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67/14
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ANSWERS OF BLOCK MANAGERS TO QUERY BY HEAD OF BLOCK MANAGERS' COUNCIL
CONCERNING ATTITUDE OF PEOPLE TOWARD RELOCATION FROM THE CENTER:

April 13 - 43

In regard of resettlement:-

Sixty per cent of this block is waiting for the information that the first group went out to work. They can decide later.

Forty per cent want to know further question about whether they must go out.

If they can go back to California they are willing, but outside of California, they are not familiar with the other states.

They hesitate at present time.

Block 29
Henry Isobe /s/

NOTE:--SOME 300 PEOPLE HAVE RELOCATED FROM THE CENTER.
IT IS THEIR REACTIONS THAT THE PEOPLE ARE WAITING
FOR ACCORDING TO THE ABOVE LETTER.

NOTE:--IT HAS BEEN EXPLAINED REPEATEDLY THAT NOBODY NEEDS
TO RELOCATE WHO DOESN'T WANT TO. NEVERTHELESS THE
FEAR APPARENTLY PERSISTS THAT THEY ARE GOING TO BE
DRIVEN OUT.

Block 65 Report on Resettlement Program.

10% - Those who desire resettlement.

90% - Those who are opposed to resettlement.

The reasons for opposing it:

1. As we have never lived outside of California, we will find it difficult to adjust ourselves to different climate and custom of other states.
2. Because we have had to give up all of our property before evacuation, we do not think that those of us with large families will be able to find ways of living in an unknown locality.

April 12, 1943

Subject - An Outline for Resettlement
Plan of Loyal Japanese American and Friendly Alien

This plan will handle a certain portion of population. But to put idle Japanese American man-power into a productive useage. It should be carefully studied and weighed to achieve a success. Problems. Great majority of Japanese in centers are farmers. Therefore to resettle this population there should be some kind of planning be made to utilize this merit so it would be useful and helpful to war effort of United States. Among this lot of population there are group who does not care to resettle with various reasons such as old age, family constiuent, disappointment, easy going, uncertainty, ignorance of facts, and above all financial status. On the other hand there are large group of people who wish to resettle but could not do so because they have no way to solve their problems by their own power. Thus it is the business of W.R.A. to find out what is holding back this group from resettlement. And work out an appropriate solution. Solution. To solve problems of this group it is necessary at first to clarify the uncertainty that it concern. That uncertainty is how and where. Question is how we could earn living and where we could go. The significance of how we could earn living involves various serious problems if an evacuee himself alone is left to figure it out. Therefore, there will be no solution through resettlement.

Let it be known that we evacuees are rooted out from our means of incomes. They are like baby lambs taken out of green pasture into open desert and now asked to relocate without direction told and without compass. Therefore, firstly, they are without financial set up. If

Subject: Resettlement

By your request I have contacted most of the family in our block 48 and found out the following opinions concerning resettlement.

1. About 50% of our block residents stated that they are going to remain in this relocation center for for (sic) the duration. Reasons for good many of these family has large members and too old to start off anything to aid the family.

Out of this 50% few have told me that they would try to resettle if they have enough capital. Few have told me that they would like to take a chance if the government will give them enough aid or cheap interest loan.

2. Most of the Nisei family stated that they are willing to go out and resettle soon or later, but they would like to wait and see if those people could make out.

Would like to wait and see whether they will get a fairly job as an other American and etc.

Would like to wait and see whether there will be a segrigations.

3. Few have made up their mind to go out by himself and find a place to resettle and call for their family later, because of unknown country.

4. Good many are undecided with no reason.

Blk 48
N H U /s/

April 12, 1943

Reaction of Resettlement Program by the People of 49 Block

Unless there is a 100% Guarantee that our living condition would

certain group of people wish to relocate government should furnish means of earning livelihood. This plan will deal with famers (sic). Briefly it should be governmental subsidiary.

3. Furnish them capital, land, and the labor will be taken care by themselves . The detail work plan will be withheld at this moment. But in order to make progress with such plan, let have all interested party and authority get together and form some kind of committee which might be called "Committee of Interested"

Frank K. Kitagawa /s/
72 Blk Mgr.

be the same as it was in California before the time of evacuation, we the people of Block 49 would remain in this camp till peace time.

April 12, 1943

Reaction of Resettlement Program.

The majority of the individuals whom I contacted in my block did not seem very enthusiastic about this current resettlement program. The people with school-age children, especially seemed uninterested and hesitant. However, some of the individuals with no dependents seemed interested in resettling - depending upon the jobs and opportunities open to them.

Salsai Morodomi /s/
Block 64 - Manager

Rivers, Arizona
April 13, 1943

To Whom It May Concern:

A urgent survey or opinion of the people on the resettlement problem has been requested by the Central Block Manager. The following opinion is that of block 56.

We are confronted by many egoistic problems concerning resettlement. Many of us have been in camp at least a year. This brings us quite a few doubts about the outside. Is it safe, could we support ourselves, how is public opinion? There are many leading and misleading information on conditions outside. The trend is why go out and starve, we are safe here. This might not be the right attitude, but what other move could be taken at a critical time as today, especially for old and large families.

The three factors in this problem are divided accordingly. The first, old people and large families are very conservative. Large portion of this group will not resettle. The future of these people are not decided, what they are striving for is just everyday existence. The second group is the willing to venture group, such as the nissei, young singleman (sic) and some of the older. On condition there is a good possibility. Last of all there is the undecided group. As in the paragraph above afraid to make any move. Other than these there are other factors. There are the repatriated group also the group that wrote no to the two military questions on the questionnaire.

Taking all these problems into consideration we come to the conclusion. Is there a chance of existence on the outside, especially a large family. Naturally we do not expect a guarantee, but at least a assurance of some sort such as in camp. The existing barrier is, how far to believe the authorities, who is trying to help us? These barriers exist because of this grudge of being evacuated. Naturally all this is a egoistic grudge, but still these are the barriers that hold resettlement back. These are the two main problems that many hesitate in resettling.

Block 56
Paul Kurukawa /s/
Blk. Mgr.

April 13, 1943

In regards to resettlement:

I have talked with the people of my block about resettlement. All with the exception of one do not wish to leave this center at the present. They are afraid and uncertain about means of making a livelihood (sic). They feel that with just one or two members working in a family with many children, that it would be difficult to house, clothe, and feed them properly. I find that only young single men, or families with relatives outside who could help out in difficulties are willing to even consider leaving this center.

Block 45
G. L. Okano /s/

BLOCK 44

We are in favor of relocation under these condition.

1. Opportunities for training of inexperienced workers. For good paying trade.
2. Unlimited participation in all unions and defense work.
3. We don't want domestic job.
4. Offer us living wages for jobs that are being offered instead of slave tokens.
5. That we be permitted to go to any part of U.S.
6. That we be permitted to homestead.
7. That all farm implements and household goods be transferred to which we may be relocated, to any part of the country, prepaid.
8. That we be guaranteed adequate housing facilities.

Block 34

2/7	no	old age. work not clear about wage and living condition
1/7	yes	
4/7	undecided	

Block 47

Consensus of opinion of this Block is that the Resettlement Program is a good thing for young people without families.

The answer for this is the comparative low wages in view of the present economic conditions in general for a party with family.

3. Groups on Resettlement in our Block - (51)

(1) Large families will not even consider moving on account of food and living handicaps on the outside.

(2) Young couples and single people have a desire to go if the conditions outside are favorable enough to make a comfortable living. Many are already contemplating on seasonal work and $\frac{1}{2}$ share basis. 2 have gone already.

(3) This group will not leave for no reason or cause (mostly issei Radicals).

Niseis are really thinking of moving - and isseis are not discouraging them too much. - That is general consensus of our block.

51 - Blk Mgr.
Izzy Okani /s/

Block #63

Most young men and women are willing to go out for suitable propositions and parents are will follow under favorable proposition at 80%. All depend on the condition in out side -- must know every condition to meet reasonable requirement before going out.

Block 31

Report on resettlement

Young people are in mood to go out - to date 5 left - more leaving in next few days.

As for older persons, some awaiting for report from these persons as to the general feeling of the people toward Japanese.

Block 66

Report about Resettlement.

The people of this block are not interested in Resettlement.

Among 270 residents:-

- 2 - for college
- 2 - to join husband at army camp
- 1 - to Nebraska sugar beets work

Shirto Shimaru /s/

36 Block

1. The wages offered to outside employment for the Japanese in general are too low.
2. Government to guarantee:
 - a. Security for living
 - b. Housing facilities
3. Government would provide our expenses to our new home, such as F.H.A. loan.
4. Get in Jobs in defence work.
5. Have a lot of Publicity spread all over the U.S.
6. What the Japanese are doing both in war efforts and for the good of people in U.S.
7. Permitted to go to any Part of U.S.

Block 40

For resettlement.

None intends to resettle now in my block.

reason

1. Wages offered outside are look like too cheap.

The majority opinion in this block is against resettlement.

The older adults do not feel capable of starting afresh; the younger married people with families do not wish to go. The remainder of those who do not come under the classification of children if single are the only ones who have any interest at all in resettlement.

Resettlement Opinion
block #60

Block 28

Majority of residents no wish go out. If could back to California, they might think over and some will go. There are few young people want to get out right - now.

Reaction of Resettlement Program. Block 46.

I. Isseis' view of resettlement:

(A) Discouragement

- (1) Tension of discrimination, hatred and other factors by other races in the outside world might cause and effect us --
 - (a) brutal attacks and injuries
 - (b) non equal chance to purchase goods and food supplies (on account of ration)
 - (c) lack of chance to seek and get lease farming fields
 - (d) lack facilities of education and medical cares.

(B) Lack of financial conditions:-

- (a) living costs are high, life is not guaranteed
- (b) cannot purchase farm equipments to start with
- (c) wages are quite low, especially to the Japanese, while on the other hand living expenses are high.
- (d) too old and the children are not quite old enough.

(C) Disatisfaction

- (a) what ever steps the Government is going to take for resettlement program, unless back to California, they don't want to resettle.
- (b) sacrifices before evacuation cannot recover the farming goods to buy now.
- (c) too old to move to unknown states

II. Nissels' view of resettlement.

(A) Discouragement.

- (1) (a-d) is same as isseis
 - (e) parents don't want them to leave this center
 - (f) how can we leave when we can't leave (negative answer to the questionnaire)
 - (g) mother wants to meet and live with dad who are in the internment camp, so hesitating.

(B) same.

(C) same.

April 13, 1943

TO: Central Block Manager

SUBJECT: Reaction of Resettlement Program

As you have requested, we have contacted as many individuals as possible and got their reaction on the Resettlement Program. Except for a very few young men going out to work on the sugar beet fields, the general reaction seems to be against resettlement on the outside. In fact, I would feel safe to say that just about 100% in this block are against it.

Noboru Iriyama /s/
Noboru Iriyama
54 Block Manager

"74" Block

- 5% Intend to send NISEI out to resettle first and follow later if conditions are suitable.
- 5% Want to resettle on considering the standing of the Japanese descendants after war is over.

- 4% Would like to go out to continue their education after making enough money doing camouflage work.
- 2% Would like resettle but can not practice in other states because they only have California Lisence.
- 76% Majority ignore resettlement for a while despite W.R.A. encouragement no financial security even though W.R.A. promises to help. Since they have suffered financially through lose of property at time of evacuation
- Dont want to face racial discrimination even though W.R.A. says that there are no racial prejudice since there are different attitudes between Gôvernment, State, County, and Local community toward Japs. Government should permit Japanese American to go back California as those Italians, who once at had been in custody, were released to go back to the same place and same work.
- They still can not quite understand the Goverment of democracy treating them very differently from German Italian at present time.
- 8% not yet decided even no plan for their future, but just watching things go by.

Block 30

1. In case the whole family left, difficult to support them.
2. Won't leave center if not back to California.
3. Worry caused by lack of proper employment in unknown place.
4. Low Wage

Block 32

1. Fish Market -- "No"

2. Resettlement.

1. General sentiment - not very enthusiasm.

2. The some of jobs offered to the evacuees, the wages are ridicilously low.

Block 59

Nisei

60% yes
40% no

Issei

10% yes
90% no

Reason I.

If Government will give five thousand Dollars for each family, will do.

II. If government will give better protections for our safty at outside than now.

III. According to employment dept report up to date that most of wages given out is too small.

Block 58

Rivers, Arizona

22 people of the unit answered yes---most of them are young people seeking and going to jobs on the outside and they want to build something up so they can call for their parents.

30 people of the unit answered no---

50% want to stay here till the war is over.

The others are doubtful because they do not know whether they can get jobs to keep their family going.

They are afraid to go somewhere they do not know anything about, afraid of the public attitude.

Block Mgr. Y. Kondo /s/

Resettlement Problem
Block 73

The majority say why did the government evacuated us from our home in California without a hearing - If its for our safety, than we would rather remain safe in this relocation center. We have no desire to settle in a strange country.

Small percentage are willing to resettle providing they get financial aid enough to establish a home, as the majority of us have given away everything we had just prior to evacuation, and if we do resettle it will take considerable amount of money to purchase the necessary things that we need.

The professional people such as Doctors, Druggist and Nurses are willing to resettle providing they get permit to practice without having any further examination in other states.

INDIVIDUAL REPORTS OF BLOCK 39 ON RESETTLEMENT.

Nisaburo Takahara 39-9-d

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Are you willing to relocate? | Answer: No |
| 2. Reason why. | Answer: I think it over |

Sosuki Chada 39-9-a

1. No
2. No hope

Mitsugi Matsumoto 39-14-c

1. No
2. (no reason)

Masaki Mitani 39-10-b

1. Yes
2. (no reason)

Saizo Nakamura 39-9-b

1. No
2. (no reason)

Takeo Nakamura 39-10-a

1. No
2. (no reason)

Hyo Takamura 39-9-b

1. No
2. (no reason)

Jutari Ooyagi 39-9-b

1. No
2. (no reason)

Yasuo Chida 39-2-a

1. No
2. We have no intention to relocate because we have sold all of our belonging and will be very difficult to start a newing living. After all we didn't want to be evacuated or sell all our property in the first place.

James Nakamura 39-2-b

1. Yes
2. The only thing to do.

Masuye Tamaki 39-3-a

1. No
2. I can't speak English very well and think that I haven't got very much chance so I am planning to stay in this center and not relocate.

Fumiko Nishiyama 39-1-a

1. No
2. I have no intention of going out and relocate because I am just a girl and also have to support my mother and father-- so I figure to stay in this center duration of the war.

Toshiko Kitagawa 39-1-a

- 1.
2. Even though I relocate I think there is no hope to make a standard living so I am planning to stay here for the duration.

Ralph Yukio Yamagata 39-4-d 39-1-b

1. No
- 2.

Ichiro Yanagihara 39-4-d

1. No
2. I figure there is no hope and the chances won't last very long. I'm sure so I will stay here for the duration of the war.

Yone Tomooka 39-12-d

1. No
- 2.

Ytako Nakamura 39-10-a

1. No
2. Too old to go out to work

Otokichi Agawa 39-10-d

1. No
- 2.

Takeichi Ikoma 39-11-b

1. No
- 2.

Tadasu Nishi 39-11-a

1. No
- 2.

Charles Sakai 39-11-c

1. Yes
- 2.

Yutaku Nakano 39-11-d

1. Yes
- 2.

Shigeto Incuye 39-12-a

1. Yes
- 2.

Isamu Sakahara 39-4-c

1. No
2. I can't speak English very well and figure there isn't much of a chance. Even though I am offered a good ~~good~~ job now I'm sure it will not be very long so I am planning to stay here for the duration of the war.

Tom Watanbe 39-13-a

1. No
- 2.

Harry Kurata 39-14-b

1. No
- 2.

Itaru Inouye 39-8-a

1. No
2. No hope.

Kohuro Kubota 39-14-c

- 1.
- 2.

Sauchi Oki 39-4-c

1. No
2. I am too old to go out and relocate like the other family, before evacuation I have sold all my belonging and in order to go on my own now it sure is a big matter to even think about so I am planning to stay here duration of the war.

Hideto Okamura 39-14-b

1. No
- 2.

Victor Tsubota 39-14-b

1. Undecided
- 2.

Trunokazu Miyata 39-14-b

1. No
2. I am in bad health and won't be able to even though I relocate so I prefer to stay here duration of the war.

Hiri Nishimoto 39-5-d

1. No
2. I am too old and won't be able to work like I have been in California so I am planning to stay in this center.

Suyiguma Tsuchida 39-5-c

1. No
2. I am too old and the time is bad for me to relocate my wife won't be able to work and also my two daughter is too young and still need education I have sold all of my house hold and in order to start a new life it will be a very difficult problem so I am planning to stay here till this war is over and become a peaceful world.

Frank Souji Yoshimoto 39-^{4-a}~~5-b~~

- 1.
- 2.

Kenji Matoba 39-5-b

1. No
2. I have no hope of relocating because there is no future even though I relocate now. I sold all my things before evacuation and I am very sure it will be impossible to make a living like I have been in California--So I am planning to stay here duration of the war.

Hiroshi Genishi 39-2-c

1. No
2. Chances are slight. There seems to be no hope in doing so.

Hideomi Matoba 39-5-b

1. No
2. Just can't relocate now because my father have been taken in and pretty hard to take care of the things I have left before evacuation.

Trakichi Shimomura 39-6-a

1. No
2. No hope

Kenji Doi 39-6-b

1. No
2. No hope

Tom Matumoto 39-7-a

1. No
2. No hope

Mike Wakumoto 39-6-c

1. Undecided.
- 2.

George Nagano 39-6-d

1. No.
- 2.

Fred Sunahara 39-7-a

1. No
2. No hope--chances are slight.

Arata Waritomi 39-7-b

1. No
2. Too old to go out and work. After all I sold everything before evacuation and how am I ever going to get started in the first place.

Ben Fiyinaga 39-7-c

1. No
2. No hope of relocating at the present.

Martha Tamida 39-7-d

1. No
2. No hope of relocating with big family of 9.

Rumao Egami 39-8-d

1. No
- 2.

Masao Kato 39-3-a

1. No
2. Even though I relocate I think there is no hope to make a standard living. So I am planning to stay here for the duration.

Shinkichi Nakata 39-3-b

1. No
2. I have no hope of getting out and think even though I get a good chance at first I don't think the chance will be long. So I am planning to stay in this center.

Mitsuki Matsuoka 39-13-b

1. No
- 2.

Komiki Makino 39-12-b

1. No
- 2.

James Nishineo 39-14-d

1. No
2. No hope of relocating now.

Masunosuke Nagai 39-8-c

1. No
2. No hope

Masataku Tomooka 39-12-c

1. Unknown
- 2.

Amiko Matsuoka 39-12-d

1. Unknown
- 2.

Jiro Kato 39-14-d

1. No
- 2.

Tohokuma Tomooka 39-13-d

1. No
- 2.

Kuntaro Shinozaki 39-2-s

1. No
2. Because I have a big family and won't be able to support every one --

Masunasuki Minami 39-4-b

1. No
2. I have no hope to go out so I am planning to stay here duration of the war.

Hidemi Matoba 39-3-d

1. No
2. I have sold all of my belonging so I think it is no use to relocate I have a wife and a baby so I might as well stay in this center for the duration.

Yukio Raya 39-9-c

1. No
- 2.

Isamu Kanetomo 39-10-c

1. No
- 2.

Data on Work Furloughs

Jan. 20, 1943

This report cover only group leaves as Landward handles all individual furloughs.

1. This project has released only seven persons on group leave, the entire group leaving for Malheur County, Oregon, for genera farm work. From Sept 21 through Nov. 12 an average of 200 evacuees went out daily to pick cotton in the area adjacent to the project. A total of 9086 men days of work was done by this group.

This project has received back a number of workers who originally had gone out on group leaves directly from assembly centers. During the month of Nov. 22 such persons returned from sugar beet work in Montana an 15 from sugar beet work in Idaho. In Dec. 16 persons returned from sugar beet work in Idaho.

2. We have no measure of reaction of the employers except with regard to cotton picking. Without exception cotton growers were well pleased with the work performed by evacuees, a number of them stating that the evacuees were the most efficient labor they had ever had.

3. Here again our experience is limited for the most part to the reaction of cotton pickers. Generally speaking, the pickers were satisfied with wages and working conditions, although cotton picking is a type of labor considerably below the type of work usually done by Japanese farm workers. The reaction from the small number of workers who have returned from sugar beet work is not so favorable. Some dissatisfaction with earnings has been voiced, and our project att'y is at present pressing claim on the part of a group of evacuees for freight charges on baggage wh which the sugar beet company apparently agreed to pay and required it be shipped at the worker's expense.

4. Since group leave has affected a very small percentage of workers at this project, there has been no problems with labor shortages, etc.

Henderson