

May 11, 1942

Mr. Milton Eisenhower  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Eisenhower:

A great deal of time has passed since I saw you briefly in Mr. Neustadt's office. Since then I have been devoting myself to getting finances for the study that I discussed with you then. May I remind you that at that time you agreed that a study of this sort would be all right in principle, but that you pointed out that the way in which it was done would have to be worked out in detail for your further approval. I have finally got the agreement of the Rockefeller Foundation to give us a grant for one year's exploratory work. This will amount to some \$7,500. In addition, the Giannini Foundation is contributing about \$3,500. The Social Science Research Council of New York will give sums amounting to around \$3,000. The Institute of Social Sciences at the University will contribute between \$1,000 and \$2,000. We are applying to the Rosenberg Foundation for something on the order of \$5,000 and therefore I think we are ready to begin with the detailed arrangements.

I am enclosing two items, first a telegram from Mr. Willits of the Rockefeller Foundation in New York, and second, a memo that I submitted to the Rockefeller Foundation. If after reading this memo, you are willing to pledge cooperation with the full understanding that the details have to meet your further approval, I should be awfully grateful if you would wire Mr. Willits. If, however, you have any doubts in your mind will you please not wire Mr. Willits, but wait until I can see you.

Professor Lowie and I would be the persons directly in charge of this sociological investigation. Broadly speaking, we would attempt to determine as fully as possible the spontaneous social and personal adjustments of the Japanese to the enforced immigration. We would plan to use observers who would make certain detailed records under our direction. Among these observers would be two of my own graduate students, one of Professor Lowie's and an instructor in sociology (of Japanese ancestry), all of whom have been evacuated. We would also hope to get supplementary records from some of the white school teachers and recreation leaders. As soon as the situation has settled down we would want to have free access to such reception centers as you, Professor Lowie, and myself would decide upon in consultation. May I say that not only Professor Lowie and myself, but other members of the University staff would hope that you would draw upon our services in any way you feel we might be helpful.

With very ~~kind~~ regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:AE  
Enclosure 2

1602 United States Post Office and Courthouse  
Los Angeles, California

146-13-7-2-0

April 4, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. EISENHOWER

State of Utah

At the invitation of Mr. Boyer, of the Utah State Farm Bureau, I met with representatives of this Bureau at Salt Lake City on March 18, 1942. The meeting was conducted by the Agricultural Commissioner, and my participation was limited to the answering of questions.

Those present were of the opinion that the only logical way to provide labor for the farmers of that State was to make housing available in small communities or on individual farms. I advised the meeting that making houses available on individual farms was out of the question, since the Government would not have title to any of the property but that it might be that we could provide for small communities in the event the State, or the farmers, made available the land and were willing to give the Government a lease on it for the duration of the war. I also explained the danger incident to this form of operation and the increased hazard because of the difficulties of policing. Those present were definitely against the reception center plan.

It was estimated that the State could use about 1500 workers without displacing its local economy or affecting its local labor supply. I requested the Bureau to furnish us with a detailed statement showing:

- (1) The estimated labor needed;
- (2) the areas involved;
- (3) the number of laborers in each area;
- (4) the crops to be farmed, and
- (5) the present housing available, together with that which would be needed to properly care for the workers.



I have since given you all of the letters and papers forwarded to me by Mr. Boyer, as well as everyone else from the State of Utah.

I believe that Utah is in a different situation from the other States, in that the people there are more friendly to the Japanese and they have more land that is adaptable to the Japanese use. The building of reception centers in the State would prevent the use of very many of the evacuees as workers, because of the inaccessibility of the farms to the reception center. It was for this reason that this meeting recommended small communities or farm housing. If it is at all possible to arrange small community housing, I believe this would be the most practical solution to the problem in the State of Utah.

After lunch I conferred with Reuben J. Clark, Vice President of the Mormon church and who is the active manager of the church. Mr. Clark was very friendly and promised to assist us in any way possible, to the end that the citizenry of Utah would receive with favor those evacuees coming into the State. He emphasized the need of some control over the evacuation and, further, that it was to be hoped that existing labor would not be displaced or local economy disturbed. I assured him, as I did those in the meeting, that the Government was going to take every precaution in this regard.

I then called upon the Governor, who, the day previous, had conducted a meeting of the County Commissioners of the State. It appears that 24 of the 29 counties in the State had voted strong resolutions against permitting Japanese to enter the State. The Governor had agreed to hold up these resolutions until we had an opportunity to discuss the matter. This was done, and the resolutions were never published, the Governor stating that the program of the Government satisfied him completely and that he saw no necessity for the State to take any action other than that which the Federal Government might request.

#### State of Idaho

On March 19 I called on Governor Chase A. Clark, at his offices in the State Capitol building. The Governor had previously made public announcement, through the press as well as over the radio, that he was opposed to any Japanese entering the State, and further called upon General De Witt to place all those entering the State into concentration camps. He had also pled with the citizens of the State not to sell land to the Japanese.

It appears that some week or ten days previous a Mr. Storm had come into the State for the purpose of securing approval of the Governor of a plan to sell the Mesa Orchards to some Japanese. The Governor was unalterably opposed to this because of some friendly relationship with persons operating the orchards. It appears that the Orchards belong to a Government operated farm credit association, but was being managed by local people.

The question was further complicated by the fact that the Governor is an applicant for a Federal judgeship. He has been advised that he will not be appointed and this has caused him some displeasure. It is believed that this fact also contributed to his position with regard to the Japanese problem.

After consulting him all morning, he advised me that if General DeWitt would prevent any Japanese from buying property in Idaho, he would attempt to cooperate with the program. I told him that this was impossible as the General would have no authority to enter such an order, and even if he would that the rights of citizens would be affected in the purchase and sale of property, which was not a proper matter for General DeWitt to become involved in. The Governor immediately became very distant and cool over our plans and after lunch he invited me to meet him at his office at 2:30. Sensing that there was some trouble brewing, I called on the U. S. Attorney, who advised me that the Governor had been very strong in his convictions, as well as in his speech, regarding the entry of Japanese into the State, and that I should be most careful in discussing the matter with him. After this conference, I went to the Governor's office and upon my arrival found that he was talking to a group of persons who had called upon him by caravan. There were approximately 100 in the group, including women and children, as well as some unfortunates who appeared to be derelicts who evidently had been picked up at the corner saloons. After a short harangue the meeting broke up, the Governor admonishing the group not to sell land to the Japanese, but advising them that he had confidence in his ability to settle the matter fairly to the citizenship of the State and to the satisfaction of the Federal Government. After the meeting broke up, I talked to the Governor again for about an hour and we finally left with the understanding that we would try to work out some plan of control so that the Japanese could not enter the State without proper surveillance and he promised to do all he could to quiet down the publicity and public indignation that he had aroused. Several days later he called me and said that he thought the matter was in much better shape and that he hoped the Government would be able to build some reception centers in his State.

The small number of Japanese that could be used in the State without displacing local economic conditions does not warrant the trouble and expense incident to the operation of the camps there.



### State of Montana

Upon my return to Salt Lake City, on the same night, I found a committee of Big Horn County, Montana, ranchers waiting to see me. They furnished me with a map that I delivered to you the other day. This map shows the irrigated land in the county and the statistical information that I handed you with it gives the number of acres and the appropriate number of workers that will be needed.

The next morning I flew to Helena, Montana and that afternoon had a conference with the Commissioner of Agriculture and the Governor. Governor Ford was most receptive. He was of the opinion that the reception center plan was the better for his State, and suggested that two centers be located in the State. He promised to call a meeting of interested county officials, at which time he requested that we have someone present. Mr. Harrington attended this conference and has furnished you with a memorandum concerning the same.

I believe you will find Governor Ford and his Agricultural Commissioner most helpful. From the statistics they furnished me, I would say that this State could use at least 5000 workers in productive employment for approximately 7 months out of the year. Perhaps a work program could be worked up for the remaining portion of the year, or industrial training could be carried on at the reception centers to the end that the Japanese might make trinkets that were formerly manufactured in Japan and sold through the five and ten-cent stores, as well as other articles which would be useful to the Army.

### State of Colorado

On March 26, at the invitation of the Governor and the United States Attorney, I met with them at an open meeting in La Junta, Colorado. Prior to this meeting the F.B.I. had called me, on two occasions, stating that public indignation was rather high against the Japanese in the southern part of Colorado.

Upon arriving in Denver I conferred with Mr. Nicholson, of the F.B.I., the United States Attorney, and the U. S. Employment representatives. On the morning of the 26th I drove with the Governor and the U. S. Attorney to La Junta for the meeting.

The meeting was attended by some 400 people at the local high school. The Governor started the meeting with a patriotic speech. He was succeeded by Mr. Morrison, the U. S. Attorney, and I closed the meeting with an account of the evacuation problem along the West Coast, the plan of surveillance that we already had of Japanese coming into the State of Colorado, and an explanation of the "freeze" order which was issued the night before. Those assembled received the talks well and after the meeting I invited questions, and from the reaction of the audience with reference to the questions I would say the meeting was most successful. After the meeting several of the

members of the audience came up and discussed the matter with me.

I recommend the use of the reception center plan in Colorado for the reason that some of the citizens there are aroused against the Japanese. They have had no dealings with them, there being fewer than 500 in the State, and they are most suspicious of their activities.

Today I received a telegram from our Department of Justice office there, a copy of which I furnished you. From the tone of this telegram I would say that the people are still aroused, and that it would be unwise to place any evacuees in the State unless it were done in reception centers, with close supervision.

I have not called upon any of the other Governors who, I understand, you have invited to your conference. However, the Governor of Nevada was in the San Francisco office during my absence and I understand was interviewed by Colonel Bendetsen. You might talk to him with reference to his attitude.

(SIGNED) TOM C. CLARK  
Chief, Civilian Staff, Wartime  
Civil Control Administration  
Western Defense Command



May 18, 1942

Secretary to  
Mr. Milton Eisenhower  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

On Friday, May 15, I telephoned Mr. Eisenhower at his office. He agreed to send a telegram to the Rockefeller Foundation on the following day. For purposes of University records will you kindly send us a copy of this telegram at your earliest convenience?

Very truly yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:AE

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

May 21, 1942

Dr. Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas:

I am enclosing a copy of the telegram sent  
by Mr. Eisenhower to Mr. Joseph H. Willits of the  
Rockefeller Foundation. Due to the pressue of  
other work, Mr. Eisenhower was not able to dispatch  
the wire until May 18.

Sincerely yours,

*Audrey V. Chamberlain*

Secretary to  
Milton S. Eisenhower, Director





C  
O  
P  
Y

2 Copies

May 18, 1942

MR. JOSEPH H. WILLITS  
ROCKEFELLER CENTER  
NEW YORK CITY

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY APPROVES IN PRINCIPLE OBJECT OF  
RESEARCH PROPOSED BY DOROTHY SWAINE THOMAS AND WILL CO-  
OPERATE FULLY. WE WILL WORK OUT WITH INVESTIGATION  
LEADERS MORE PRECISE DEFINITION OF PROBLEMS, OBJECTIVES,  
PROCEDURES, AREAS OF STUDY, AND MOVEMENT OF ASSIGNED  
PERSONNEL.

/s/ M. S. EISENHOWER, DIRECTOR  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

War Relocation Project  
Tule Lake, California.  
May 21, 1942

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
University of California  
Berkeley, California.

Dear Dr. Thomas:

I'm sorry I was not in a position last night to discuss directly with you certain questions which arose in my mind in response to your good news. It just happened that a number of people were around in front of whom I did not wish to talk. Hence the hesitancy.

I'm really quite excited about the possibilities of a research project being centered here at Tule Lake, and I am more than willing to do what I can to further it. A great deal, however, depends upon the nature of the project and the methodology involved.

If, for instance, the persons conducting the research will be content with those materials which come from daily contact with the residents (evacuees) of the project, working quietly and without official notice, very little difficulty is likely to be encountered. Those who arrive, will arrive as individuals, and some time thereafter, they could constitute themselves into an informal "study group".

On the other hand, if it is planned that Project materials and records will be used, and if it is hoped that some official sanction be accorded the undertaking, I feel it will be quite necessary for you or someone to tackle the Regional Office personnel of the War Relocation Authority. The sanction of the WCCA is important, but it is only half the battle. These two agencies are not in conflict, but there is a certain amount of tension between them, and the decision of one is not automatically the decision of the other.

Further, at each of these Projects there is a certain amount of apprehension concerning groups which wish to "use" these unique situations for their special ends. Particularly this refers to religious and political groups, but in an effort to be safe, it is likely that a local administrator would shy away from any proposal that does not carry the approval of the regional office.



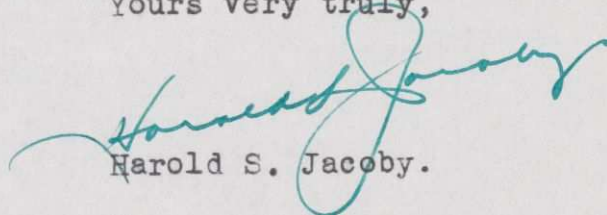
Finally, great stress has been placed on the decision that all information and publicity be channeled through the regional office, and although the findings of a research study would probably not find their way into print for a considerable period of time, I am afraid that such findings would be classified under the head of "information" and hence placed under a ban.

In general, I would much prefer to work with a project that has full approval of both regional and local administration. There will, of course, be many voluntary groups formed during the life of the project and these will have a great deal of freedom, but in the light of possible repercussions growing out of rumor and half-fact, I believe it would be far better to clear everything with San Francisco, and have the regional office send a word of approval here to Tule Lake.

I hope my brief service with the Federal Government hasn't made me too cautious. I feel, however, that the values of a well ordered research project are too great to have them jeopardized by an unfortunate approach.

Please bury this letter deep within your files. You are free to state that I have expressed a willingness to work with a research study, but in view of a general suspicion of all "interests" it would be well to make clear that this willingness was expressed subsequent to my appointment on the staff.

Yours very truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Harold S. Jacoby", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

Harold S. Jacoby.

2 Copies

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

May 21, 1942

Air Mail

Dr. Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

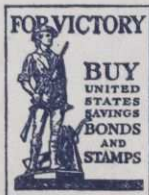
Dear Dr. Thomas:

I wired you yesterday that the inclusion of the Miyamoto study in your larger project is highly desirable. I trust from the fact of your inquiry that necessary arrangements for such incorporation have been made with the Social Science Research Council if it still contemplates financing the study. My suggestion to Redfield was that the Miyamoto proposal needed some more careful statement of objectives and procedures, and as it becomes a part of the larger study for which you and Prof. Lowie are responsible I'm sure such restatement will be obtained.

Mr. Eisenhower turned over to me on my return from the West your proposal to the Rockefeller organization, and I have examined it as carefully and thoughtfully as the pressures of this new job will permit. As I indicated in my comment to Mr. Eisenhower, two questions came to mind.

1) Under the revised statement, curtailed as funds were, the economic and administrative phases were detached for separate treatment at a later time. I question whether we will secure any adequate "analysis of the persistence, modification, and change in social institutions, social behavior, and social attitudes" unless such analysis is closely tied in with changed economic motivation and administrative actions. I am sure both you and Dr. Lowie appreciate this. The statement does not, however, set the proposed socio-anthropological work in such larger conceptual scheme, and I think it should be so conceived and stated as soon as possible.

2) Without jeopardizing the scientific and objective nature of the proposed studies, is it not possible to shift the emphasis from one for the testing of scientific hypotheses which "may have practical implications," as now stated, to one which definitely recognizes that objective judgments can be procured on matters of practical import? For the funds and the program of work you will be responsible to your sponsors and will have to account to them; for Mr. Eisenhower, I can





give assurance that the War Relocation Authority will cooperate fully in helping to fulfil your obligation.

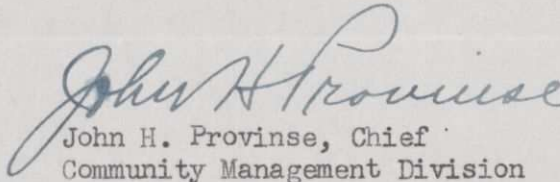
The desire to give some shift of emphasis is not a desire to impede the work but to bring findings into some closer relationship to administrative need. Despite hundreds of anthropological studies on the Navajo and Hopi during the past decades, there was eight years ago practically no information on how these people make their living and the relationship of such livelihood to their social and political organization.

I know you are anxious to complete arrangements for the work on the relocation centers, and I hope we can discuss it soon. I am so tied up here now in organizational work that a trip west before the first week in June is almost out of the question. I have to be in Chicago May 29, but will probably have to return to Washington from there.

We should discuss the projects on which work is to be done, the problems in which administration will have a primary interest, the movements and accomodation of personnel. Some thought should be given by all of us to the opportunity afforded for establishing and utilizing rather continuous records on the relocation projects, and there should be available soon complete schedule coverage that will facilitate selection of samples for interview and observation. The problem of employing some Japanese research workers at fellowship rates of pay while compensating evacuee members of the War Relocation Works Corps at different rates must be faced and solved.

I am personally glad you are taking such an active interest in the relocation problem and am sorry to have missed the earliest phases of the evacuation. You will enjoy meeting and talking to the people in our regional office in San Francisco. There is word this morning that in all probability Davis McEntire of the BAE Berkeley group will become attached to the regional staff of WRA. I hope so.

Sincerely yours,

  
John H. Provinse, Chief  
Community Management Division

P. S. A note from Redfield says that Miyamoto's fellowship will probably be granted and that he will probably do the work under your direction.

cc: E. R. Fryer  
Harvey M. Coverley



May 23, 1942

Dear Mr. Jacoby,

Thanks for your informative letter. I can put some of your fears to rest. I forgot that I had told you practically nothing about the project or its status. At the moment ~~it~~ I haven't a copy to send you but will shortly. It deals, broadly, with the social consequences of the evacuation problem. It has Mr. Eisenhower's blessing as indicated by following telegram to the Rockefeller Foundation; "War Relocation Authority approves in principle object of research proposed by D.S.T. and will cooperate fully. We will work out with investigation leaders more precise definition of problems, objectives, procedures, areas of study, and movement of assigned personnel". Also, today a very cordial letter from John Provins, with some suggestions, but again promise of complete cooperation, etc. So it has been cleared from the top, which procedure I followed deliberately, fearing I might meet some regional resistance. So far the only resistance has been from Dedrick (of all people). I think I can now proceed with the Regional Office, particularly as Mr. Eisenhower is now in town.

I will keep you informed. I hope we can work the Tule Lake end, both because you are there, and because it will be a more convenient place for me to reach than eg Manzanar.

Sincerely yours,



Dr. Thomas

May 26, 1942

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. John Provinse, Chief  
Community Management Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Provinse:

Thank you for your letter of May 21 and for your challenging suggestions.

Regarding the first point raised in your letter, we had already planned a more complete formulation. We agree that "changed economic motivation and administrative actions" must be an integral part of the study and that this phase must not be confined to the situation in the relocation centers. Fortunately the Rosenberg Foundation is considering giving us an additional subsidy and this will facilitate our extending the study somewhat.

Regarding the second point, we are quite willing to shift the emphasis, as you suggest.

Regarding your plans, may I urge that you come out here, if you possibly can, very soon? The usefulness of what we are doing depends on a prompt follow-up of what have, because of circumstances, been rather loose and informal beginnings. If you can't come this week, would you kindly delegate responsibility to someone in the Regional Office to arrange the following as soon as possible:

- (1) The transfer of Tamotsu Shibutani and family from Tanforan to Tule Lake.
- (2) The transfer of Frank Miyamoto and family from Puyallup to Tule Lake.
- (3) The transfer of Haruo Najima from Tanforan to Tule Lake.
- (4) The transfer of James Sakoda and family from Tulare to Tule Lake.

The reasons for the urgency are (1) Tule Lake is just getting under way and the desirability of making observations from the very beginning is obvious; (2) these observers are all well-trained and have been making records in their respective assembly centers.

Colonel Evans of WCCA assures me such transfers are feasible and he will arrange them, subject to WRA approval.



Mr. Province - May 26, 1942 - page two

This does not mean that our observations would be limited to Tule Lake. We could establish a "team" later at, e.g. Manzanar. Nor does it mean that these are the only ones who should be transferred, but the rest should follow after conferences with you.

Regarding pay, I feel strongly that "research scholarship" should be established. Miyamoto will be taken care of by S.S.R.C. The other scholarships will have to be small, we have so little money. If difficulties arise, this money could be paid to their account outside the center "for continuance of their academic careers after the war." But if payment (however small) can be made directly, it would be preferable.

I am sending a copy of this to Chicago c/o Redfield. I shall be in my office Thursday, May 28, from 9:30 our time (PWT) to 12 if you want to call me: Ashberry 6000, local 349.

Please forgive me if I seem to be "pressing" but I am sure you will realize the urgency of the situation itself.

Cordially yours,

Dorothy S. Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:wk



C O P Y

May 30, 1942

To: Captain Mark Astrup, Liaison Officer  
From: Mr. Harvey M. Coverley, Assistant Regional Director  
Subject: Removal of 4 Japanese and their families from  
Assembly Centers to Relocation Center at Tulalake  
for purposes of research study by University of  
California.

The University of California, in conjunction with the Social Science Research Council, has undertaken a research project to study the economic, political and social effects of relocation on the Japanese. The study is being directed by Dr. Dorothy Thomas working with Professors Lowie, Aiken, Kidner and Chernin, all of the faculty of the University of California. The plan has been discussed with Mr. Eisenhower and Mr. John Privinse of our Washington staff, and I know that Mr. Provinse is anxious to see the study undertaken.

To assist in the work, the University of California has requested that the following evacuees and their families be moved immediately to the Tulalake relocation Center which is to serve as the locale for the survey:

Frank Miyamoto, and family, now at the Puyallup Center  
Tamotsu Shibutani, and family, now at Tanforan  
Haruo Najima, (no family), now at Tanforan  
James Sakoda, and family, now at Tulare

I will appreciate it if you will advise me as soon as convenient whether or not the WCCA has any objection to the transfer of the above named persons and their families to Tulalake and whether they can provide transportation. If the WCCA is unable to arrange transportation, I am sure we can handle it. I understand that Dr. Thomas has discussed this entire proposal with Colonel Evans and that he has verbally indicated his approval.

c.c. Dr. Dorothy Thomas  
Mr. E. R. Fryer  
Mrs. Lucy Adams

June 6, 1942

Dear Mr. Coverley,

Many thanks for the way things are moving along now.  
We are all set to go.

I am enclosing applications of Robert Billigmeier and his wife Hanny for teaching positions. I should like to get them in at Tulelake, if possible. They are both attractive, intelligent, honest young people who would fit well into the community life. Mr. Billigmeier is one of my most promising graduate students. He is at present employed by Dr. Dedrick, who has just recommended a raise in salary. ~~I~~ infer, therefore, that he is doing very satisfactory work.

We can talk about this when we meet.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Howard tells me my raise is going through  
---Dr. Dedrick has approved a raise to  
\$2400.

Bob



# WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, OFFICE  
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING

In reply, please refer to:

Com. Mgt.  
4498-42

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

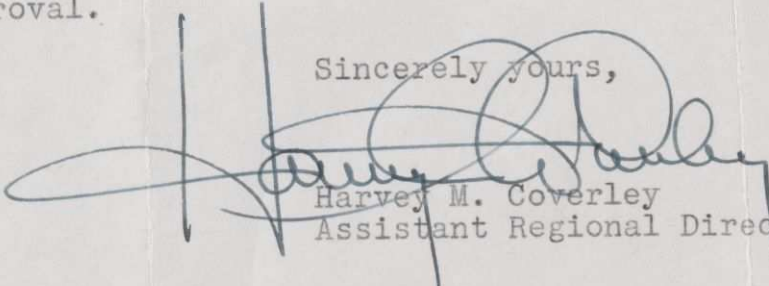
Dear Dr. Thomas:

In reply to your note of June 18, I question very much the wisdom of trying to effect an arrangement for the special transfer of Mr. Kenny Murase to the Tule Lake Relocation Center.

As you doubtless realize, it is somewhat difficult to effect arrangements of this character, and I think it most expedient to keep the number of requests to a minimum.

I am forwarding Mr. Murase's letter through our military liaison officer to the Wartime Civil Control Administration without a recommendation for approval.

Sincerely yours,

  
Harvey M. Coverley  
Assistant Regional Director



CONFIRMATION COPY

WRA

May 29, 1942

AIR MAIL

Mr. John Bird  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Bird:

Since talking to you, two important things have happened. In the first place, I received Mr. Eisenhower's agreement of full cooperation in the University of California research project. In the second place, I received some, though not completely adequate, financial support from the Rockefeller Foundation. So at long last we are ready to set things in motion.

When I talked to you on the phone some weeks ago, you said that you would be willing to make a good deal of the information collected by the Documents Division in San Francisco available to us. I have had excellent cooperation from Mr. Bates, and my research assistant, Mr. Morton Grodzins, has talked to Miss Bauman and looked over her file headings. He was greatly impressed with the organization and comprehensiveness of the filing system.

In order to avoid any situation which might embarrass either Mr. Bates or Miss Bauman, I wonder whether you would be willing to write Mr. Bates authorizing him to make certain of the documents available to us after they have been circulated to the staff. Among these, for example, are the report of the conference of western governors (which you told me you would give me), special reports of specific communities, special reports of incidents in specific communities, and reports of assembly and relocation centers. As I understand it, five copies are made of each of these reports. If it were possible for us to have one of these copies, say four or five weeks after they have been circulated, this would be a great convenience.

I am sure that you understand that we are holding everything of this sort in strictest confidence. We have agreed to publish nothing on the evacuation program until the end of the war unless we obtain the specific permission of the Relocation Authority. It goes without saying that none of us is making speeches on the subject, nor are we giving interviews.

With cordial regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST/dr



C O P Y

June 1, 1942

Mr. Harvey M. Coverley  
Assistant Regional Director  
War Relocation Authority  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Coverley,

I am deeply grateful for your agreement to cooperate with my colleagues of the University of California and myself in our project bearing on the evacuation and relocation of the Japanese. I appreciated particularly the suggestions and comments you made when Professor Aikin and I talked with you this morning. Your cordial reaction to the study, coupled with Mr. Eisenhower's and Mr. Provinse's approval, gives us assurance that the War Relocation Authority has more than a passive interest in the success of our project.

At your suggestion, and for purposes of the record, I will recapitulate briefly the aims and proposed procedures of our study. In the belief that the process of evacuation and resettlement represents an extremely important social experiment, the progress of which should be followed continuously, Professors Aikin, Chernin, Kidner, Lowie, and myself have been working closely on the project from the inception of the evacuation orders. Representing as it does the most extensive forced mass migration in our history (although the phenomenon has occurred frequently and extensively in Europe), we feel that an intensive study of the movement is important. It is also most practical; it will yield information which should prove valuable in planning other migrations that may be necessary during the course of the war, and it should also uncover many data of value in planning and carrying out the inevitable relocations of the post-war period.

It is planned to pursue the investigation both in the relocation centers and in the communities affected by the evacuation. Included in the project will be analyses of economic factors, governmental-administrative aspects, and socio-anthropological problems.

On the economic side, we hope to throw light on the effect of the removal of Japanese labor on West Coast Agricultural production; on the types of occupational changes and adjustments made by the evacuees during their period of internment; on the problems arising in connection with the efforts of the government to protect the economic interests of the evacuees, etc.

On the political and administrative sides, we are approaching such questions as the legal implications of the move in regard to the constitutional rights of citizens and persons; the political effects of moving voters from one place to another; the intergovernmental relationships involved in the process of Federal, State, and local cooperation, etc.

On the sociological side, emphasis will be placed on changes in institutions and behavior of the Japanese, following their relocation. Included will be analyses of the formal structure of the relocation communities; the interest and association groups that are formed spontaneously; the political and economic conflicts; the struggle between the generations; the various types of disorganized behavior; the impact upon the family, class structure, religion, etc.

Soon after Mr. Provinse arrives, I suggest that we arrange a meeting with him, Mrs. Adams, yourself and the University group. We can then talk over some of these points in detail. In the meantime, I should like to begin record-taking on the sociological side at Tulalake immediately. The advantages of Tulalake are (1) we can follow the process there from the very beginning of the relocation procedure; (2) we have an able and interested colleague there in Mr. Jacoby; and (3) it is accessible by ordinary transportation facilities.

To expedite this plan, I have requested that four evacuees and their families be moved immediately to the Tulalake relocation center. They are:

(1) Frank Miyamoto and family. Mr. Miyamoto has taught sociology at the University of Washington. He has published an excellent study on "Social Solidarity among the Japanese in Seattle." The Social Science Research Council of New York has awarded him a pre-doctoral fellowship for the current year, provided he works under the sponsorship of our University group. He has already taken preliminary records on the evacuation and on the assembly center at Puyallup.

(2) Tamotsu Shibutani and family. Mr. Shibutani was graduated in May from the University of California. He is one of my most talented students. He has prepared a manuscript of some 200 pages dealing with the situation in the Bay Area prior to evacuation, and has taken records at Tanforan.

(3) Haruo Najima (no family). Mr. Najima, who has received the Master of Science degree in agricultural economics, and who has done excellent work at the Giannini Foundation, has also been taking records at the assembly center at Tanforan.

(4) James Sakoda and family. Mr. Sakoda is also a recent graduate of the University of California. He has majored in Social psychology and has made a fine record. He too has prepared a document on the experience of the Nisei, calling it "As They Await Evacuation." While at Tulare, he has made daily records at the Assembly center.

As soon as these young men reach Tulalake, I should like to visit them and discuss with the project manager some of the practical details of the work. It might be desirable, for example, to have my assistants work part-time in the work corps and part-time on my research project. This is particularly true in the case of Mr. Najima, whose training in agriculture should prove especially valuable to the camp manager. I want to make very clear the fact that the work of my assistants should in no way interfere with the ordinary routine of camp activities.

Regarding compensation to the assistants, it was agreed we would wait for a decision until Mr. Provinse arrives. As you know, the Rockefeller Foundation has deemed this project sufficiently important to give the University of California an exploratory grant; therefore, funds are available to pay these assistants.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology



C O P Y

May 30, 1942

To: Captain Mark Astrup, Liaison Officer  
From: Mr. Harvey M. Coverley, Assistant Regional Director  
Subject: Removal of 4 Japanese and their families from  
Assembly Centers to Relocation Center at Tulelake  
for purposes of research study by University of  
California.

The University of California, in conjunction with the Social Science Research Council, has undertaken a research project to study the economic, political and social effects of relocation on the Japanese. The study is being directed by Dr. Dorothy Thomas working with Professors Lowie, Aiken, Kidner and Chernin, all of the faculty of the University of California. The plan has been discussed with Mr. Eisenhower and Mr. John Provinse of our Washington staff, and I know that Mr. Provinse is anxious to see the study undertaken.

To assist in the work, the University of California has requested that the following evacuees and their families be moved immediately to the Tulelake relocation center which is to serve as the locale for the survey:

Frank Miyamoto, and family, now at the Puyallup Center  
Tamotsu Shibutani, and family, now at Tanforan  
Haruo Najima, (no family), now at Tanforan  
James Sakoda, and family, now at Tulare

I will appreciate it if you will advise me as soon as convenient whether or not the WCCA has any objection to the transfer of the above named persons and their families to Tulelake and whether they can provide transportation. If the WCCA is unable to arrange transportation, I am sure we can handle it. I understand that Dr. Thomas has discussed this entire proposal with Colonel Evans and that he has verbally indicated his approval.

cc: Dr. Dorothy Thomas  
Mr. R. R. Fryer  
Mrs. Lucy Adams

Japanese Evacuation Study

207 Giannini Hall  
June 1, 1942

Miss Elinor Bauman  
Head, Documents Section  
Information Service Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hotel Whitcomb  
San Francisco, California

Dear Miss Bauman:

May I present in writing my sincere thanks to you  
for the cordiality shown me in your office last week?

Your cooperation, it goes without saying, makes our  
task of collecting a record of the Japanese situation an  
easier one; at the same time it constitutes an invaluable  
contribution to the completeness of that record.

I have already received the early copies of the  
Press Review, for which I can only thank you again.

But most sincerely:

Very truly yours,

Morton Grodzins  
Research Assistant

MG/dr



Japanese Evacuation Study  
~~CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION~~

207 Giannini Hall  
June 2, 1942

Mr. Edwin Bates, Chief  
Information Service Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Hotel Whitcomb  
San Francisco, California

Dear Mr. Bates:

I cannot thank you too much for the cordiality shown me in your office last week.

I am enclosing a copy of the original pleading in the local attempt to disfranchise the Japanese, as well as a copy of the reply of the San Francisco City Attorney, which I received this morning. The Alameda County District Attorney's answer to the complaint has also been promised me; I will forward a copy to you when it arrives.

If I may help you in any way with the data that we have available in this office, please feel free to call upon me.

Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Morton Grodzins  
Research Assistant

MG/dr

Enclosure

*Handwritten:*  
Morton - I  
signed & mailed  
the original.  
DST



COPY

MEMORANDUM

E. R. Fryer

June 5, 1942

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

COM. MGT.

June 5, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO: MR. Elmer L. Shirrell, Acting Project Director  
Tulelake Relocation Center

SUBJECT: Research study - University of California

The University of California has undertaken a research project to study the economic, political and social effects of relocation on the Japanese. This study is being directed by Dr. Dorothy Thomas, working with Professors Lowie, Aiken, Kidner and Chernin, all of the faculty of the University of California.

They have requested that the record-taking on the sociological side be started at the Tulelake Relocation Center as soon as possible as the process can be followed there from the very beginning of the relocation procedure.

To expedite this plan, it has been requested that four evacuees and their families be moved immediately to your project. Their names and present assembly center locations are given in the attached copy of a letter from Dr. Thomas which is submitted for your information on the whole project.

Accordingly, the Wartime Civil Control Administration has written to the Managers of the Puyallup, Tanforan and Tulare Centers instructing them to send the respective men and their families to Tulelake and to notify you by wire as to the time of departure from the assembly center, the time of their arrival at Tulelake, and the number of individuals involved.

As soon as these people reach Tulelake, Dr. Thomas would like to visit them and discuss with you some of the practical details of the work. Therefore, it will be appreciated if you will notify this office by wire when all of the above referred to evacuees and their families have arrived at Tulelake so that we may inform Dr. Thomas.

(SIGNED) E. R. FRYER

E. R. Fryer  
Regional Director

Dr. Dorothy Thomas  
Mrs Lucy W. Adams



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

June 9, 1942

Miss Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Miss Thomas:

I have your letter of May 29 addressed to Mr. John Bird and regret that I have been unable to reply before this. Mr. Bird resigned from the War Relocation Authority about ten days ago to enter the publishing field.

I am wholly agreeable to your borrowing the material you mention in your letter just as soon as it circulates among our own staff, and shall write Mr. Bates to that effect immediately. We should appreciate, of course, your clearing with us before making any of the material public.

If I can be of further help to you, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,

*M. M. Tozier*

M. M. Tozier  
Acting Director  
Reports and Publications



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

~~SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, OFFICE~~  
~~WHITEHOUSE BUILDING~~

Your file reference:  
Com. Mgt.

Tule Lake Project  
Tule Lake, California

June 9, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. E. R. Fryer  
Regional Director

ATTENTION: Mr. Harvey M. Coverley

SUBJECT: Research Study at Tule Lake Project  
by University of California

I do not think anything has happened on our Project that has made me quite as happy as the news in your letter of June 5 regarding the research study to be made at this Project under the direction of the University of California.

Mr. Jacoby, Chief of Internal Security, and myself have had a long conference on the subject and it is our desire to cooperate in every possible way. As soon as the four evacuees and their families arrive at Tule Lake we shall notify you by wire in order that Dr. Thomas may visit us at an early date.

All the staff of Tule Lake Project rejoices with me in having our project selected for this very important and timely study.

Elmer L. Shirrell  
Acting Project Director

3874



4783

THE JOURNAL OF THE  
SOCIETY OF AMERICAN HISTORIANS

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## PHONE CALL

Date June 19, 1942

Mr. Thomas

You were called at 9:30

By Mrs. Wertendyke

of

Phone No.

His message was If by tomorrow no

other word re Najima Mr. Coverly will

check with military

Received by V. Jank

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

5m-1,'88(1534)



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

*Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to*

June 19, 1942.

Telegram taken over phone from Mrs. Wertendyke 9:30

From Project Director of Tule Lake

RETEL DOROTHY THOMAS MIYAMOTO AND WIFE, SHIBATANI AND WIFE, SAKODA

BROTHER AND SISTER HAVE ARRIVED, OTHER MIYAMOTOS ALREADY HERE, OTHERS

MENTIONED HAVE NOT ARRIVED

C. E. Rachford

THE QUICKEST, SUREST AND SAFEST WAY TO SEND MONEY IS BY TELEGRAPH OR CABLE



## ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it repeated, that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeated message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeated message and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this company as follows:

1. The company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeated-message rate beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the repeated-message rate beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, *unless specially valued*; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines; nor for errors in cipher or obscure messages.

2. In any event the company shall not be liable for damages for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for the non-delivery, of any message, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of five thousand dollars, at which amount each message is deemed to be valued, unless a greater value is stated in writing by the sender thereof at the time the message is tendered for transmission, and unless the repeated-message rate is paid or agreed to be paid, and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one percent of the amount by which such valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.

3. The company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company when necessary to reach its destination.

4. Domestic messages and incoming cable messages will be delivered free within one-half mile of the company's office in towns of 5,000 population or less, and within one mile of such office in other cities or towns. Beyond these limits the company does not undertake to make delivery, but will, without liability, at the sender's request, as his agent and at his expense, endeavor to contract for him for such delivery at a reasonable price.

5. No responsibility attaches to this company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

6. The company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the company for transmission.

7. It is agreed that in any action by the company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.

8. Special terms governing the transmission of messages according to their classes, as enumerated below, shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all the foregoing terms.

9. No employee of the company is authorized to vary the foregoing.

### THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY

INCORPORATED  
R. B. WHITE, PRESIDENT

## CLASSES OF SERVICE

### TELEGRAMS

A full-rate expedited service.

### NIGHT MESSAGES

Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. at reduced rates to be sent during the night and delivered not earlier than the morning of the ensuing business day.

Night Messages may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressees, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such night messages at destination, postage prepaid.

### DAY LETTERS

A deferred day service at rates lower than the standard telegram rates as follows: One and one-half times the standard night letter rate for the transmission of 50 words or less and one-fifth of the initial rates for each additional 10 words or less.

#### SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO DAY LETTERS:

In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special Day Letter service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

A. Day Letters may be forwarded by the Telegraph Company as a deferred service and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letters is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of regular telegrams.

B. This Day Letter is received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely, and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of regular telegrams under the conditions named above.

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### FULL RATE CABLES

An expedited service throughout. Code language permitted.

### DEFERRED HALF-RATE CABLES

Half-rate messages are subject to being deferred in favor of full rate messages for not exceeding 24 hours. Must be written in plain language.

### CABLE NIGHT LETTERS

An overnight service for plain language communications, at one-third the full rate, or less. Minimum of 25 words charged for. Subject to delivery at the convenience of the Company within 24 hours.

### SHIP RADIOGRAMS

A service to and from ships at sea, in all parts of the world. Plain language or code language may be used.



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

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R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

1217-A

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Message phoned.

Charge to Giannini Foundation  
June 22, 1942.

Christopher Rachford  
Project Director  
Tule Lake Project  
Tule Lake, California

DR. W. I. THOMAS, DAVID CARPENTER UNIVERSITY WASHINGTON AND I ARRIVING  
WEDNESDAY MORNING. PLEASE WIRE COLLECT WHETHER CONVENIENT

Dorothy Thomas



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STANDARD TIME INDICATED

RECEIVED AT

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2009 SHATTUCK AVE.  
PHONE  
BERKELEY 3232

TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS  
TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH

# Postal Telegraph

Mackay Radio  
Commercial Cables



All America Cables  
Canadian Pacific Telegraphs

THIS IS A FULL RATE TELEGRAM, CABLE-  
GRAM OR RADIOGRAM UNLESS OTHERWISE  
INDICATED BY SYMBOL IN THE PREAMBLE  
OR IN THE ADDRESS OF THE MESSAGE.  
SYMBOLS DESIGNATING SERVICE SELECTED  
ARE OUTLINED IN THE COMPANY'S TARIFFS  
ON HAND AT EACH OFFICE AND ON FILE WITH  
REGULATORY AUTHORITIES.

Form 16

F.KFA92 18 GOVT=PRA NEWELL CALIF 22 315P

DR DOROTHY THOMAS=

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA BERKELEY CALIF=

JUN 22 PM 3 44

DELIGHTED A YOUR COMING WIRE US HOUR OF ARRIVAL YOUR PARTY WE  
WILL MEET YOU WITH CAR KLAMATHFALLS=

C E RACHFORD.

NO ash 6000 TO same  
BY H 350P M  
CALLS \_\_\_\_\_

EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT STUDY

Room 207, Ciannini Hall,  
University of California,  
Berkeley, California

July 10, 1942

Mr. Harvey Coverley,  
Assistant Regional Director,  
War Relocation Authority,  
Hotel Whitcomb,  
San Francisco, Calif.

Dear Mr. Coverley,

In accordance with the agreement reached in our recent conversation, I am ready to give you an outline of the final plans of the Japanese Evacuation and Resettlement study insofar as these plans affect the movement of observers and the selection of centers at which observations shall be made.

We have selected three centers: Tule Lake for the main experiment; Gila River, for the control study; and Manzanar for spot checks. The Tule Lake personnel is already assembled, and the study there is well under way. I am now requesting (1) the transfer of two Nisei, who have had intensive observational training under my direction at Tanforan, from Tanforan to Gila River, (2) the transfer of one Nisei, who has been working for WCCA as a public assistance worker in San Francisco and Military Zone #2, from San Francisco to Manzanar, and (3) the acceptance of our research assistant, Mr. Robert Spencer, as resident (at our expense, of-course) for a period of several months, first at Gila, then later at Manzanar and Tule Lake. The requested transfer of the Nisei observers (plus their families) will be the last request for transfer of evacuees that we shall make on our own initiative.

As was the case with the movement to Tule Lake, I request that those people who are going to Gila be moved soon enough from Tanforan so that they can be in the center by the time the first evacuees arrive. It should be pointed out that Gila has been selected because (1) colonization is just about to begin there, (2) it is climatically, geographically, and culturally in contrast with the Tule Lake center; and (3) it is highly probable that the study will be sympathetically accepted by the project director and his wife.

The observers now at Tanforan whose immediate transfer we are requesting to Gila have been consulted and have agreed enthusiastically to the move provided their families can be moved there as units. The observers with their families are:

	Name	Sex	Age	Occupation
(1)	Charles Kikuchi (Observer)	M	26	Social Worker (has certificate, UC)
✓	Nakajiro Kikuchi (Father)	M	67	Barber
	S. Kikuchi (Mother)	F	52	Housewife
✓	John Kikuchi (Brother)	M	24	Premedical student
	Alice Kikuchi (Sister)	F	23	Secretary
	Emiko Kikuchi (Sister)	F	17	Mimeograph operator (also art work)
	Bette Kikuchi (Sister)	F	16	High school student
	Tom Kikuchi (Brother)	M	13	School boy
✓	Miyako Kikuchi (Sister)	F	10	School girl



The Tanforan number of the whole family is 361; USES number for Charles Kikuchi is 13725; for the rest of family, 14875.

	Name		Sex	Age	Occupation
(2)	Earle Yusa	(Observer)	M	25	Student
	Mamiko Yusa	(Wife)	F	23	Store clerk
	Toyo Yusa	(Mother)	F	52	Domestic
	Atsuko Yusa	(Sister)	F	21	Student

The USES number for Earle Yusa and wife is 13567; that of his mother and sister is 13462. The Tanforan number for the whole family is 52.

Our spot observer at Manzanar is Miss Mari Okazaki. She has already requested transfer to Manzanar through the WCCA public assistance office for which she has been working. As a matter of record, however, I am also making an official request to have her transferred to Manzanar as a member of the study. She requests that her family be moved with her to Manzanar from their present location at Tanforan. The family members now at Tanforan are:

	Name		Sex	Age
(3)	Fumio Okazaki	(Father)	M	53
	Asano Okazaki	(Mother)	F	47
	Sachiko Okazaki	(Sister)	F	24
	Emi Okazaki	(Sister)	F	22
	Chiye Okazaki	(Sister)	F	19
	Yuriko Okazaki	(Sister)	F	18

The address of the Okazaki family is Barrack 129 Apt 1, Tanforan Assembly Center.

Finally, I hope that you can arrange to have Mr. Spencer introduced to the Gila River project within the next few days. Mr. Spencer is well acquainted with Mrs. Smith. Both Mrs. Smith and Mr. Spencer have studied under Dr. Robert H. Lowie, one of the senior members of our research staff. Mr. Spencer is a most cooperative young man and will, of-course, offer his services to the project director in ways that should be mutually advantageous.

Accompanying this letter is a confidential progress report.

Very sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

## CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED

DOMESTIC	FOREIGN
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE CABLE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED CABLE
NIGHT MESSAGE	
NIGHT LETTER	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NIGHT CABLE LETTER
SHIP RADIOGRAM	RADIOGRAM

PATRONS SHOULD CHECK CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED. OTHERWISE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE COMMUNICATION

COPY  
POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE CO.  
TELEGRAM

Charge Giannini Foundation  
July 18, 1942

John Provinse  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

AS YOU KNOW, TULE LAKE SELECTED AS MAIN RESEARCH CENTER AND FOUR OBSERVERS THERE. ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION EXCELLENT. WAITED UNTIL LAST WEEK TO REQUEST COMPLETION OF MOVEMENT OF OTHER PERSONNEL HOPING FOR CHANCE TO DISCUSS SITUATION WITH YOU. BUT IMMINENCE OF COLONIZATION OF ALL WESTERN CENTERS NECESSITATES PLACING OTHER OBSERVERS IMMEDIATELY. LAST WEEK IN CONSULTATION WITH COVERLEY, GILA SELECTED AS CENTER FOR CONTROL STUDY AND MANZANAR FOR SPOT OBSERVATIONS. COVERLEY THOUGHT WASHINGTON CLEARANCE NECESSARY AND FORWARDED MY CORRESPONDENCE. WILL YOU PLEASE CHECK AND IF PLAN MEETS APPROVAL KINDLY WIRE AUTHORIZATION. PARTICULARLY URGENT TO PLACE SPENCER AT GILA IMMEDIATELY.

Dorothy S. Thomas



POSTAL TELEGRAPH    Straight Wire    RUSH

Mr. John Province

co. Dr. A. H. Leighton  
~~Poston Relocation Center~~ *C*  
Poston, Arizona

Re: Tsuchiyama matter. We have adhered strictly to our understanding in regard sites of study. *She* ~~Her~~ moved on ~~her~~ own initiative ~~and~~ without advising us. Want you to know that we are not presenting you with accomplished fact but ~~we~~ would welcome cooperation with Leighton.

Dorothy Swaine Thomas

62



August 6, 1942

Mr. Frank Davis  
Project Director  
Tanforan Assembly Center  
San Bruno, California

Dear Mr. Davis:

I regret the misunderstanding about my assistants, Mr. Grodzins and Mr. Spencer, at Tanforan on Tuesday. I have, I hope, clarified the whole situation in a conversation with Major Durbin.

For your information I should like to list the people who have come down with me, or in connection with the University of California research project which I am directing, to talk to the students about their research work and instruct them in techniques. These are, in the first instance, Mr. Robert Spencer and Mr. Morton Grodzins. Mr. Spencer is an anthropologist (employed for a time by WPA) while Mr. Grodzins is a political scientist. Both have had close contacts with the students and have visited Tanforan frequently. As far as we can remember, Mr. Spencer has been down four times without me, four times with me; Mr. Grodzins, once without me, about five times with me. My husband, Professor W. I. Thomas, the sociologist, has been down with me two or three times. Professor Milton Chernin (a member of the senior staff of the research project) has been down once with me and once or twice alone. Professor Robert Lowie, another member of the senior staff, has been down only once, I believe. Another assistant, Mrs. Virginia Tauchar (known by her maiden name of Galbraith) has been down with me perhaps half a dozen times.

Of all of these, Mr. Spencer is best known to the students and, being a former WPA man, he is also well known to most of your administrative staff. None of our visits has been in any sense "under cover," for such a procedure would not only be distinctly at variance with the ethics of our professions but would also have represented an improper procedure during a war period and would have been a breach of faith with the Army. That, under the circumstances, the visit of Mr. Spencer and Mr. Grodzins should have been considered an evasion on my part is a matter of deep distress to all of us.

One other matter should be cleared up: My associates and assistants have not been interviewing the students with a view to obtaining "secret" information. The only notes taken on our visits have been those by Spencer, whose interests lie in a field very remote from the present situation, i.e., the extent to which social customs characteristic of the Japanese in Japan have been carried over into the daily life of the Japanese in America. The material prepared by my students has been in the nature of research reports of a sociological nature (family histories, personal documents, studies of spontaneous groups, and analyses of the



Mr. Davis, August 6, 1942, page two

structure that is developing in this preliminary phase of the relocation process).

In consultation with Major Durbin, it was agreed that since my study is to emphasize the relocation process over a long period of time, it would not be greatly hampered if record collection on my part and on the part of my assistants ceased at Tanforan. It was further agreed, however, that it would be proper for me and my assistants to continue visiting the students on an informal basis during visiting hours. No records will be collected and no instruction given at these visits. I should also point out that, due to visits to relocation centers, I shall not always come on Tuesdays as I have in the past, i.e., my visits are likely to be at irregular intervals.

Very sincerely yours,

Dorothy S. Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:wk  
cc. Major Durbin



August 6, 1942

Special Delivery

Major William F. Durbin  
Hotel Whitecomb  
San Francisco, California

Dear Major Durbin:

I greatly appreciate your kindness in our telephone call yesterday. In order that there will be absolutely no chance of misunderstanding in the future, I should like to record in writing my understanding of the agreement we reached. If it conflicts in any way with your meaning, I should appreciate hearing from you at your early convenience.

I have agreed that I will neither give any instruction to my students at Tanforan, nor take any written reports or other materials from them, nor quiz them on matters of internal policy when I visit them. The same restriction applies to my associates, my assistants and all other visitors to Tanforan who are acting in any way for me. You have agreed that it will be appropriate for me and/or my associates and assistants to continue to visit these students at Tanforan, at the regular visiting hours. The purpose of such visits will be to maintain our connection with these students until such time as they are relocated and can begin to work seriously on our project. I have agreed to be personally responsible for seeing to it that, in all such visits, the spirit as well as the specified details of this agreement are adhered to without exception.

THE MATTER OF CORRESPONDENCE WAS NOT CLARIFIED COMPLETELY. MY UNDERSTANDING IS THAT NO RESTRICTIONS ARE PLACED ON CORRESPONDENCE BUT, AS A MATTER OF RECORD, I WISH TO STATE THAT I SHOULD LIKE TO FEEL FREE TO RECEIVE COMMUNICATIONS FROM MY STUDENTS BY LETTER OF THE FOLLOWING NATURE: COMPLETION OF THE AUTOBIOGRAPHIES AND FAMILY HISTORIES WHICH THEY HAVE BEGUN; CONTINUATION OF PERSONAL RECORDS OF A DIARY TYPE; CONTINUATION OF ANALYSIS OF "CLIQUEs," (RELIGIOUS, POLITICAL AND SOCIAL) OF WHICH THE STUDENTS ARE MEMBERS.

For your information I am enclosing two items, (1) copy of a letter to Mr. Davis, and (2) copy of a statement submitted to the Columbia Foundation about our project. I felt that the letter to Mr. Davis was necessary in order that no misunderstanding should arise about the people who have visited Tanforan from time to time to see the students in connection with our project, and that the suspicion of my sending "unknown" persons to collect "secret" information be cleared up completely and immediately. The statement of the project will, I believe, be useful for your own information. I am happy to say that the financing has now



Major Durbin - August 6, 1942 - page two

been accomplished, and I want to tell you how deeply grateful we are for the splendid cooperation of the Army and of the civilian authorities which are making it possible for us to pursue this important investigation. I assure you that I want to do everything in my power to avoid any future inconvenience or embarrassment to you or the others who are handling this difficult problem of evacuation and relocation so admirably.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy S. Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:wk

AC

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY  
Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Division

WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

1231 Market Street  
San Francisco, California

18 August 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Frank Davis  
Manager, Tanforan Assembly Center

This is to advise you that Dr. Dorothy Thomas and Mr. Grodzins are to be authorized to visit such evacuees resident in your Center as they may from time to time request. It is understood that the purpose of these visits is purely social, and further that it will be confined to the prescribed visitors' area and times.

(signed)  
W. F. Durbin  
Major, Q.M.C.  
Ass't. AC of S, CAD



## STANDARD TIME INDICATED

RECEIVED AT

BERKELEY, CALIF.  
2009 SHATTUCK AVE.  
PHONE  
BERKELEY 3232

TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS  
TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH

## Postal Telegraph

Mackay Radio  
Commercial Cables



All America Cables  
Canadian Pacific Telegraphs

THIS IS A FULL RATE TELEGRAM, CABLE-  
GRAM OR RADIOGRAM UNLESS OTHERWISE  
INDICATED BY SYMBOL IN THE PREAMBLE  
OR IN THE ADDRESS OF THE MESSAGE.  
SYMBOLS DESIGNATING SERVICE SELECTED  
ARE OUTLINED IN THE COMPANY'S TARIFFS  
ON HAND AT EACH OFFICE AND ON FILE WITH  
REGULATORY AUTHORITIES.

Form 16

LD767F 29 GOVT=PRA NEWELL CALIF 7 610P

AUG 7 PM 10 17

PROF DOROTHY THOMAS=

:UNIVERSITY OF CALIF BERKELEY CALIF (CORRECTED DUPE):

=RE BILLIGMEIERS GLAD TO HAVE MRS. BILLIGMEIERS AS ELEMENTARY  
TEACHER. IF HE GETS SECONDARY CREDENTIAL WILL EMPLOY HIM. IF NO  
CREDENTIAL AND YOU EMPLOY HIM WE WILL PROVIDE HOUSING=

=ELMER L SHIRRELL PROJECT DIRECTOR.

RE BILLIGMEIERS.

NO \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_  
BY \_\_\_\_\_ AT \_\_\_\_\_ TO BE \_\_\_\_\_  
CALLS \_\_\_\_\_

## CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED

DOMESTIC	FOREIGN
TELEGRAM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FULL RATE CABLE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED CABLE
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
SHIP RADIOGRAM	RADIOGRAM

PATRONS SHOULD CHECK CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED. OTHERWISE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE COMMUNICATION

# Postal Telegraph

## THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial  
Cables



All America  
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RECEIVER'S NUMBER

CHECK

TIME FILED

STANDARD TIME

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Form 2 Dbl

Charge Giannini Foundation

August 8, 1942

Mr. Elmer Shirrel  
Project Director  
Tule Lake Relocation Center  
War Relocation Authority  
Newell, California

RE MY DAYLETTER COVERLY SAYS HE WILL APPROVE BILLIGMEIER ACCEPTING SALARY FROM  
ME IF YOU ACCEPT MRS. BILLIGMEIER AS TEACHER AND APPROVE HOUSING ARRANGEMENT

Dorothy S. Thomas

*Phoned  
8/17/42  
[Signature]*

*[Signature]*



## POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY

TRANSMITS AND DELIVERS THE WITHIN MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

To guard against mistakes or delays, the sender of a message should order it REPEATED; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. For this, one-half the unrepeatable message rate is charged in addition. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, THIS IS AN UNREPEATED MESSAGE AND PAID FOR AS SUCH, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this Company as follows:

1. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the UNREPEATED MESSAGE rate, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery of any message received for transmission at the REPEATED-MESSAGE rate, beyond the sum of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the SPECIALLY VALUED MESSAGE rate, beyond the sum at which such message shall be valued, in writing, by the sender thereof when tendered for transmission and for which payment is made or agreed to be made of the amount of the repeated-message rate and an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one per cent of the amount by which such written valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruption in the working of its lines, or for errors in cipher or obscure messages.

2. The Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward this message over the lines of any other company or by any other means of communication when necessary to reach its destination.

3. Domestic messages and incoming cable messages will be delivered free within one-half mile of the Company's office in towns of 5,000 population or less, and within one mile of such office in other cities or towns. Beyond these limits the Company does not undertake to make delivery, but will, without liability, at the sender's request, as his agent and at his expense, endeavor to contract for him for such delivery at a reasonable price.

4. No responsibility attaches to this Company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

5. The Company shall not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission.

6. It is agreed that prompt and correct transmission and delivery of this message shall be presumed in any action for recovery of tolls thereto; subject, however, to rebuttal by competent evidence.

7. Special terms governing the transmission of messages under the classes of messages enumerated below shall apply to messages in each of such respective classes in addition to all foregoing terms.

8. NO EMPLOYEE OF THIS COMPANY IS AUTHORIZED TO VARY THE FOREGOING.

### POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
A. H. GRISWOLD, EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

#### DOMESTIC MESSAGES

**FAST TELEGRAMS.** A full-rate expedited service.

**DAY LETTERS.** A deferred day service at rates lower than the fast telegram rate. One and one-half times the Night Letter rate for the transmission of 50 words or less, and one-fifth of the initial rate for each additional 10 words or less.

**SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO DAY LETTERS.** In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special "Day Letter" service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

(a) Day Letters may be forwarded by the Telegraph Company as a deferred service and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of full rate telegrams.

(b) This Day Letter is received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of full rate telegrams under the conditions named above.

**NIGHT MESSAGES.** Accepted up to 2.00 a. m. at reduced rates to be sent during the night and delivered not earlier than the morning of the ensuing business day. Night messages may at the option of the Telegraph Company be mailed at destination to the addressee, and the Company shall be deemed to have discharged its obligation in such cases with respect to delivery by mailing such Night Messages at destination, postage prepaid.

**NIGHT LETTERS.** Accepted up to 2.00 a. m. for delivery on the morning of the ensuing business day, at rates still lower than night message rates, as follows: The fast telegram rate for 10 words shall be charged for the transmission of 50 words or less, and one-fifth of such rate for 10 words shall be charged for each additional 10 words or less.

#### CLASSES OF SERVICE

**SPECIAL TERMS APPLYING TO NIGHT LETTERS.** In further consideration of the reduced rate for this special "Night Letter" service, the following special terms in addition to those enumerated above are hereby agreed to:

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#### CABLE MESSAGES

**FULL RATE MESSAGES** receive regular and prompt service in their order of filing. Code language permitted.

**DEFERRED RATE MESSAGES** at one-half of the full rate to follow full rate messages. Must be in plain language of country of origin, or of destination, or in French. Full particulars as to countries where this class of service is effective will be furnished upon application to any Postal Telegraph office.

**NIGHT CABLE LETTERS** at reduced rates. Must be in plain language of country of origin, or of destination, or in French where transmitted by telegraph to destination. Subordinated to the priority of transmission of full and deferred rate messages. May be posted, when sender so directs, to countries where this service is not available, at tariffs to countries from which such messages are posted. Under latter circumstances, messages must contain complete mailing address including chargeable posting instructions (i. e., "Post London," etc.). Minimum word basis of twenty to twenty-five words applied. Code addresses may be used except for messages delivered by post. Figures explained by text admitted. Indicator "NLT" required and charged for as one word. For further particulars apply at any Postal Telegraph office.

NO EMPLOYEE OF THIS COMPANY IS AUTHORIZED TO VARY THE FOREGOING.



# WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:

Com. Mgt.  
7488-42  
8238-42

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, OFFICE  
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING

AUG 10 1942

Dr. Dorothy Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas:

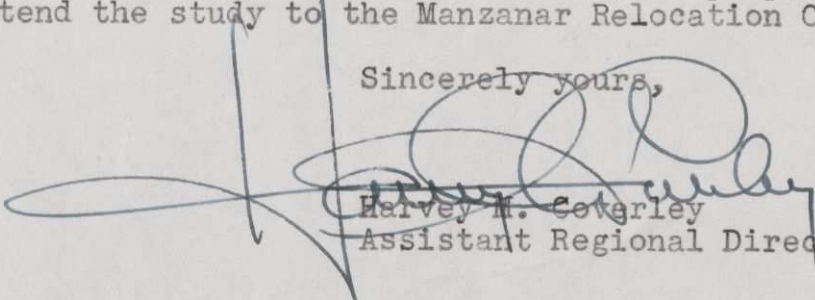
The plan outlined in your letter of July 10 for the extension of your Japanese evacuation and resettlement study to the Gila River Relocation Center has been approved, both by our Washington office and by the Project Director concerned.

You may arrange to have Mr. Spencer go to the Gila Project as soon as convenient. Please notify me of the approximate time of his arrival in order that the Project Director may be informed.

We will make a prompt request of the military authorities for the transfer of Mr. Charles Kikuchi and Mr. Earle Yusa and their families to the Gila Project. The actual date of transfer will depend, of course, on their concurrence.

No approval has yet been received of your proposal to extend the study to the Manzanar Relocation Center.

Sincerely yours,

  
Harvey M. Coverley  
Assistant Regional Director





August 16, 1942

Dear Dr. Provinsé,

After reflecting on our conversation of yesterday, I have the following proposal to make: that the WRA set up a small, working committee to meet with me and, from time to time, some of my colleagues, to go over the material we have collected and also to raise questions with us concerning points about which we have considerable information which will not, at present, be included in the crude research records. My idea is that this committee could even occasionally meet with the observers at Tule Lake--and later, when the situation is better in hand--at Gila. This would mean that you would not only have at your disposal the crude, undigested reports but that you could draw on our wider experience and knowledge. This might also be of importance because of the fact that, in connection with the bulk of our records, there will be a considerable lapse of time before they are available even for my files. I have, for instance, and have shown you, quite a body of material on the earlier phases of evacuation. I have relatively little on the relocation centers, chiefly because my assistants there have only one copy of the records they have taken and that one copy they need in order to supplement observations complete them and make them cumulative.

I would suggest that such a committee be rather small, and that the chairman be the person you have had in mind who would be authorized to act as liaison officer between the research group and the WRA in the many perplexing matters which require action and advice.

By bringing my Nisei assistants into these consultations, from time to time, we could, I am sure, avoid the difficulties we discussed in respect to using their material without their knowledge, and I have every reason to believe that we can count on their full and free cooperation.

Very sincerely yours,

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

Denver, Colo.  
Sept 1, 1942

Dear Mr. Thomas:

I talked with Leighton at Paton after your wire concerning Tsuchiyama and assure you there is no feeling of violation of our understanding due to her movement. Leighton now is aware that she stands to lose her U of Cal. stipend by the transfer and possibly it can be worked out satisfactorily if we can get a ruling on fellow ship income. While at Inle Lake I discussed the stipend problem with Yamamoto and one of his assistants and advised him to put it in writing so that we might get a final decision. Davis McIntyre agrees with me that fellow ship money should not be considered wages and since he will probably write the first opinion on it for Fyfe's signature I think we can protect the money for the students.

I was so rushed by late trains when I returned from Inle Lake to San Francisco last Wednesday that I did not call you about a wire from my secretary in Washington saying you had a question to ask me. I will be in Washington





WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

the end of the week and hope to have your question and its answer by then. We are working on the establishment of some research positions in Davis McIntyre's section and as soon as we can get a decision on that I hope we can establish the liaison person or committee to work with you and your people. We sorely need such information for guiding our program and modifying policy. Leighton and Spicer are, I feel, doing good work at Boston.

Sincerely yours

John H. Roewe



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	FOREIGN
TELEGRAM <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FULL RATE CABLE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED CABLE
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT CABLE LETTER
SHIP RADIOGRAM	RADIOGRAM

PATRONS SHOULD CHECK CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED. OTHERWISE MESSAGE WILL BE TRANSMITTED AS A FULL-RATE COMMUNICATION

# Postal Telegraph

## THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM

Commercial  
Cables



All America  
Cables

Mackay

Radio

RECEIVER'S NUMBER

CHECK

TIME FILED

STANDARD TIME

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Form 2 Dbl

Charge Giannini Foundation

September 2, 1942

Elmer Shirrell  
Project Director  
Tule Lake War Relocation Project  
Newell, California

Arriving with W. I. Thomas and Billigmeiers Thursday morning.

Neither Transportation nor lodging needed but meals would be appreciated.

Dorothy Thomas.

telephoned L.



## POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY

TRANSMITS AND DELIVERS THE WITHIN MESSAGE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

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4. No responsibility attaches to this Company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices; and if a message is sent to such office by one of the Company's messengers, he acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender.

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### POSTAL TELEGRAPH-CABLE COMPANY

CLARENCE H. MACKAY, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
A. H. GRISWOLD, EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT

#### CLASSES OF SERVICE

##### DOMESTIC MESSAGES

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**FULL RATE MESSAGES** receive regular and prompt service in their order of filing. Code language permitted.

**DEFERRED RATE MESSAGES** at one-half of the full rate to follow full rate messages. Must be in plain language of country of origin, or of destination, or in French. Full particulars as to countries where this class of service is effective will be furnished upon application to any Postal Telegraph office.

**NIGHT CABLE LETTERS** at reduced rates. Must be in plain language of country of origin, or of destination, or in French where transmitted by telegraph to destination. Subordinated to the priority of transmission of full and deferred rate messages. May be posted, when sender so directs, to countries where this service is not available, at tariffs to countries from which such messages are posted. Under latter circumstances, messages must contain complete mailing address including chargeable posting instructions (i. e., "Post London," etc.). Minimum word basis of twenty to twenty-five words applied. Code addresses may be used except for messages delivered by post. Figures explained by text admitted. Indicator "NLT" required and charged for as one word. For further particulars apply at any Postal Telegraph office.

NO EMPLOYEE OF THIS COMPANY IS AUTHORIZED TO VARY THE FOREGOING.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply please refer to:

Tule Lake Project  
Newell, California

IS

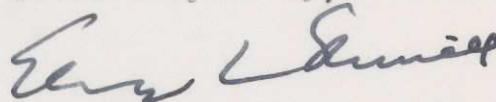
SEP 15 '42

Mrs. Dorothy S. Thomas  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Mrs. Thomas:

On September 3rd pass number 21403 was issued to you as you entered this War Relocation project. On your departure you failed to surrender the carbon copy given to you for use during your stay. In order to keep our record straight we will appreciate your returning this pass to us.

Yours very truly,



Elmer L. Shirrell  
Project Director



September 16, 1942

File: IS

Mr. Elmer L. Shirrell  
Project Director  
Tule Lake Project  
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Shirrell:

Your letter of September 15 just arrived. I assure you that we did return our pass to the guard at the gate when the Billegmeiers took us out in their car on Friday September 4. I hope that it has turned up by this time.

I want to say once more how much I appreciate your kindness and may I again congratulate you on the unusual and splendid job you are doing at Tule Lake. My students are now preparing a systematic report which I have every reason to believe will be first rate.

Hoping to see you quite soon again.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:vp

# WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

September 26, 1942

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Gianinni Foundation  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas:

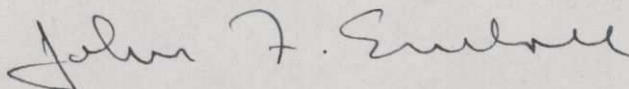
I have finally gotten back to headquarters and am now in the process of trying to set up an adequate documentation section for WRA here in Washington. In a letter to Dr. Lowie I have outlined some of my aims, the most immediate one being to acquire adequate data from the projects on which to make a social analysis of "practical" problems as they develop. This of course means that data which is "unfavorable" to WRA may be of even greater importance than that which is "favorable". The data itself of course remains in the documentation files, and only general analyses of it will be generally distributed.

As a starter I would like to put in a request for copies of any general reports you may make on your own data and also copies of reports sent in by your field men. These latter could, if preferred, be sent direct from the project to me here in Washington. (The freshness of the material is important.)

As for letters and other such personal documents, perhaps the best plan for the present would be for you to send me copies or excerpts whenever you think they reflect general or significant attitudes or situations. Whenever you or the writer might prefer it, his or her name could be omitted -- but I would like time and place specified. (What happens at Tule in September may be quite different from Gila in August!)

I enjoyed very much having luncheon with you in Berkeley. If you need anything I can supply you, please let me know. Please extend my regards to your husband.

Yours sincerely,



John F. Embree  
Senior Archivist





September 28, 1942

Mr. Charles Ernst  
Project Director  
Central Utah Relocation Center  
Topaz, Utah

Dear Mr. Ernst:

I have had enthusiastic reports about the WRA in general and about the Topaz situation in particular from my student and friend, Fred Hoshiyama. I asked Mr. Hoshiyama to talk to you about the work he and several others of the Tanforan group have been doing in connection with my research program. For your information, I enclose a brief statement of this program.

Mr. Hoshiyama and his associates have been helping me on an analysis of the social structure of the assembly center. This is almost completed, but there will still be some working up of field notes necessary and Hoshiyama is planning, with the help of some of his associates, to finish this in his spare time at Topaz. This is not a part of our WRA research, for we have, up to the present, received official approval for studies of the Relocation Centers only at Tule Lake and Gila. I wanted, therefore, to make perfectly clear to you just what Hoshiyama is occupying himself with. I may say that we are bound by an agreement with WRA to make all of our materials, even those bearing on Assembly Centers, accessible to a committee which Dr. Provinse expects shortly to appoint.

One of these days, when things are more settled, we hope to visit you at Topaz.

With best wishes and cordial regards,

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST:vp  
Encl.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

In reply, please refer to:

Central Utah Relocation Project  
Office of the Project Director

October 13, 1942

Prof. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Evacuation & Resettlement Study  
207 Giannini Hall  
Berkeley, California

Dear Prof. Thomas:

Certainly your good letter of September 28 deserves a more prompt acknowledgment. Frankly, we just have not been attending to the mail and I believe you will understand.

You have, doubtless, heard that Fred Hoshiyama has received his scholarship by which he will be able to attend a school in Springfield, Massachusetts. He has spoken briefly to me about his connections with the research program, but this acknowledgment was a matter that was pushed aside by the more immediate concerns of housing and getting settled.

I shall be glad to learn from you what you think, under the circumstances, we at Topaz ought to do in light of your understanding with the Regional and National Office of the WRA.

I noted with pleasure that you had entertained the possibility of visiting us, and at that time I would hope to have a chance to develop a circle of interested people which would include our friends at the University of Utah.

Sincerely yours,

*Charles F. Ernst*

Charles F. Ernst  
Project Director

CFE:ys





October 23, 1942

Mr. Charles F. Ernst,  
Central Utah Relocation Project,  
Topaz, Utah.

Dear Mr. Ernst,

Thank you for your very kind letter of October 13th. I am still in a state of uncertainty as to what I may or may not do and still avoid overstepping the bounds of my agreement with WRA. The difficulty right now is that I can't seem to find out who has the authority to deal with me and my problems. Relations are very cordial, and cooperation has always been fine, so I anticipate no difficulties in carrying out the plans I have in mind, just as soon as the National Office gets around to delegating authority in the matter to someone in the Regional Office. As soon as this happens, you will hear from me.

Under the circumstances, it seems better to postpone the Utah trip until I know where I stand. I hope I can make it by the middle of November. I look forward then to meeting with you and the "circle of interested people which would include our friends at the University of Utah."

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology



November 5, 1942

Mr. Edward Marks  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Marks:

I have talked to Mr. Beale of the National Student Relocation Council regarding three Japanese-Americans in whose careers I am interested.

Frank Miyamoto, now at Tule Lake, was formerly instructor in Sociology at the University of Washington. He has published an excellent study on "The Social Solidarity of the Japanese in Seattle." He now holds a Social Science Research Fellowship, which I was partially instrumental in getting for him. He has already passed his qualifying examinations for the PhD in Sociology at the University of Chicago. The program which we mapped out for Miyamoto included several months of field work, under my direction at the Tule Lake Relocation Center, followed by several months of further sociological training at the University of Chicago. Under normal conditions, he would have been expected to leave for Chicago some time in the spring. I am anxious to see that Miyamoto be given a chance to carry through the program we planned for him. Miyamoto is a thoughtful and mature student and will unquestionably take an important place among American sociologists. He has already demonstrated a high quality of performance, not only in the published work, noted above, but in a series of manuscripts which he is at present preparing in connection with the Evacuation and Resettlement Study.

Tamotsu Shibutani, also at Tule Lake, was an honor student in the Department of Social Institutions of this University. He received his bachelor's degree just after evacuation. He worked with me during his last semester of residence, and prepared, as a term paper, a manuscript on "The Initial Impact of the War on the Japanese Communities in the San Francisco Bay Region." This paper is now on file in Mr. Embree's office in the WRA in Washington. In my opinion, it is far superior to the usual run of Master's theses. Shibutani is unquestionably one of the most talented and productive students I have ever had, and he is doing excellent work for me now on the Evacuation and Resettlement Study. I want him to have a chance to continue his training at a first class University, and I have urged him to apply at the University of Chicago.



11-5-42

Doris Hayashi, now at Central Utah, is an earnest, competent young woman. She graduated with a major in Public Administration at the University of California last spring. She wants to continue with graduate work in sociology, and we have suggested that the University of North Carolina would be an excellent choice for her. She is by no means as talented as Miyamoto and Shibutani, but she is a very good student, and a very careful observer. She, too, has done good work for me on the Evacuation and Resettlement Study.

All of these young people are thoroughly "Americanized", both in behavior and attitudes. All of them have pleasing personalities, and would have no difficulties in readjusting to the Caucasian environment. Anything that can be done for them will be well worth while

Very sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST/vp

C.C. to Mr. Beale

# WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

November 10, 1942

Dr. Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Evacuation and Resettlement Study  
207 Giannini Hall  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas:

In the absence of Edward Marks in the field, your letter about Miyamoto, Shibutani, and Miss Hayashi, has come to me. As Mr. Beale has probably told you, both the University of Chicago and the University of North Carolina have not been cleared by the Navy Department for the admission of students of Japanese descent where such students come from relocation centers. The obvious unfairness in the cases you present is fully realized. To date all our efforts here to secure relaxation of the Navy ruling have been unavailing, and even special cases or circumstances have not been considered.

In these cases I would suggest the following procedure. Discuss again with Mr. Beale the students in question, in cooperation with the Student Council complete the relocation questionnaires with supporting documents, and have Beale forward the records to the Washington office for necessary F.B.I. check. Then we will submit them as special cases to the Navy Department.

The Navy, of course, is busy prosecuting a war, and constant needling by us about Japanese students and available colleges (particularly since they have already cleared more than 300 institutions) can be very provocative under the circumstances. But we are anxious to open up even the few schools the Navy has proscribed and are willing to risk another request to them on the basis of such deserving cases as the students in question.

It would not be advisable at this stage to give too great encouragement to the students that favorable action will result. Possibly there are other schools unrestricted where they can obtain the training they seek.

Sincerely yours,

*John H. Provinse*  
John H. Provinse, Chief  
Community Management Division





November 16, 1942

Mr. John Provinse, Chief  
Community Management Division  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Provinse:

Thank you for your letter of November 10. I will, of course, follow your suggestions carefully in regard to Miyamoto, Shibutani, and Hayashi. I realize that their chances for being admitted to Chicago and North Carolina are not the best, but I understand that the Student Relocation Committee also want to make test cases at these institutions.

By this time Mr. Fryer has no doubt had a chance to talk with you about the agreement we reached out here for a monthly conference and report. At these meetings we will try to do our very best to give the WRA all the benefits of the insights we have gained on camp conditions and problems from our personal contacts and from the documents we have received. We plan to call in our Caucasian observers for the meetings, from time to time, so that we can have fresh and first-hand reports.

We are very happy about the cordial relations that have developed between Mr. Fryer and his office and the University group. I believe that the present plan for the transmitting of information to the WRA meets, better than any other, the type of cooperation you want from us. As we understand it, you are not interested in documentation, for the sake of documentation, but rather you desire data of value for the day-to-day, as well as long range, administrative program. I feel that these data will be supplied better through the meetings than by any other method. Since preparation for these meetings will consume no small part of Grodzins' time, I presume it will not be necessary for him to give Embree the occasional letter agreed upon previously. Reports of significant data can now come to Embree's office from somebody in the regional office following the meetings. Your own people will be able to evaluate, better than Grodzins, the type of thing Embree is interested in, and his messages would simply be repetitions of their reports.

Mr. Fryer told me that he would discuss with you my plan of some follow up of the Tanforan group in the Central Utah Relocation Project. He and I were in agreement about the advisability of such a follow-up and Mr. Ernst, project director, wrote me



Provinse  
11-16-42

on his own initiative asking how he could best cooperate. Your approval of this plan would be greatly appreciated.

In regard to the person here on the Coast with whom we would deal in matters of policy, Mr. Fryer has suggested that we consult Mr. Coverley as a rule but he indicated that he would be happy to have us come directly to him for major decisions. This solution is highly satisfactory to us and we hope that you approve.

With cordial personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Professor of Rural Sociology

DST/vp



November 16, 1942

Mr. John F. Embree, Senior Archivist  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Embree:

I have been back from Washington for several weeks and am still trying to digest the mass of material I collected. I would have written sooner, in pursuance of our agreement for transmitting data from the study to you, but the working out of new arrangements for our collaboration with the WRA has been in the making.

It has now been decided that a group of us will meet on the first Monday of each month with a WRA group in San Francisco. We will come prepared with an agenda, gleaned from any insights that we have gained from our contacts and documents. We will lay these problems before the WRA group and discuss them fully, supplying documentation where needed.

I think that this plan is far better than any other worked out to date. (And it occurs to me that with Mr. Kimball now tied up at Manzanar, the old plan is dead anyway.) It will avoid senseless duplication in our documentation. At the same time, it is the most flexible way for us to give the WRA data of value in the daily, as well as long run, administrative program. And the latter is what I understand the WRA wants most.

Main responsibility for drawing up the agenda for the new meetings will be mine. With this responsibility, I hope you will agree that it will not be necessary for me to write you the occasional "letter of pertinent data" upon which we agreed in Washington. There seems no need for me to work with both the regional and national offices. Reports of our meetings will undoubtedly come to Washington from your office here, and whoever writes these reports will be able to evaluate the type of data in which you are interested better than I can from the outside. My reports to you, further, would simply be repititious.

I would still like to reserve the right to write you more informally on problems of current interest and I hope you

Embree  
11-16-42

will feel free to call upon me in any matter on which you may wish additional information.

I send you my best personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

Morton Grodzins  
Research Assistant

MG/vp



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

November 18, 1942

Dr. Dorothy S. Thomas  
Gianinni Foundation  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

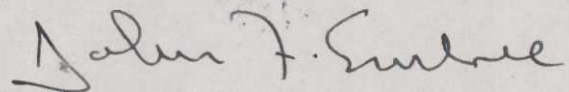
Dear Dr. Thomas:

Herewith some initial productions of the documents section. Please note page 5!

Sol Kimball is a social anthropologist from Harvard, that is why I suggested his name as a liaison between WRA and your research project. But as you doubtless know he is now Acting Director at Manzanar which means some new arrangement for personal contact must be arranged. Meanwhile, I hope Dr. Grodzins will send in an occasional letter on local developments as he promised.

Dr. Leighton, working under John Collier, has agreed to collaborate with us so far as Poston is concerned. But unless some arrangement for up to date social documentation from other projects can be arranged with evacuee sociologists such as Shibutani and Miyamoto, the effectiveness of the WRA program will suffer. The fruits of their labor are likely to lose much of their immediate usefulness if locked up for the duration of the war.

Sincerely yours,



John F. Embree  
Senior Archivist

Enclosures (3)



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

November 24, 1942

Dr. Dorothy Swain Thomas  
University of California  
207 Giannini Hall  
Berkeley, California

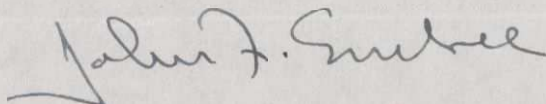
Dear Dr. Thomas:

Our letters seem to have crossed mid-continent -- or mid-WRA. At any rate I had sent mine to you before I saw yours to Dr. Provinse. And today another letter from Dr. Grodzins to myself has arrived.

We may assume on the basis of all this that you will be meeting from time to time with certain people in the San Francisco office. I hope you will impress on them that we would like minutes of such meetings forwarded as quickly as possible.

When our own research plans are a little better settled at this end I'll let you know and perhaps we can get some agreement on the general framework and methods of social research at the project level.

Yours sincerely,



John F. Embree  
Senior Archivist





November 30, 1942

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

Dear Mr. Fryer,

In confirming our conversation of this morning, I respectfully request the transfer of Miss Tamie Tsuchiyama, now resident at 31-11-B Poston to the Central Utah Project at Topaz, Utah. The reason for requesting Miss Tsuchiyama's transfer is that her usefulness to the Evacuation and Resettlement Study will be greatly enhanced if this transfer can be accomplished. You and I have discussed the advisability of including a follow-up of the Tanforan group, on which I already have a great deal of data, in the Utah Relocation Center. Miss Tsuchiyama, who will shortly receive her PhD from the University of California, is one of our most mature and competent observers. We feel sure that she can do a fine piece of work for us in Utah.

I discussed the possibility of such a transfer with Dr. Leighton, during my recent visit to Poston, and he was most cooperative. I am enclosing a copy of a letter from him in which he indicates his willingness to release her from his Bureau.

I have not taken the matter up with Mr. Ernst, Project Director at Utah, but I have reason to believe he will be receptive to the plan, since he wrote me in a letter dated October 13 that he should be glad to learn from us what we think should be done at Topaz in connection with our research program and plans.

If you are willing to have the transfer made, anything that can be done to expedite matters will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas



MENDEL H. LIEBERMAN  
Adult Education Department  
Gila Project  
Rivers, Ariz.

December 10, 1942

Dr. Dorothy Thomas  
University of California  
Berkeley, California

Dear Dr. Thomas,

For long it has been my intention to work for an M.A. or a Ph.D. some day. Bob Spencer's work has given me the idea of moving for such a degree at once if possible. He has suggested the Ph.D. work without going thru the preliminary of an M.A., but has suggested that I write for your more authoritative advice.

I have an A.B. in history from UCLA, where my senior paper was concerned with oriental labor problems in California. I also have an LL.B. from USC. Other than two undergraduate courses in adult education by correspondence, that is the total of my university-level training.

Is it possible for me to utilize my present situation here for research without having gone thru the preliminaries of graduate courses and such? If so, in what departments might I take this graduate work? History was my major, psychology a near-major, and that's all.

Can you steer me to the proper department or departments, suggest or get them to suggest what research needs to be done which my position in adult education here makes especially available to me? And can you find out whether any work required besides the thesis can be done by correspondence while I am here.

It may be relevant to point out that I have just begun to study Japanese. Thus my work can not be done in that language for some time to come.

Your help will be sincerely appreciated.

*Mendel H. Lieberman*



December 18, 1942

Dear Mr. Lieberman,

It was good to hear from you. I don't know whether I can give you very authoritative advice, but I'll try.

I usually advise students who are sure they are going on for the PhD and who do not need the MA for temporary professional advancement, to omit preparation for the Master's degree. Getting the PhD is, however, a very long and arduous process, and a minimum of two semesters' residence on the campus in the beginning of this process is almost essential. It is true that we do not require any specific course attendance, but in practice it is almost impossible for the student to cover the ground and get the necessary "guidance" without considerable attendance at courses and particularly seminars. Frankly, I do not see how you could begin your graduate career without this preparatory phase. Even if you could cover the subject matter by yourself, there are two things which must be learned through classes and seminars (1) research techniques and (2) languages. In sociology, for instance, and the same is true of anthropology, we do not even appoint a committee to plan a program for a student until he has passed his exams in both French and German, and occasionally some other language.

Regarding the best department for you to work in, I am inclined to favor Anthropology, considering the nature of the field work you are doing. ~~The~~ Another possibility is, of-course, Education. If you wish to inquire about the former, Professor Alfred Kroeber is head of the department here; for the latter, Dean Frank Freeman.

If I can answer any more detailed questions, I shall be only too glad to be of service.

Cordially yours,

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Tule Lake Project  
Newell, California

In reply, please refer to:  
PDO

December 12, 1942

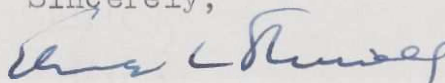
Miss Dorothy S. Thomas,  
Agricultural Experiment Station,  
College of Agriculture,  
University of California,  
Berkeley, California

Dear Miss Thomas:

I have your note of December 10 and hasten to correct any impression that you might have gained. I am not resigning, but am being transferred to another position with WRA where I trust I will be able to continue serving the people I have grown to like so well and for whom I feel such a definite responsibility.

I am looking forward to seeing you at some future date. I know you will be here soon. Mrs. Shirrell and I plan to leave the Project about December 27 and will take some annual leave before going on to the new job.

Sincerely,



Elmer L. Shirrell





December 31, 1942

Dear Mr. Cozzens,

I hesitate to disturb you after what has undoubtedly been a trying trip to Tule Lake. But I want, if possible, to get this message to you before you leave for Manzanar.

As I told you over the phone, we have had two Manzanar residents working for us on material pertaining to the pre-evacuation period. I assumed that they were still at Manzanar, and therefore asked you to discuss with Mr. Merritt the possibility of a member of our staff, Mr. Morton Grodzins, visiting them at Manzanar in the near future.

Mrs. Lucy Adams, however, informs me that both of these evacuees were among those moved to the Death Valley CCC camp, and that their permanent relocation is imminent. It is extremely urgent that we get in contact with them as soon as we possibly can. As you know, transportation is not so easy to arrange these days, but we have been able to get a plane reservation to Los Angeles for Saturday morning, and Grodzins would then be able to pick up a University car at UCLA if permission could possibly be obtained for Grodzins to visit the CCC camp on Monday. I realize that this is pressing you, and my only excuse for doing so is the urgency of our situation. Anything you can do in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

The two evacuees in question are Mr. Togo Tanaka and Miss Mari Okazaki.

My home telephone is Thornwall 8983; office (where I shall be if I am not at home) Ashberry 6000, local 349.

If permission for the visit can be obtained, we should appreciate your telling us the exact location of the CCC camp.

Very sincerely yours,

Dorothy Swaine Thomas  
Director