Lindley
Mr Johnson

COPY

San Francisco, California
Whitcomb Hotel Building

Health Division

MEMORANDUM TO: All Project Directors

ATTENTION: Project Medical Officers

SUBJECT: Responsibility for Deferred Evacuee Patients

Within the next few days, the War Relocation Authority will have assumed financial and custodial responsibility for all deferred evacuees hospitalized in sanitariums, rest home, hospitals, etc. in Washington, Oregon, and California. All of these patients were institutionalized either (1) prior to the issuance of the evacuation order, or (2) by the United States Public Health Service in carrying out this order. The problems presented by these cases will be referred to this office for disposition.

We have recently corresponded with superintendents of various hospitals in which these patients are located, and have informed them of procedures to be followed in requesting transfer of patients to relocation projects, submission of invoices, and deaths. Some of these procedures affect the projects, and we are therefore presenting them for your information.

A request for the transfer of a patient from a hospital to a relocation project will be submitted by the hospital to this office. This request will contain sufficient information to enable us to make a decision on the advisability of transferring the patient. However, in many instances it will be necessary for us to contact you to ascertain if facilities are available for the care of the patient. All arrangements for removal of the patient will be made by this office. Only those cases which were hospitalized prior to evacuation or hospitalized by the United States Public Health Service will receive action from this office. If a case has been referred to a hospital by your project, you will continue to plan for the case, and this office will not make any arrangements for the return of the patient to the project. There should be no confusion on this responsibility, the line of demarcation being: was the patient referred by the project to the hospital, or was the patient a deferred evacuee who was never transferred to a project?

The hospitals were advised as follows with respect to the death of a deferred evacuee:

"(1) Wire the Director of the War Relocation project where the relatives of the deceased patient reside and request him to inform relatives of the death. Advise him of the mortuary to which the body was removed and request him to contact the mortuary regarding disposition of the body. If you do not know the whereabouts of relatives, notify this office, and we shall attempt to locate them. It is important that we be furnished with the names of the nearest relatives, in addition to the name of the decedent.

"(2) Contact the mortician in your vicinity who has a contract with the Quartermaster Corps of the United States Army for burial of deceased soldiers. We do not know the name of the mortician who has this contract, but we shall obtain this information in the near future and advise you when it is received. This office will approve invoices from morticians for the disposition of deceased Japanese at the same rate agreed upon by the mortician and the United States Government for disposing of deceased soldiers.

"(3) Kindly notify this office of the death of the patient and the name and address of the mortuary to which the body was removed."

You will notice that in paragraph (1) above, the relatives are requested to advise you of their wishes with reference to disposition of the body, so that you can notify the mortuary. It is important that this be done so that the mortuary can determine whether cremation or burial is desire.

If the family of a deceased deferred evacuee advises you that, at their own expense, they wish the body or ashes shipped to the project for funderal services at that point, kindly notify the mortician of their plans. However if they wish the shipment to be made at government expense, wire this office indicating the name of the deceased person, location of the body, and desires of the relatives. It is important that you refer to the remains as body or ashes, in order that we may know whether cremation is to be conducted at the mortuary before shipment. If cremation is contemplated, it is our understanding that the next of kin must authorize this service by completing a form furnished by the mortuary. This authorization must be in the possession of the mortician before he can proceed.

Upon recept of your wire, this office will contact the mortician and railroad company and make arrangements for shipment as per your request. You will be notified of the shipping route and scheduled time of arrival. From that time on the body or ashes is your responsibility, to be disposed of in accordance with Administrative Instruction No. 18 issued on June 30, 1942.

/s/
C. D. Carlyle Thompson, M. D.
Regional Medical Officer

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:

San Francisco, California, Office
Whitcomb Hotel Building

Evac. Prop.

July 6, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: ALL PROJECT DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: Return of Contraband
(Supplementing Memorandum of April 27)

The provisions of Administrative Instruction No. 97 and Supplement 1 thereto, regarding short-wave radio receivers, make necessary certain changes in the forms being used to obtain the release of these items.

When an evacuee residing at a relocation center requests the return of a short-wave radio, the following statement should be included in that portion of the Department of Justice form containing the evacuee's signature:

"I agree that short-wave attachments shall be removed from my radio at the relocation center before the radio is delivered to me."

The Certification for the Return of Personal Property (Form 260) which is to be signed by the Project Director, should be amended to include the following statement just above the Project Director's signature line:

"Before any radio described herein is delivered to the owner, short-wave attachments will be removed."

In our previous memorandum, we requested that each evacuee applying for the return of contraband execute four copies of the Department of Justice form and one copy of the Certification for the Return of Personal Property. In the future, the number of copies necessary will be five and two respectively.

When WRA is asked to handle the transportation of articles being released, Form WRA 156 should be submitted in duplicate, accompanied by the original storage receipt issued by the custodian. When the evacuee wishes to have someone other than WRA take care of the release and shipment of his belongings, Form WRA 153 should be used in place of Form WRA 156. Form WRA 153 (one copy is sufficient) should designate the name and address of the person

JUL 1 0 RECD

to whom the release forms are to be sent. It is assumed that the evacuee will have previously assured himself that the person named is willing to comply with his instructions. The storage receipt for the articles to be returned should be sent by the evacuee to the person who is to obtain his property from the custodian.

(SIGNED)
Victor L. Furth
Acting Chief
Evacuee Property Office

450

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

February 20, 1943

Berkeley

Memorandum to: All Project Directors

Subject: Handling of Evacuee Property Under Administrative Instruction No. 78.

Since the issuance of the above Administrative Instruction covering the subject of storage and transportation of evacuee personal property, questions have been received from several sources regarding certain provisions of the Instruction. The purpose of this memorandum is to clarify certain of those provisions.

Property accompanied by Form WRA-83 and moved from private storage to Government storage at the expense of the evacuee will continue to be received at our warehouses when accompanied by a Form WRA-83 which has been executed prior to March 1st. Property covered by Form WRA-83 dated after March 1st will not be received in W.R.A. warehouses until a request for storage of property (Form WRA-155) has been executed. No property will be accepted for transportation to Government storage at Government expense until Form WRA-155 has been completed and received by the Transportation Section.

Paragraph III-I of the above Administrative Instruction provides that not more than five hundred (500) pounds of an evacuee's household and personal effects will be moved at Government expense from a project to a point of relocation outside of a project. This will probably cause numerous changes in the volume of property the evacuees wish shipped to a project and it is desirable that they be given an opportunity to readjust their requests in line with this policy. In view of this, and to assure that each Project Director has full control over all properties forwarded to his project, no further shipments will be made from either private storage or from Government storage to a project until a "Request for Transportation of Property" (Form WRA-156) has been prepared by the evacuee and approved by the Project Director, except when the Project Director indicates that no changes are to be made in the original shipping requests covered by Form WRA-83. This will apply alike to property originally placed in storage under the jurisdiction of the Federal Reserve Bank, and to property received at our warehouses accompanied by Form WRA-83.

Paragraph III-J provides that WRA will take care of packing and crating of household property shipped to evacuees on indefinite leave. The question has been asked whether this service will also be provided for property shipped to evacuees at the projects. The Authority will stand the cost of any required packing and crating in connection with all shipments that are made at Government expense, either to a project or to some other destination. This will apply alike to carload and less than carload shipments. It should be understood, however, that many items of evacuee property will not require packing or crating for shipment in either carload or less than carload quantities. In such instances no additional packing and crating will be provided.

As a matter of clarification in the handling of invoices in connection with transportation or storage of evacuee property, it should be understood that all invoices incident to the packing, crating, storage, and transportation of evacuee property will be paid from funds allotted to the Transportation Section of the Evacuee Property Office at San Francisco. This will not apply to local drayage or packing or crating performed at project level. Instructions will be issued to vendors so that all invoices and Government bills of lading will be presented directly to this office. If any such bills are inadvertently forwarded to projects for payment, they should be returned to this office with appropriate notation.

There is no way in which evacuees can be reimbursed for expenses incurred in the transportation of their property at their own expense, even though, if shipment had been delayed, the property may have been handled by WRA at no cost to the evacuee.

J. G. Fitzhenry
Chief of Transportation

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, OFFICE
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING

Feb. 8, 1944

Chas. F. Ernst
Project Director
Central Utah Project
Topaz, Utah

E. B. Whitaker
Project Director
Jerome Project
Denson, Arkansas

J. G. Lindley
Project Director
Granada Project
Amache, Colorado

Harry L. Stafford
Project Director
Minidoka Project
Hunt, Idaho

Guy Robertson
Project Director
Heart Mountain Project
Heart Mountain, Wyoming

Ray D. Johnston
Project Director
Rohwer Project
McGehee, Arkansas

We have been sending copies of favorable newspaper articles to our three western projects. These articles are sometimes reproduced in the project newspapers in order to show the evacuees that everyone in this region is not against them. Would you like us to continue to furnish you with copies of these articles from time to time?

Robert E. Gibson
Liaison Officer

cc: Denver Field Office
Little Rock Field Office

Also sent to Manzanar, Gila, and Colorado River.

(Article in Seattle, Wash., TIMES, January 2, 1944)

BLIND JAPANESE INTERNEE IS THANKFUL FOR WORSHIP RIGHTS

Although James Y. Sakamoto, blind Seattle-born Japanese writer and publisher, spent Christmas in an internment camp he still is able to find "much for which we can be thankful."

Sakamoto, writing from the War Relocation Authority Camp Minidoka at Hunt, Idaho, to Seattle friends, declared:

"Foremost of all, we are still a nation where to worship God is our individual right, where freedom rings true to conscience and where ultimate justice invariably springs from the hearts of people."

Sakamoto's letter told of Christmas in the internment camp.

"The midnight past, I attended the special Christmas Mass. Shortly before midnight, my wife and I started for the crudely improvided church about a mile away over rough terrain, muddied by a drizzling rain.

WAY IS DARK

"There was no snow like last Christmas, when at midnight we had attended our first Christmas Mass (in the camp). The way was dark. We could not help but ponder what kind of Christmas it would be.

"The Mass turned out to be a beautiful affair ... the quiet dignity of the occasion added silent courage to a new outlook on the salvation of America and our lives.

"It was a quiet Christmas day for me in this rather cramped one-room apartment for our family of seven," he wrote. "My wife went to work at the mess hall of this block to care for the children's feeding.

CHILDREN ENJOY GIFTS

"The children were enjoying the gifts opened for them by their mother, as was the custom on past Christmases. This year there was no tree. Yet the children's Christmas was what it was intended to be and they were happy...seemed no different from Christmas days spent at home.

"The mess hall in each of the 35 blocks that make up this community was decorated with Christmas trees and what trimmings could be made or found.

I was happy to note that a patriotic touch was included in the decorations. It was significant of the community's remembrance of the boys who had volunteered and were now with the special Combat Team at Camp Shelby and at Camp Savage."

Sakamoto, a graduate of Franklin High School, founded The Japanese-American Courier, an English language newspaper in Seattle. In 1930, he organized the Japanese-American Citizens' League, which subsequently spread to 54 chapters and 15,000 members throughout the United States.

(Article in Pasadena, Calif., STAR-NEWS, Jan. 21, 1944)

800 JAPANESE WILL BE RECLASSIFIED

In Draft Board 190 Because They Were at Santa Anita

Busy times are ahead for the staff at Selective Service Board headquarters because of the announcement of plans from the War Department to reclassify Japanese-American registrants. There are more than 800 Japanese-Americans registered with Board No. 190.

The board has requested immediate shipment of new forms to be sent to the registrants, now scattered throughout the country.

The heavy registration of Japanese-Americans at Selective Service Board No. 190 came about by reason of the fact that on registration day thousands of Japanese and Japanese-Americans were occupants of the Santa Anita Evacuation Center, now Camp Santa Anita. The racetrack was within the limits of the Selective Service Board No. 190 district.

MANY VOLUNTEERS

Heretofore forms were sent out to the Japanese-Americans who wished to volunteer for service with the armed forces. A surprisingly large number made such applications. The applications went to the War Department for final action.

The statement by the War Department is: "Japanese-Americans considered acceptable for military service will be reclassified by their Selective Service Boards on the same basis as other citizens, and called for induction if physically qualified and not deferred."

RESPITE FOR FATHERS

Fathers living within the Board No. 190 district probably see a respite for them, if the armed forces start dipping into the big reservoir of more than 800 Japanese-Americans.

Members of Board No. 190, however, made no comment today as to how the new ruling will affect the status of pre-Pearl Harbor fathers.

(Article in Pasadena, Calif. POST, January 16, 1944)

One of the first American-Japanese to enter the Women's Army Corps is Pvt. Keiko Ogura of Pasadena and New York, who is taking basic training at the Third Wac Training Center at Fort Oglethorpe, Ga., Private Ogura is the sister of Pvt. Shuichi Ogura, also in the service stationed at Camp Shelby, Miss.

American born, of Japanese parents, Private Ogura spent a year in the Manzanar camp of the War Relocation Authority where she worked as a nurse's aid. She left the camp seven months ago to take a position in New York with relatives of a former employer. After a law was passed that admitted second-generation American-Japanese to the service, both she and her brother joined the Army.

Insisting that she enlist in the Wacs to help bring about better relations between the Caucasians and the American-Japanese, the young woman is enthusiastic about the corps.

"I'm a real American, and so are my family and friends," she said. "By joining the Army my brother and I want to help bring ~~xxxxxxxx~~ this war to an end, and help get the American-Japanese people back to their homes again."

The Wac's mother, Mrs. Sada Ogura, is working as a nurse's aid in the Manzanar WRA camp. Her father, Ukichi Ogura, was formerly a landscape gardener here.

Private Ogura attended Pasadena Junior College in 1938-1941.

(Article from Auburn, Wash., GLOBE NEWS, January 12, 1944)

COMMENTS

By Dayton Witten

Editor Fournier of the Kent News-Journal rendered a real service to his readers by re-printing the Time Magazine article dealing with the Japanese problem on the Pacific Coast. It was in Kent that the signs, "We Don't Want the Japs Back Here Ever," originated and that, together with other similar moves by various organizations up and down the coast, prompted a Marine, recently returned from the Pacific battle front, to write the magazine article protesting such feelings.

The Marine expressed surprise at finding such conditions existing, comparing the persecution of American-born Japanese to Hitler's persecution of the Jews.

As Editor Fournier stated, the article is of a highly controversial nature but coming from one who has seen action in the war against Japan it lends food for thought on a question which will have to soon be settled, for there is little doubt but that the Japanese who formerly lived in this community will seek return after the war. Subjects of this nature can only be clarified by a full discussion of all angles. While it might be well to think about and discuss the Japanese problem at this time, yet in our opinion there is too much hatred engendered during the heat of battle to come to any logical conclusion and the opinions one may have now may be entirely different from those created at the end of the war and peace again reigns thoughout the world. The situation reminds us of the man who said his prayer was: "Lord, give me this day my daily opinion, and forgive me the one I had yesterday."

(Article from New York TIMES, January 8, 1944)

ABROAD

The Outlook From a Japanese
Relocation Camp

By Anne O'Hare McCormick

On land borrowed from the Pima Indians in south central Arizona a strange new city has arisen in the past year and a half. It looks like a cross between an American military camp and an Oriental town. The rows of regulation 100-foot-long barracks do not resemble soldiers' quarters, because they sprout curtains, home-made awnings and odd porches tacked on front and rear. They are bordered by hedges of quick-growing castor beans to filter the burning sun, and around many of the doorways handkerchief-size plots are worked with infinite pains into Japanese gardens with tiny pools, arched bridges and miniature shrubberies. Inside they are partitioned into rooms 20 by 24 feet to house six persons, and the rooms are often subdivided by curtains and improvised screens for the unlucky family that does not number six and has to share its space with another family.

Most of all the settlement looks like an oasis in an endless desert of sand, sage, mesquite and giant cacti. Around the double cluster of barracks that serve as houses, schools, workshops, mess halls, cooperative stores, offices and hospitals are nearly 17,000 acres of vegetable gardens, wheat, alfalfa and rice fields and pasture lands startlingly neat and green in a framework of shallow irrigation ditches.

Here is a collective farm larger and even more collectivized than the Soviet "gigant" planted not in the fertile plains of Russia but in an arid and savage valley where the Indians a long time ago carried water from the Gila River to grow patches of wheat and corn. The Army built the two camps, but when the first settlers arrived in July, 1942, the country they faced was as barren and forbidding as the surrounding desert is today. The place is called "Rivers" after the first Pima Indian killed in the last war. It is leased by the Government from the Gila Indian Reservation for $20 an acre for the ground and $4 for the water and now yields $250 worth of produce per acre. It is the third in size and the most productive of ten relocation centers for the Japanese evacuated from the West Coast war area. Although a completely Japanese community with a present population of about 10,000--the fourth largest town in Arizona--the population had little in common when it was transferred here but its race and its fate. It was composed of aliens and citizens, rich and poor farmers and professional people. Most of the young had attended public schools and did not speak Japanese. They quote with feeling the homesick cry of a child when he arrived at the settlement. "Mother," he said, "I don't like Japan. I want to go back to America."

This expresses the general sentiment of this isolated and homesick colony. The people want to go back to America. The great majority are citizens and citizens who have chosen in the depths of their unhappiness as evacuees to remain in the United States. The troublemakers, the disloyal, those who want to be repatriated to Japan have been sent to the big segregation camp at Tule Lake in California. Of the original 14,000 at Rivers about 2,000 have gone to that internment center, presumably to be shipped to Japan when the war is over. About 2,000 more have been relocated, meaning that they have found jobs or a place to settle "outside."

But the process of relocation is slow, not only because it is hard to find work and welcome for the loyal Japanese but because they are kept where they are by their own fears. The feeling against them is so strong in California that few hope to return to their former homes. They look toward the East, particularly to the agricultural States of the Middle West, for opportunity to re-establish themselves. But the wise and far-sighted farmer who is head of the camp council--a limited form of community self-government in which each block elects a representative--observes that as time goes on the abnormal life of the evacuees as wards and boarders of the Government makes them more timid and dependent. At first they were embittered. To be uprooted from their homes and confined as enemies while Germans and Italians were left free unless convicted of disloyalty made many prey to Japanese propaganda. But increasingly they incline to regard the WRA camps as a facility and a protection. They are afraid of what they will meet outside.

Both they and the Government know that there is no solid legal ground for holding them in detention. If they were politically organized and less frightened they would fight for their civic rights. But their experience in California has given them little civic spirit. In some ways they are getting more practice in self-rule in the camps than before. Also, of course, they tend to become more ingrown, more Japanese.

We are going to have more Japanese-American citizens. They cannot be permanently interned. They cannot even elect to stay where they are in Arizona because the other vegetable growers object to the competion. The problem will remain complicated by the fact that these unwanted citizens impress everybody by their industry, their honesty and their stoic endurance of hardships. The director of the Rivers project, L. H. Bennett, a California manufacturer, and all his subordinates testify to the good citizenship and the good spirit of the evacuees. They have made the desert bloom, and between the philosophic old and the hopeful young they put an extraordinarily cheerful face upon their tragedy. And this in turn puts a special responsibility for a job of home-front education on America in general.

(Article from San Francisco, Calif., People's World, October 22, 1943)

HELPING TOJO'S RACE-WAR CAMPAIGN

Congressman A. J. Elliott of California predicted this week in the House of Representatives that every Japanese-American "sent back to California from relocation camps will be killed."

At the same time, District Attorney Fred N. Houser of Los Angeles reveals that three organizations in that area have informed him that "their members have pledged themselves to kill any Japanese who comes to California now or after the war."

A dispatch from Lawrence, Kansas, quotes Director S. Myer of the War Relocation Authority as stating that the Japanese who have been found loyal and harmless in the camps and who are eligible to be released for RELOCATION in areas OUTSIDE the West Coast, do not want to leave the camps, "feeling uncertain of their future"and many "believing they are too old to make a new start on new jobs in strange communities."

In short, the Japanese-Americans do not want to come back to California!

Moreover, so far as we know, the original orders of the Western Defense Command still stand, barring all persons of Japanese descent, except those specifically authorized by the army, from the coastal defense zones.

From this, it is quite apparent that all this outcry about Japanese "returning" is purely imaginary, a false issue, baseless in fact and is incited for ulterior motives.

What one of those motives might be was unintentionally let out of the bag by a former naval chaplain, John F. Carruthers, testifying in Los Angeles to the state senate committee above mentioned. Speaking of service men he said: " I don't believe they want to come home and find that the Japs have taken all the choice land."

This corroborates the conclusion we have arrived at in noting that Grange Master Sehlmeyer at the recent State Grange convention, also seemed worried lest American citizens of Japanese descent return -- after the war -- to the lands they once farmed.

That conclusion is that many big and some not so big land grabbers among the Associated Farmer clique, who have seized the choice valley lands owned by American citizens of Japanese descent, and are now working them and intend to get titled to them for a song, naturally do not want these defrauded owners turning up to claim their property after the war.

It could be that Hearst himself, a notorious land-grabber, has a finger in this business.

But his other motive is to make a race war out of the war against fascism and to nourish the "Pacific First" scheme to split the forces of the United Nations and lose the war on all fronts--the original aim of Hitler in having Japan attack us at Pearl Harbor.

In any event, this baseless shouting against the "return" of Japanese who are not returning, who do not want to return and whom the army prevents from returning for the duration, goes to feed the fires of Japanese propaganda in the Far East, where hundreds of millions of people are shown this proof of racial prejudice against "Asiatics" by these California replicas of Goebbels.

Finally, these attitudes are part and parcel of the anti-Semitism, anti-Negro incitement, and lynch-spirit directed against Mexican-Americans which continue to point a gun at the heart of national unity.

(Article in Seattle, Wash., POST-INTELLIGENCER, January 8, 1944)

VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

To the Post-Intelligencer:

On January 4, I discovered a letter written, evidently in good faith, calling on all "good" Americans to refuse Americans of Japanese descent the right to assume residence in which locality they may choose. The fact that this letter was signed "Bereaved American" explains a bitterness which is forgivable.

It would seem more fitting if, instead of fostering racial hatred against the Japanese, this bitterness was directed to help win the peace instead of destroying it.

"This "American" has several mistaken "facts" which it might be well to correct. "Oriental vermin" are the only people who have made a go of it in these "fertile valleys," And, incidentally, might not Americans of Chinese descent fall under the heading of "Oriental vermin"? Merely because a man's skin happens to be yellow does not mean that hg is inferior to the whites, or even foul and treacherous and cruel. W might remember that one of our valient regiments in Italy which are fighting the Nazi is a Japanese one.

It was in 1931 that the German people were entertained with the most scientific rabble-rousing ix the world had ever seen, only the persecuted people there were Jews.

DENTON RICKEY MOORE.
328 S. Lafayette, Bremerton

To the Post-Intelligencer:

"Bereaved American," who in a letter to the Voice of the People in the January 4 issue denounced those of Japanese ancestry in America, should read the daily newspapers for on that date, in Drew Pearson's excellent and informative "Washington MerryeGo-Round," there was given high priase by topmost officials of the war department of the bravery and heroism under heavy fire of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

ALBERT D. BONUS, Seattle

(Article in San Francisco newspaper, January 1944)

PEARL BUCK ASKS CAUTION IN ATTITUDE TOWARD THE NISEI

by Associated Press

Pointing to the Pacific and Asia as the area where our most important future foreign policies will be centered, Pearl S. Buck, in the January issue of Asia and the Americas, appeals to Californians to keep their wits and common sense in their attitude toward Orientals, particularly Japanese-Americans.

She goes into the whole problem of the white race versus the colored, pointing out that the whites are outnumbered 17 to 1, and asks:

"What are we white people going to do with this embarrassing world where God in his inscrutability made us a minority people, and Satan in his malicious mischief gave us a majority complex?"

Miss Buck argues that the white race has to live in the same world with the others, and, instead of listening to "foolish talk" about annihilation, we should "insist that in our own country all persons, whatever their ancestry, be given their rights."

"When our tradition of human rights is broken we are all endangered."

"And how you are being watched, you people of California--not only by other Americans but by all the peoples of Asia! If you do not treat these American citizens of Japanese descent fairly, millions of people in China and in India and Russia are going to say 'the Americans are not better than the Japs--and besides, they are white.'

"Once in an eon a single people is given the opportunity to shape the world's direction. That opportunity is now ours. And because you in California face the Pacific and Asia, you among us have the crux in your hands."

(Article which appeared in San Francisco newspaper in January, 1944)

U. S. JAPANESE ASK REVENGE FOR THE YANKS

JEROME, Ark., Jan. 29 (AP) -- Many colonists of Japanese ancestry in the Jerome War Relocation Center have expressed resentment at Japanese brutality to American war prisoners in the Philippines, the War Relocation Authority reported tonight.

Frank Arakawa, chairman of the Jerome Community Council, saying he was speaking for the community in general, declared that "Japan's actions were impossible to a civilized people"

"It is hard to believe that any human being could treat another like those three officers who were treated on Bataan," he asserted.

"I hope the fiends responsible for it have enough commong sense to realize that they will pay."

Arakawa, who fought as a member of the United States Army in World War I, added:

"I am very glad that there are Japanese-Americans in the United States Army now. I know how they feel about this and I know they want to do something about it."

(Article in Los Angeles, Calif., DAILY NEWS, Jan. 22, 1944)

Myer Lobs Shells Defending Regime
at Tule Lake into Enemy Territory

Dillon S. Myer, much fired at director of the war relocation authority, set up camp yesterday close to enemy territory and unloaded his guns of the facts on the situation at Tule Lake.

Speaking at Biltmore hotel, before a Town Hall meeting, Myer enumerated the problems and objectives of WRA, and exposed the motives of the "influential people and organizations" who have attacked it.

"I have learned many things about the Japanese problem in this country," he said.

"I have learned, among other things, that there are in this section of the country and elsewhere, many influential people and organizations who will go to almost any length to reduce people born in the United States, of Japanese ancestry, to the status of second class citizens.

"One prominent newspaper chain which has played a central role in this effort has been especially guilty of bad faith and unAmerican tactics."

Earlier in his remarks Myer had described the method whereby "disloyal evacuees" were segregated at Tule Lake, but insisted it was a mistake to think of the population at that center as composed exclusively of agitators and potential saboteurs.

"Many of the residents are aliens of advanced years who have simply given up the struggle to become adjusted in this country and who want only to live out the rest of their days in the land of their birth," he said.

There is also another group made up of children and others whose redords contain no evidence of disloyalty, but who are living at Tule Lake merely because of family ties.

"These people, along with the aliens, probably constitute a majority of the total population."

There is an element, however, discovered to be dangerous agitators, who employed gangster tactics--threats of violence, terroism, and all the other familiar techniques -- to gain their ends, the WRA director said.

The "uprising" of Nov. 1, he admitted, did create a tense situation, but, he insisted, the crowd gathered around the administration building that afternoon was not an angry mob.

"It was composed," he said, "of whole family groups and had been summoned out by an unauthorized announcemant--made by members of the dissident group to bring a show of pressure--that I was going to make a speech."

The Nov. 4 affair was a different matter.

"On that occasion a group of several hundred evacuees, armed with clubs, entered the administration area in violation of orders," Myer said.

Carrying out arrangements made previously with the war department, the project director called in the troops stationed outside and asked the army to take over responsibility for internal administration until the community could be restored to a normal basis of operations, he said.

Myer expressed a belief that there was ample evidence to disprove the notion that no person of Japanese ancestry could be loyal to the United States, citing the military record of Nisei youth in Italy as a case in point.

As far as the WRA is concerned, he said, "the one principle above all others which has guided our actions and molded our thinking is the belief that there is a place in this melting pot nation of ours for all the people of good will and democratic faith who are now within our borders, regardless of their racial antecedents."

As for himself, he said, he would "fight to defend this principle."

During the question period, he was asked if such an uprising as occurred at Tule Lake could have happened in a Japanese camp for American internees. He said he certainly did not think so, but added:

"Thank God, we don't stand people up and shoot them for what we think they're thinking."

He was applauded by his audience.

(Article in Pasadena, Calif., POST, Jan. 18, 1944)

SUNRISE VIEWS

Of the Pasadena Post

SEEK FAIR ACTION
AT TULE LAKE

It is undoubtedly a fact that neither the War Relocation Authority nor the Army wishes to operate the Tule Lake Center. The War Relocation Authority was formed to handle the peaceable relocation of persons removed from this military area. It has done that work as well as could be expected of a new bureau which was obliged to draw its employees largely from persons unfamiliar with those with whom they had to deal. Some of this personnel attempted to carry over the practices of the regular relocation centers into the handling of the Tule Lake Center, where they had to deal with the avowedly disloyal element.

On the other hand, as Congressman Carl Hinshaw pointed out several weeks ago, there are sound reasons why our government does not wish to have the Army operate any camps except those for actual prisoners captured in war.

There appears to remain the Justice Department, unless the WRA has created a new Tule Lake organization adequate to its stern task. The Post has not at any time been in sympathy with those who would enlarge upon the Tule Lake incident to play upon prejudices. Its contention is that past errors should be admitted, that permanent administration of this "problem camp" be decided upon, and that such administration be one in which the public will have such confidence that it can forget Tule Lake for the duration.

(Article in Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Jan. 21, 1944)

U. S. JAPANESE WILL BE CLASSIFIED BY SELECTIVE SERVICE

WASHINGTON, JAN. 20--(AP)--American citizens of Japanese descent again will be brought under the selective service program.

The War Department said today that Japanese-Americans considered acceptable for military service will be reclassified by their draft boards on the same basis as other citizens. None has been drafted since February, 1942.

The announcement said that "the excellent showing" which the 442nd Combat Team has made in training and the "outstanding record" achieved by the 100th Battalion now fighting in Italy, both composed of Japanese-American volunteers, were major factors in the decision to reinstate selective service for citizens of Japanese descent.

(Excerpt from Article in San Francisco EXAMINER, Jan. 29, 1944)

CRISIS GROWING AT TULE LAKE

Internees Declared Dictating
to WRA; Situation Tense

.....

EMMONS WARNING

The warning from General Emmons, released here in San Francisco, declared that "our people may rest assured that, at the proper time and place, exact and unremitting justice will be meted out to the Japanese who have been guilty of these dastardly and cowardly acts."

Pointing out that release for publication of the atrocity stories "can only serve to emphasize the basic differences of our civilization and senses of decency," Emmons warned:

"Such treatment of enemy nationals, no matter what the circumstances, would not be tolerated by Americans. No individual or group should attempt to retaliate against persons of Japanese descent in this country. Such an effort would do no good, but much harm."

(Letter to Editor, Oakland, Calif., TRIBUNE, Jan. 28, 1944)

SHOCKED BY RACE HATE

To the Editor:

I was greatly shocked to read the report in the Oakland Tribune of January 22nd, of the action taken by a group of Martinez citizens against an American-born Japanese mother who had returned to that community from Missouri with Army consent.

I was shocked to see the distance we have traveled toward turning this war against Japanese fascism into a race war--into a war not against the Japanese militarists, because they threaten our freedom, the freedom of all democracy-loving peoples--but a war against the Japanese people because of their ancestry, their national origin.

Such news reports remind one of the reports that came out of Germany when the Nazis were fomenting racial hatred against the Jewis people, were inciting German people to acts of terrorism against the Jews as a preliminary to their terror campaign against the German people--as a preliminary to the establishment of the barbaric Nazi dictatorship.

Race hatred is a weapon of fascism and helps only world fascism that would destroy our freedom and would enslave us. It is time that we Americans cast off and rooted out all vestiges of race hatred born of emotionalism and evaluated people on the basis of what they believe. All people who believe in democracy are our friends and allies, regardless of their race, creed or color.

-- EDWARD BARLOW

(Letter written to San Francisco CHRONICLE, Jan. 29, 1944)

RACE HATRED

Editor--Racial antagonism is as a poison permeating the minds of so many people and it is difficult to find an ~~xxx~~ educational cure for it. Your fine commentary on the recent exhibition of it at Martinez led me to wonder why this should occur toward one who, though Japanese descended, was born and educated in this country and married to a native American. Granted that Japan has proved herself a lying, brutal aggressor and that many of her people, immigrants to the United States, cannot and should not be trusted at large, yet a comparison of the boasts and brutal slaughter practiced by Germans in wantonly invaded, inoffensive countries, even with the Japanese Pearl Harbor treachery and cruelty, shows very much of a parallel exhibition of savagery, yet the Nazis carry on their vicious propaganda and apparentlyfind listeners here.

Alameda. WM. D. HAMMOND

(Article from Hollywood, Calif., CITIZEN-NEWS, Jan. 22, 1944)

ENMITY TOWARD U. S. JAPS HELD PERIL BY MYER

Declaring that many influential people and organizations are trying to reduce Americans of Japanese descent "to the status of second-class citizens," Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority, has defended his administration of the Tulelake Japanese Relocation Center.

Such persons and organizations are jeopardizing the prisoner-exchange system between Japan and the United States, he told a Town Hall meeting at the Biltmore yesterday.

CALLED DISSERVICE

"They are doing a great disservice to the national war effort and providing the ~~xxxx~~ enemy with propaganda material to convince other Oriental nations that the United States is conducting a racial war," Myer asserted.

He declared mass confinement of the Japanese in this country "would be a blow to the constitutional safeguards which now protect every last one of us against arbitrary government action."

"The one principle above all which has guided our actions," he said, "is the belief that there is a place in this melting-pot nation for all people of goodwill and democratic faith, regardless of racial antecedants."

HEEDED DANGER

In a report of the Tulelake troubles, Myer said his administration never ignored dangers from alien Japanese or American citizens who were pro-Japanese in sympathy. He added that segregation of the disloyal internees and the relocation of 17,000 others into normal communities outside California soon would be completed.

(Article from S. F. Chronicle Jan. 29,1944)

BLOOD IS OFFERED BY THIRTY-FIVE U.S.BORN JAPANESE

Denver, Jan.28: Thirty-five Japanese-Americans volunteered today to give blood at the Red Cross Blood Donor Center as an expression of what their spokesman called "our intense indignation at the reported atrocities committed on Americans in the Phillippines".

The spokesman, Dr. Howard Suenaga, former Guadalupe, Calif. physician, said nearly all the 35 were West Coast evacuees and that "many more" would offer blood by next week.

(Article from Hollywood, Calif. CITIZEN-NEWS, Jan.26,1944)

C O N T R I B U T O R S

A group of native Japanese Americans arrive in New Jersey from relocation camps in Colorado to take over jobs awaiting them in packing plants.

Slowly the country is coming around to calmness and making use of at least some of the highly productive services which its fellow citizens of Japanese ancestry can contribute to the country's welfare.

We now have nearly 5000 Japanese Americans serving in the United States armed forces as a result of volunteer enlistment. The character of their service is vouched for by the correspondents at the battle fronts.

From a recent newspaper story we make some excerpts:

"Sgt. Ben Kuroki, holder of the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Medal with two Oak Leaf clusters and honored by being presented to the King and Queen of England for his participation in the raid on the Ploesti oil refineries, returned to his parents' Hershey, Neb. farm after serving a year and a half as Liberator turret gunner over Europe, North Africa and the Middle East --- After completing his regular army tour of 25 combat missions he asked for and obtained five extra bombing missions - - - Sergeant Kuroki volunteered for service the day after Pearl Harbor.

(Article from Los Angeles, Calif. DAILY NEWS, Jan.25,1944)

DILLON MYER DEFINES POSITION ON JAP MILITARISM

Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority, last night told Pasadena chapter members of the fair play committee how he stands on the question of Japanese militarism.

"I feel just as anyone else - that we should whip the socks off Tojo", he said.

"But", he added in reference to the Japanese Americans now under the authority of W. R. A., "let's not take it out on these kids who grew up in our midst for the fact that Tojo and his gang are carrying out atrocities we would never stoop to.

"Seventy-five percent of American citizens of Japanese ancestry have never seen Japan, and to say that their loyalty is to a country other than the United States shows on our part a lack of faith in our institutions and our schools", he said.

Myer spoke to the organization members and guests at Pasadena public library.

(Article from S. F. CHRONICLE, Jan. 30,1944)

"AVENGE BATAAN" U.S. JAPANESE PAPER ASKS NISEI

Salt Lake City, Jan. 29: The Pacific Citizen, newspaper of the Japanese - American Citizens' League, called today upon Americans of Japanese ancestry to "help settle the score" resulting from the inhuman treatment of American prisoners on Bataan.

The newspaper urged Japanese-Americans to enlist in the Army of Women's Army Corps and buy war bonds to the limit of their financial ability. Larry Tajiri is editor.

Headquarters of the league were moved here from San Francisco following outbreak of war with Japan.

(Article from Hollywood, Calif., CITIZEN*NEWS, Jan. 26, 1944)

THE TOWN MEETING

The Public's Column
With Mr. X Presiding

WORTH READING

Town Meeting: The article by Pearl Buck in last number of Asia, "An Appeal to California," is well worth reading. Many citizens with whom I have talked fail to understand why the Japanese matter was handled so differently in the Hawaiian Islands than here. Authentic information from there discloses that immediately after Pearl Harbor 1000 Japanese suspects were rounded up and sent to California and are now located at Tule Lake camp, where they are probably the trouble makers.

The balance of the Japanese population of 149,000 are pursuing their usual avocations of plantation workers, mechanics and storekeeprs, many being in government employ. Nine thousand are in the armed service, with 2500 fighting with the Allies in Europe, They are an asset instead of a liability to the community.

In California the entire Japanese population, good or bad, was placed in concentration camps at a cost to the taxpayers, it is stated, of $84,000,000 a year, not to mention the additional cost of the loss of the fruits and vegetables they formerly raised.

--- W. F. M.

(Article, Editorial, In San Francisco CHRONICLE, Jan. 29, 1944)

KEEP COOL

Precautions taken by military and police in the Denver area, where there are Japanese camps and Japanese working, to prevent any possible demonstrations against them as a result of the Bataan disclosure were probably well judged. Americans must keep their heads over this matter. In the first place, they must remember that the people of Japanese origin now in this country had no part in the atrocities perpetrated in the Philipines and elsewhere in the Orient. In the second place, any demonstrations or acts of ciolence toward these people could nnly do incalcuable harm. We show ourselves superior to the barbarian Japanese soldiery by refraining from the sort of things they do.

(Article in S. F. CHRONICLE, January 28, 1944)

MARTINEZ

Editor--These so-called Americans of Martinez should be reminded that we have Japanese-Americans fighting in Italy beside our own friends and brothers. These men, most of whom had a part in the landing on Siciliy, suffered casualties as well as our own friends and brothers, and proved through their actions that all people of Japanese ancestry ancestry are not made dupes by Tojo's lies.

PVT. EUGENE EISENHANDLER
Fort Ord.

(Article in San Francisco CHRONICLE, Jan. 28, 1944)

CONTROVERSIAL

The announcement by a broadcasting company that it is not using a Japanese-American airplane gunner loaned by the army, because the Japanese issue on the Pacific Coast is "controversial," is nothing to get emotional about.

The question is controversial, regardless of the intellectual quality of the controversy. But if controversial issues are going to be kept off the air, or out of newspapers, or private conversation, we are going to find ourselves in a strange era.

Feeling on the Japanese issue may be strong enough to make it unwise to have this Nisei gunner, no matter how much he has distinguished himself in Mediterranean service, appear at an open air mass meeting or any other uncontrolled gathering. But that is not suggested, and if it were it would raise a question of order and not of suppressing controversy. If the broadcast company does not put the gunner on the air, that is within the company's right of decision. If the gunner were put on the air and anybody got mad enough to throw bricks, it would be at their own radios.

(Article in Portland, Oregon, JOURNAL, Jan. 23, 1944)

Unrest Overstressed At
Tulelake, says Myer

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 22.-(U.P.)--Dillon S. Myer, War Relocation Authority director, today said disturbances at the Tulelake camp, where most disloyal Japanese are now being detained, were grossly misrepresented, and jeopardizing exchange of prisoners between the United States and Japan.

He said he heartily disagreed with people holding that all people of Japanese ancestry are disloyal. Trouble is caused instead, he said, by a minority employing gangster tactics to gain their ends.

(Article on Hollywood, Calif., CITIZEN-NEWS, Jan. 25, 1944)

Vast Majority of U.S.-
Japanese Loyal, Says Myer

Seventy-two per cent of the American born Japanese in the country have never even seen Japan and the majority of them are as loyal as any other Americans, Director Dillon S. Myer of the War Relocation Authority declared at Pasadena last night.

"To say they are not loyal to our institutions where they have been educated is not to have faith in our own American institutions," he told 400 persons attending a meeting called by the Pasadena Chapter of the Pacific Coast Conference of American Principles and Fair Play.

He said the WRA is "operating on the general principle that we can do nothing else but assume that the majority of the interned Japanese will continue to live in this country after the war."

Myer declared the situation at the Tulelake camp, where internees rioted in November, is still tense and probably will remain so.

(Article in Los Angeles HERALD & EXPRESS, Jan. 22, 1944)

TOWN HALL

WRA Chief Defends
Release of Japs

Admitting that "there is no way of guaranteeing the loyalty of a person of Japanese descent, "War Relocation Authority Chief Dillon S. Myer had said today that the WRA nevertheless intends not only to continue releasing Japs from relocation centers, but to speed up the process.

Speaking at a Town Hall luncheon at the Biltmore Hotel, he said:

"There is no way of entering into the innermost recesses of a person's mind and fathoming his most fundamental attachments and convictions. The most that you can do is to judge a person's loyalty on the basis of the attitudes which he expresses by word or action."

Approximately 17,000 Japanese have been released to date, he estimated.

Asked if he thought a riot, such as that at Tule Lake, could possibly have taken place in Japan, the director admitted, "No, they would be shot."

Japan, he said, will not agree to an exchange of American nationals they hold as prisoners for Japs being held here, adding "most of the people in the Tule Lake population are old people that the Japs over there don't want."

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco, California

In reply, please refer to:

File
Pat
Pat Frayne

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. P. Frayne

FROM: Mr. H. I. McGrath

The statistical summary of the evacuees resettled in the Western Relocation Division is based on a count of information received from the centers in advance of resettlement. This information, as you know, we have requested from the centers. They send the information either on a daily report form or by wire covering each individual planning to depart from the center to the West coast. The information is sent to the Area offices.

The Washington D. C. office gets its statistical information on relocated evacuees from the "Departure Advice Notice" forwarded from the centers. It is my understanding that the Departure Advice Notices are prepared after the evacuee leaves the center and are sometimes delayed for as much as several weeks in some of the centers.

Therefore, it is not possible to reconcile these statistics gathered in the Western Relocation Division from advance information on departures with the data furnished to Washington from the centers after departure. The Washington statistics will always be "behind time" and our West coast statistics may be not exactly correct since they are based on advanced information and that information may sometimes change before the effective date.

I think we should all be working toward a uniform system of reporting based on the "Departure Advice Notice" and that emphasis should be placed on seeing to it that the centers uniformly send out these "Departure Advice Notices" within 24 hours after the physical departure of the evacuee from the center.

H. I. McGrath

Pat
This may explain differences
areas report on those
they know that are
back - Many from Relocation
on their own

RBC
answer to Lozier

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco, California

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H. I. McGrath