

P 3.22.

67/14
C

C
O
P
Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Minidoka Project
Hunt Branch, Twin Falls, Idaho

Wash copy

In reply, please refer to:
Chief, Public Works Division
Project Engineer

September 14, 1942

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

SUBJECT: Posting Area Boundaries

The revised boundaries of the Minidoka War Relocation Area as covered by your letter dated August 19, 1942 meets with our approval.

The location of the roads for use of the Military Patrol will be made to conform with these boundary limits as closely as possible but may be varied in order to make use of present trails and roads near the boundary limits either inside or outside of the Area.

All lands located between the Twin Falls North Side Main Canal and the southerly limits of the W. R. A. Minidoka Project, Gooding Division, U. S. Bureau of Reclamation are public lands either Federal or Carey Act with the following exceptions:

NW $\frac{1}{4}$, SE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 4. T. 9 S. R. 19 E
W $\frac{1}{2}$, NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 4. T. 9 S. R. 19 E
N $\frac{1}{2}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 4. T. 9 S. R. 19 E
Chas. J. Marshall, Jerome, Idaho

H. L. Stafford
Project Director

JPB/fo

C
O
P
Y

Minidoka War Relocation Project
Hunt Branch, Twin Falls, Idaho

Chief, Public Works Division
Project Engineer

September 29, 1942

MEMO TO: Mr. R. B. Cozzens
Assistant Regional Director
Whitcomb Hotel Building
San Francisco, California

SUBJECT: Fencing of Center Area

On August 3rd we submitted to you the quantities of materials required for fencing the center area using two types of fencing, barbed wire fencing in that section away from the canal and combination fencing for fencing along the canal in order to prevent the possibility of children being drowned.

To date we have received no reply on the fencing of this center area and we should like to have information as to when this material will become available to us for construction purposes.

H. L. Stafford
Project Director

JPB/yk

C
O
P
Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:
Public Works

San Francisco, California, Office
Whitcomb Hotel Building

October 7, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Harry L. Stafford, Project Director
Minidoka War Relocation Project

SUBJECT: Fencing of Center Area

Reference is made to previous correspondence on the above subject, including your letter of September 29.

Early in July we requested the War Department to fence the area, and were advised by them that this would be the responsibility of the Authority. Since then we understand that there has been some change in policy, and that fencing material is being furnished to some of the projects. It is possible that the fencing as required around the camp proper might solve the problem of protection against children, or even adults, falling in the canal. This would depend a great deal upon the location of the fence, and also the type which will be built. We would suggest that you ascertain from Captain Hammell as to whether fencing material will be furnished, and also advise us the type of fence which will be constructed of the material so furnished.

As far as fencing materials are concerned, we doubt that it will be possible to procure any other type than barbed wire. It is possible that we could supply some additional barbed wire, which when added to any material furnished by the War Department, would provide a satisfactory fence.

R. B. Cozzens
Assistant Regional Director

Wash

HEADQUARTER WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY

Office of the Commanding General
Presidio of San Francisco, California.

October 15, 1942

CIVILIAN RESTRICTIVE ORDER NO. 24

Pursuant to the provision of Public Proclamation No. 8, this headquarters, dated June 27, 1942, which provides in part as follows:

"Pursuant to the determination of military necessity hereinbefore set out, all of the territory included within the exterior boundaries of each Relocation Center now or hereafter established within the Western Defense Command, as such boundaries are designated and defined by orders subsequently issued by this headquarters, are hereby designated and established as War Relocation Project Areas.",

the boundaries of the Minidoka War Relocation Project Area are hereby designated and particularly described as follows:

A tract of land located in the County of Jerome, State of Idaho, more particularly described as follows; to-wit:

Beginning at a point where the west line of Section 3, Township 8 South, Range 19 East, intersects with the north and east right-of-way line of the Milner-Godding Canal; thence south about one-eighth mile to the northeast corner of Section 9, Township 8 South, Range 19 East; thence west one mile along the north line of said Section 9 to the northwest corner of said Section 9; thence south one mile along the west line of said Section 9 to the northeast corner of Section 17, Township 8 South, Range 19 East; thence west one mile along the north line of said Section 17 to the northwest corner of said section 17; thence south one mile along the west line of said Section 17 to the northeast corner of Section 19, Township 8 South, Range 19 East; thence west one mile along the north line of said Section 19 to the northwest corner of said Section 19; thence south one mile to the northeast corner of Section 25, Township 8 South, Range 18 East; thence west one mile along the north line of said Section 25 to the northwest corner of said Section 25; thence south about three-fifths mile along the west line of said Section 25 to the intersection with the north and east right-of-way line of the Twin Falls North Side Main Canal; thence in a generally south and easterly direction following the north and east right-of-way line of said Twin Falls North Side Main Canal a distance of about nine miles through Sections 25 and 36, Township 8 South, Range 18 East, Sections 31 and 32, Township 8 South, Range 19 East, Sections 5, 4, 9, 10, 13 and 14, Township 9 South, Range 19 East, to the intersection of said north and east line of said right-of-way of the Twin Falls North Side Main Canal with the south line of Section 14, Township 9 South, Range 19 East; thence east about seven miles along the south lines of Sections 14 and 13, Township 9 South, Range 19 East, Sections 18, 17, 16, 15, and 14, Township 9 South, Range 20 East, to the southeast corner of Section 14, Township 9 South, Range 20 East; thence north three miles along the east line of said Section 14 and the East; thence north three miles along the east line of said Said Section 14 and the east lines of Section 11 and 2, Township 9 South, Range 20 East, to the northeast corner of said Section 2; thence west three miles along the north lines of said Section 2 and Section 3 and 4, Township 9 South, Range 20 East, to the northwest corner of said Section 4; thence west about one-fifth mile along the north line of Section 5, Township 9 South, Range 20 East, to the intersection of said north line of said Section 5 with the north and east right-of-way of the Milner Godding Canal; thence in a generally north

and westerly direction following the north and east right-of-way of the Milner-Gooding Canal a distance of about eleven miles through Sections 32, 31, 30, 19, 18, and 7, Township 8 South, Range 20 East, Section 12, 11, 2, and 3, Township 8 South, Range 19 East, to the intersection of said north and east right-of-way line of the Milner-Gooding Canal with the west line of Section 3, Township 8 South, Range 19 East, said point of intersection being the point of beginning.

J. L. DeWitt
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

C
O
P
Y

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY

Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Division

WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

October 17, 1942

Memorandum For: Mr. E.M. Towalt, Acting Regional Director.

Thru: Captain M.H. Astrup, Liaison Officer

Subject: Fencing WRA Centers

1. Confirming conversation held with your office on subject of fencing WRA Centers, this will inform you that the Engineers will erect the fences around the evacuee occupied areas. It is requested that Project Directors be notified of this and directed to turn over to the Engineers any fencing materials that may have been furnished to them.

2. It is requested that you acknowledge receipt of this memorandum and your concurrence in the action taken.

W. F. Durbin
Lt. Col., QMC
Ass't. ACoF S, CAD

Final

address reply
to office not
to individuals

WAR DEPARTMENT
Portland, Oregon District
Office of the Area Engineer

Boise-Pocatello-Weiser Area
Resident Engineer
Jerome, Idaho

October 17, 1942

Subject: Fencing of Center Area
To: Minidoka War Relocation Project, Hunt Branch,
Twin Falls, Idaho

Reference is made to your letter of October 13
regarding fencing materials.

The following materials will be provided for a
standard four wire fence to be built around the entire
Area.

1700	6" x 6" x 7' Posts to be spaced 16½'
50	4" x 4" x 12' Corner braces
112,000	Standard barbed wire
2 kegs	20d Nails
400 lbs.	Number 8 soft smooth wire
2 kegs	Staples, 1-3/4" #9

Sufficient material is being furnished to surround the
entire Area. In general, the fence will fall between the
outside buildings and the Guard Towers, with the exception
of the Military Police Area, which will be outside the fence.
The exact location of the fence should be worked out by
you with Captain Dorland of the Military Police.

A part of the fencing material has been delivered to
the project and the balance of the fencing material should
arrive any day.

Axel J. Olsen
Acting Resident Engineer

C
O
P
Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Minidoka Project
Hunt Branch, Twin Falls, Idaho

In reply please refer to
Chief, Public Works Division
Project Engineer

October 24, 1942

Mr. R. B. Cozzens
Assistant Regional Director
Whitcomb Hotel Building
San Francisco, California

Subject: Fencing Center Area

Advice has been received from the U. S. Engineers
that the following fencing material will be provided
to build a four barbed wire fence around the Center Area:

1700	6" x 6" x 7' Posts to be spaced 16½'
50	4" x 4" x 12' Corner braces
112,000 ft.	Standard barbed wire
2 kegs	20d Nails
400 lbs.	Number 8 soft smooth wire
2 kegs	Staples, 1-3/4" #9

A four barbed wire fence along the canal will not
be sufficient to stop children from going to the Twin
Falls North Side Main Canal banks.

Therefore it is recommended that at least a six
barbed wire fence be constructed along the canal banks
and approximately 1000 feet at each end at right angles
to the canal in order to stop children from going around
the ends of the fence towards the canal.

The additional two barbed wires will require
approximately 20,000 lin. ft. of standard barbed wire.

H. L. Stafford
Project Director

By Joseph P. Bacca, Project Eng.
Chief, Public Works Division

JPB/fo

C
O
P
Y

C
O
P
Y

MINIDOKA WAR RELOCATION PROJECT
HUNT, IDAHO

October 20, 1942

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: All Residents of the Minidoka War Relocation Center
FROM: H. L. Stafford, Project Director
Minidoka War Relocation Project
SUBJECT: Military Regulation and Boundaries of the Relocation Area.

The Military Authorities have requested me to direct to your attention the following:

Regulations promulgated by Lt. -Gen. J. L. DeWitt on September 17, 1942; Circular No. 19.:

- "7 c. The perimeter of the relocation area shall be patrolled from sunrise until sunset and during such other times as the commanding officer of the military police units deems advisable. The perimeter of the relocation center shall be patrolled only from sunset to sunrise.
- d. They (the military police) shall apprehend and arrest evacuees who do leave the center of area without authority, using such force as is necessary to make the arrest.
- 9. In general, the evacuees will have complete freedom of movement within the relocation area from sunrise to sunset. From Sunset to sunrise, the evacuees will not be allowed beyond the center limits without special permission of the project director.

Attention is directed to the underlined portion of paragraph #9, as complaints have been received from the military authorities of violation of this provision.

Some question has arisen as to the location of the boundary lines along the Twin Falls-North Side Canal.. The north bank of the canal shall constitute the boundary line of the relocation center. The residents of the Center may utilize the north bank of the canal for recreational purposes, but they shall not cross the canal for any purpose.

H. L. Stafford
Project Director

H.L. Stafford/AEO'brien:mk

C
O
P
Y

C
O
P
Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

San Francisco, California, Office
Whitcomb Hotel Building

October 21, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Wade Head, Colorado River
Mr. H. M. Coverley, Manzanar
Mr. E. L. Shirrell, Tule Lake
Mr. E. R. Fryer, Gila River
Mr. Chas. E. Ernst, Central Utah
Mr. H. L. Stafford, Minidoka

SUBJECT: Fencing WRA Centers

Attached is a copy of a memorandum from Lt. Col.
Durbin of WCCA. The memorandum is self-explanatory;
therefore, will you govern yourself accordingly and
turn over such fencing material when it is requested.

E.M. Rowalt
Acting Regional Director

Enclosure- 7415

C
O
P
Y

T E L E G R A M

November 13, 1942

Col Donald J. Laeyhey
628 Pittock Block
Portland, Oregon

Olson has not received instructions from your office for center fencing location according to the Military Police and Project Directors agreement. Can you confirm by wire our phone agreement so that Olson may revise fence location. Requisition for additional salvaged fencing materials required will be submitted promptly.

schafer

C
O
P
Y

WAR DEPARTMENT
Office of the District Engineer
Portland District
628 Pittock Block
Portland, Oregon

Address reply to
The District Engineer

November 19, 1942

Mr. H. L. Stafford
Project Manager
Minidoka War Relocation Area
Jerome, Idaho

My dear Mr. Stafford:

This is in reply to subject matter of a telephone conversation of several days ago between Mr. Schaefer of your office and the undersigned, and of a telegram to me under date of November 14 last. Both of these refer to the need for and necessity of relocating a certain fence being constructed by our resident engineer as part of the relocation area project.

I regret to advise I do not find the situation to be very much as I understood it from Mr. Schaefer over the telephone. I am advised, first of all, that the fence, as constructed by the resident engineer, is in full conformance with the plot plan indicating the line on which the fence was to be built, and which was specifically approved by yourself. I am advised, further, that construction was not being just started, but was approximately 90% complete at the time Mr. Schaefer called. Also, I have been advised that Mr. Schaefer and local military police officers and others concerned are not in agreement as to the proposed new location, but are, in fact, in rather complete disagreement as to how it should be located. Assuming these reports to me have been correct, I have issued instructions that our area engineer continue and complete the construction of this fence line as originally proposed, and as indicated on the drawings to him---which incidentally bear your one-time approval.

It is exceedingly regrettable if the changed conditions make this fence unusable, but I assume that with the abundant man power available in your camp, you can have it picked

Letter to Mr. Stafford
November 19, 1942
Page 2

up and moved by Japanese labor to the new site if necessary. I particularly regret the fact that there may have been a misunderstanding with respect to this, or any other feature of the project.

I repeat my offer to make available to you a large quantity of barbed wire which we have in storage, same having been removed from an old fence installation on a military area recently cleared for troop use. If you desire this wire in rough bundles and coils "as is", I will be glad to have it shipped to you with the thought that you could add to the fencing requirements. Through the use of this wire and your available Japanese labor, you won't have to enter the market for this critical material.

I regret I was not able to carry through my tentative arrangement made over the telephone with Mr. Schaefer, but facts presented to me are such that I was not warranted in having the fence completely removed and reconstructed, particularly when your own officials and those of the military police were not in agreement as to the proper location.

Very truly,

Donald J. Leehey
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer

C
O
P
Y

C
O
P
Y

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

November 25, 1942

Donald J. Leehey
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
628 Pittock Block
Portland, Oregon

Dear Colonel Leehey:

Reference, Minidoka Project fences

This is in answer to your letter dated November 19 which arrived during my absence from the project.

It appears to me unfortunate that there has been considerable confusion over the location of the project fence. It shall not be my purpose to further any arguments in any direction concerning the location of either the fence or the series of towers which have been erected. Upon investigation, however, I find that the towers are, with one exception, located on points agreed to jointly by Captain Dorland and myself. The location of these towers happen to be our prime consideration. It was assumed that the fence would follow the perimeter described by the location of the towers and that the fence would be erected immediately inside the towers. As a matter of fact I am sure that both Captain Dorland and myself continued on the assumption that the fence would follow the towers. I do find, however, that the social workers on this project have designed and located some recreation areas which were not taken into consideration at the time Captain Dorland and myself located the towers.

Inasmuch as posts are all set for this fence with most of the wire already intact, I think the obligations assumed by your office should be completed in accordance with the plan that has been pursued. Such change as we deem to be necessary may be carried

-2-

out by the W. R. A. with project labor.

I am asking our engineering section to prepare a requisition to you for a supply of barbed wire pursuant to your offer of the 19th.

Very truly yours,

HARRY L. STAFFORD
Project Director

C

O

P

Y

C
O
P
Y

MINIDOKA INTERNAL SECURITY DIVISION
JUNIOR SAFETY PATROL

offic

FROM: Tadashi Muracka, Supervisor of Patrol
TO: Kenneth Barclay, Chief of Internal Security
SUBJECT: Report of Junior Safety Patrol, March 3, 1943

The Minidoka Junior Safety Patrol consisting of boys and girls in the fourth to sixth grades in the two Minidoka Project Elementary Schools, the Huntville (Block 10) and the Stafford (Block 32) schools, started operating on December 21, 1942.

This Patrol squad was organized in an attempt to protect the children on the highway and at intersections; to give valuable training in leadership, group activities, and in community participation; and to educate the children in traffic safety habits for the future as well as for the present.

At the present time, 43 boys and girls are serving on the Patrol in the two elementary schools. 16 different corners within the project are supervised by the Patrol members daily between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:15 p.m.

Each Patrol Officer is equipped with a white San Browne belt, felt insignia, and raincape for rainy weather. One Patrol officer on each corner is equipped with a whistle and "stop" flags, which are at the Internal Security headquarters to be used when the ground dries up again, or sidewalks are made within the project.

The Patrol is supervised by an officer of the Internal Security Divisions, the Principal of the schools are in charge of their school units, and each school has one Patrol captain and two lieutenants in charge of their Patrol.

Each Patrol Officer is selected by the Principal or by their classmates or Patrol officers on the basis of good conduct, dependability, self-control, and an interest in the giving of service.

Among points which will be extremely helpful if observed by everyone on the project are:

1: All pedestrians should walk on the left hand side of the road.
2: If persons walk not more than two abreast along the left hand side of the road, drivers can proceed with greater safety. During icy weather it is sometimes impossible to stop quickly and lives are endangered if they walk too close to cars.

3: The speed limit for all vehicles within the project is 20 miles perhour and 10 miles per hour within school zones. If all drivers stay within this limit, it will assure greater safety to all concerned. Drivers are asked to cooperate with Safety Patrolmen at all crossings.

4: The Junior Safety Patrol Squad is expected to display courtesy but firmness at all times. Cooperation from everyone in the Project will be greatly appreciated.

Among those requesting information about the Minidoka Junior Safety Patrol and complied with are:

Jan. 21 Theodore RE Lewis, Chief of Internal Security
Central Utah Project, Topaz, Utah.
Feb 5. AG Thompson, Superintendent of Education,
Jerome Relocation Center, Denson, Arkansas
Feb. Mr. Coverly, Project Director, Tule Lake WRA
Newell, California

We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone of the Internal Security Division, the Huntville, and Stafford elementary schools, the Hung High School, and the community activities office, the sewing project, sign shop, and Captain George W. Kimball, Director of the Junior Safety Division and Junior Safety Patrol, Seattle, Police Department, and the Minidoka Irrigator for their fine cooperation in putting this safety program over on this project.

Tadashi Muraoka
Supervisor of Patrol

HUNT JUNIOR SAFETY PATROL

RULES AND REGULATIONS APPLYING TO PATROL

AUTHORITY OF PRINCIPAL - All members of the Junior Safety Patrol are subject to the authority of the principals.

APPOINTMENTS AND REMOVALS - 1. Members of the Junior Safety Patrol receive their appointments from the school principal. Principals may remove boys who in their judgment are not worthy members of the Patrol, or whose school progress appears to be hindered by their membership. 2. Eligibility--Reliable, trustworthy boys, whose school work and citizenship are satisfactory, are eligible for selection and appointment. 3. Selection--Members of the Patrol may be appointed by the principal or they may be chosen by the pupils themselves with the principal's approval. No boy shall be permitted to serve until his selection has been approved by the principal.

CONSENT OF PARENTS - No boy will be appointed to serve as a member of the Patrol until his parent or guardian has given consent in writing.

OFFICERS OF PATROLS - Officers of the Junior Safety Patrol will be known as Jr. Captains and Jr. Lieutenants and will receive their assignments from the Principal, who may terminate their appointment whenever he deems it advisable to do so.

A. Captain--The Jr. Captain is in charge of all Patrols in his school. His orders must be obeyed. He is responsible to the Principal for the conduct of each member, as well as all Patrol equipment. He will assign Patrolmen to their posts, with Jr. Lieutenants over them. See that officers are on duty at the proper time, and that they remain for the full time required. There must be no playing while on duty. Instruct new officers.

B. Lieutenant--The Jr. Lieutenant is under orders of his Jr. Captain, and is responsible to him for the duties assigned. He must report to his Jr. Captain any disobedience of Patrolmen, or destruction of equipment. In the absence of the Jr. Captain, the Jr. Lieutenant is in charge. When there is more than one Lieutenant, the 1st Jr. Lieutenant will be in charge. There shall be only 1st and 2nd Jr. Lieutenants. Where there are more than one for each of the above ranks, they will take seniority from the date of appointment. In case of emergency, there may be appointed Acting Jr. Lieutenants from the rank of patrolmen. This also applies where a Jr. Lieutenant is filling the post of Jr. Captain temporarily.

TO THE PRINCIPAL - Jr. Captains and Jr. Lieutenants should not be given the duties of Patrolmen, except in emergency. They should have the supervision of the Patrolmen.

PATROLMEN - The duties of the Patrolmen consist of the actual handling of the crossings. He must at all times follow the

Rule and Regulations Applying to Patrol

instructions given to him by his superior officers. No changes in the methods of conducting children over crossings can be made until the Director of the Patrol has been notified and authorizes the change.

REPORTS OF LIEUTENANTS AND PATROLMEN - Reports of these officers will be made direct to the officer in charge of their patrol, who, if he is not the Jr. Captain, will see that the report is turned over to the Captain. The Jr. Captain is the only member of the Patrol to take these matters up with the principal.

TO ALL MEMBERS - You have been selected for this duty because of the confidence your Principal has in your ability to perform this Civic Duty. By your actions and strict attention to this duty, prove to the Principal that his confidence has not been misplaced.

You are representing your School, and the Internal Security Division while on duty. Your conduct should set a good example for the other pupils.

In your dealings with other pupils, be firm but not abusive. Under no conditions are you to handle a child roughly.

If necessary, report the offender to your superior officer, who will see that proper action is taken.

Always remember, that your duties consist of: escorting pupils safely over your crossings; prevention of crime; and, the protection of your school and its property.

You are not to attempt to stop automobiles, but must wait for openings or lulls in the traffic. You cannot stop an automobile yourself, but are depending upon the driver to obey your signal. If you should start children into the street with an automobile coming, and the driver does not obey your signal, you can readily see what the result of your carelessness and disobedience of your instructions will be. Under no circumstances are you to stand in front of the moving automobile. Allow no running across the street.

Keep your eyes and ears open at all times. Do not depend upon any person or expect that they will do a certain thing.

You are protecting the most valuable thing in the world--the lives of children. They and their parents depend on you for this protection. Your crossing cannot be safe, if you take chances.

Patrol members are on duty twenty-four hours of each day. Each member of a patrol is responsible for the protection of crossings. If you find a crossing unprotected, although it is not your turn, take charge until the Officer assigned reports.

MINIDOKA PROJECT
Hunt, Idaho

March 15, 1943

Telegram from Stafford to D. S. Myer

To effect that:

321st Escort Guard Co. will be completely evacuated including Capt. Dorland, also that 378th Guard Co. will take over. Stafford protested removal of Capt. Dorland and asked that if personnel 321st Co. be replaced Myer petition McClory in order that Dorland and his officer staff be maintained at Minidoka.

Myers reply on March 17th was to effect that orders had already been issued providing for rotation of M.P. group. Agreed with Stafford as to soundness to keep same officer staff but nothing could be done.

C
O
P
Y

(for fence folder)

C
O
P
Y

3060 Colorado Blvd.
Denver, Colorado
April 15, 1943

Wash

Dear Mr. Townsend:

Here I am in the "Mile High" City of Denver and it certainly is a grand feeling to be breathing again the free American air. As I walked downtown, and as I walked through the parks, I forgot completely the different rules and regulations of the MP's and the barbed wire fences. No one gazing or staring at us, no discriminations at all, after being cooped-up in a camp for almost an year, I realize anew how fortunate we are, living in a democratic America.

We left Hunt at noon Monday and after driving for about 20 straight hours, we finally arrived in Denver early Tuesday morning. The only excitement we had on the trip was just outside of Denver when a car full of University of Washington Co-eds drove alongside of us for some time. We exchanged friendly greetings and honks and I suppose they knew I was from their home state as I have a Washington License plate and a University of Washington sticker on my rear window. I felt like I was seeing old friends and I suppose they felt the same as one rarely sees Washington license plates in this part of the country.

I went up to the University of Denver and had quite a chat with the registrar and he suggested that since I'm a month late for this quarter, that I wait until the next quarter which begins in June. I'm an entering Freshman and they're teaching only a few beginning courses this quarter and those that they are teaching are subjects like Math which is almost impossible for me to catch up on. I've already made arrangements to register for the next quarter. In the meantime, I am making plans to rent a home and call my family over. When I am downtown, I plan to go to see the WRA people, but could you tell me if it is necessary that I report about the school matter to them immediately, as I am here on an indefinite leave for purposes of attending school? Also, I'm afraid that once I'm settled here with my family and attending school here, I won't be in a mood to move to Bucknell or any other place. Of course I can't make up my mind yet, but will you keep that in your mind in your correspondence with your friend from Lweisburg.

Now that I'm here in Denver and looking back over my experiences, I do not regret one bit having spent almost an year in Puyallup and in Minidoka. Having worked in the

Postoffice in Puyallup and in the Community Activities in Hunt, making new friends and running into new experiences, I know that 've gained much during the past year which I would not have gotten any place else. I'm certainly glad to have had the opportunity of working with you I've appreciated everything that you have done for me. I don't know whether I did everything which was expected of me but tried my best. Many a time, I felt disgusted and was on the verge of giving up but now that I'm looking back over it all, I'm glad that I plugged along with the rest of the staff until we've got a program there now which looks like it'll blossom out.

When you or your other WRA friends drop into Denver, will you be sure to look me up. I'm staying with friends now but in the near future I hope to have a place of my own. Thanks for all of your timely advice in the past and regards to Messrs. Pomeroy and Light and Miss Bennett. Also my best wishes to Mrs. Townsend and please convey my thanks for her help in obtaining my ration cards.

Hoping to hear from you whenever you can spare the time, I remain

Sincerely

George T. Okada (signed)

C
O
P
Y

Minidoka Project
INTER - OFFICE MEMO

April 29, 1943

To: Mr. Joseph Beeson Dept. Employment
From: S. Kaneko, Capt. Dept. Internal Security
RE: George Shiomi 14-12-E

This person was born in South Park, Washington and is now 33 years old. He is a high school graduate. Since he does not like to talk to other people, he hasn't any friends. After he lost his father, there was always trouble in his family. He took his mother and his younger brother to his older brother in Los Angeles, California. After the war broke out, he moved to Tule Lake Relocation Center. From there he went out to work in the sugar beet field and then came into this Minidoka WRA last November.

At present he does not try to do any work although he was a good worker at the beet field. Always quiet as he is there is nothing good or bad about him.

His older brother and his wife lives at Block 10, but he has never gone to see them. His room is not neat at all. Since no books could be found there, it is presumed that he does not read much. His facial appearance is not friendly, but from the result of the investigation it shows that he may be better than we think.

The donors of these informations are:

Block Manager #14
Block Manager #10
An old man, friend of Shiomi's family
A worker, who worked with George Shiomi.
Two persons, residents of block 14

MINIDOKA PROJECT
INTER - OFFICE MEMO

Date: April 29, 1943

TO: Mr. J. G. Beeson DEPT: Employment
FROM: Capt. S. Kaneko DEPT: Internal Security
RE: Suspected murder of a Japanese near Blue Diamond
Mines, Utah.

Statements of Robert I. Kimura 15-12-G who recently returned
from Blue Diamond Mines:

A Japanese was found dead about a week ago (week of April 18) between Green Rivers and Price about 7 miles from the mine. The spot was near the station where the coal cars are loaded. The body was found by the station master. The car of the victim was facing toward Green Rivers and rock barricades placed on the road. The victim was not a miner and was believed to be a farmer in the locality. The subject does not know the name of the victim. The story was relayed to the mine by Caucasian coal truck drivers by the names of Ken and Ted who lives near the station. These drivers told the Japanese boys who are known as Bingo and George, both from Salt Lake City. George is a brother-in-law of Bingo. (The surname of above parties are not known to the subject.) So far as the subject and the people of the mines know, no investigation has been made.

In December 1942, a Japanese was found hanging near Columbia Mines under mysterious circumstance for a week

before the body was found and the case was officially closed as suicide. Ever since the recent incident the Japanese are not allowed to get water at the nearby Horse Canyon springs, so now they must go 50 miles for their water.

There are a lot of Mexicans working in the nearby government project mine and the subject believes that they may have somethings to do about it. At the time the subject was leaving the mine the boys were planning to write to the F.B.I. and the W.R.A. to investigate the matter. The subject believes the atmosphere is getting acute for the Japanese.

All statements made by the subject in regards to the suspected murders is hearsay. Subject nor anyone at the mine has seen the body. The news of the murder was brought to the mine by the Caucasian coal truck drivers known only as Ken and Ted. It is not known if they had seen the body or not. Only one known to have seen the body is the station master, name unknown.

There is no doubt in our minds that the subject has told us the story in good faith, from the stories he has heard.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

MINIDOKA WAR RELOCATION PROJECT

MEMORANDA TO: Mr. Stafford September 2, 1943
FROM: Mr. Hull and Mr. Bigelow
REGARDING: Guard incident.

About 10:00 a.m. on September 2, 1942, Mr. Irvin Hull and Mr. John Bigelow were traveling in a car toward Block 22 when they witnessed the following incident.

The Military Police guard on duty at the western edge of Block 22, between Block 22 and the Administrative area in which construction was being carried on, sighted a Japanese colonist walking west along the road toward the Administrative area about 75 yards from the intersection of streets at the northwest corner of Block 22. This colonist had come from Block 22 and was walking to the hospital, he said later. The guard who was about 50 yards from the intersection on the road running south along the end of the block sounded his whistle several times to attract the attention of the Japanese who appeared to hear the whistle, stopped and looked around, and then continued up the road. (Later he said he thought he heard a whistle, but because of the wind and other noises in his immediate vicinity such as trucks he did not realize the guard was whistling at him.) After the Japanese failed to halt, the guard fired his shotgun in the direction of the colonist ostensible to warn the colonist to halt. The Japanese was not hit. The distance from the guard to the colonist was more than 100 yards, it is estimated. However, when the Japanese failed to stop, the guard requested Hull and Bigelow to turn their car around and pick up the Japanese. Upon returning to the guard with the colonist, Hull and Bigelow heard the guard admonish the Japanese that he had entered a restricted construction area without a permit and that he had failed to halt when signaled to do so. The Japanese, whose name is J. Kinjiro Imai, 63, a pharmacist, former resident of Seattle, apologized to the guard for not hearing the signal and continued toward the hospital via a legitimate route indicated by the guard. The guard's name is Pfc. Raymond A. Courtier.

C
O
P
Y

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Minidoka Relocation Center
Hunt, Idaho

2.53

April 13, 1945

Mr. Dillon S. Myer
Director
War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington, D. C. 25

SUBJECT: Juvenile Cases

Dear Mr. Myer:

Your letter of April 2 was received. Prior to writing to you we had sought advice of the Community Council. We appeared before the Council and presented the problem and expressed our views regarding the mutual responsibility of the Council and Administration. In studying over the matter the best solution appeared to be that of creating a Juvenile Board empowered to study the general problem and to act as visitation officer for the Parole Officer in those cases already adjudicated.

A board was created and the Chairman of the Council submitted the following names for approval and as Project Director I did approve this list of nominees: Genya Oye, Chairman of the U.S.O. at this Project; Father Joseph Mitsuo Kitagawa, Vicar of the Church of Holy Apostles; Dick Toshiji Kanaya, sociologist, in Office of Community Analyst, this Project; Tom T. Ogawa, Secty. of the Board and former Secretary of the Community Council. These men have held meetings and are proceeding, under the rules of visitation, to contact school teachers, school officials, parents and others with regard to the juveniles already on parole, namely six on the school disorder case and one on an earlier violation which involved disrespect to a school teacher.

Your statement in the April 2 letter included in the third paragraph that the car stealing episodes were by youths "more misguided than vicious," has given us some concern. It had been the decision of the Project Director's Staff, after a frank discussion of the problem, that boys involved in the theft of property must be treated just as they would outside, namely submitted to due process. In this case submission to the District Judge on felony charges which involve cars of Messrs, Plank, Rawlings and WRA Unit #600 on separate occasions will create a serious situation for the boys. There is also the theft of the 1937 Buick 4-door sedan of Akira Aramaki on December 20, 1944 with the resultant wrecking of same. This/was stolen from an evacuee resident car

Mr. Myer - 2

4/13/45

whose family was living at 30-11-B and the more than \$200 he has had to pay to get the car to operate, without replacing damaged fenders, etc., has made him very bitter toward the boys. As a result of conferences in the County with the Judge and Prosecuting Attorney we were warned that publicity will be impossible to control. Whether Public Relations should weigh more heavily than our duty to the owners of the automobile is to be determined.

Publicity was very irritating to the Court in the Juvenile cases previously before the Judge. Pressure was put on him by many Twin Falls and Jerome County residents by telephone as "send the Japs to Reform Schools." The Judge therefore does not look forward to the car theft hearings.

We also earnestly study the effect on the boys of guided parole in the Center as contrasted with reform school experience. The Industrial School in Idaho at St. Anthony is said to be less enlightened in rehabilitation than is usual in some modern institutions. With outside pressure on the Court we do not believe any other course can result to the four boys (15 years old) accused of car theft, than commitment to reform school. The officials in the County have therefore suggested that we work on the boys and families to bring about relocation. This we have done. In some cases the reaction of the parents toward the boys has been very severe, for in two instances we are informed boys have been driven from their homes, the parents being unwilling to relocate. The thoughts which you express regarding a new environment and resultant corrective aid have been presented.

As to the cause of juvenile delinquency in the Center. Undoubtedly to a large extent the absence of normal family life and parental control has affected some young people to their detriment. The boy whose only control appears to be in regularity of mess hall meal hours has missed parental influence at the table and in the home. If he makes a serious error and becomes known as a bad boy, the oldsters clinch the matter by ostracism on a wide scale. This policy may result in a "misguided boy" becoming "vicious" because through ostracism the only association the boy can rely upon will be that of other "bad" boys. Having lost normal contacts and recreational opportunities through the treatment mentioned boys have a tendency to give vent to their feelings of persecution by law violations. It takes a good deal of patience on the part of administrative personnel and some friendly persons in the evacuee group to offset the effect of the above program and to restore confidence and good conduct to such boys. That we have accomplished good results in some cases can be established by actual case histories. Our constant effort has been to remove any feeling held by evacuees

4/13/45

that we entertain a prejudice. We have found that some young people have a deep seated feeling that they have prejudice ahead of them because their parents have always faced prejudice. This home training has resulted in young people going out with minds fixed on social and business prejudice as inevitably their lot. Feeding the minds of relocatees such ideas can lead only in a mistaken direction and is no way to stimulate constructive thought. We therefore have wanted our people to think and discuss matters which will help them outside and not such things as Carey McWilliams "Prejudice," "Strange Fruit" and others of the kind, which stimulates thought in the wrong direction.

With the foregoing in mind we encouraged a Youth Conference (Young People's Christian Conference) for this Center. On the final day young people outside came in to meet and confer on topics vital to young men and women. The conference started on Easter morning and ended the following Sunday. Afternoons and evenings were occupied by forums, round tables and large gatherings at which speakers of ability presided. The attendance was large at all sessions. The boys who were consistently reported as bad were given places of responsibility in these larger meetings, as ushers, property men, messengers, etc. They responded satisfactorily and voluntarily did some of the chair moving, collection of hymn books and like work. This makes us believe the boys need occupation hard to get in the Center where the wind, rain and snow are too frequent at this season to permit outside athletics. Hence relocation is what we still plan and aim to accomplish.

You ask for our comments upon the recreational program. We believe that Mr. Johnston the Community Activity Supervisor and Mr. Bert Weston, Ass't. Project Director, are going everything which conceivably could be done with the funds available. They are conscientious and hard working and well liked by the residents. There have been no other delinquency cases to report, but we will advise you of any such from time to time.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Harry L. Stafford
Project Director