many are the stories of frustrated "picture brides." Many left Japan to escape from the burden of work that led them nowhere to join a "prosperous farmer" or a "business man" or a "hotel owner" who turned out to be a small-time laborer in "skid row". Many committed suicide; others fled; others married others; still others ended in prostitution. Many Issei women now confess that they were extremely disappointed.

Document TL-17
Marumoto Family

AGGENDA

Different addresses given in the WRA-26 forms by Mr. and Mrs. Marumoto led to the general belief in the department that the two had separated prior to evacuation. There is no evidence to confirm this and it is quite possible that Mrs. Marumoto simply registered in Tule Lake under her daughter's address.

The scanty record seems to indicate that perhaps the fight began in Pinedale, and the fact that the case opened only six days after their arrival in Tule Lake would indicate that some trouble had existed before.

All this is subject to checking.

*Fact that both have same i.d. number indicates
they were together at evacuation*

DOCUMENT TL-18

THE MATSUDA FAMILY

CONFIDENTIAL

This document contains no disguises other than names. All dates, places and events are accurate to the best knowledge of the investigator. No part of this document may be used for any purpose whatsoever without further disguises to conceal the identity of the persons involved and without the consent of the director of the Evacuation and Resettlement Study

Sources of Information:

1. Case record of the Matsuda family in the files of the Community Welfare Department in Tule Lake Project.
2. WRA-26, Individual Record Form, for Mr. Matsuda.

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
Chicago, Illinois
Shibutani, August 30, 1943

THE MATSUDA FAMILY

1. Introduction

The Matsuda family consists of Yukio, 32, and his Caucasian wife, Laverne, 25. Mrs. Matsuda tried to evacuate with her husband but inspite of the fact that she signed a voluntary waiver she was refused admission into Walerga by WCCA officials. On July 1 she joined her husband in Tule Lake.

The family formerly lived in Sacramento where Yukio worked in a produce market. Prior to evacuation he moved to a farm about six miles from Sacramento to be with Yukio's parents. Neither of them understood Japanese and have been insolated from Japanese communities. They have no children.

2. Life of Yukio Matsuda

Yukio Matsuda was born on September 1, 1901 in Sacramento. His father was a farmer. He attended David Lubrini grammar school in Sacramento from September, 1915 to June, 1923 and Sutter junior high school from September, 1923 to June, 1924. From September, 1924 he attended Sacramento high school majoring in auto mechanics. He droped out in January, 1927. Two years previous he left his parents and went to live with a Caucasian couple, a Mr. and Mrs. Wilson. He remained with them for a few years.

In June, 1932 Yukio began working at Nojiri Brothers, wholesalers in Sacramento as a sales clerk for \$25 per week. While

working here he met Laverne Amy Felps and the two were married in Mexicali, Mexico on June 16, 1936. The young couple moved to 35 Broderick St., Sacramento. Yukio continued working at Nojiro Brothers until May, 1939 when he started his own wholesale market. He operated the market until June, 1940 and earned as much as \$250 per month. In June, 1940 he gave up the market and went to work for Mr. Oshima, wholesale producer as a sale manager for \$32 to \$50 a week.

Yukio is 5 ft. 4 in. tall and weighs 165 pounds. He has no physical defects. He can read, write and speak English only. His hobby is horse racing. His religion is Christian.¹

3. History of Family

The Matsudate couple continued to live in Sacramento until long after war had started. When evacuation was announced the two left the city and went to live with Yukio's parents about six miles from the city. Mrs. Matsudate had never approved of her son's marriage but she was kind to Laverne. The group got along well together. On June 8, 1942 Yukio, his brothers and sisters and parents evacuated to Walerga Assembly Center and Laverne remained behind to look after the farm. She also tried to join Yukio in the center but was refused permission by the WCCA. On July 2 the Matsudas were transferred to Tule Lake project and a few days later Laverne joined them on the project.

After a few days Laverne decided she could not stand living in the center and decided to leave her husband. She went to Mr. Shir-

1. WRA-26.

rell and requested that she be released.² On the following day the Social Welfare Department made an investigation and Mr. Matsuda told them the following story. His wife had been refused a permit to accompany him to the Assembly Center and had been making arrangements with the proper authorities. In the meantime he had heard of a new order affecting Japanese with Caucasian wives. Since it was not sure a telegrant was sent to the regional office requesting information. A reply came saying that they knew of no such ruling and asked for further information. A letter was ~~written~~ giving full information and just before it was mailed a wire was received La Verne arrived at the project that night. After a few days on the project Laverne became so upset that she applied to leave.

Mrs. Matsuda stated that she did not want to leave the project without her husband, however, she felt that in view of the fact that the WCCA permitted 10 persons who were married to Caucasians to return to their home, consideration should be given to her husband and to herself.³ She~~t~~ stated further that if her husband were released he would have a job with Mr. George Shagen in Sacramento and that even if this job should not come through they had several places to go as soon as they were released. They could even go to the home of Laverne's parents or live with her sister or could leave the Western Defense Command. She~~t~~ stated that Yukio's parents were in Pinedale Center and she did not care to go there.

2. Laverne Felps was born on May 10, 1917 in Edgewater, Pennsylvania. Her mother is now living at 18 Oak St., Bryte, California. She requested that she be allowed to join her mother. CWD files of July 7, 1942.

3. See appendix in Document TL-7 for the copy of new item.

Yukio gave the following information about himself to the Social Welfare department:

"All my brothers, sisters and I were born in the United States. My wife was Born in Pennsylvania. We were married in Mexico on June 16, 1936. I lived with my family until I was 16 years of age and then I went to live with a Caucasian family, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson. Mr. Wilson is now working in Memorial Park in the city of Sacramento. I lived in their home while working in a produce market where Wilson's sons were also working. We had no connections with any Japanese organization or church. Neither my wife nor I speak Japanese nor do we have any Japanese friends. My mother never opposed our marriage but always has been good to Laverne. We will be able to finance ourselves if we are released from the project and if we can we would like to go to our farm or to Laverne's mother's home.⁴

"While I was living with the Wilsons I went back and forth visiting my parents quite often. I went to high school for 2½ years and then went to work. I've always mingled with Caucasians and my sympathy is more with the Caucasians. I've been guaranteed a job in a grocery store in Sacramento and offered a job by a Chinese in Woodlawn, Mr. Gee Hing, who owns a wholesale produce market.⁵

A letter was written to the regional office but no other action was taken and Mrs. Matsuda continued to remain on the project. On

4. CWD files on July 7, 1942.
5. CWD files on July 17, 1942.

August 10 she once again contacted the Social Welfare department and asked for her release. She repeatedly insisted that neither she nor her husband had contact with Japanese and they knew more Chinese in and around Sacramento than Japanese. Also she asked if she could be given release herself so she could go to San Francisco and contact the Army officials in person.⁶ During the following morning Mrs. Matsuda had been advised repeatedly she could return herself but it was impossible for her husband to go for the time being. It was explained to her that the ruling came from the Military Authorities and the WRA had nothing to do with it. On September 17 a request for a permit to go to San Francisco to see Mr. Fryer, regional director, and members of the military authorities was made. By this time because apparently some disagreement in the form as to what was to be done was not quite clear when Mrs. Matsuda wanted to go or whether it was Laverne's desire to leave. It was quite certain the family did not want to relocate in the middlewest.

A few days later Laverne went to the Social Welfare department again and stated she wanted to leave the project to dispose of personal property in Sacramento since she wanted to establish residence outside the Western Defense Command. She asked for additional funds in case of emergency. She had enough to get started but application was made for a travel permit. On September 20 she left the project. She went to San Francisco a few days later to talk the matter over with authorities regarding her complaints. On September 30 a wire was received in the project that Laverne would not return to the project again. No more was heard of Laverne and the matter was dropped.⁷

6. CWD files on August 11, 1942.

7. CWD files on October 1, 1942.

Appendix I

Surname MATSUDA	Man's name Yukio	Cross reference	File CWD	Case #
	Woman's name Laverne Amy	Other names used		Family # 30976
Present address 2119-F, Tule Lake Project				Classification Mix marriage
				Referred by E. Shirrell
Previous addresses	35 Broderick St., Sacramento, Cal.			Date July 7, 1942
1. Evacuated from	Sacramento, California on June 8, 1942			
2. Relocated from	Walerga Assembly Center on July 2, 1942			

FAMILY COMPOSITION

Name	Birthdate	Birthplace	Citizenship status	Occupation		
				Past	In project	Registered
Yukio	9/8/09	Sacramento	Citizen	Pro. Mkt.	?	?
Laverne Amy	5/10/17	Pennsylvania	Citizen	Hsewife	?	?

Legally responsible and other relatives	Relationship	Address	Number dependents
Mr. & Mrs. Felps	Parents	Bryte, Calif.	?
Mrs. Tsuru Matsuda	Parent	Pinédale	?

Others in household	Relationship	Address

Visited Japan	Who	When	Period

Religion
Christian

(COPY)

Appendix II

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Tule Lake Project, Newell, Calif.

In reply refer to: CSW

Oct. 10, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO: E.M. Rowalt, Acting Regional Director
ATTENTION: Robert A. Petrie, Executive Assistant
SUBJECT: Mrs. Laverne Matsuda

This is in regard to your telegram of September 30 concerning Laverne Matsuda, who is now absent from the project on leave until October 9.

Mrs. Matsuda has not returned to the project as you undoubtedly know and we are taking her name from the census report of evacuees now resident on the project.

We have been unable to locate any authentic waiver signed by Mrs. Matsuda on her entry to this project. We believe this waiver is in the hands of the WCCA and would suggest that clearance be made with that organization for cancellation.

Please advise if there is any further action that this project should take in regard to her permanent release.

/s/ Elmer L. Shirrell
Project Director

LRHALLE:es
10-9-42
cc: CHRON.
DESK
CASE

(COPY)

Appendix III

Tule Lake, California,
September 14, 1942

Dear Mrs. Halle:

I'm requesting for a travel permit as Mr. Matsuda and I have decided to go outside the Western Defense Area. It will be necessary for me to go to Sacramento to dispose of our personal property in order to have additional funds to tide us over until employment is secured. I would like to leave this project around the 18th of this month and return within two weeks. I am planning to travel by train. As we are anxious to make our residence outside the Western Defense Area as soon as possible I would appreciate it very much if you will give this request your immediate attention.

Thanking you for any consideration received. I remain,

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Laverne Matsuda

(COPY)

Appendix IV

August 5, 1942

Dear Mrs. Halle:

Mr. Shirrell told me that had been a few people who had written him in regard to Mr. Matsuda. Since I wrote to quite a few people I have no way of knowing which ones wrote in. So I am wondering if you would be so kind as to let me know. Mr. Shirrell seemed so busy at the time I hesitated to ask him. We would like very much to write and thank these people for their kindness.

Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Laverne Matsuda

2119F

(COPY)

Appendix V

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

PERMITS

August 11, 1942

Mrs. Laverne Matsuda,
Box 9, Bryte, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Matsuda:

Your letter of June 22, 1942, requesting permission to be admitted to the Marysville Assembly Center in order to join your husband, has been forwarded to this office by the Wartime Civil Control Administration.

If you still wish to join your husband who is presumably to be at Tule Lake Relocation Project, you may do so upon filling out the enclosed WDC Form PM-7, "Request and Waiver of Non-excluded Person," and submit it to Mr. Elmer L. Shirrell, Project Director at the Tule Lake War Relocation Project.

Very truly yours,

/s/ E.R. Fryer
Regional Director

Enclosure 4864
cc: Elmer L. Shirrell
WRHart:EV 8/11/42

(COPY)

Appendix VI

July 29, 1942

Mr. E.L. Shirrell,
Project Director

Sir:

I am writing in regard to Mr. Yuke Matsuda, who is interned at Tule Lake Relocation Center. I have known Mr. Matsuda for the past seven years, and have known him only as a loyal American Citizen. At no time have I ever heard him say anything ill against our "Great American Country" but always he has stoutly defended it. I can truthfully say, that I have never heard him speak one word in Japanese, and understand, that he knows but a few words of his own race. He has always been among the American people and had very little to do with the Japanese Race. For one who has tried so desperately hard to become Americanized in every way, even to learning and speaking the American language in preference to the language of his race, which is unusually rare, I wish to say, that I have no personal objections to, one who I feel is, truly loyal to our Great Country, and I believe will do nothing to harm it, but a great deal to defend it, from having his release from Tule Lake.

Yours truly,

/s/ Mrs. Ivy Belle
Broderick, Calif.

(COPY)

Appendix VII

Woodland, Calif.
July 21, 1942

Mr. E.L. Shirrell,
Project Director of War Relocation Authority,
Tule Lake, California

Dear Sir:

Mr. Gee Hing of Woodland, California, has referred to us for our attention the matter of obtaining a release for Yukio Matsuda. Apparently from the correspondence if Yukio Matsuda can obtain a bona fide job and is vouched for by the employer as well as some responsible citizen, he then can obtain a release from the Concentration Camp.

Would you please advise whether or not that can be done.

Thanking you for your courtesy in the matter, I am,

Very truly yours,

/s/ Robert W. Huston

RWH:C

(COPY)

Appendix VIII

Sacramento, Calif.
July 20, 1942

Mr. E.L. Shirrell
Project Director Relocation Center
Tule Lake, Calif.

Dear Sir:

With reference to a Mr. Yuke Matsuda whom you have under your charge, I am taking this opportunity of writing to you.

I am in the Grocery business here in the city, and am desirous of obtaining Mr. Matsuda's release if possible. I will employ him in the store, and will pay him good wages.

You may rest assured~~ed~~ Mr. Shirrell, that if you release him to me, I will see to it that he abides by all the rules that you may impose.

Hoping that you will act favorably on this matter. I am,

Yours very truly,

/s/ George V. Chargin

Yuke Matsuda
Blk 21, Arr. 2119-Apt F
WRA
Tule Lake, Calif.

(COPY)

Appendix IX

Bryte, Calif.
June 30, 1942

Camp Director
Tule Lake
California

Dear Sir:

My husband is Japanese. I am Caucasian. I am trying to hard to get permission to rejoin my husband in camp but just can't seem to make heads or tails of anything so I am writing to you for advice. I was told to send for Form PM-7 which I did. I signed it and then sent it to the commanding officer in San Francisco. It has been over a week and I have received no answer. I would appreciate it so very much if you would kindly let me know what to do next. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Laverne Matsuda

Mrs. Yukio Matsuda
Box 9
Bryte, California

(COPY)

Appendix X

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Tule Lake Project, Newell, Calif.

July 1, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. E.R. Frayer, Regional Director
ATTENTION: Mr. Harvey M. Coverley, Ass't. Regional Director
SUBJECT: Alleged separation of Caucasian wife and
Japanese husband

With reference to our telegram relative to the Caucasian wife who was prevented from accompanying her husband to the relocation center, the facts as we have been given them follows:

Mrs. Laverne Matsuda, at present living with her sister at Box 9, Bryte, California, did not at first accompany her husband, Yukio Matsuda, into the Marysville Assembly Center. Before this assembly center was transferred to Tule Lake, Mrs. Matsuda signed a voluntary evacuation waiver and sent it to San Francisco. When she went to enter the assembly center she was refused entrance by the officials allegedly on the ground that some new ruling prevented her accompanying her husband.

Since first reporting this circumstance, Mr. Matsuda has inquired concerning the possibility of being released to join his wife rather than have her admitted here. He states that he does not speak Japanese and has associated during the greater part of his life only with Caucasians. He informs us that he has a two acre ranch--Route 2, Box 3126 near Sacramento and has been promised a job in a grocery store by a George Chargin, 1112 Howell Street, Sacramento.

/s/ Elmer L. Shirrell
Acting Project Director

DOCUMENT TL-19

THE MATSUMOTO FAMILY

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Sources of Information:

1. Case record on the Matsumoto family (common-law) in the files of the Social Welfare Department in Tule Lake. Permission for the use of this data granted by supervisor Miss Naoko Hoshino. Record face sheet included in Appendix I.
2. Brief interview with Mr. Matsumoto on January 7, 1943. This conversation took place because of some other matter, and not much information relevant to the case was secured.
3. Individual Record Forms, WRA-26 for both Minoru Matsumoto and Miye Yokomizo. This data made available through the cooperation of Miss Dorothy Montgomery of Social Welfare and Miss Hannah Uyeno of Housing Department.

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
Family Organization and Disorganization
Tule Lake Project
Shibutani, 3/19/43

THE MATSUMOTO FAMILY1. Composition and Characteristics of the Family

Minoru Matsumoto (34) and Miye Yokomizo (27) have been living together as husband and wife in common-law. Both are Kibei, both having been educated in Japan. Both have some understanding of English, but they speak to each other and to others almost exclusively in Japanese.

Mr. Matsumoto was formerly a farmer; while Mrs. Yokomizo has never worked. She lived either with her parents or else did housework for her former husband. Both Mr. Matsumoto and his wife attended schools in America soon after their return from Japan, but they had to drop out to meet their economic responsibilities. Mrs. Yokomizo's faith is Buddhist.

Neither of the two have had any extensive contacts with Caucasians. Ever since their return from Japan, they have been sheltered within the Japanese communities.¹

2. The Individuals in the FamilyMinoru Matsumoto

Minoru Matsumoto was born on July 19, 1908, in Isleton, California, where his father operated a bean cake factory (tofu factory). His father had been

1. Data taken from WRA-26 forms. As is obvious, there is very little data available in this case. Only verified material is included, and as other points are verified, the document will be revised and brought to date.

a farmer in Japan.

At the age of six, in February, 1914, he was sent to Japan to live with his relatives there. He attended the Midorikawa grammar school in Japan from April, 1914, until March, 1920. Then then attended the Uto high school from April, 1920, to March, 1924. In June, 1924, soon after his graduation from high school, he was called back to the United States by his parents.

He immediately went to work for the Liberty Farm in Isleton, planting and caring for asparagus for \$.35 an hour. He had to continue in this very difficult "stoop-labor" job because of his inability to work where his Japanese would not be understood. From October, 1924, he began attending night school in Isleton to learn English. He worked all day and then studied at night until March, 1926, when he had a fair command of English.

In October, 1928, he returned to Japan for a brief visit and remained there until April, 1929. He then went back to work at the Liberty Farm where he received a slightly better position. He stayed in Isleton until January, 1936, when he went to work for the California Lands, Inc., managing one of their many farms in northern California. He worked with sugar beets and tomatoes in a tract near Woodland. He worked hard as manager, but he could not make the grade and suffered a loss. He then returned, in November, 1938, to the Liberty Farm where he once again planted asparagus for \$.40 an hour.

Minoru stayed at the Liberty Farm until March 11, 1941, when he was drafted into the United States Army. There he remained a private until he was given an honorable discharge on October 9, 1941. From the time of his discharge to the time of evacuation, he was unemployed and had to live on his meagre savings.

Minoru is 5'7" tall and weighs 150 pounds. He has no physical defects. He can read, write, and speak Japanese and English. His hobby is sumo.²

Miye Yokomizo

Miye Yokomizo was born on May 1, 1915, in Oakland, California, where her father operated a laundry. He was formerly a farmer in Japan. In September, 1920, at the age of 5 Miye was sent to Japan for an education by her parents. She attended the Shibakari grammar school from April, 1921, to April, 1927, and the Ukiha high school (jo gakko) in Japan from April, 1927, to April, 1931.

In April, 1931, Miye returned to join her parents in Oakland. She worked at home with her parents, helping in the laundry, and attended the special language classes in an Oakland grammar school from May, 1931 to June, 1933. From September, 1933, to June, 1935, Miye attended the McClamond High School in Oakland.

Soon after dropping out of school she married Mr. Yamamoto. She was not able to get along with him but she somehow managed to stay with him until a year or so before evacuation. She then filed suit for a divorce. She evacuated to Walerga Assembly Center with her lover, Minoru Matsumoto; while her parents evacuated to the Tanforan Assembly Center.

Miye is 5'2" tall and weighs 115 pounds. She has no physical defects. She can read, write, and speak both English and Japanese, but she prefers to use Japanese. Her skills are knitting and sewing. Her faith is Buddhist.³

3. The History of the Family

Miye and her husband went to live in Isleton and it was here that the two met. They soon became very intimate friends, and from that time on, Miye continually asked her husband for a divorce. He did not consent for a long time,

however, just prior to evacuation he consented, since she was no longer living with him regularly. She was at that time living at P.O. Box 117, in Isleton, with Minoru.

Together, the two evacuated to the Walerga Assembly Center on May 19, 1942. They lived together there and waited, and on June 11, the interlocutory decree was awarded to Miye. On June 17, the two were relocated to the Tule Lake Project and tried to live together. It was at this time that they experienced some difficulty.⁴

Housing authorities in Tule Lake would not recognize them as man and wife since they were not married. Minoru was placed in a bachelors' room with other single men. Miye was placed with some family. However, since the number of men at 1602-B was small, Miye moved into the bachelors' quarters with Minoru.⁵ They told their neighbors that they were brother and sister and that the man to whom Miye was to be married was expected to be transferred to the project any day. In the meantime, they said, the sister had nowhere to live so she remained with her brother.⁶

The bachelors' quarters was partitioned into three rooms. Miye and Minoru slept in one of them; two men slept in another; and the third room was kept for a fifth boarder who did not always sleep there. Often it was used for a living room since it was next to the door.

This arrangement naturally aroused the curiosity of the neighbors. Rumors soon started that there was a house of prostitution in block 16. Others told a story that they did not dream could be true: two unmarried people were living together. In spite of the talk, however, the two managed to live at 1602-B.

4. Statement of Miye Yokomizo on August 25, 1942. She and Matsumoto went to the Social Welfare Department to seek aid in getting married and told their story freely. CWD files, August 25, 1942.

5. The records at the block managers' office at 16 does not show Miye as one of the members of the room. She is listed at some other address by housing. Field notes, January 7, 1943.

6. Field notes, January 7, 1943.

About the middle of August, the two suddenly realized that Miye was pregnant. They knew that they could not be married because Miye would not get her final divorce decree until June 11, 1943. The child would be born before that time. They went to the Social Welfare office on August 25, but could not get much help there. They were referred to the Legal Aid department, but were told simply that they would have to move to another center or else just face the consequences here. They finally decided to make the best of a bad situation.

The two continued to live under the same conditions. They were ridiculed and became the subject of gossip but they remained where they were. Since the block manager did not have a record of Miye's presence in his block, Housing Department on several occasions tried to move additional bachelors into the room. Minoru had to argue with them each time.⁷

They are still not married, and Miye is expecting her child within this month.

4. Summary, Analysis, and Tentative Conclusions

There is little that we can write in way of comment on such a brief record. It seems that both Miye and Minoru have much in common. Both are Kibei who worked hard to get ahead in America. Both have faced frustration and failure. When they met, they apparently became so attached that they braved ostracism and gossip to be together. The writer has no information about Miye's former husband nor the nature of the difficulties that led to separation, nor has he had enough contact with the pair to know anything about them other than superficial impressions.

7. CWD files, August 25, 1942. See document TL-32 for an actual case of this misunderstanding. Field notes, January 7, 1943.

Surname MATSUMOTO	Man's name Minoru	Cross reference	File CWD	Case #
	Woman's name Miye	Other names used Miye Yokomizo		Family # Mr. 5823 Mrs. 5770
Present address 1602-B, Tule Lake Project, Newell, Calif.				Classification Internal-Domestic
Previous addresses				Referred by A Friend
	P.O. Box 117, Isleton, California			Date 8/25/42
1. Evacuated from	Isleton, California on May 19, 1942			
2. Relocated from	Walerga Assembly Center on June 17, 1942			

FAMILY COMPOSITION

Name	Birthdate	Birthplace	Citizenship status	Occupation		
				Past	In project	Registered
Minoru	7/19/08	Isleton	Citizen	Farm	?	?
Miye	5/1/15	Oakland	Citizen	House-wife	?	?

Legally responsible and other relatives	Relationship	Address	Number dependents

Others in household	Relationship	Address
Three bachelors	None	1602-B

Visited Japan	Who	When	Period
Yes	Both		Formative years
Religion	Buddhist		

Appendix II: Memorandum

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
TULE LAKE PROJECT
Newell, Calif.

Memorandum to: Edwin E. Ferguson, Regional Attorney
From: Robert B. Throckmorton, Project Attorney
Subject: Divorce laws of States in which Projects are located

One of the Tule Lake colonists obtained an interlocutory divorce decree from her husband last June. Under California law she cannot get a final decree for one year. The woman apparently wanted the divorce because she had fallen in love with another man. She has recently been living with this other man, and she has now become pregnant by him. The case has just come to the attention of the Social Welfare Department which has called upon me for legal advice.

The woman is concerned lest the child be born out of wedlock, and she has asked if there is any solution to the problem. As I see it, she cannot marry until a final divorce decree has been granted. As the child may be born before a final decree can be obtained in California, the only possible solution I see is that she obtain a divorce in some State, such as Nevada, where the first decree is also the final decree and that she then marry the father of the unborn child. Walter Tsukamoto, of the Legal Aid Department, is of the same opinion.

It may be that the husband will not contest the case and will be willing to give his wife her freedom. If so, the parties might be sent to a relocation center in a state where the law would permit the divorce of the parties to the present marriage and a remarriage by the wife to the other man before summer.

In view of this situation, I think it would be well for you or the Solicitor's office to review the divorce laws of the various States in which Relocation Centers are located, in order to determine which, if any, provide for final decrees in the first instance. Some consideration should also be given to the grounds for divorce in the various states and the length of time required to establish residence.

From files of the Social Welfare Department.

1 copy

DOCUMENT TL-20

THE MATSUMOTO FAMILY

CONFIDENTIAL

This document contains no disguises other than names. All dates, places, and events are accurate to the best knowledge of the observer. No part of this document may be used for any purpose whatsoever without the addition of further disguises to conceal the identity of the persons involved and without the consent of the director of the Evacuation and Resettlement Study.

Sources of Information:

1. Case Record in the files of the Community Welfare Department in Tule Lake Project.
2. Interview with Miss Dorothy Montgomery, who handled the first part of the case and had lengthy conversations with Mrs. Matsumoto.
3. Interview with Mr. James Matsumoto.
4. WRA-26, Individual Record Forms, for Mr. and Mrs. Matsumoto.

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
The Evacuee Family in Tule Lake
Chicago, Illinois
Shibuzani, 8/3/43

THE MATSUMOTO FAMILY

1. Introduction

The Matsumoto family consists of James Matsumoto (24) and his wife Lily (21). They had been married in February, 1942, but had not gotten along very well together. In Tule Lake, James was a block manager. Prior to evacuation, the Matsumotos worked in a grocery store in Oakland.

Both James and Lily were born and reared in the United States, and while they both have fairly good commands of the English language, neither can understand Japanese very well. Both are Protestants.

2. The Individuals in the Family

James Jiro Matsumoto

James Jiro Matsumoto was born on March 2, 1918, in Stockton, California. His father, who had been a schoolteacher in Japan, was the head of the Salvation Army in Stockton. During his early life, he moved from place to place as his father received various appointments throughout the state of California. His early life was a religious one, since both of his parents lived piously.

From September, 1924, to June, 1930, he attended the Caspertionono

Grammar School in San Jose. In 1930 the Matsumoto family moved to Sacramento. James attended the Lincoln Junior High School from September, 1930, to June, 1933, and then went on to the Sacramento High School. He majored in business administration, and graduated in June, 1936, after taking part in football and track activities. In the meantime he attended after school hours the Kirisuto Japanese Language School in Sacramento from 1934 to 1936.

Following his graduation he moved to Oakland and in August, 1937, he began working in the Iino Retail Grocery Store in Oakland as a sales clerk. He later became manager and earned \$120 a month. During his stay in Oakland, he attended the Merritt Evening Business School from September, 1939, to June, 1940. He remained in Oakland until just before the evacuation when he returned to Sacramento to join his parents.

James is 5 feet 5 inches tall and weighs 129 pounds. He is in good health, but wears glasses to correct astigmatism. He can read, write and speak English, but has only a speaking knowledge of Japanese. His religion is Protestantism. His hobby is first aid.¹

Lily Yuriko Matsumoto

Lily Yuriko Shigeno was born on January 9, 1921 in Florin, California, where her father was a farmer. She spent her early life with her immediate family and in the Japanese community in Florin, which

1. WRA-26 for James Matsumoto.

was an extremely well-knit Japanese community.

From September, 1926, to June, 1934, she attended the Florin East Grammar School and then went to the Elk Grove High School in Elk Grove. Her major in high school was commercial. Following her graduation there she went to the Sacramento Junior College where she continued to study commercial subjects. She was also active in extra-curricular activities, having participated in Phi Theta Kappa, in basketball, and in the publication of the yearbook.

She was unable to go to Junior College full-time, however, and while she attended school she worked as a domestic in a private home in Sacramento.² She received on \$25. but it was enough to keep her in school. Following her graduation from junior college in June, 1940, she continued to work at the private home. She worked there until July, 1941, when she went to work for the California Packing Company as a canner.

In September, 1941, she went to work at the Kress Department Store in Sacramento as a clerk for \$16. a week. After two months she qualified for civil service work and went to work as a typist for the state government. She was earning \$120. a month in Sacramento and worked there until February, 1942, when she married and went to Oakland.

Lily is 5 feet 4 inches tall and weighs 115 pounds. She has no physical defects and is a rather attractive girl. She can read, write and speak English, and can speak Japanese. Her skills are typing, shorthand, bookkeeping, and the operation of business machines. She

2. Lily also worked her way through school through the N.Y.A. From January, 1940, to June, 1940, she worked as a typist at the Sacramento Junior College and received as much as \$.40 an hour. WRA-26 for Lily Matsumoto.

likes to crochet, but her favorite pasttime is sports of all kinds. Her religion is Protestantism.³

3. The History of the Family

James and Lily were married on February, 1942, and made their home in Oakland. James continued working as the manager of a grocery store, and Lily spent much of her time at home. Just prior to the evacuation for the Bay Region, The Matsumotos left Oakland to join James' parents in Sacramento. It was here that the conflict apparently first began.

Quarrels broke out and on one occasion, James struck his wife. They continued to live together, however, and eventually went to camp. On May 15, 1942, they were evacuated to the Walerga Assembly Center, where Lily's parents also were sent. The split between James and Lily became wider and wider while they stayed in Walerga.⁴ On June, 20, 1942, the pair with their parents were relocated to the Tule Lake Project. They continued to quarrel and finally, in September, 1942, the two decided that it was no use and separated.

During the month of December Lily made arrangements with the Leave section and secured a position in Chicago. At the same time she made arrangements with the Legal Aid Department for a divorce, and Walter Tsukamoto, who took interest in her case, drew up the complaint, charging James with physical cruelty.⁵ On the day before

3. WRA-26 for Lily Matsumoto.

4. Details as to the nature of the difficulties given by James and Lily do not match. The story of both is presented in the next section. Only points on which there is agreement are presented here.

5. Tsukamoto claims that his friend Jun Miyagawa saw James beat Lily and that she was treated for weeks at the hospital. The memorandum in Appendix II seem to indicate that Tsukamoto's story might not have been entirely accurate.

Lily was to leave Tule Lake for Chicago, it was discovered that under W.R.A. regulations the Legal Aid Department could not file suit for divorce without the approval of the Social Welfare Department.⁶ Lily was interviewed that afternoon by Miss Montgomery who happened to be at the administration building and left the following day.

For the next two weeks the social workers looked for James in vain. He would not reply to memorandums asking him to come to the office nor would he ever been in his office⁷ when social workers called on him. Finally on February 8, he was interviewed and stated that he did not care if his wife wanted to divorce him and that he thought reconciliation was impossible. He was even willing to pay for the divorce.⁸

4. Conflicting Accounts

Lily Matsumoto's story:⁹

Mrs. Matsumoto and her husband were married in February, 1942. They lived together until they were in Tule Lake and then separated in September. Lily's reasons for getting a divorce are, as stated in the complaint, that her husband was physically cruel to her and that he had beaten her on more than one occasion. She feels that her husband does

6. Administrative Bulletin No. 52 stipulates that all divorce cases handled by the Office of the Project Attorney must first be cleared through the Social Welfare Department.

7. James was a block manager.

8. CWD files, February 8, 1943. It is interesting to note that one Issei woman in the block offered the excuse that her block manager was getting a divorce as a reason why her daughter should likewise get one. See Document TL-9.

9. Adapted from the recording of Miss Montgomery of her interview with Mrs. Matsumoto on January 6, 1943.

not want her to remain with him. She did not feel that under the circumstances that a reconciliation was possible.

Lily continually mentioned the fact that her father-in-law was in charge of the Salvation Army in Tule Lake. She felt that they had very strict ideas and that they did not always approve of her actions. She felt that her husband's decisions were often influenced by the desires of his parents, and that they had encouraged him to leave her and to agree to a divorce. She felt that she would have a much better opportunity to get along with her husband if he did not live with his parents, but James refused to live away from them.¹⁰

She got sick and tired of the center and wanted to get out rather badly. She also wanted to be away from her in-laws. She went to the Leave Section on several occasions and asked them to send her husband memorandums suggesting that he consider various job-offers on the outside. She then begged him to consider some of them, but he refused even to answer any of the notes.¹¹

Her husband became block manager soon after their arrival in Tule Lake and she feels that he has changed a great deal since he came here. She noticed particularly that he objected to doing anything in the evenings and was moody a great deal of the time. She said that during his working hours he had contacted some young unmarried girls and seemed to get all of his enjoyment during these hours and would pay no attention to her when he was home.

10. It is interesting to note that Mr. Matsumoto was one of the men who was known in the center for his ability to reconcile estranged couples. See, for example, documents TL-9 and TL-26.

11. This was verified by the workers in the Leave Section.

Lily claimed that her husband was acting in adolescent manner and that he had never obtained enough independence from his parents to be able to make decisions for himself.¹²

James Matsumoto's story:

"Yes, I heard about Lily's suing me for divorce, but I don't care. I heard that Walter Tsukamoto is fixing everything up for her. I guess that will mean that I'll get rooked all around, but I'm willing. I think reconciliation is out of the question. I don't want her back and I won't take her back. That's all there is to it. I'm willing to pay all the expenses in the court and I won't contest the suit.¹³ All I want is a written agreement stating that she won't take advantage of my non-contest position to exploit me later on.¹⁴

"I don't see where she thinks that there was any trouble with in-laws. So far as I can see she always got along well with my parents and so far as I know both my parents liked her. I think she's just saying that to cover up a lot of things that she's afraid to tell you.

"For one thing, she has fits. That's something very few people know but every now and then she gets a fit and just about goes crazy. She tried to commit suicide four times since we were married, and for a while I didn't know what to do. Once when she tried to kill herself

12. Miss Montgomery's recording ends as follows: "During the entire interview with Mrs. Matsumoto the worker gained the impression that she is still quite fond of her husband and that if she felt he wanted her to return to him, she would do so. Under the circumstances, it was too late to come to any final decision at this time. An attempt was made to find Mr. Matsumoto to discuss the matter with him but he could not be found. Therefore, Mrs. Matsumoto was told that we would go into the matter more carefully and at a later date would write to her new address in Chicago. Although the complaint has been signed and notarized, it will not be filed until a report has been made." Files of the Social Welfare Department, January 6, 1943.

I beat her. I can honestly say that that was the only time that I hurt her in any way. Tsukamoto's all wet when he says I beat her up.¹⁵ I never did any such thing. That one time I couldn't help it. She was acting crazy and I just didn't know what to do. She has fits.

"Another source of difficulty was when she started playing around with another man in Walerga. She not only went around with him and played with him but she used to taunt me all the time by reminding me that she might go off with him. She kept telling me how much nicer he was than I was, so I told her she can go to him if she wants him that bad. I don't care that much for her any more.

"We separated in September, and I haven't seen much of her since. I guess she's still playing around with that guy. I don't think we'll have any difficulties in the disposition of our property. She had a bank account when she married me and so far as I know all that money is still in the bank under her name. I never touched it. I supported her from the time of our marriage. I'll pay for the expenses of the divorce proceedings and she can keep all her money. I won't have much else to give her when I get through paying for the divorce.

"The main thing is that I don't want her back. She has fits."¹⁶

13. The complaint drawn up by Tsukamoto stipulated that James was to pay all the necessary expenses. The general impression of the interviewer was the James was a calm, collected and dignified young man. As the tone of the conversation would indicate, he had a fairly good command of English and knew what was happening.

14. James was here referring to a legal technicality. If he did not contest the suit, he would be pleading guilty to all the charges in the complaint. She could later go to court to sue him for alimony and he would be defenseless since he had already pleaded guilty.

15. See Appendix II.

16. Interview with Mr. Matsumoto on February 8, 1943. The text is actually not verbatim. It is a very rough reproduction from very brief notes taken on that occasion.

5. Comments

With two stories so inconsistent, it is difficult to see what actually did happen. The reasons that both gave, however, are plausible reasons for difficulties in the marriage relationship. It is understandable how Lily would dislike to live with her husband's parents and how she would make every effort to get him resettled in order to get him away from them. On the other hand, if Lily does have fits and James did not know about it until after their marriage one can well understand how James would react to her. The interesting point is that there was no conflict apparently between the two until they had moved to Sacramento and especially to Walerga. This would indicate that perhaps living with in-laws might have had something to do with the difficulties.¹⁷

17. It was indeed unfortunate that a detailed life-history was not gotten for James. Since Lily has relocated to Chicago, it may be possible for the worker to get another series of interviews with her. On the other hand, if James should go to a camp where the study will have a worker it might be possible to get his story in more detail.

Surname	Man's name	Cross reference	File	Case #
MATSUMOTO	James		CWD	
	Woman's name	Other names used		Family #
	Lily			28004
Present address	2418-A, Tule Lake Project			Classification
	Newell, California			Domestic
Previous addresses	1480 14th St., Oakland, California			Referred by
				Legal Aid
				Date
				1/5/43
1. Evacuated from				
1314 6th St., Sacramento, California on May 15, 1942				
2. Relocated from				
Walerga Assembly Center on June 20, 1942				

FAMILY COMPOSITION

Name	Birthdate	Birthplace	Citizenship status	Occupation		
				Past	In project	Registered
James	3/2/18	Stockton	Citizen	Grocer	Bl. Manager	Yes
Lily	1/9/21	Florin	Citizen	Typist	?	?

Legally responsible and other relatives	Relationship	Address	Number dependents
Mr. and Mrs. Matsumoto	James' parents	Block 24	?
Mr. and Mrs. Shigeno	Lily's parents	?	?

Others in household	Relationship	Address

Visited Japan	Who	When	Period

Religion
Protestant

Appendix IIC
O
P
YWAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Tule Lake Project

February 12, 1943

Memorandum to: Base Hospital

Attention: Miss Hideko Nakazawa,
Medical Social Service

Subject: Lily Matsumoto, 2407-D

We have been notified that the above-named person, who is involved in a divorce case, was badly beaten by her husband some time ago and was treated at the hospital. Please check the record to see whether this accusation is true or not.

By Shibutani

/s/ Dorothy Montgomery
Supervisor, Social Welfare

C
O
P
YWAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Tule Lake Project

February 16, 1943

Memorandum to: Mr. T. Shibutani
Social Worker
1608

From: H. Nakazawa
Medical Social Worker

Subject: Lily Matsumoto, 2407-D

Mrs. Matsumoto was treated at our E. N. T. Clinic on December 29, 1942 for a minor cold. We have no record indicating she was treated at our hospital or clinic for injuries resulting from physical violence.

/s/ H. Nakazawa
Medical Social Worker
Tule Lake Base Hospital

DOCUMENT TL-21

THE MORIMOTO FAMILY

CONFIDENTIAL

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Sources of Information:

1. Case record of the Morimoto family in the files of the Community Welfare Department in the Tule Lake Project.
2. Discussion with Miss Naoko Hoshino who handled the case.
3. WRA-26, Individual Record Form for Mr. and Mrs. Morimoto.

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
Chicago, Illinois
Shibutani, August 27, 1943

Morimoto Family1. Introduction

The Morimoto family consists of Teiichi Morimoto, 46; his wife, Helen Mitsuko, 30; and his two step-children, Grace Shizuko Naito, 10 and Louise Akiko Naito, 8. Mrs. Morimoto was once married to Sam Naito of San Francisco but was deserted several years ago. She lived with Morimoto in common-law until just before evacuation when the two were legally married. Morimoto is an alien but other members of the family are American citizens.

2. Individuals in Family1. Teiichi Morimoto

Teiichi Morimoto was born on December 21, 1896 in Nishimukai-mura, Wakayama Ken, Japan. His father was a farmer. He attended Nishimukai grammar school from April, 1903 to March, 1911 and helped his father on his farm until January, 1917 when the family migrated to the United States. His father went to work as a railroad laborer. Teiichi went with his father and worked for the West Pacific Railroad Company repairing tracks in the vicinity of Salt Lake City for \$50 per month and remained until June, 1919.

From June, 1919 to December, 1921, he worked at the Lion Coal Mine Company in Wattis, Utah, repairing track for \$50 per month. He went to Guadalupe, California and worked with vegetable farms for \$30 per month. In August, 1929 he went to Los Angeles and worked at Kimura Fruit Stand as a sales clerk at \$40 per month. In March, 1932 he moved to San Francisco to work for Matsuoka Cannery as a

fisherman. His salary was \$60 per month.

Teiichi is 5 ft. 6 in. tall and weighs 128 pounds. He has no physical defects. He can read, write and speak Japanese but has little understanding of English. His religion is Buddhist.¹

2.

2. Helen Mitsuko Morimoto.

Helen Mitsuko Hiroshige was born on September 23, 1914 in Seattle, Washington where her father was an expressman. She attended Bailey Gaeterz grammar school in Seattle from September, 1920 to June, 1926 and then went on to Pacific Junior High School. She then attended Garfield High School in Seattle from September, 1928 to June, 1931.

Soon after her graduation from high school she married Sam Naito and went to San Francisco to live. She had her first child the following year and her second daughter in 1934. Somehow or other she and Naito could not get along and the two finally separated. After a long discussion Naito finally agreed to give her a divorce. When he left her with two children she had difficulties making ends meet. About this time she met Morimoto and Katie Ota. They helped her whenever they could. Helen lived with Katie in the same boarding house and Katie sometimes helped to take care of the children. Morimoto, who was a fisherman, did not come to town very often but whenever he came he generally gave her financial assistance.²

In June, 1940 Helen started a hosiery shop in San Francisco called the New York Company. She sold not only hosiery but also

1. WRA-26.

2. For details of the activities of Katie Ota see Document TL-107.

did dress-making and repairing. On October 9, 1940 a final divorce decree was awarded and Helen was given custody of the two children. From about 1939 she had been living in common-law with Morimoto and after her divorce became final Morimoto's visits became more frequent. Whenever he was in port he lived with Helen and her children. The two girls accepted him as their father.

Helen is 5 ft. 3 in. tall and weighs 126 pounds. She wears glasses. She can read, write and speak English and can speak Japanese. She is a skillful seamstress. Her religion is Buddhist.³

In March, 1942 when evacuation was announced, the Morimotos and the two children moved to Sacramento and lived there until the time of evacuation. Because of embarrassment to the children, the two were married on April 13, 1942 and soon afterwards Morimoto was arrested by the FBI and taken to Sharp Park. Katie Ota, who had also gone to Sacramento, once again came to Helen's aid and on May 13, evacuated together to Walerga Assembly Center. On June 25 they were relocated to Tule Lake. They took an apartment together at 1305-A.⁴

3. Family in Tule Lake

Helen, Katie and the two children lived together in an apartment opposite Canteen No. 1. On August 11 Morimoto was released by the FBI and joined them in the project.

The family had some difficulty partly because neighbors asked while the children's name was different from that of Morimoto and raised embarrassing questions about Katie Ota who was reputed to be

3. WRA-26.

4. WRA-26 supplemented from data of Case Record.

a prostitute. Because of these differences Morimoto went to the Legal Aid department and made legal arrangements to adopt the two children. On January 11, 1943 the case was referred to the Social Welfare Department and the request was made at the Social Welfare Department to make an investigator to determine whether or not the Morimotos were competent persons to care for children.⁵

A few days later a phone call was made and Mrs. Morimoto told her story. She stated that she had been awarded a divorce in 1940 on the grounds of failure to support and charged that her husband had deserted her. Naito apparently did not contest the suit and she stated that he has remarried and is now living at the Central Utah project. A few weeks before the the probation officer of Alturas County made a similar investigation and therefore the worker left.⁶

Ugly rumors spread throughout the community about the Morimoto family. Some individuals claimed that there was "circumstantial evidence" indicating that something illicit was going on in the household. Some neighbor said that the couple did not have a fit place for the children. In one of the five-unit apartments facing the fire break and across Canteen No. 1, the room was arranged in an odd manner. Above the door of the apartment was a sign with only two names, Helen Morimoto and Katie Ota in that order. The room was partitioned on one side making about four little booths with walls reaching the top of the windows. The reason why the people suspicious seem to be because Katie was known to be a prostitute and because Helen's activities had been a bit out of the

5. Under Administrative Instruction No. 52 of WRA, the legal aid department was required to turn over all such matters to the Social Welfare Department for investigation before taking any action.

6. CWD files of January 13, 1943.

ordinary. She lived with a married woman who was married for six year and after her divorce placed two children in a boarding house in care of a Mrs. Sato. This had come to the attention of a Japanese community when some difficulty arose since Mrs. Sato's boarding house was not a licensed house. The Morimotos resented the fact that neighbors were "minding other people's business", but on several occasions they requested Katie to move. It was when more and more people began asking the children what their real names were that Morimoto became desperate and filed papers for adoption.

When Helen was asked why they had not married until 1942 she said they had considered marriage for a long time but since Naito still remained in San Francisco and as Morimoto was a fisherman and away from home so much and because many people in San Francisco knew of her former marriage she did not wish to be married until she left San Francisco where "people would talk." They had tried to go to Reno but were unable to do so because of military restrictions. Helen said she was wearing a wedding ring long before the ceremony to give others the impression she was married. After going on for a long time the children considered him as their father. according to Helen. She justified her action on the grounds that poverty forced her to accept aid.

In the second interview Helen revealed that the family had no plans for resettlement and that her husband was expecting to go out to find some kind of work to support the family. She stated they had \$1003 in the Bank of America which they were saving for adjustments after the war.

On February 9 Katie Ota left the Morimoto home to live in

4044P with Mae Y

401-D with Mae Yoshida.⁷ Mrs. Morimoto claimed that about a month before she had asked Katie to move on the grounds that they were crowded. She stated she could not tell her the real reason because Katie had helped her when she was in need. She stated that her husband recognized the danger of getting unfavorable comments from the neighbors. When Morimoto returned she felt that it would be extremely difficult to remain in the household with Katie living there. She said that Katie was nice to the children and on some occasions she asked the children to run errands as delivering something to the gambling house and other similar actions and she was worried about the welfare of her daughters.⁸

While the working was making her interview Mrs. Saburo Umezu, a negress, arrived for a visit.⁹

Information on Sam Naito is available from the following sources: Charlie Kikuchi knew him when he was in San Francisco and Frank Miyamoto and La Violette kept a case on him while making a study in Seattle. More information about Helen is also available since several northwesterners apparently know her.

7. For details of House of Prostitution that was operated at 401-C see Documents TL-31, TL-107, TL-48 and TL-49 and TL-111.

8. CWD files of February 11, 1943.

9. For details of Umezu family see Document TL-29.

DOCUMENT TL-22

THE MORITA FAMILY

CONFIDENTIAL

This document contains no disguises. All names, dates, places, and events are accurate to the best knowledge of the investigator. No part of this document may be used for any purpose whatsoever without sufficient disguise to conceal the identity of the persons involved.

Sources of Information:

1. Case record on the Morita family in the files of the Social Welfare Department in Tule Lake. Permission for the use of this data given by supervisor Naoko Hoshino. Record face sheet in Appendix I.
2. WRA-26, Individual Record Forms, for Mr. and Mrs. Morita. This data made available through the cooperation of Miss Montgomery of Social Welfare and Miss Uyeno of Housing Department.
3. More complete information on the Morita family can be found in the confidential files of the Wardens' Headquarters. The writer did not have access to this information.

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
The Evacuee Family in Tule Lake
Tule Lake Project
Shibutani, 3/23/43

THE MORITA FAMILY1. Introduction

The Morita family consists of Mr. Inokichi Morita (66), his wife Mayumi (42), their four daughters--Toshiye (22), Tsukiye (24), Miye (20), and Norma (4)--and their three sons--Matatsuki (18), Moku (14), and Masa (12).¹

The children were all born in the United States and were educated here. They are all bilingual; whereas their **parents** can understand only Japanese. Mr. Morita has had no formal education; his wife has had a little schooling in Japan, but none in the United States.

The Moritas did not occupy a prominent position in the social structure of the Japanese community in Loomis, whence they evacuated. For one thing, Loomis is a Christian town; while the Moritas are Buddhist.² They therefore had more contacts with the people in Penryn, a Buddhist town a few miles away. Financially, they were not very well off, the numerous children being a heavy liability for Mr. Morita, especially since he did not succeed in his farming. However, they somehow or another managed to continue farming until evacuation.³

1. Complete list of occupants in 4615-A and B from the Housing Department. Thanks is hereby extended to Miss Hannah Uyeno for so painstakingly going through so many Individual Record Forms to find the family composition. The data was not available in the Social Welfare Office.

2. One of the oddest phenomena to be observed among the Japanese in California is the peculiar and sharp contrast between Penryn and Loomis, both of which were evacuated to Tule Lake. The two towns were only about 7 or 8 miles apart, but their differences were remarkable. Loomis is a Christian town--as far as the Japanese community is concerned; whereas Penryn was practically all Buddhist. The contrast was amazing. In Loomis one found the Nisei speaking English almost without an accent and often found Issei who had a reasonably good command of English. Their behavior was very Americanized and they had frequent contacts with Caucasians. In Penryn, however, practically no one spoke English. The gestures, the mannerisms, the speech, of all Issei and Nisei were fundamentally Japanese. This fact has often raised questions in the mind of the writer on the problem of religion as a factor in assimilation.

2. The Individuals in the Family

Inokichi Morita

Inokichi Morita was born on February 15, 1876, in Kaito mura, Kumamoto ken, Japan, where his father was a farmer. He had no opportunity to go to school and had to help on his father's farm. Finally in June 1900, at the age of 24, he migrated to the United States.

For several years after his arrival he worked as a farm laborer in various places. He continued to shift from camp to camp. Sometimes he became a tenant, but somehow or another he did not last. In 1916, he sent to Japan for his wife, and the two worked together. Their first child was born a few years later. From December, 1922, to May, 1942, he worked in a fruit shipper's shed in Loomis. Once again, he was unsuccessful and he lost money in this enterprise.

Morita is 5'4" and weighs 100 pounds. He has no physical defects. He can speak Japanese but he cannot read nor write any language. He cannot understand English at all.

Morita has visited Japan twice since his first arrival in the United States. His first visit was from January to June, 1916; and his second visit was from January to May, 1926.

His faith is Buddhist.⁴

Mayumi Morita

Mayumi Narita was born on November 31, 1899, in Toyono mura, Kumamoto ken, Japan, where her father was a grain farmer. She attended the Agumano Grammar School in Kumamoto from April, 1906, to April, 1912. She then helped her parents at home.

3. CWD files

4. WRA-26

At the age of 17, in December, 1916, Mayumi migrated to the United States to marry Inokichi Morita. Following her marriage, she worked with him on the fields. She took time off to have her seven children and then went back to work with him. From December, 1922, to February, 1940, she worked in Loomis where her husband did in a packing shed, earning \$2.50 a day. She had to work to keep the family supplied with essentials. From February, 1940, on she was unable to work because of trouble with her kidneys.

Mayumi is five feet tall and weighs 115 pounds. She is physically healthy except for her kidneys which have been troubling her for the past five years. In 1940, the kidneys became so inflamed from overwork that she had to quit her job. Mrs. Morita can read, write and speak Japanese, but she cannot understand any English. She has worked so much since her arrival in the United States that she has been unable to learn the language here. Her faith is Buddhist.

Mrs. Morita has been in Japan once since her arrival in the United States, and that was when she visited from November, 1925, until May, 1926.⁵

3. History of the Family

As we have already noted, the Morita family barely managed to make ends meet before the evacuation. By that time, however, the children had become older and had actually become assets in the field. The income increased but their level of living apparently did not improve. Finally on May 13, 1942, the family was evacuated from Loomis to the Arboga Assembly Center. All went well in Arboga and the family was then relocated to the Tule Lake Project on June 29, 1942.

5. WRA-26 and CWD files.

In Tule Lake, the family was given two rooms. Mrs. Morita and the four girls slept in 4615-A, while Mr. Morita and his three sons slept in 4615-B. The entire area in which they lived, Ward V, was populated by their former friends and neighbors from the vicinity of Loomis and Penryn. Within a few months some difficulties arose in the family.

Mr. Morita's behavior suddenly became very odd. For one thing, he became very suspicious of his wife and suspected her of having affairs with other men.⁶ Whenever there was a noise in his wife's bedroom, he arose and investigated. It was his habit to go to his wife's room and attempt to break in. She refused to open the door for him for she feared for the safety of herself and of her four daughters. He kept two iron bars near his bed at all times, and on several occasions he had tried to break into his wife's room with them.

Furthermore, the boys became rather puzzled about their father's behavior. They reported that on several occasions they awoke and found their father standing over them with his iron bar and just staring at them.⁷

The friends and neighbors of the family complained on several occasions to the wardens and finally an investigation was made by Wardens' Headquarters. The Social Welfare Department was then called into the case, but since this was about the time that Mrs. Halle, the supervisor, was having her troubles, no action was taken. Finally the Internal Security Department arranged to have Mr. Morita taken to the Base Hospital for observation.⁸

4. Tentative Conclusions

It is of course impossible to determine what caused Mr. Morita's peculiar

6. This charge has not been substantiated. The wardens watched the apartment continuously over a long period of time and noticed no one not in the family either enter or leave. Further it would have been odd to carry on relations with four daughters in the same room.

behavior from this scanty data. However, we might here posit some guesses.

Judging from the background of the family there were several reasons why Mrs. Morita might have been dissatisfied with the arrangement, or, we might say, several reasons why Mr. Morita might think that his wife was dissatisfied and had to be watched. For one thing, there was an age differential of almost 25 years. Mrs. Morita was still middle-age; whereas Mr. Morita was old. Furthermore, Mr. Morita had been a constant failure and had burdened his young wife with nothing but work and children until she became so ill that she had to stop. Finally, his wife was better educated than he was.⁹ For these reasons Mr. Morita might have felt that his wife might wish to leave him.

The environment in Tule Lake was conducive to his believing such things. There are many bachelors, many younger than he, in Tule Lake who jokingly speak of women and matters of sex whenever they gather. Not only this, but there are several families in which the young wife has been found to be unfaithful.¹⁰ Gossip about affairs d'amour spread rapidly in Tule Lake. Furthermore, relations between young wives and bachelors had not been too uncommon in the Japanese community in the outside. Thus, it is possible that Mr. Morita became very fearful of losing his wife and took steps to guard against it. No doubt his fears were exaggerated, but considering the circumstances it would not be surprising.

Morita's behavior toward his children is a bit more difficult to understand. Perhaps he had actually defined the situation as one in which his wife was definitely unfaithful toward him and was therefore planning measures of vengeance which took into account the fate of his sons and daughters. We cannot say.

7. Information taken from Warden's report in CWD files, September 18, 1942.

8. The writer does not know whether or not Mr. Morita was ever released. Since Mrs. Halle did not act in this case, it was handled largely by the Internal Security Division. There is no recording on the case other than a single entry.

9. This was true of many 'picture brides', and this point was quite important since Orientals place a high value on education. It may be a source of conflict or discontent.

Surname	Man's name Inokichi	Cross reference	File CWD	Case #
MORITA	Woman's name Mayumi	Other names used		Family # 25511
Present address	4615-A & B, Tule Lake Project Newell, California			Classification Internal-Domestic
Previous addresses	Rt. 1, Box 427, Loomis, California			Referred by Mr. Kristovitch
1. Evacuated from	Loomis, California on May 13, 1942			Date 9/18/42
2. Relocated from	Arboza Assembly Center on June 29, 1942			

FAMILY COMPOSITION

Name	Birthdate	Birthplace	Citizenship status	Occupation		
				Past	In project	Registered
Inokichi	2/15/76	Japan	Alien	Farm	?	?
Mayumi	11/31/99	Japan	Alien	Farm	?	?
Tsukiye	24 years	U.S.	Citizen	?	?	?
Toshiye	22 years	U.S.	Citizen	?	?	?
Miye	20 years	U.S.	Citizen	?	?	?
Matatsuki	18 years	U.S.	Citizen	School	School	?
Moku	14 years	U.S.	Citizen	School	School	No
Masa	12 years	U.S.	Citizen	School	School	No
Norma	4 years	U.S.	Citizen	None	None	No

Legally responsible and other relatives	Relationship	Address	Number dependents

Others in household	Relationship	Address

Visited Japan	Who	When	Period
	Family	11/25-5/26	Half year
Religion	Buddhist		

Document TL-22ADDENDA

Interview with Dr. Harold S. Jacoby, Chief of Internal Security, on March 24, 1943.

Dr. Jacoby interviewed Mr. Morita and also his children and gathered the following things: There had long been trouble in the Morita family. There was almost invariably trouble when things were not well on the farm. Morita had always been suspicious of his wife and had tried to force his way into her room before. Morita was confined to the hospital and was adjudged sane. All the children told of the terrible treatment that they had received from their father and none of them showed much respect for him. Dr. Jacoby judged that Morita's anger rose whenever his prestige in the family was low.

Check of the files of the Internal Security Department. Morita case. No. 25.

On September 19, Morita broke the partition between his room and that of his wife and became violent. His daughter jumped out of the window and ran to the warden's headquarters. Morita was arrested at 4 p.m. and taken to the Base Hospital for observation. Dr. Carson and the family held a conference and decided that Morita should be sent to an institution. Later one of the children came in to withdraw this request and asked that his father be kept in the center.

On September 25 and 26, there was a conflict between Dr. Carson and Dr. Jacoby over the responsibility of the care of the insane--Jacoby contending that insane people were ill and not the responsibility of the police force. Morita was then released from the hospital and moved to block 71 by himself. Last report was that he is still unbalanced.

DOCUMENT TL-23

THE NAKAYOSHI FAMILY

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Sources of Information:

1. Case record of the Nakayoshi family in the files of the Community Welfare Department at the Tule Lake Project.
2. WRA-26, Individual Record Form, for Mr. Nakayoshi

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
Chicago, Illinois
Shibutani, 7/28/43

THE NAKAYOSHI FAMILY1. The life of George Nakayoshi

The Nakayoshi family consists of George, 35, his Caucasian wife, Dorothy Jean, 27, and their daughter, Donna, 3. George was born and educated in Marysville, California. He had little contact with Caucasians. Dorothy Jean was born on February, 7, 1915 in New York City. Her mother was English and her father was born in ~~Idia~~ Indiana. The Nakayoshi family used the English language exclusively. Their religious preference is Methodist.

George Nakayoshi was born on November 20, 1907 in Marysville where his father operated a grocery store. From September, 1915 to June, 1923, he attended Marysville grammar school and continued on to high school where he majored in auto mechanics. Following his graduation in 1927 he did odd jobs on the farm in the summer and helped his father during the remainder of the year. George also attended Japanese language school in Marysville from September, 1917 to June, 1923, however, he can read, write and speak English only.

In January, 1929 George was sent to Japan for a visit but he did not like it and returned in September of the same year. From that time until February, 1932, he did odd jobs again in the vicinity of Marysville. In February, 1932, George went to work for Plaza Produce Market in Los Angeles where he earned \$30 per week as a clerk. He quit this job in July, 1935 and was unemployed for several months. He returned to Marysville and with financial assistance from his father he started a meat market. In September, 1937 he gave up the meat market and started to operate a garage. It was about this time that he married Dorothy Jean. In July, 1939 he started another meat market of his own in Marysville and there he worked until the time of evacuation.

George is 5 ft. 6 in. tall and weighs 125 pounds. He has no physical defects.

His hobbies are fishing and making model airplanes. His religious preference is Methodist.¹

2. History of Family

Donna was born on December 16, 1939. About that time Nakayoshi had just begun to succeed as a butcher. Things were going quite well with the family at the time of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Not until late in February or early March did the real repercussion of the attack reach the Nakayoshi family. When it became known that evacuation was • imminent, George appealed to the W.C.C.A. in San Francisco but was told that no exception was being granted and therefore the family prepared to evacuate. A few days before the announcement of the date of evacuation the family was given a temporary deferment until the case could be more thoroughly investigated, however since they had already made arrangements to evacuate, they decided to await the Army decision in the center. The Nakayoshi family arrived in Tule Lake Project on July 4, 1942.

In Tule Lake Nakayoshi was assigned to the same block as his two brothers and his parents. George was quite content with his new life in camp but Dorothy Jean was extremely unhappy. She constantly complained about the food and often stated that she resented being among the Japanese.²

Dorothy Jean never did adjust herself to life in Tule Lake and continually asked George to take steps to get out of the center. On August 19 she took him to the Social Welfare department to make an application to leave. Inasmuch as Dorothy's parents were in Indiana George thought he might like to start a fish hatchery there. He started correspondence with the Missouri Fish and Game Commission but no definite offers came. On August 31 Dorothy became very indignant and wrote a long letter to the WRA Regional office in San Francisco, however, because of the Army regulation, nothing could be done.³

1. WRA-26.

2. Case Record of Community Welfare Department, July 22, 1942.

3. See Appendix II.

Appendix II

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Mrs. George Nakayoshi
Building 4815-A,
Tule Lake Relocation Project,
Newell, California.
Through Mr. Shirrell

Dear Mrs. Nakayoshi:

Your letter of August 31, 1942, inquiring about the eligibility of your family for release from the Tule Lake Relocation Project on the grounds of mixed marriage, has been referred to this office.

The Wartime Civil Control Administration of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army is in complete charge of all case in which persons of mixed blood or mixed-marriage families now residing in assembly centers or relocation projects who wish to be released in order to return to their homes in the prohibited military areas. It has been the policy of this agency to deny requests for releases to places in the prohibited military areas to mixed-marriage families in which the husband is Japanese and the wife is Caucasian. Consequently, if your family wishes to reside in Military Area No. 1 or that portion of Military Area No. 2 which lies in the State of California, it is doubted whether your release would be authorized by the Wartime Civil Control Administration.

However, if you wish to leave the relocation project and reside outside these military areas, you may submit an application for permission to do so to this office. Such an application will be considered entirely by the War Relocation Authority, and you be considered eligible for release regardless of the fact that your husband is Japanese.

It is hoped that the foregoing answers your inquiry.

Very truly yours.

/s/ E.R. Fryer, Regional Director
Robert A. Petrie

Appendix I

Surname	Man's name George	Cross reference	File CWD	Case #
NAKAYOSHI	Woman's name Dorothy Jean	Other names used Emerson		Family # 39304
Present address	4813-D, Tule Lake, Newell, Calif.			Classification Mixed Marriage
Previous addresses	118 2nd St., Marysville, Calif.			Referred by Self
1. Evacuated from	Marysville, Calif. on July 12, 1942			Date July 22, 1942
2. Relocated from				

FAMILY COMPOSITION

Name	Birthdate	Birthplace	Citizenship status	Occupation		Registered
				Past	In project	
George	11/20/07	Marysville	citizen	butcher	?	?
Dorothy Jean	2/7/15	New York	citizen	?	?	?
Donna Mamiko	12/16/39	Marysville	citizen	none	none	none

Legally responsible and other relatives	Relationship	Address	Number dependents

Others in household	Relationship	Address

Visited Japan	Who	When	Period
	George	1/29 - 9/29	8 months
Religion	Methodist		

DOCUMENT TL-24

THE OGI FAMILY

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Source of Information:

1. Files of the Social Welfare Department at Tule Lake Project.
2. WRA-26, Individual Record Form, Mrs. Ogi

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
Chicago, Illinois
Shibutani, 7/20/43

THE OGI FAMILY1. Introduction

The Ogi family consists of Mrs. Hazel Ogi, 30, and two children, Grace, 12, and Ted, 11. Her separated husband, John, is also living in the Project but the two have not had much contact for several years. John is 33 years of age.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Ogi were born in the United States and neither had been out of this country. Both had fairly good command of English and neither have much knowledge of Japanese. Mr. Ogi was Buddhist while Mrs. Ogi had no particular religious preference.

2. Individuals in the FamilyJohn Ogi

John Ogi was born on March 1, 1909 in Auburn, California. From September, 1915 to June, 1922 he attended Edgewood grammar school in Auburn and from September 1922 to June 1925 he attended Placer high school. While going to school he helped during the summer on his father's farm.

Immediately following graduation of high school he started an olive orchard and soon thereafter he also opened a canning business in Auburn. At this time he received financial aid from his father. He hired from 5 to 10 men to operate his canning business. While working in Auburn he married Hazel. In September, 1935 he gave up the olive business and purchased a fruit farm in Auburn. Here he employed 5 men and raised plums and pears. He remained on the farm until evacuation.

John was 5 feet 4 inches in height and weighed 120 pounds. He had no physical defect. He had never been out of the United States. He could read and write English. He had only a speaking knowledge of the Japanese language. His hobbies were music, reading and later aided Boy Scout activities. His religion was Buddhist.¹

Hazel Ogi

Hazel Okamoto was born on March 21, 1912 in Riego, Placer County, California, where her father was a farmer. She attended Alpha grammar school in Riego from September, 1917 to June, 1925. From September, 1925 to June, 1926, she attended Sutter high school in Sacramento, majoring in Economics. She was unable to finish high school, however, due to financial difficulties and had to return home to her parents.

Few years later she married John Ogi and they made their home in Auburn. Here she raised two children. They could never get along with each other, however, finally separating.

In June, 1939, she went to Lake Tahoe and started a fruit stand and remained there as manager until November, but could not make good. Then she returned to a fruit farm in Auburn and helped on a farm. However, by July, 1940 she decided she could not stand work and went with her children to a private home in Sacramento where she worked as a chauffeur and a domestic for \$45 a month plus room and board for herself and her children.

Hazel was 5 ft. 2 in. in height and weighed 120 pounds. She has no physical defects other than weak eyes. She had never been out of the United States. She could read, write and speak English and had only a poor knowledge of Japanese. Her parents were Buddhist but she has no particular feeling about religion. She liked to do sales work and buying and also had an interest in art, philosophy and psychology and often had an urge to try social welfare work. She is also a skilled barber.² Mrs. Ogi is young looking and attractive. She has considerable poise and is generally neat and well-dressed. Her manner of speech indicates that she knows precisely what she wants and generally knows how to get what she wants.³

2. WRA-26.

3. Notation by Mrs. Montgomery from Case Workers Files, January 12, 1943.

3. History of Family

Hazel married John when she was only 16. In spite of her interest in academic subjects her parents felt it was unnecessary for her to get an education and arranged a marriage for her. Hazel always felt she was not satisfied with the arrangement and revolted against the marriage from the beginning. However, her first child, Grace, was born shortly after and a son the following year. She was so young that she felt incapable of leaving her husband and earning a living for herself and her two children. She realized that the parents and baishakunin would object vociferously if she mentioned plans of separation. It was not until 1939 therefore that she made arrangement to leave her husband.

At the time of separation the two decided that the boy would remain with Mr. Ogi and the girl with her mother. Another understanding was made at the time that Mr. Ogi would file suit for divorce immediately. Hazel agreed to this because she realized that they were living in a community where the husband's relatives meant saving face for the entire family group. She felt she did not care for herself as none of her ~~own~~ relatives lived in that community.

However, Ogi never did file suit for divorce and made no effort to get her back and remained on good terms with his wife. The two got together occasionally and discussed problems. They decided that it might be better for both children to remain with their mother until they were a little older. About this time a property agreement was drawn up out of court in which Ogi was to pay his wife sums of money sufficient to support at least one child. This agreement was not lived up to and since Hazel received a total of only \$100. She had to go to work. A few months later the two entered a legal separation agreement.

In 1940 Hazel went to Sacramento and started a common-law relation with a Caucasian man. He wished to marry her but the two kept putting the matter off waiting for John to file suit for divorce. Hazel continued to live with this Caucasian and to work in ~~the~~ a home in Sacramento until evacuation. On May 15, 1942 she and her children were evacuated to Walerga Assembly Center and on

June 1, relocated to Tule Lake. Her husband evacuated directly to Tule Lake from his home in Auburn on July 13.

4. Family in Tule Lake

As soon as Hazel realized that John was in the same Project she went to the legal aid department to file suit for divorce. The department was not well organized at that time, however, and Project Attorney was unable to give much assistance. On ~~the~~ July 27, 1942 Hazel went to the Social Welfare for aid. She complained that her husband had not lived up to the agreement and file a suit for divorce nor had he given the money promised. She felt she should file a suit for divorce if her husband did not wish to do so. She claimed that just prior to evacuation she contacted Attorney Taketa but he was unable to do anything as the time was so short and he advised her not to take action until she got into the Center. Unfortunately, however, the Social Welfare also was in a turmoil and no action was taken on her request.⁴ On August 3, 1942 Mrs. Ogi made an application to ~~the~~ ^{leave} the Project to receive a position with a Caucasian couple in Kansas City. She was told at that time that she had to secure a definite offer in writing before she could be released from the Project and she never returned to the office.⁵

Hazel took no action until January, 1943 when she ~~agreed~~ approached Mrs. Montgomery of the Social Welfare to ask her assistance. She stated at this time that her husband was a "nice person" but it was impossible for the two to get along on amiable terms. She stated further that she had been living as a common-law wife and had planned to marry but it was impossible until her divorce and after resettlement because the California law was against inter-racial marriage.

When questioned about her reasons for desire to obtain divorce, she said that Tule Lake was the type of community where it did not matter what person obtained a divorce. She felt John had failed to carry out the agreement possibly because he felt there might be a reconciliation. However, since she had been in

4. Files of Social Welfare Department, July 27, 1942.

5. Files of Internal Security Department on August 3, 1942.

Camp where they were thrown together more closely than they had been in the past year, were convinced that there would be no reconciliation. Hazel also started to become somewhat restless and impatient with Camp life and felt that if final divorce decree were obtained it might be possible to relocate where her common-law husband could meet her and be married.

An appointment was made with Project Attorney O'Brien and approval of the Social Welfare Department was sent to the Project Attorney's office.⁶ Under the regulation of the WRA the Project Attorney's office was unable to ~~pick~~ file any suit ~~of~~ divorce without prior authority of the Social Welfare Department.

No action was taken for some time however and in the meantime Mrs. Ogi's finances depleted. It was impossible for her to file a suit for divorce because even in Tule Lake where the Attorney did not charge a fee, the Court expenses totalled over \$100. She was unable to work because of trouble in her feet and whatever funds she had was spent on her two children. She had no property, real estate nor bank account. Another reason why she was unable to work in the Project was that her son had ^a ~~been~~ seriously eye trouble and needed constant care. On February 12, she applied for public assistance grant and was given \$8.25.⁷

5. Comments

It is rather difficult to analyze the factors leading to the disorganization of the family on the basis of such scanty data. However, we may here close few very tentative generalization. It seems Hazel had very high aspirations and even today is extremely ambitious. At the age of 16 she was forced into a marriage by her parents and was never contented. Because of her children, however, to whom she is very devoted, was unable to leave her husband and to go into her work for a long time. Her desire for independence may have accounted for her starting a marketing enterprise in Lake Tahoe. Furthermore, her reaction to Project life was restless and her desire to leave also indicates that she is a rather aggres-

6. Interview by Montgomery, January 12, 1943

7. Files in Social Welfare Department, February 12, 1943.

sive person.

We might raise the question as to what need the Caucasian man was able to satisfy that her husband could not. Not knowing either men we naturally could not even hazard to guess. It seems, however, that Hazel defined the situation in such a way that it seemed to her that it was advantageous perhaps largely for the benefit of herself and possibly for her children if she married the Caucasian.

It is interesting to note that Hazel was also aware of certain Japanese customs and traditions in spite of the fact that she herself did not live in accordance to the pattern of behavior sanctioned by the Japanese community. For example, she agreed to allow her husband to file suit for divorce in order that he may maintain his status in the community. On the other hand, it would seem that her ambition of aggressiveness or a result of a combination of certain ideals both in American society and in a community of immigrants always hoping to raise the status of their children.

Surname OGI	Man's name John	Cross reference	File	Case # 337
	Woman's name Hazel	Other names used		Family # 39030 (John) 28128 (Hazel)
Present address 7113-A, Tule Lake, Newell, Calif.			Classification Internal-P.A.	
Previous addresses (John) Rt. 1, Box 102, Auburn, Calif.			Referred by Clothing Unit--self	
1. Evacuated from (John) Auburn on July 13, 1942 (Hazel) Sacramento, on May 15, 1942			Date 7-27, 1942	
2. Relocated from (Hazel) Walerga Assembly Center on Jun 21, 1942				

FAMILY COMPOSITION

Name	Birthdate	Birthplace	Citizenship status	Occupation		
				Past	In project	Registered
Hazel	3-21-12	Riego, Cal.	U.S.	Chauff.	None	No
Grace C.	8-15-30	Auburn, Cal.	U.S.	School	School	No
Ted	11 years	Auburn, Cal.	U.S.	School	School	No

Legally responsible and other relatives	Relationship	Address	Number dependents
John Ogi	separated husband	5107-E	none

Others in household	Relationship	Address

Visited Japan	Who	When	Period

Religion
Buddhist

DOCUMENT TL-25

THE KALEA FAMILY

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Sources of Information:

1. Case record of Mr. Kalea in the files of the Community Welfare Department in Tule Lake Project.
2. WRA-26.

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
Chicago, Illinois
Shibutani, 7/28/43

THE KALEA FAMILY1. Introduction

Lawrence Kalea was born on September 9, 1898 in Kahului, Hawaii. His father was Japanese and his mother, Hawaiian. He attended Wailuku grammar school in Maui from September, 1905 to June, 1912. He attended Homokomo high school until June, 1914, specializing in manual training, graduating in June, 1914.

In 1917 Lawrence joined the merchant marine as a seaman and served during World War I. In 1921 he migrated to the mainland United States and began working Donovan lumber mill in Aberdeen, Washington where he operated the saw mill, electric train~~ing~~, firing donkey trains and doing various other jobs for \$3.60 to \$7.50 per day.

Lawrence is 5 ft. 3 in. tall and weighs 130 pounds. He has no physical defects. He can read, write and speak English, speak Spanish and speak Hawaiian. His hobbies are carpentry, auto mechanics, baseball and swimming. He has no religious preference.¹

Just prior to evacuation Lawrence had difficulty with the authorities because no one knew whether or not he had Japanese blood. His mother had told him that his biological parent was Japanese but his stepfather, Mr. Kalea, with whom he had lived, was Hawaiian. Lawrence did not know the name of his biological father.

He never thought of himself as Japanese and while working in Washington he associated with Caucasians entirely. However, inspite of questions concerning his ancestry, he was evacuated on June 4, 1942 to Tule Lake project.

Lawrence was never happy in Tule Lake and never did make a good adjustment. On August 19 he made an application to leave the project. His application was held

1. WRA-26.

up for some time because of uncertainties in the record. He had been assured of a job in the lumber mill if he should return there.

Appendix I

Surname	Man's name	Cross reference	File	Case #
KALEA	Lawrence		CWD	
	Woman's name	Other names used		Family # 19747
Present address	1817-D, Tule Lake, Newell, Calif.			Classification Mixed Blood
				Referred by Self
Previous addresses	2521 Aberdeen Ave., Aberdeen, Wash.			Date August 19, 1942
1. Evacuated from	Aberdeen, Washington on June 14, 1942			
2. Relocated from				

FAMILY COMPOSITION

Name	Birthdate	Birthplace	Citizenship status	Occupation		
				Past	In project	Registered
Lawrence	9/9/98	Hawaii	citizen	mill worker	?	?

Legally responsible and other relatives	Relationship	Address	Number dependents

Others in household	Relationship	Address

Visited Japan	Who	When	Period

Religion
No religious preference

Appendix II

C
O
P
Y

THE CITY OF ABERDEEN
WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE
A.M. Gallagher, Chief

August 8, 1942

Mr. E.L. Shirrell,
Project Director
Tule Lake Project, W.R.A.
Newell, California.

Dear Sir:

In regards to a letter from Lawrence Kalea, who is in your custody at the present time, I would like to state that I have known the subject for about fifteen years during which time he has made his residence at the home of Mr. Williams, who is an officer of my Department.

Due to the fact that there is an acute shortage of labor on the Harbor I feel that Mr. Kalea would be of more value here on the Harbor than in the Camp and feel that he is loyal to this country.

Yours truly,

/s/ A.M. Gallagher, Chief
Aberdeen Police Dept.

jr

THE SONODA FAMILY

CONFIDENTIAL

This document contains no disguises other than names. All dates, places and events are accurate to the best knowledge of the investigator. No part of this document may be used for any purpose whatsoever without further disguises to conceal the identity of the persons involved without the consent of the director of the Evacuation and Resettlement Study.

Sources of Information:

1. Case Record of the Sonoda family in the files of the Community Welfare Department in Tule Lake Project.
2. Interviews with social workers.
3. WRA-26, Individual Form, for Mr. and Mrs. Sonoda and Takekichi Nagasawa.

Evacuation and Resettlement Study
Chicago, Illinois
Shibutani-Suski, September 4, 1943

THE SONODA FAMILY1. Introduction

The Sonoda family consists of Takuzo Sonoda, 55, his wife, Katsu, 50, and their two children, Hideko, 23, who is now in Japan, and Tadashi, 19. Takuzo and his wife were both born in Hiroshima Ken. They have lived together as man and wife for 24 years although they were never legally married. Takuzo was separated from his first wife in Japan and took Katsu, a widow, as his common-law wife in 1918.

Mr. Sonoda worked as a foreman on a fruit orchard in Yolo for seven and a half years and did general farm work in Elk Grove. Due to ill health he has not been working since 1938. Mrs. Sonoda worked on fruit farms doing piece work from the fall of 1931 to the time of evacuation.

2. Individuals in Family1. Takuzo Sonoda

Takuzo Sonoda was born in Midorii, Hiroshikan Ken, Japan on May 20, 1887. His father was a farmer. He attended Midorii grammar school in Hiroshima from April, 1894 to March, 1902, having only eight years of schooling.

In 1904 he migrated to the United States where he did odd jobs on farms. In 1918 he met Katsu, a widow, who he took as his common-law wife. To this union two children were born, Hideko in 1919 and Tadashi in 1923.

From the time of his arrival in this country Sonoda worked

on various farms in central California. From November, 1928 to December, 1930 he worked as foreman at the Elliott Fruit Orchard in Yoko, receiving \$100 per month. After quitting this job he worked for Williamson Fruit Company in Elk Grove from December, 1930 to July, 1938, doing general farm work for which he received \$3.50 per day. Due to ill-health he was unemployed from July, 1938 to the present day.

Takuzo is 5 ft. 2 in. tall and weighs 120 pounds. He has heart trouble. He can read, write and speak Japanese only. His skill is listed as doing machinery repair work. His religion is Buddhist.¹

2. Katsu Sonoda

Katsu Hirota was born on March 28, 1892 in Hiroshima Ken where her father was a blacksmith. She attended Hiroshima grammar school from April, 1899 to March, 1903. In July, 1911 she came to America and was married, however, her husband died, leaving her a young widow. It was in 1918 that she met Takuzo Sonoda and lived with him as man and wife to the time of evacuation. Two children were born to them.

It was not until her children were 12 and 9 years old respectively that she started to work on farms doing piece work to help the family pocketbook. From September, 1931 to March, 1942 she worked at the Williamson Fruit Company in Elk Grove with her husband, receiving 25 cents an hour. She remained there after her husband quit due to ill-health. From March, 1942 to just before evacuation Mrs. Sonoda worked at Van Dyke hop farm in

1. WRA-26.

Sacramento, receiving \$4.50 per day in order to keep the family going. Long before the war her daughter was sent to Japan and she is still there.

Mrs. Sonoda is 4 ft. 8 in. tall and weighs 138 pounds. She has no physical defects. She can read, write and speak Japanese only. Her religion is Buddhist.²

3. Takekichi Nagasawa

Takekichi Nagasawa, a bachelor, became very friendly with the Sonoda family after he started working as a farm laborer on the Sonoda ranch. Sonoda accused him of being too friendly with his wife. One day Mr. Sonoda caught Nagasawa with Mrs. Sonoda in her room and threatened the laborer with a knife. Nagasawa reported the matter to the police and Sonoda was jailed, being sentenced to serve 49 days in the Sacramento County Jail. While Sonoda was there Mrs. Sonoda and her son and Nagasawa were evacuated with other Japanese of that vicinity to Arboga Assembly Center.

Nagasawa was born on September 25, 1900 in Shimizu-shi, Shizuoka Ken where his father was a farmer. He attended Shizuoka grammar school from April, 1907 to March, 1915. He has had only eight years of schooling. In October, 1918 Nagasawa migrated to the United States, working on various hop ranches in Sacramento valley from September, 1922 to the time of evacuation. He had been working on the Sonoda ranch for several years at the time of evacuation.

Nagasawa is 5 ft. 3 in. tall and weighs 130 pounds. He is

rheumatic. His hobby is growing flowers and vegetables. He has no religious preference.³

3. History of Family

The Sonoda family got along pretty well until Takekichi Nagasawa, formerly of Sacramento, came to the Sonoda ranch to work as a farm laborer. Nagasawa, a bachelor, became very friendly with Mrs. Sonoda and Mr. Sonoda was conscious of the fact.

Just before evacuation Mr. Sonoda caught Nagasawa and Mrs. Sonoda in a room together. Incensed, Mr. Sonoda picked up a knife and threatened Nagasawa who reported the matter to the local police. Mr. Sonoda was found guilty and sentenced to 49 days in Sacramento County Jail. While he was serving his sentence the Japanese residents of that vicinity were evacuated to assembly centers.

Mr. Sonoda was evacuated from jail to Walerga Assembly Center on May 15, 1942 while his family as well as Mr. Nagasawa were evacuated to Arboga Assembly Center on May 27, 1942 with other residents of that locality.

Mr. Sonoda was relocated to Tule Lake on June 17. He was assigned to 2719-D. His wife and son were relocated to Tule Lake on June 26 and assigned to 1119-D. On the following day Nagasawa arrived at this center. He was given an apartment with a group of bachelors at 1115-B, the same block as Mrs. Sonoda.

4. Life in Tule Lake

When the Sonodas and Nagasawa met again at Tule Lake trouble

broke out again. Mr. Sonoda wanted his son to stay with him and expressed willingness to separate from his wife. Mrs. Sonoda declared that she did not want to go back to her husband, saying that he gambled all the money her son had given him. Tadashi also refused to go with his father. Mrs. Sonoda denied any relations with Mr. Nagasawa, declaring that he was a close friend.

In an effort to reach a satisfactory solution, the case was brought before the Social Welfare office on July 31 by Ichiji Matsushima, adjutant of the Salvation Army, a Rev. Naito and Mr. Yoshida of Sacramento. At this time Matsushima was of the opinion that the best solution would be to send Nagasawa to some other center for his own safety.⁴

On August 4 Mrs. Sonoda was interviewed by a social worker. She said that she had lived with Sonoda as man and wife for the past 24 years. She denied any connection with Mr. Nagasawa, repeating that he was merely a friend. She said that she was now working as a washroom attendant and that her son was a carpenter's helper. She emphasized that she would not return to her husband because of her unpleasant experiences with him.⁵

Mrs. Sonoda was approached once more on August 11 in an effort to seek a reconciliation, but again she refused to return to her husband.⁶

Mr. Sonoda expressed his desire to change the beneficiary of his insurance policy. Mr. Yoshida and Mr. Nishida, relatives of Mrs. Sonoda reported this matter to the Social Welfare department.

4. Interview by Nomura, CWD files, July 31, 1942. See Appendix II for letter. Matsushima was called in on this matter before evacuation.

5. CWD files of August 4, 1942.

6. CWD files of August 11, 1942.

ment on August 29. Mrs. Sonoda told Henry Takeda of the Legal Aid department that she would not release jurisdiction over the policy until she was able to leave the project. She declared that she wanted to go out with beet workers to do cooking for them and if this was not possible she wanted to go to the center where the Fresno Assembly Center people were sent as she had many friends there.⁷

On September 9 Mrs. Sonoda applied for leave to go out to sugar beet work with Mr. Nagasawa. At this time some of her friends objected to this.⁸

The project director's office sent a wire to E.R. Fryer, regional director, requesting a transfer for Mrs. Sonoda and her son to Manzanar. Two days later a reply came asking for a complete report on the case and also said that Manzanar was overcrowded and asked if possible to transfer them to another project.⁹

In letters between Tule Lake and the regional director, a request was made for Mr. Nagasawa's transfer to another project upon his return from sugar beet work in Montana, however, the letter did not reach the employment investigator in Helena, Montana in time and Nagasawa returned to Tule Lake with other workers on November 19.¹⁰

7. CWD files of August 29, 1942.

8. CWD files of September 9, 1942, supplemented by files in the Employment Department.

9. For text see Appendices III and IV.

10. For text of letters see Appendices V and VI.

Surname	Man's name	Cross reference	File	Case #
SONODA	Takuzo			
	Woman's name	Other names used		Family #
	Katsu			7720
Present address	2719-D (Mr.) and 1119-D (Mrs. & son)			Classification Dom.-Int.
Previous addresses	RFD Box 495, Elk Grove, Calif.			Referred by Matsushima, Rev. Naito
				Date 7/31/42
1. Evacuated from (Mrs.) Elk Grove - 6/26/42, (Mr.) Sacramento - 6/17/42				
2. Relocated from (Mrs.) Marysville - 5/27/42, (Mr.) Walerga - 5/15/42				

FAMILY COMPOSITION

Name	Birthdate	Birthplace	Citizenship status	Occupation		
				Past	In project	Registered
Takuzo	56	Japan	Alien	Farm Foreman	none	?
Katsu	51	Japan	Alien	Farm worker	janitress	?
Tadashi	19	U.S.	Citizen	Farmer	carpenter	Yes

Legally responsible and other relatives	Relationship	Address	Number dependents
Hideko Sonoda	Daughter	Japan	--

Others in household	Relationship	Address

Visited Japan	Who	When	Period

Religion
Buddhist

(COPY)

APPENDIX II

Aug. 31, 1942

Mrs. Halle,
Social Welfare Department.

Dear Mrs. Halle:

No doubt your department is well acquainted with the case which involves the following parties: Takuzo Sonoda, Mrs. Sonoda and Takekichi Nagasawa. Mr. Sonoda is living at 2719-D, Mrs. Sonoda at 1119-D and Mr. Nagasawa at 1115-B.

Even before leaving Sacramento I was asked to enter the picture and ever since that time I have tried to do what I thought was best. But so far very little progress has been made, as a matter of fact, the situation is worse than before. It is so critical that I would like to make a suggestion if I may.

It seems to me that before anything desperate happens here which would mar the record of this Project it would be wise to have Mr. Nagasawa leave for some other Relocation Center. I have been in constant touch with these people and I am convinced that it is no longer safe to leave the matter alone. I hope you will consider the above suggestion very seriously. In case you need me please call upon me. In case you wish to know the history of the case I shall be only too glad to help.

/s/ Ichiji Matsushima
Adjutant,
Salvation Army

(COPY)

APPENDIX III

September 5, 1942

E R FRYER REGIONAL DIRECTOR
WRA RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA

ATTENTION: MR ROBERT A PETRIE EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

DOMESTIC TRIANGLE INVOLVING SEPARATE COUPLE AND THIRD PARTY
MAY RESULT IN VIOLENCE STOP WIFE MRS KATSU SONODA 51 AND
SON TADASHI SONODA 19 FAMILY NUMBER 7720 REQUESTING TRANSFER
TO MANZANAR WHICH WE RECOMMEND STOP CAR WITH THREE
PASSENGERS LEAVING FOR THAT POINT SUNDAY MORNING STOP CAN
TRANSFER BE EFFECTED BY THAT TIME?

ELMER L SHIRRELL
PROJECT DIRECTOR

(COPY)

APPENDIX IV

SAN FRANCISCO CALIFORNIA SEPTEMBER 7, 1942

ELMER L SHIRRELL
NEWELL CALIFORNIA

REURTEL SEPTEMBER 5 REGARDING SONODA FAMILY STOP PLEASE
FURNISH US COMPLETE REPORT ON THIS CASE STOP SINCE MANZANAR
IS OVERCROWDED COULD THESE PEOPLE BE TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER
PROJECT

RA PETRIE

(COPY)

APPENDIX V

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Room 419, Placer Hotel
Helena, Montana

Nov. 28, 1942

Mr. Elmer L. Shirrell
Project Director
Newell, California

Re: Takekichi Nagasawa

Dear Mr. Shirrell:

In reply to your letter of recent date requesting the above named man to be returned to some other project rather than Tule Lake, will say that your letter was not received by me in time to arrange this transfer for you.

I regret very much not being able to comply with your request.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Frank M. Regan
Employment Investigator

(COPY)

APPENDIX VI

Dec. 2, 1943

Memo to : Mr. Jacoby
From : Frank C. Smith
Subject : Takekichi Nagasawa (six)

You will recall on November 9 that we requested the WRA field investigator to send Mr. Nagasawa to some other project. On November 10 we wrote Mr. Frank Regan, WRA field investigator in Helena, Montana making the same request. Today we received a letter from Mr. Regan stating that he was unable to comply with our request because it was too late.

Also, for your information, Mr. Nagasawa returned with a group on November 19 to this project and is now living at 1115-B.

/s/ Frank C. Smith, Chief
Housing and Employment