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Honolulu*

R E P O R T
OF
SECOND OAHU CONFERENCE
OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

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January 28, 1945
Nuuanu Y M C A
Honolulu 39, Hawaii

P R E F A C E

This conference of American citizens of Japanese ancestry on Oahu, sponsored by the Emergency Service Committee, is the second of its kind held since the war. The first conference was called on September 12, 1943. The second gathering was held on the recommendation of the hold-over committee appointed by the delegates to the first conference.

The purpose of this report is to record the ideas and viewpoints expressed by the participants. It is our hope that these thoughts will serve as useful guides for the Emergency Service Committee and as a basis for further discussion in all districts.

The Emergency Service Committee wishes to thank Dr. John A. Rademaker for summarizing the discussions. The editor has taken the liberty to edit the excellent summaries by Dr. Rademaker and therefore assumes full responsibility for any inaccuracy or error.

Individuals and groups who wish to comment further on the agenda or who have suggestions pertaining to the purposes and activities of the Emergency Service Committee are urged to communicate with the Committee. The office of the Committee is located in the Nuuanu Y M C A, Adult Building, Honolulu 39, T. H. The telephone number is 67464.

OAHU CONFERENCE

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DELEGATES AND GUESTS TO OAHU CONFERENCE

January 28, 1945

DELEGATES

Ariyoshi, George
Doi, Nelson K.
Furuya, Mitsuru
Fujimoto, Mrs. Eileen
Fujioka, Hiroshi
Furukawa, Ernest I.
Haga, Tod
Hayakawa, Harold
Hina, Donald
Hirotzu, Shigeru
Hokama, Miss Sadie
Honda, Ralph
Honke, Akira
Ichimura, Shizuo
Izumoto, Toshimi Y.
Kametani, Miss Akiko
Kaneshige, Edward
Kaneshiro, Jiro L.
Kariya, Nobuo
Katagiri, Masa
Kato, Mitsuto
Kawamura, Miss Jean
Kikuta, Shumichi
Kido, Mitsuyuki
Kimura, Ernest H.
Kishinemi, Mrs. Edythe
Kobayashi, Tadao
Koga, Isami
Komenaka, Dr. R. S.
Kurisaki, Dr. H. I.
Miho, Rev. K.
Miyake, Iwao
Miyamoto, Stanley M.
Mori, Mrs. Ethel
Morita, Joseph T.
Moriwaki, Mrs. Miyono
Mukai, Brian K.
Murai, Dr. E. I.
Murakami, R. K.
Muratsuka, Yoichi
Makagawa, Miss Barbara
Nakano, John M.
Ninomiya, Philip H.
Onishi, Shizuo

Sakamoto, Mrs. Edna
Sanjume, Kenichi
Sato, Miss Violet S.
Shimomoto, Peter S.
Shiroma, Shigeharu
Shiyama, Mrs. Eleanor
Sueyoshi, Frank T.
Suzuki, Keiji
Ryuzaki, Miss Shimeji
Takeno, Miss Dorothy
Taketa, Charles
Uesugi, James H.
Uesugi, Mrs. Peggy
Watsada, Umematsu
Wakumoto, Jiro
Watanabe, Masao
Watase, Mitsugi
Yogi, Riyukichi
Yonemori, Soichi
Yoshida, Shigeo

GUESTS

Bell, Lorne W.
Blake, Frank O.
Bowles, Dr. Gilbert
Brown, Pvt. Stanley Erle
Deacon, Leslie F.
Guntzer, Vincent
Hamilton, John A.
Inagaki, T/3 George J.
Lind, Dr. Andrew W.
Lum, K. F.
Meillette, Louis J.
Maier, William Morris
Rademaker, Dr. John A.
Rinehart, William B.
Towle, Miss Mildred

PROGRAM - OAHU CONFERENCE

Sponsored by the Emergency Service Committee

January 28, 1945

- 9:00 - 9:30 a.m. Registration and Reception
- 9:30 - 9:40 Call to Order - Masa Katagiri
- 9:40 - 10:00 Introductory Remarks - Shigeo Yoshida
- 10:00 - 10:45 Assistance to Servicemen and Their Families -
Dr. Ernest Murai
- 10:45 - 11:15 Dissolution of Language Schools - Stanley
Miyamoto
- 11:15 - 11:30 Recess
- 11:30 - 12:00 Dual Citizenship and Expatriation - Mrs.
Ethel Mori
- 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 - 2:00 Discussion: The Future of AJA's in this
American Community - Shigeo Yoshida
- 2:00 - 2:45 Discussion: An Evaluation of the Work
of the ESC - Mitsuyuki Kido
- 2:45 - 3:00 Summary and Unfinished Business - Masa
Katagiri

AGENDA - OAHU CONFERENCE

Sponsored by the Emergency Service Committee

Jan. 28, 1945

I. Informative

A. Assistance to Service Men and Their Families

1. What rights and benefits does the federal government provide for the service men and their families.
2. What does the Territory of Hawaii provide in the way of veterans aid.
3. What progress has been made by the community in planning for the return of the veterans.
 - a. Veterans' Advisors - its organization and achievements.
 - b. Veterans' Administration.
 - c. Action by civic groups.
4. What territorial action in the coming session seems desirable.

B. Dissolution of Language Schools

1. What is the present status of the language schools.
2. The stand taken by the Territorial Conference.
3. What means have been taken to implement the action taken at the conference.
 - a. Hawaii Veterans Memorial Foundation.

C. Dual Citizenship and Expatriation

1. Origin, history and significance of problem.
2. Number of dual citizens in Hawaii today.
3. What procedure may one follow to expatriate.
4. How may the problem be solved.
 - a. Voluntary expatriation through recognized channels.
 - b. Unilateral action by Congress to provide simpler method of expatriation.
 - c. Provision in peace treaty to permit easier method.

II. Discussion

A. The Future of the AJA's in this American Community

1. What can we do now to establish a firmer basis of Americanism within our group.
 - a. What are some alien influences and practices which should be eliminated - language schools, etc. What criteria should be used to determine which practices and influences should be eliminated. What should our position be in regard to the fundamental question of assimilation vs. cultural pluralism. What are some positive steps which should be taken now and after the war.
2. How can we integrate ourselves more effectively with the other racial groups in this community.
 - a. At what points do inter-racial contacts break down as far as the AJA's are concerned. Why.
 - b. What can we and other racial groups do to improve inter-racial relations in Hawaii.
3. What else can we do now to participate more fully and effectively in the life of this community - in the war effort, culturally, socially, politically, economically.
4. What place will our returning veterans have in the life of this community after the war.
 - a. What is in the minds of our soldiers insofar as their future is concerned.
 - b. What readjustments in employment, family life, etc., will probably have to be made if our veterans are to find a satisfying and deserving place in this community after the war.
 - c. What should the community do now (by way of legislation, post-war planning, etc.) to see that all Hawaii veterans are assisted in every possible way in their struggle for readjustment to a peaceful, post-war Hawaii.

B. An Evaluation of the Work of the Emergency Service Committee

1. What else should a group like the E S C do.
2. What should its main emphases be in the immediate future.
3. What specific recommendations can you give along the following lines that will help to make the work of the Committee more effective - membership, organization, objectives, public relations, etc.

OPENING REMARKS

Masa Katagiri

In September of 1943 a conference of the people of Japanese ancestry was held here in this hall, under the sponsorship of the Emergency Service Committee. It was a gathering of the representatives from this island, the first of its kind since the outbreak of war. At this conference several excellent ideas were presented which helped to meet some of the events which followed the conference. It also served as the forerunner to two very significant conferences held by the Emergency Service and Morale Committees of Hawaii, Maui, Kauai and Oahu. At the conference it was decided that a committee be appointed to look into and study the situation from time to time and if it be found advisable to plan for another conference. Today's conference resulted from the deliberation of that committee and the Emergency Service Committee.

We are glad to see a good representation today. Your active participation in this conference and the sharing of ideas are going to help plan the course of our group and the territory now and in the post war world. I, therefore, hope that each one will actively participate in the day's program.

The conference, as you see from the agenda, has been divided into two separate sections. The first part is informative and the second devoted to discussion. Mr. Shigeo Yoshida will help us get the setting for the day's conference. I now call on Mr. Shigeo Yoshida.

THE JOB AHEAD

Shigeo Yoshida

We are met today, as the Chairman has pointed out to you, for the second Oahu conference of this nature since the war began. We are here this morning not only to share with each other our problems, ideas and aspirations but to plan together for whatever tasks which lie ahead. Our job is to evaluate the mistakes and accomplishments of the past and to set our sights for the future. In doing this, we must, of course, keep always in mind, as I am sure we have in the past, the welfare of the entire Territory rather than of any one particular group. It is true that insofar as this conference is concerned, we are dealing primarily with those problems which are of particular concern to the people of Japanese ancestry. These problems, however, are so closely inter-related with the larger problems of the Territory, in fact are an integral part of, rather than apart from, the problems of every other racial group in the Territory, that they cannot, even if we wanted to, be considered separately but only in relation to the way in which they affect everybody else of whatever racial or economic background.

What are these problems? I should like to take the remaining few minutes of my time to mention a few of them with the hope that they be considered to the extent that time permits during the remainder of the day's conference.

1. There is still the war to be won. There is the problem of continued participation of the people of Japanese community in our nation's war effort. We have made an excellent contribution, in many respects as good as if not better than, the contributions of other racial groups. But we are going to be judged in the future not only by what has already been done but by what we continue to do in the remaining days of the war. How to get the continued, if not accelerated contribution of our group, particularly in the face of a natural, growing complacency is a problem which must be faced.

2. There is the problem of the returning soldiers, the physical, mental and emotional rehabilitation of many of them and the personal and vocational readjustment of everyone of them. It is estimated that by the time the war is ended, there will be close to 15,000 soldiers of Japanese ancestry in the Army. Everyone of them is going to be faced with the problem of readjusting himself into a new and we hope a better community, not the one he left behind. It is not going to be an easy task for our men as well as for their families, friends and associates. They are coming back in many cases changed men - difficult for us to understand and difficult for them to understand us. In this connection, I should like to call your attention to the letter from Joe Itagaki, copies of which have been distributed to you,

in which he discusses at length the feelings and aspirations of our men who are out doing the fighting.

Dr. Murai is scheduled to discuss this problem this morning and I have, therefore, no intention of delving into it further except to say that it is a problem which, like many others, involves the people of all racial ancestries and must be tackled as such. It is also a problem for whose solution, preparation must be made now. Part of the preparation will involve legislative action. The whole will involve much community planning. It is my earnest hope that our conference today will become a vital part of that planning and make a significant contribution toward the ultimate solution of the problem.

3. There is the question of the place of the people of Japanese ancestry in this community and their relationship with the peoples of all other races in the post war period. When peace is again restored, what changes can we reasonably expect or have a right to expect? Are we as a group to have a just share in the political, economic and social life of this community? Will the tremendous sacrifice in human lives and the demonstration so unequivocally established that the Americans of Japanese ancestry are every bit as good Americans as those of other racial origins mean anything to those who once questioned and in many cases, still question our place in this American community? If the events on the mainland mean anything, we can be sure that there will be many individuals and groups even in Hawaii who will choose to ignore the evidence which any reasonable person must accept or find some other excuse for denying us the full rights and privileges to which we are entitled.

I may be grossly misunderstood when I speak in this vein. But let us be frank and realistic even at the risk of misunderstanding and criticism. There must be a continued change for the better in the relationship among people of all races in Hawaii, in the place that each shall occupy in relation to the others. I say "continued change for the better" advisedly because there has been a tremendous change to the better and one need only look back to the days immediately preceding and following Pearl Harbor to realize this. Witness also the number and tone as well as the authors of the letters in the newspapers relative to the stand taken by one Warner Peterson. But the change must continue and I hope it comes without leaving in its wake the bitterness and frustrations that are so often incident to any social changes. I hope, too, that this conference today will explore ways and means of bringing about this change in a fair and reasonable manner, especially the changes which have to be made within our group if the larger changes I refer to are to take place. Some of these are listed on our agenda for later discussion. I refer to the necessity of eliminating all vestiges of alien influences and practices which are inconsistent with American ideals and practices and which retard the full Americanization, in a cultural sense, of our group and obstruct our full integration with the rest of the community. How this can be accomplished and at what rate must also be considered. I also refer to ways and means of really bringing

the various races together on a free and equal basis. This is a responsibility not only of our group but of all groups.

4. There are also certain other miscellaneous problems to which some attention should be given. I refer to such matter as the following:

a. Incidents which may arise as the war gets closer and closer to Japan in which the feelings of various people might be vented against those of us here in Hawaii. The action of a certain Filipino, as reported in our papers yesterday, who attacked two alien Japanese because the enemy had wiped out his family in the Philippines is a case in point.

b. Assistance to service men and their families now. There are various private and public agencies set up to render this assistance but there is also much that we, as individuals and as members of various groups, can do to assist these people with their various problems.

c. Continued vigilance against any incident which might actually be or which might be construed to be disloyal or subversive.

d. The place of the returning internees, assuming they will all be returned to Hawaii, and their readjustment in the community.

e. The place of our alien parents in the post war period. Will they try to reassert and regain the place of leadership they occupied before the war? Have we, who are citizens, demonstrated enough leadership to forestall any attempts on their part to regain the leadership they were forced to relinquish? These questions assume, of course, that they will be permitted to continue their residence in Hawaii. We must not take too lightly however, the announced intention of certain groups on the mainland to fight for the deportation of all Japanese aliens after the war.

f. The contribution which we, as a group, may be in a position to make toward the establishment of a just and durable peace in the Pacific. Just what the contribution will be I am not prepared to say but it is something which merits some study.

These problems which I have mentioned by no means exhaust the list. I am certain that I have omitted some that you might consider more important. I close with the hope again that this conference today will be a significant one, that from our deliberations will emerge many constructive ideas which will be a significant contribution toward the solution of many of our problems and toward the establishment of a post war Hawaii which will be in fact a place which we shall be proud to call our home.

ASSISTANCE TO SERVICEMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES

Dr. Ernest I. Murai

About 17,000 men of Hawaii have already been inducted into the armed services of our country. Of this number roughly 10,000 men or 60 per cent are of Japanese ancestry. It is estimated that before the war is over more than 25,000 men from Hawaii will have been called to the colors.

I feel that it is a community responsibility to see that when the veterans return, they will be absorbed into the life of the community with the minimum of confusion and friction. The veterans do not want charity nor do they expect special privileges. They are entitled, however, to such assistance as is necessary to help them fit themselves in post war Hawaii.

Our purpose today is to review what have been done so far and what more need to be done. The federal government, as it properly should, has assumed the primary responsibility of providing direct benefits. Some of the more important ones are:

Insurance

Every serviceman may apply for National Service Life insurance up to \$10,000.00. He may designate in addition to the principal beneficiary a contingent beneficiary.

The insured has the right to change his beneficiary by writing to the Director of Insurance, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.

This insurance is for five years. Any time after it has been in force a year, it may be converted into ordinary life, 20-payment life or 30-payment life.

A veteran may upon discharge convert his insurance or he may wait until the expiration of the five year period to do so. To continue this insurance after discharge, he must pay his premiums direct to the Treasurer of the United States in care of the Collections Sub-division, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.

Compensation and Pensions

For service connected disability, a veteran may receive compensation ranging from \$11.50 per month for 10% disability to \$115.00 per month for total disability.

For non-service connected disability, a pension of \$50.00 a month is allowed for permanent disability when the veteran has served 90 days or more during the war.

Hospitalization

For service incurred disability a veteran is entitled to free hospitalization and free transportation to a hospital.

For illness not due to service in the armed forces, a veteran may receive free hospitalization if hospital beds are available and if he is financially unable to pay.

Education

A veteran over 25 years of age when inducted may receive one year of education or training in any approved school of his choice.

For a veteran under 25 years of age when inducted or for one over 25 years who can prove that his education was impaired, interrupted with or interrupted, the federal government provides educational aid of not more than \$500.00 per year for tuition, fees, books, etc., and \$50.00 per month if he has no dependent or \$75.00 per month if he has dependents, for subsistence allowance. The length of this period of educational training cannot exceed four years.

Loans to Veterans

A veteran may secure loans for the purchase of a home, farm or business. The Veterans Administration will guarantee up to 50% of the loan provided that the amount guaranteed does not exceed \$2000.00. The loan will bear interest at no more than 4% per annum and must be paid within 20 years.

Unemployment Compensation

An unemployed veteran is entitled to \$20.00 per week for a period not more than 52 weeks. The number of weeks is based on length of service - 24 weeks for the first 90 days of service and 4 weeks for each month of additional service.

Jobs

He can get his old job back if he is still qualified for it and applies for reemployment within 90 days after his discharge.

He is entitled to the facilities of the United States Employment Service if he desires a new job. The United States Civil Service gives 50 to 10 points preference to veterans and certain jobs such as guard, elevator operator, messenger, and custodian, are reserved for him.

A veteran with a service connected disability can learn a new trade with all expenses of training including necessary transportation paid. In addition during his training he will receive \$92.00 per month if single; unless his pension equals or exceeds the amount; \$103.50 a month if he is married with \$5.75 for each child and \$11.50 for each dependent parent.

Mustering Out Pay

A veteran in service 60 days or more who served outside continental United States is entitled to \$300.00. He will receive \$100.00 at the time of discharge, \$100.00 in 30 days and the final \$100.00 in 60 days.

For one who has served at least 60 days in the United States only, \$200.00 is given - \$100.00 at the time of discharge and \$100.00 within 30 days thereafter. For a veteran who has served less than 60 days, \$100.00 will be payable at discharge.

This provision does not apply to officers above captain in the army or lieutenant senior grade in the navy or those who have had no service.

Benefits for Dependents

Family Allowance

Class A Dependents. A wife, or child, or former wife of a serviceman comes under this heading. A wife is entitled to \$50.00 a month and a wife and a child \$80.00 a month and for each child thereafter \$20.00. Where the serviceman has no wife but only a child, \$42.00 is given.

Class B-1 Dependents include parents, brothers and sisters. The allotment is as follows: 1 parent \$50.00; 2 parents \$68.00; 2 parents and 1 brother or sister \$79.00; 1 brother or sister but no parent \$42.00; and each additional brother or sister \$11.00. The serviceman must have been the chief support in order to qualify under this provision.

Class B Dependents are those who are dependent upon the serviceman for a substantial portion of their support (less than 50%). The amount is fixed at \$37.00 no matter how many dependents there are.

Gratuity Pay

When a serviceman dies while in the service, the widow or the next of kin is entitled to a cash payment equal to 6 months pay.

Back Pay

The balance of any pay account remaining due a man who dies in service goes to the next of kin.

Pensions for Dependents

When a member or a former member in the armed services dies of service connected disability, the following pensions are granted: widow \$50.00; widow and 1 child \$65.00; \$13.00 for each additional child; 1 child \$25.00; two children \$38.00; \$10.00 for each additional child but the total not to exceed \$100.00; one parent \$45.00; both parents \$25.00 each.

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When death is not the result of service connected disease or injury but where the veteran had at the time of death a disability incurred in or aggravated by his war service, the following is granted: widow \$35.00; widow and 1 child \$45.00; \$5.00 for each additional child; 1 child only \$18.00, 2 children \$27.00, 3 children \$36.00; and for each additional child \$4.00.

Burial Allowance

A sum not over \$100.00 is provided for burial of any war veteran discharged or released from active service under conditions other than dishonorable.

American Flag

The family of a serviceman who dies while in service or the family of an honorably discharged veteran is entitled to a United States flag.

Headstone

A headstone for any veteran who dies is supplied upon application to the Quartermaster General, U. S. Army, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Social Security Benefits

In the event of death of a serviceman who was in a "covered" industry prior to induction, survivor's insurance benefits may be payable to the next of kin. The next of kin should inquire immediately at the Social Security Board office.

Assistance in Employment

Special assistance is given veterans' families in securing employment. The nearest U.S.E.S. office will register all such requests. Wives and widows of disabled veterans receive certain preferences in the federal civil service.

Free Medical and Nursing Care

A wife of a serviceman in the four lower pay grades may receive pre-natal care at her home or at the doctor's office. At child-birth, the wife and the baby receive free medical and nursing care. Complete maternity care is provided, including a physical examination 6 weeks after the baby is born. The baby is entitled to free medical care during the first year of life.

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Our territorial government under existing laws provide a few benefits. Some of these are:

1. Preference of 5 per cent is given to a veteran in an original and open competitive Civil Service examination provided he qualifies.

2. A photostat of a veteran's discharge certificate is made free of charge and filed, but copies of it will cost 25 cents per copy.

3. Veterans who left the employ of the Territory or County for active duty in the armed services or merchant marine will be reemployed under certain conditions, will have service credit for time spent in such service, and will have their contributions to the Retirement System paid for during their period of service.

Since the last territorial conference, I am very happy to report that great strides have been made here towards the proper handling of veterans' affairs. There is a growing awareness of the importance of the problems. Social and welfare agencies have devoted a great deal of time to them. Men like our friend, Mr. Deacon, have spent hours and hours studying the problems and doing something about them.

The Veterans' Advisors under the able management of Mr. Rinehart and more recently under Mr. Guntzer has made a real contribution. It has served as a clearing house for all information and services pertaining to the servicemen. By its work, it has demonstrated the need and importance of such an agency. It is now financed by the Community Chest.

The coming of Mr. Walker has meant a great deal in the set-up of the Veterans Administration. The Veterans Administration is the principal agency which will deal with veterans. We have been told that the facilities and staff of the Veterans Administration will be expanded and that the local office will become a regional office. This will mean that many problems will be decided locally and the red-tape involved will be cut to the minimum.

I have tried to give you a very hasty picture as to where we are on this veterans' situation. In a few weeks the legislature will convene. After studying the matter and consulting various people including Mr. Guntzer of the Veterans' Advisors, I feel the following items should be presented to it for consideration:

1. A bill to set up a Council on Veterans' Affairs, define its powers, and to appropriate the necessary fund is of greatest importance. This will, in effect, continue the present Veterans' Advisors which has demonstrated its need. Mr. Deacon has worked on the bill and if there is any question, I'm sure he will be glad to answer it.

2. Under the G.I. Bill of Rights, the Veterans Administration will guarantee up to 50% of the loans to veterans and the amount guaranteed cannot exceed \$2000.00. This, in effect, means if the veteran qualifies, he can borrow \$4000.00. Now you know that \$4000.00 will not buy a home nor a business today. If this provision is to mean anything, the legislature should supplement it.

3. A bill should be prepared to provide for the appointment of a conservator of property for missing service personnel.

4. It would be desirable to authorize commissioned officers to take acknowledgment and act in a notarial capacity. The need for

this has been demonstrated on several occasions. Along with this some provision should be made to make the acts of an attorney-in-fact legal up to the notification of death.

5. Our territorial law should provide for further preference for veterans. The federal government gives a five point preference to all veterans and ten points to disabled veterans. Seniority rights, salary increments, etc. are also taken care of under the federal system. These and other benefits should be incorporated into the territorial civil service system.

6. It would seem desirable to waive penalties and interest on delinquent taxes of veterans up to a certain period - say two years after the war.

7. A bill to authorize the territorial government to issue certain documents free of charge to veterans and their next of kin who use them in filing claims. Hawaiian Birth Certificates, Board of Health Certificates, etc. come under this category.

These suggestions need further study before they can be put down in the form of a bill. The Emergency Service Committee has a subcommittee working on veterans' legislation and I am sure it will welcome any suggestions you may have.

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Summary of Discussion:

Under the topic, "What rights and benefits does the federal government provide for the servicemen and their families", Dr. Murai pointed out the possibilities in the fields of insurance, hospitalization, education, loans, and unemployment compensation. He reported that a bill has been set up for entry into the coming Legislature to set up a Council of Veterans' Affairs, and suggested that the bill be given our heartiest support, because it seeks to coordinate the services to servicemen and veterans offered by various public and private agencies, and make them more easily accessible and better known to those who need them.

On the topic, "What does the Territory of Hawaii provide in the way of veterans' aid", he pointed out that the chief contribution of the Territory was to supplement and implement the provisions for federal aid and service. An example of such coordination of services which has been achieved consists of the desire of parents and relatives to receive back the ashes of their deceased servicemen relatives. It was suggested that the Territory should appropriate funds to enable parents to go get such ashes. The reply was that the U. S. War Department sends them back now on request - since it is obviously impossible for many parents to go up to front-line or recently-front-line positions to recover such ashes.

Mr. Deacon stated that the federal government offers benefits to those who ask for them - it is obviously not in a position to ask

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people whether they want some money from Uncle Sam. The Emergency Service Committee can, however, inform people and encourage them to ask for the benefits coming to them, for then the Federal government will be happy to provide the benefits provided by Congress.

The discussion of the progress made by the community in planning for the return of the veterans included the work of the Veterans Advisors, the Veterans Administration, and various interested civic groups. The question was raised whether the Territory could contribute something which the Federal agencies cannot do, by hiring someone to do case-finding in the community. Mr. Rinchart, formerly of the Veterans Advisors, stated that the natural point of contact is the nationality group, the church, and other social tie-ups. The administration of the G.I. Bill of Rights is a problem of the whole community, not merely that of the Veterans Administration. For instance, the matter of counselling on vocational training - what to train for, and what training to get, and where and how - is all a matter of general responsibility of many agencies and people, for it cannot be answered by any one agency.

Mr. Gunzter, director of the Veterans' Advisors, stated that detailed information on what benefits are available and how to get these benefits, down to such details as to what papers to bring with you when you apply, is being prepared in a Manual by the Veterans Advisors and Selective Service, jointly. Copies of this Manual will be provided all points of natural contact, such as ministers, teachers, social workers, hospitals, personnel officers, etc. The address of the Veterans' Advisors was given as the Armory, and the Phone Number as 1316.

A question was raised on tax exemption for veterans. The first \$1500 pay for military services seems to be wholly exempt, and the usual exemptions apply thereafter as well. A question was raised as to whether the premium was still to be the same if the insurance was converted to 20 or 30 pay life. In regard to taxes, a serviceman is considered a dependent if the wife has a separate income.

The question was raised whether the ESC is keeping a record of all discharged persons. It seems that only those who have returned here after discharge are known to the ESC. The chief source of information is from relatives and friends, who should be sure to get in touch with the ESC in order that the latter may be able to extend its aid.

THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE SCHOOLS

Stanley M. Miyamoto

You may wonder why we need to be concerned over the language schools since they are not in existence today. True, but will they continue to remain closed in the post war period? I am sure you will agree with me that the reopening of the language schools is a possibility. If they do, may they not retard our total assimilation?

It may interest you to know that 166 schools were in existence in 1941. Of these schools, 124 have been voluntarily dissolved and there are 42 not yet dissolved - 5 on Kauai, 14 on Oahu, 11 on Maui, and 12 on Hawaii. Twelve of these schools are under the control of Hengwanji Mission and 5 under the Jodo Mission.

According to a reliable authority, most of the 42 schools have very nominal assets. On Oahu besides the church schools only 3 schools have substantial assets.

At the territorial conference of the Morale Committees on Maui last year, the following resolution was adopted:

"Whereas, the Japanese language schools have been a source of misunderstanding and suspicion on the part of a great many people in Hawaii, and

"Whereas, the attendance at a language school in addition to the regular public school is a physical strain on a child as well as a financial burden on his family, and

"Whereas, the existence of a great number of foreign language schools in an American community is an anomalous situation which retards the complete assimilation of our various racial groups into a unified community, and

"Whereas, it is the function of our publicly supported schools to establish courses to meet community needs,

"Be it resolved, that we, the members of the Morale and Emergency Service Committees of the Territory of Hawaii at conference assembled, that

1. We oppose the re-establishment of Japanese language schools in the Territory of Hawaii;
2. We advocate the teaching of all foreign languages in our public schools;
3. We advocate the establishment of an adequate adult education

program under the auspices of the Department of Public Instruction which will provide opportunities for the learning of English, American history, customs and institutions of our country;

4. We advocate the immediate dissolution of all remaining Japanese language school properties and assets, and

"Be it further resolved that a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the Governor of the Territory of Hawaii and the Department of Public Instruction."

This resolution was the result of considerable discussion on the problem. The delegates felt that they should make concrete suggestions which were incorporated in the resolution.

In June, 1943, Katsumi Onishi submitted to the University of Hawaii his master's thesis, "A Study of the Attitudes of the Japanese in Hawaii toward the Japanese Language Schools". The study shows that in 1937, 84% of the second generation subjects answering the questionnaire gave an affirmative answer to the question of sending their children to language schools. Only 3% of the second generation subjects thought "Hawaii would be better off without the Japanese language schools". The subjects were taken from all walks of life, including public school teachers and students.

In 1942 he made a study of 150 second generation subjects - "45 women university students, 5 women teachers recently out of the university and 100 students in a rural high school....." Onishi found that "the 1942 subjects were only mildly favorable" toward the Japanese language schools. He also found that "affirmative replies to the question regarding the sending of children to a Japanese language school decreased significantly....."

Onishi concluded his study with the following remarks:

"Although the group of university women students and teachers of 1942 is not truly representative of the Japanese population in Hawaii, the comments made by them may be indicative of the attitudes of a large number of citizens of Japanese ancestry. Most of them agree that the Japanese language schools either should be abolished and the study of the Japanese language be carried on in the public schools of Hawaii or should be placed under close supervision of the Territorial Department of Public Instruction if they are allowed to reopen after the war....." 1

1. Quotations from Onishi's study were taken from the summary made by M. Kido, executive secretary of the T.E.S.C. The summary is on file in the ESC office.

The Japanese Language Schools: 3

In the 1943 session our legislature passed Act 104, regulating the teaching of foreign languages. Section 3 reads thus: "No child shall be taught a foreign language in any school unless he shall comply with one of the following requirements: (a) That he shall have passed the fourth grade in public school or its equivalent, and shall pass from time to time in each succeeding grade a standard test in English composition and reading conducted by or under the direction of the department of public instruction attaining a score not lower than normal for his grade; or (b) that he shall have passed the eighth grade in public school or its equivalent; or (c) that he shall have attained the age of fifteen years".

Section 4 reads in part that "no school shall permit the teaching of any foreign language to any child under the age of fifteen unless the teacher shall have been examined and certified by a board of examiners of three persons appointed by the commissioners of public instruction to be reasonably well versed in the usage and idiom of both the English language and the foreign language to be taught by such teacher....."

The department of public instruction is not only interested in carrying out the provisions of Act 104, but it is also interested in teaching foreign languages in the public schools of Hawaii.

Superintendent Oren E. Long suggested to the education committee of the Chamber of Commerce that the public schools teach the oriental languages for those who are capable of learning them effectively. He suggested that this program be started in the 7th grade. I am sure we can give our support to such a program.

In order to provide for a worthwhile project to which language school assets may be donated, the Emergency Service Committee helped to create the "Hawaii Veterans Memorial Fund", which has been incorporated and registered with the treasurer of the Territory of Hawaii.

The objects and purposes of the corporation are: "to render aid to Hawaii veterans of World War II, their families and dependents; to advance the ideals of racial and religious tolerance and to promote a common understanding among the people of the Territory of Hawaii; to grant scholarships, loans and other assistance to worthy young men and women of promise in the Territory of Hawaii in obtaining higher education in Hawaii or on the mainland of the United States".

The board of trustees of the corporation includes the following: Charles R. Hemenway, president; Robert L. Shivers, vice president; Robert K. Murakami, secretary; Hawaiian Trust Co., Ltd., treasurer; Mitsuyuki Kido, auditor; the Honorable Ingram M. Stainback, governor of Hawaii; Col. Farrant L. Turner, Judge J. Frank McLaughlin, James T. Nishi and J. Garner Anthony.

You may be able to assist the fund by encouraging not only schools but other institutions and individuals to make donations.

Summary of Discussion:

Mr. Miyamoto pointed out that the vast majority are already dissolved - 124 - but that some 42 are left undissolved - 5 on Kauai, 14 on Oahu, 11 on Maui, and 12 on Hawaii. The greatest difficulty encountered is that of disposing of the assets. For the benefit of those language schools which wish to dissolve, but can find no more suitable recipient for their present assets, a new corporation has been set up, for this specific purpose, which is to administer funds so obtained to provide educational benefits, for veterans chiefly but also for non-veterans. Scholarships are to be paid from the funds secured from the liquidation of language schools and their assets. The fund is to be known as the "Hawaii Veterans Memorial Fund". It is to be administered by a Board of Trustees of excellent men - Gov. Ingram M. Stainback, Charles R. Hemenway, Robert L. Shivers, Farrant L. Turner, J. Garner Anthony, Frank J. McLaughlin, Robert K. Murakami, James T. Nishi, and Mitsuyuki Kido.

Mr. Honda pointed out that the Hongwanji Mission has applied for a new and amended charter in which the sponsorship of language schools is eliminated. The question was raised as to what would prevent it from changing its mind after the war. The answer was that the amended charter has to be granted by the Treasurer and signed by the Governor, neither of whom would be inclined to favor a reversal on this stand.

In regard to the language schools, Mr. Rinehart asked Dr. Lind what the experiences on the mainland with language schools of various nationalities had been. He turned the question over to Dr. Rademaker, who pointed out that the language school has performed a function of helping the immigrant group make the transition from the old country speech, language, and customs, to the American customs. The second generation has thus been the chief benefactor of the language school but because it imposes an additional educational task, the second generation has not liked it and therefore it has chiefly died out in the third generation. However, in some cases, such as that of the French Canadians in New England, the parochial language schools have been a part of the Roman Catholic Church to keep intact the French Canadian culture, with religion as its core and the French language as a necessary tie and means of binding the third and further generations together. If, therefore, the transition is desired to be made more rapidly, it is wise to taper off the use of the language school. This is true if the public schools perform the duty which they owe the people of the community they serve by teaching the languages necessary to help the second and first generation immigrants to understand each other. Moreover, if the public schools teach the languages needed for this, they can teach them in a way which helps more effectively to integrate the second generation student into American life, and to enable him to interpret the new way of life more effectively to his parents. He does not learn the foreign language as a separate and strange thing which is wholly apart from his life in the community, but as a part of tradition and culture with which everyone can be familiar as a part of world's wealth of knowledge and art, and not as something pointed out as belonging to him and hence forever to be associated with him just because of his ancestry.

DUAL CITIZENSHIP AND EXPATRIATION

Mrs. Ethel Mori

The problem of dual citizenship exists because of the conflict in nationality laws of the various countries. It is not peculiar to Americans of Japanese ancestry. There are millions of dual citizens of various racial descent in the United States. These non-Japanese technically cannot become full-fledged Americans because no accepted method of expatriation exists for them.

Dual citizenship is often confused with dual allegiance. In an effort to eliminate the dual citizenship bugaboo, a concerted drive was made to liberalize the expatriation laws of Japan. As the result of the insistence of Americans of Japanese ancestry as far back as 1914, the Japanese government made certain concessions. The Japanese Nationality Law of 1916 permitted American citizens to renounce their allegiance to Japan only up to 17 years of age. The Law of 1921 provided that males of 17 years of age or more cannot lose their Japanese nationality unless they have completed active service in the army or navy or there is no obligation to enter into it.

On November 28, 1919, the American citizens of Japanese ancestry petitioned the Japanese government to release them from all obligations to Japan. An excerpt from it reads:

"We are all men of Japanese parentage, born on the soil of the United States, and also have been educated in the schools of that country. We wish to be considered citizens of the country in which we are now living, and to show that men of Japanese ancestry can be as loyal to the country of their adoption as men of other ancestry residing therein."

At the same time the petitioners memorialized President Woodrow Wilson asking for his help in securing the desired revision of the Japanese law.

As a result of these efforts on December 1, 1924 the revised Japanese Nationality Law was put into effect. Its major provisions were:

1. Those born in the United States and certain other countries are permitted to surrender their Japanese allegiance at any time regardless of age.
2. Those born after December 1, 1924 will lose their citizenship if their parents do not within 14 days report their birth to the Japanese Consulate and request that they be registered as Japanese subjects.

Dual Citizenship and Expatriation: 2

Campaigns for voluntary expatriation were held thereafter. The Hawaiian Japanese Civic Association sponsored three drives in 1932, 1937 and 1939. The New American Conference attended by citizens of Japanese ancestry in 1938 and 1939 endorsed strongly the renunciation of foreign ties.

Notwithstanding these drives the number of dual citizens who expatriated was small - about 16,000 out of approximately 66,647 born before December 1, 1924. It is estimated that there are about 67,000 who are technically dual citizens. The principal obstacles were:

1. The difficulty of securing the necessary documents - such as birth certificates, application forms, family registries from Japan, etc.
2. The cost of expatriation (\$10 - \$25).
3. The refusal of many to admit allegiance and loyalty to Japan.
4. Indifference.

In 1940 a petition signed by 30,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry was sent to Secretary of State Cordell Hull through Delegate Samuel Wilder King in which a request was made for a simpler method of expatriation. In the 77th Congress House Resolution 6109 was introduced and passed by the House but was pigeon-holed in the Senate. Sponsored by the War Department, this bill provided a method by which a dual citizen may abjure any foreign allegiance.

Since the outbreak of the war, the formal procedure of expatriation has been suspended. However, the Swedish Vice Consulate has permitted Americans of Japanese ancestry to declare their intention to apply for expatriation. The authorities have accepted this declaration of intention to expatriate as evidence of loyalty exclusively to the U.S.A.

The present situation with reference to this problem of dual citizenship is confusing. The federal government through many of its officials has repeatedly taken the stand that it does not recognize dual citizenship. However, many of its departments give a great deal of weight to this in dealing with Americans of Japanese ancestry. The Selective Service Boards induct men irrespective of dual status. Our Territorial Department of Public Instruction requires only Americans of Japanese ancestry to show proof of expatriation before they are placed on the payroll.

When the War Department issued a call for volunteers, Americans of Japanese ancestry were asked to fill Form 304-A Revised. Question 28 in this reads as follows:

"Will you swear unqualified allegiance to the United States from any or all attack by foreign or domestic forces, and forswear

Dual Citizenship and Expatriation: 3

any form of all allegiance or obedience to the Japanese emperor, or any other foreign government, power, or organization?"

On the mainland the answer to this question was used as a basis for the segregation of the disloyal from the loyal. On the same assumption those who answered in the affirmative should be considered expatriated. There were many dual citizens among the 10,000 who volunteered from Hawaii and among those who were inducted. The roster of the now famous 100th Infantry Battalion, the most decorated group in the United States Army, reveals the names of many who are technically dual citizens.

This war has proved, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that dual citizenship has no bearing on one's Americanism. The so called dual citizens have been just as devoted and just as loyal to our country as the expatriated citizens.

Recently, a federal law was passed which provided that the Department of Justice may petition the Federal Court for the expatriation of an individual from American citizenship. There is a feeling that under the present circumstances, unilateral action by federal law to permit the renunciation of foreign ties might be advisable. This would be a simpler method of expatriation and at the same time will meet the objection of many Americans of Japanese ancestry who refuse to recognize their allegiance to Japan and to petition for expatriation from Japanese nationality.

At the conclusion of the war a provision should be incorporated into the peace treaty to solve the problem permanently. To accomplish this a joint resolution of Congress calling upon the Executive to secure such a provision is recommended.

As I understand it, the Emergency Service Committee has a subcommittee working on the whole problem of dual citizenship and expatriation. It is working closely with Mr. Garner Anthony, Mr. Hemenway, Delegate Farrington, etc. Any suggestions you may have on the question will be appreciated by the committee.

Fundamentally this problem is one of getting our fellow citizens to accept the principle that "Americanism is not a matter of race or ancestry but of mind and heart". At the same time it is important that every means be explored that will simplify and facilitate the technical proceedings as a protection or defense against those who would not accept the principle.

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Summary of Discussion:

Mrs. Mori discussed the origin, history, and significance of the problem, pointing out that Japan's claim based on jus sanguinis held that all persons born of Japanese parents are Japanese citizens,

Dual Citizenship and Expatriation: 4

subject to call for service, and owing allegiance to Japan, but that Japan's claims are not unique. France, Italy, Germany have all made similar claims, which have been repudiated by the United States Government, just as this claim has been repudiated officially. However, official denial of such claims by the State Department does not seem to rid the minds of many persons, including some in governmental services, civilian and military, of the mistaken idea that Japan's claim is indicative of a real tendency on the part of "dual citizens" to be loyal to Japan as well as, or rather than, the United States.

In the discussion of this point, Mr. Shigeo Yoshida stated pointedly that dual citizenship is not a legal matter, but rather a matter of what is the allegiance of the person. This war has made it possible for us, he said, to prove that dual citizenship does not mean anything. There are many dual citizens in the 100th Infantry Battalion, but no one could possibly challenge the loyalty of any one of its members. Their acts have proven their loyalty far more validly than any a priori snap judgements based on dual citizenship have done, and we should drive home the point proved by them - that dual citizenship doesn't mean a thing, but the inner convictions of the person do mean something. Of course, it would be good for us to continue to expatriate from Japan. But we should also educate the public on this basic fact - that whatever the legal claims of Japan, we still owe her no allegiance.

Miss Shimeji Ryuzaki who works at the Swedish Vice Consulate, reported that they now have 1,050 applications on file - "declarations of intention to expatriate from Japanese citizenship", to give the formal title. These are filled out by the dual citizens of Japan, and accepted for consideration by the Japanese government. The Kauai Morale Committee is particularly active on this point, sending in 50 to 75 applications every other day or so just now. This form of application is recognized by the United States State Department and personnel offices.

For a long time it was exceedingly difficult for any dual citizen to obtain employment in governmental services, because even though the State Department refused to recognize Japan's claims upon a dual citizen, and declared in writing that such claims had no effect upon the American citizenship or loyalty of nisci, personnel officers in various federal departments refused to accept this statement, saying they were under other orders originating with their own department. Hence some means was asked for to meet the needs of such departments. The "declaration of intention to expatriate from Japanese citizenship", was the solution. Once executed and on file in the Swedish Consulate, an official statement to that effect is issued the applicant by the Swedish vice-consul.

THE FUTURE OF THE AJA'S IN THIS AMERICAN COMMUNITY

Summary of Discussion:

Mr. Katagiri, Mr. Yoshida, and Mr. Kido introduced the discussion with the remark that the ESC does not consider that it has a monopoly on brains or good ideas and wanted to have everyone enter this discussion and contribute his ideas, suggestions, and criticism. In taking the chair for leading the discussion, Mr. Yoshida stressed this, referred to the morning's work as a background for this discussion, and called for a consideration of further issues. There are negative and positive aspects of the program and possibilities for the future, he said. Not only are there things to be done away with; there are also things to be done. There will be a Territorial Conference of Emergency and Morale Committees in a few months. One of the functions of this gathering is looking for ideas for that conference to consider.

Mr. Kido asked for some expressions of opinion with regard to the problem of assimilation in the sense of making everyone identical, compared with cultural pluralism, or the maintenance of various cultural entities so that they might each contribute their own particular customs and point of view to make up a blended and harmonious whole. Both outward traits and inner values should be considered in this connection.

Dr. Lind, when called on for a statement of the sociological aspects of assimilation, stated that assimilation, like Americanization, is a term which is used with many different meanings. Most frequently, assimilation refers to the process whereby a variety of immigrant groups acquires a common set of ideals, memories, and traditions. This cannot be achieved overnight, or by mere indoctrination, or formal teaching. People are assimilated by living and working together, by participating in common activities; and this above all takes time.

But assimilation also has its political or administrative implications and meanings. A nation such as ours, made up largely of immigrant populations, must somehow carry on during the period when assimilation is taking place, and it cannot afford to wait for three generations to permit the normal rate of assimilation. The nation frequently faces crises, such as the present war, in which the loyal support of all its residents is a primary consideration; and it becomes necessary to impose certain formal rules and standards of loyal conduct. A premium is placed upon evidence on such conformity, and loyalty becomes a matter of outward behavior in buying bonds or giving blood, for example, rather than of inner sentiment and devotion.

The same sort of conflict occurs with reference to what your committee has called "cultural pluralism", which is after all only

a six-bit word for a rather simple idea. America is a nation built from many immigrant populations, and our cultural unity comes from a joining and fusing of many different traditions and values, nearly all of which are of foreign origin. Our cultural roots have European, Asiatic, and African sources; and the glory of America is that it has been able to carry on a common life among elements that have been brought so recently from the four corners of the earth. So, of course, cultural pluralism or diversity is an ever present and inescapable fact in America.

There remains, however, the political problem as to how long we can continue to tolerate customs and institutions which are clearly of foreign origin, particularly if they seem to conflict with our accepted American values. The administrator who is attempting to build a community out of diverse elements is naturally disposed to eliminate as soon as possible anything that appears to be "foreign"; so it is that foreign language schools are naturally under suspicion, not only among administrators, but among the general public as well. Dual citizenship is perhaps even more of a red flag to those unacquainted with the people of Japanese ancestry. It is only common sense, therefore, to avoid flaunting the public with practices which savor strongly of "undesirable" foreign influences, recognizing at the same time that it is impossible to eliminate all sources of criticism from the larger community.

The very faces of Americans of Japanese ancestry will remain as relatively permanent "red flags" or symbols of foreign influence for those who, for one reason or another, wish to find grounds for criticism. We should exercise selective judgment in our conduct, avoiding as far as possible those practices which are certain to give offense in the larger community, realizing always that we cannot hope to avoid the possible charge of responding to foreign influences.

Mr. Kido pointed out that he had recently reviewed speeches printed in the Congressional Record with a view to analyzing what points were made by critics and opponents of the AJA's. Three points stand out constantly and repeatedly: the language schools, dual citizenship, and assimilation. There seems to be a need to work on this aspect of the situation.

Mr. Katagiri stated that if we are accepted as American citizens, foreign influences won't be so important. But other ethnic groups have not accepted us as true Americans yet, so any practices we have are misconstrued and criticised. We have to work toward acceptance if we are to get anywhere, otherwise whatever we do will continue to be considered "foreign" and objectionable.

Mr. Honda called attention to some practices which doubtless draw criticism from non-AJA's. He referred to the influences of practices in connection with funerals. He pointed out that if he were a haole, seeing long lines of cars, joking and laughing as if at a wedding, centered about a Buddhist temple, he might be inclined

to be somewhat put out and to dislike the procedure and those who practiced it. Besides, the practices are themselves hardly beneficial to the AJA's. The bases of contributions for koden for instance, were good intrinsically, but the practice has become somewhat overgrown, and has become too large a drain on the budget of most families. We should modify our customs and eliminate criticism and the creation of unfavorable impressions which will harm us in the long run.

Mrs. Mori pointed out that money is better than flowers, however, and therefore a money gift is good if people want to give. Now, however, the loving and bereaved ones send back a reciprocal gift - coffee since tea is not available. She saw not too much sense in that. She didn't drink the coffee, and many other people do not care for it, so why establish such a wasteful procedure just to continue a custom which has to be modified anyway? A card of appreciation would be much better. Someone else suggested that all contribution should be limited to \$1 each, and the return should be merely in the form of a card of appreciation. Mr. Yoshida stated that the community has to get together on such problems to get anywhere with them - there has to be common agreement. Mrs. Izumoto said that on Kauai, at Hanapepe, a communal gathering was held, at which an agreement was reached to hold contributions to a dollar limit. A similar agreement was reached in each of the Relocation Centers on the mainland, usually by the Block Managers' Association, or the Community Council or the church federations.

Mr. Yoshida pointed out that somebody has to take the lead and get criticized if we are to have changes. It will take leadership. Someone else stated that the older people are changing. Most are Christians now, and making the spiritual change has prepared them better for accepting the leadership of the AJA's in many matters.

Dr. Bowles recounted a case of considerable hardship in this matter involving illness, a feebleminded child, and the death of a soldier, all in the same family. The heaviest burden is of course the return gifts. The second generation should take the lead, with understanding, doing all that is right and in accordance with the inner meaning and hence necessary to remain close to the older generation. There is little resentment toward the leadership of the second generation, he said, but the unity of the family is essential. Whatever is really fine and a contribution to American life, he hopes the war won't scare the second and third generation away from. For instance, flower arrangement and brush-writing would be a pity to lose. The second and third generation should exercise judgment of what is or could be fine. The right spirit does much, and we should practice forbearance now in many things, in the hope of contributing such things later, when they are more acceptable to the larger community.

Dr. Rademaker called attention to the fact that there were two ways of looking at this matter of assimilation. If it is held desirable to secure the making of all persons identical, then it might be possible ultimately to get rid of all criticism of "foreign" or "Japanese" habits and customs among the AJA's, when they all become

perfectly assimilated in this sense. But it is important to note that the criticisms leveled against the AJA's here and on the mainland are really symptoms and tools of well-organized and skillful propagandists. Whatever the customs, traits, and virtues or defects of the AJA's, the facts are not so important as what people think of the AJA's, and so these critics use time and again, as Mr. Kido has noted, certain stereotypes, or crystallized pictures, which they try to convince the American people are really representative of the AJA's. The fact that they stick to assimilation, dual citizenship, and the language schools - and "disloyalty, Buddhistic practices, dishonesty, sneakiness", and a few other such choice terms - means simply that they think they can arouse prejudice and hatred against the AJA's if they can persuade people that the AJA's are characterized by such traits.

If we really want to know what they object to, we shall have to look deeper, into such things as the economic motives which prompted them to promote the evacuation of all Americans of Japanese ancestry from the mainland West Coast. How to resolve the motives born of economic competition so as to prevent selfish individuals and groups from making use of some minority such as the AJA's as a convenient scapegoat and a means to acquiring higher economic status and more money is a problem which has not yet been solved, however. If that can be solved, we can forget about these stereotypes and avoid injury by preventing their use, rather than trying to offset their influence when they are used. But after all, every man has a right under our free competitive system to try to earn his living, and we can't always avoid injuring someone else in the competition. So it may be necessary to take up the second technique.

This consists of keeping the critics from fashioning unfavorable stereotypes and fastening them on us by repetition and association. As Mr. Yoshida pointed out in the morning session, we can show by conclusive proof and demonstration that the connotations of some of these catch-words or stereotypes are not what the critics imply - that dual citizenship does not mean divided allegiance or loyalty, but merely a legal status which is independent of the feelings of the subject. But if we do this, we can expect that as fast as we break one of these stereotypes down, or get people to understand that they cannot truly be used to characterize us, new ones will be devised and promoted against us - for we are dealing with symptoms and tools, not causes.

However, if we are alert, we can head them off as soon as they are coming up, and even turn some of them back on the critics. We know that this can be done, because the critics have used many stereotypes which did not "catch hold", or did not appear to create the desired effect, and hence were dropped from their propaganda. If we plan to do this, however, we will need a large, well-organized, skilled set-up which spends a good deal of time and money in doing this work constantly, thoroughly, and more skillfully than the critics do it. And if we use this technique, then we shall have to be very careful about the acts and things which are important in the

manipulation of public opinion - even more important than it is necessary to be under any circumstances.

Mr. Yoshida remarked that we would have to be brighter and faster and more alert than the critics, in that case, but that here we had one of those positive aspects which he had referred to. For instance, we should have to watch carefully the use of language in public, and avoid giving impressions that we are trying to be secretive, unassimilated, or ununderstandable. Mrs. Mori asked how much the second generation are doing for the third generation in this matter of language - how many of them do what they can and should to get them into English standard schools? She has met several parents who feel that it is too much bother to take them a relatively long distance to an English standard school when they can get along more easily by letting them go to the nearest one. After all, this is a responsibility of the nisei.

Mr. Maier was of the opinion that cultural assimilation should be taken as a whole, that it should include travel to the mainland, if possible, and other experiences of this sort, because assimilation depends on living in an American environment, and that's the best and fastest way of getting it. A teacher stated that her observations in that capacity over several years indicated that students speak good English if the parents do. The second generation should accept that responsibility conscientiously.

Mr. Yoshida pointed out that integration comes through free interplay and accepted participation, and that we cannot hope to get very far without these things. Mr. Honda stated that it is for us to set the pace so that the sociologists can meet it (and revise their generalizations to take account of more efficient operations). All organizations of Japanese culture have been disbanded, including the Civic Association which was composed mainly of citizens. People say, "You folks are doing a good thing". But they forget to say, "Now come on and let's work together." If we wait 25 years, sociologists say we will come out alright. But we want speed to surprise them. The Lions, the YMCA, and the YWCA accept all applicants. We need to start something and invite others into a new organization. Rev. Miho suggested the further technique that some groups use in trying to discuss discriminatory practices personally with responsible groups, namely that of discussing discriminatory practices personally with responsible officers and members of their own organizations, and of other organizations, approaching the problem of discrimination on a personal and reasoning basis.

Dr. Bowles remarked that the use of English by adults, even though it is not good English, has a very good psychological effect. In almost all cases, one parent knows better English than the other, and it would not help matters much to have the less able one stop trying to speak English. Of course, it is well to encourage all parents to speak as good English as they can. To this end, and to improve each other's English, it is wise to form the habit of reading English aloud in the family, to each other. It is also wise to form

habits of dealing with haoles on a more direct basis. Much complaint by haole employers is heard when some person of Japanese ancestry leaves or fails to show up without telling the employer why he left. What can be done about this? It is due, of course, to the old habit of "hikkomimasu" or withdrawing without coming to an open break. But it leaves the employer feeling that the people of Japanese ancestry cannot be relied upon. This is a hard criticism to meet. The best we can do is to be more frank and direct about it when we feel that we are not justly treated or that we prefer to work elsewhere for some reason.

Mr. Miyamoto introduced a resolution as follows:

"Whereas, Americans of Japanese ancestry will continue to face new problems, and

"Whereas, All problems need to be solved within the framework of the good of the whole community, and

"Whereas, We are committed to the democratic way of life,

"Therefore, Be It Resolved: That we assembled in conference go on record as favoring an inter-racial organization whose purpose will be to work towards social progress and more democracy in Hawaii."

He pointed out that we need more democracy in Hawaii, that we need to push on toward this goal, but we need to establish an inter-racial basis for our lives after the war ends.

Mr. Mukai said: "Most of you seem griped at not getting into some haole group. Why don't you try to get accepted in your own occupational group? Let's forget this interracial business; let's just mingle as man to man, and woman to woman."

Miss Ryuzaki added that many of us fail to take advantage of the opportunities offered to or open to us. If we always try to be there when we are invited, we would be welcomed on other occasions and in other organizations, but we don't show up. Invitations are usually issued on a personal merit basis, so we should be there, to carry our responsibilities as well as to ask why we aren't accepted. We'll get further by active participation in groups opened to us now. Someone else echoed this statement.

Mr. Miyamoto said that labor unions have worked harmoniously because there is a common purpose behind their activities. Let us try to start this organization and see how far we get. Mr. Honda summarized a number of discriminatory "unwritten laws" and said that we should try to produce some improvement in this area. We need an organization for the education of those who discriminate.

Mrs. Fujimoto spoke in favor of Mr. Miyamoto's resolution. The CIO organizations, she said, and perhaps also the AFL, treat members on an equal footing, so members think of themselves as labor

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union members not as Japanese, Chinese, Koreans, etc. This is the thing we need to remember.

Mr. Yoshida put the question of Mr. Miyamoto's resolution to the delegates present. There seemed to be overwhelming approval, and Mr. Yoshida pointed out that every person would have to work on this task of creating interracial organizations if it is to be successful. Mr. Katagiri raised a point of order prior to the vote, and Mr. Yoshida therefore put the question as a determination of opinion rather than as an official decision. When Mr. Yoshida relinquished the chair and turned the meeting over to Mr. Kido to continue the discussion, Mr. Katagiri put the question in issue by moving that the ESC work out plans to carry out some sort of organization on an interethnic basis. Mr. Murakami seconded the motion in order to bring it into debate. He then suggested that it might be better not to take any formal and definitive action which might mark out any such moves in the future as emanating from the ESC.

Dr. Murai added that he, as the chairman of the ESC, has already committed himself, under the instructions of the rest of the Committee, to appoint a committee to study the question and to make formal recommendations to the ESC, together with recommendations for action, if any is deemed necessary. He assured the conference that its judgment on the matter would be considered most seriously by the Committee, but that it might be advisable for the Committee to act indirectly or informally in the matter, and that he wants to leave the Committee all necessary latitude to work out the proper tactics. In the light of these arguments, Mr. Katagiri withdrew his motion, with the consent of his second.

AN EVALUATION OF THE WORK OF THE EMERGENCY SERVICE COMMITTEE

Summary of Discussion:

Mr. Kido opened the second part of the discussion, that on the evaluation of the work of the ESC, with the statement that the ESC considers that it holds its office as a public trust, that it is trying its best to serve the public in every way possible. It has, however, no monopoly on brains, ideas, or leadership, and will welcome all the advice and suggestions which are offered to it by anyone. Several suggestions were forthcoming when he asked what the ESC has done that it should not, or has not done that it should do. One delegate asked about the education of the public. Recently a broadcast mentioned the "language schools still being conducted by the Shinto churches in the Territory". There are no Shinto churches operating now, nor any language schools. What is the Committee doing to enlighten people who make such absurd errors?

Another delegate declared that the ESC should make a determined drive to deal with the dual citizenship problem. It should try to get all the declarations of intention to expatriate possible, so that we'll have something to present when it comes time to decide the future of the AJA's at the peace table. The boys in service overseas will surely pass adverse judgment upon us if we don't do something about dual citizenship. We should urge as many as possible to take the step of expatriation, now that it is so easy.

Miss Ryuzaki pointed out as an individual that the Swedish consulate cannot go out to drum up expatriation applications. It can only state the facts and supply a procedure for those who come to it to ask about the matter. As for customs at funerals, perhaps that is simply a matter of the last possible consolation for already bereaved parents, and perhaps best not interfered with. But we should have something on record to show what the allegiance of the AJA's really is when the peace conference considers such matters. We will have to have a resume of the record of requests for expatriation. The way is open for expatriation so far as the procedure is concerned. We should let all our dual citizens know that and then let them take the initiative. We shouldn't expect much praise even if we do. However, make a good record in expatriation. If we don't have a lot of applications, the haoles will say "Why didn't you do something about clarifying your position?" and if we do have a large number of applicants, there will still be some who say, "Just look at them - accepting the Japanese law and Japanese governmental provisions without a question!"

Miss Ryuzaki said with reference to the application forms that the space for "employment" means the subject's employment, not his or her father's employment. It is also important to have the applicant print the name under the written signature, so that the correct spelling can be secured. If the applicant is under 18, the signature of one parent is necessary. The date is especially essential for no applications can be accepted which do not have the date filled in. Mr. Kido reminded the delegates that the ESC keeps a supply of the

application forms on hand in the Nuuanu YMCA office.

Another delegate stated that he was concerned about the youth of the community and asked about the feasibility of forming a junior ESC to solve the problems of high school and university students 16 to 20 years of age. Such an organization might be created to help the members think things through and prevent future problems of all sorts for the community and themselves. Miss Ryuzaki suggested that this would be an ideal age level to establish an interracial group. Mr. Kido called attention to the fact that the ESC is not a racial organization. It is an organization of American citizens, not representative of a race, but an interest group like the Pacific Club or Rotary, whose members are particularly interested in emergency service and morale problems, and especially qualified for certain work in this field.

Mr. Honda said that he felt that all the delegates wanted to praise "all you boys who sacrificed and worked effectively and who have done all the work that was necessary, to the neglect of your homes and families". Each person has only two legs and a body, he pointed out, and when you're in one place you can't be in another. The members of the ESC have taken time out of their home lives to do very important work, without remuneration of any sort, and deserve praise for their work.

Mr. Katagiri reminded the conference that we should all be alert to the coming session of the Legislature. We will play politics, he said, because we're Americans, and we want certain legislation to pass - most especially that referred to by Mr. Deacon in the morning session covering rights of veterans and their dependents. Mr. Miyake said that the ESC has been doing Americanization work with good results. It is even more desirable to impart knowledge of American customs among the AJA's, and we should work toward this end.

Mr. Kido thanked the delegates for their evaluation of the ESC work, and their suggestions and criticisms, and asked that anyone who has further suggestions or criticisms write them to the ESC at the Nuuanu YMCA office. He said he would be glad to have as many ideas as possible to consider carefully and to make use of for the benefit of the community in the future work of the ESC.

Mr. Katagiri resumed the chair and stated that the morning's speeches and Mr. Guntzer's Manual would be reproduced and supplied to interested persons. He asked that we all follow closely the legislation providing for a Veterans' Council, and to support it personally to secure its enactment. It seemed essential that we get the Legislature to appropriate money with which to teach Asiatic languages and thus to eliminate the need for language schools. Thereafter Mr. Katagiri summarized the Conference results briefly, ending with the accurate keynote that in this Conference, "much has been contributed, much has been shared".

John A. Rademaker

1944 REPORT OF THE EMERGENCY SERVICE COMMITTEE

The committee's participation in the erection of the temporary war memorial and plaque on the grounds of the territorial building was a major project of the year. As its share \$500 was donated to the project, which was completed and dedicated on Dec. 7, 1944. Lt. Gen. Robert C. Richardson, Jr. made the dedicatory address. The plaque carries the names of Hawaii's soldiers who gave their lives in World War II.

In order to recognize the efforts of soldiers at Camp Savage language school, the committee presented 3 watches to the 3 outstanding students graduating in June.

Captain Jack Mizuha's letter relative to rehabilitation of returning soldiers awakened the committee to the seriousness of the problem. In order to get some background on rehabilitation work in the territory, the committee heard Mr. Elton Morrell of the D.P.I. on the subject.

It was decided that we interest some leaders of the community on this problem, so the committee approached Mr. Leslie Deacon; who immediately took a keen interest and got others interested, also. He called on the governor several times to discuss this problem. The governor, then, appointed a veterans' advisory committee, headed by Mr. Alfred Castle, who was then president of the local chapter of the American Red Cross. At the close of the year this committee had a legislative bill ready for the assistance of the veterans.

Our committee assisted the war department in the presentation of Purple Heart medals throughout the year.

One thousand reprints of the article "Issei, Nisei, and Kibei", appearing in the April issue of the Fortune magazine were ordered and distributed among our friends of other racial groups.

The committee having heard that AJA's might not be given furlough to Hawaii, wired to Delegate Farrington in May requesting him and Col. Bicknell to contact the war department to extend the furlough of the 100th Infantry boys to Hawaii. Subsequently the boys were permitted to return to Hawaii.

Our committee sponsored a reception for the first returned AJA's of the 100th Inf. Bn. in the Nuuanu YMCA auditorium on April 30, 1944. They were Pvt. James G. Funakoshi and Pfc. Charles M. Takonaka. Many parents of the 100th Inf. Bn. boys came.

The committee also wrote a letter in April to Delegate Farrington informing him that our wounded AJA's at the New Army Dibble Hospital, Menlo Park, California were not happy there and asked him to try to have them transferred to Hawaii.

The grand affair of the year was a meeting sponsored by our committee at McKinley High School auditorium on the night of June 1, 1944. Lt. Col. Farrant L. Turner who had returned from the Italian

front spoke on the experiences of the 100th Inf. Bn. to the boys' parents and friends. The auditorium was filled to capacity.

The committee also sponsored meetings at Ewa, Waipahu, Waianae, Wahiawa and Waialua so that the 100th Inf. Bn. boys' parents and friends might hear Col. Turner.

In June Mr. Wallace Hirai and his friend, who are aliens, asked the committee to forward their letters to General Richardson, asking him to grant their petition to enlist in the United States army. The letters were forwarded to the general through Col. Fielder. Subsequently these men were accepted into the army.

On the return of Capt. Jack Mizuha from the front, the committee in cooperation with the Women's War Service Association sponsored a reception for him on Aug. 12, 1944 at the Nuuanu YMCA. Many parents and friends of the 100th Inf. Bn. boys were present.

Capt. Mizuha under the auspices of the committee toured the island, speaking before gatherings of parents and friends of the soldiers of the 100th Inf. Bn.

A territorial conference of morale and emergency service committees was held at Kahului, Maui on July 21-23, 1944. Delegates from Kauai, Oahu, Hawaii and Maui assembled to discuss the following topics: Assistance to Servicemen and Their Families, Language Schools, Employer-Employee Relationships, Participation of the Japanese Community in War Activities, Removal of Alien Influences and Practices, Developing Better Personal Relationships and Participation of AJA Leaders in Determining Policies and Trends in the Community. The proceedings were published under the title: "Report of the Second Territorial Conference, Morale and Emergency Service Committees".

In order to get information on veterans' aid in the various states, the committee wrote to all the states and received 32 replies. The state benefits were summarized by the territorial executive secretary and the summary reports were sent to all the legislators and other community leaders.

In November \$300 from the welfare fund was lent to an AJA soldier who needed it to get married. He agreed to return the sum within 6 months. There was no interest charge.

The committee assisted by the advisory committee and 7300 friends raised \$19,541.00 for the Christmas and Welfare Fund and with the contributions made from Kauai, Maui and Hawaii Morale Committees sent gifts as follows:

100th and 442nd.....	\$5000.00
Fort Snelling.....	750.00
1399th Engineers.....	600.00
1536th Engineers.....	200.00
1525th Engineers.....	200.00
Camp Shelby.....	250.00
Camp Fannin.....	250.00
Camp Hood.....	250.00
Fort Sill.....	200.00

298th Infantry,.....	\$ 600.00
Fort Benning; Georgia.....	25.00
Interpreters; POA.....	50.00
Interpreters; with Navy.....	100.00
Interpreters; -China.....	50.00
Interpreters; Burma.....	50.00
Interpreters; Saipan.....	25.00
Interpreters, Guam.....	25.00

Another big event of the year was the Christmas day dinner at Netsunoya for all the 100th Inf. Bn. boys back from the front. About 125 boys attended. Many had not seen each other for several months, so the occasion was a happy reunion.

The final draft of the necessary document for the Hawaii Veterans Memorial Fund was completed late in the year. The fund will be incorporated and will receive monetary and real property gifts to assist the veterans and their families.

A suggestion came from the military authorities that we organize Americanization classes for paroled internees who are all AJA's. These men had spent their young days in Japan, so had very little contact with American culture.

The committee secured the assistance of Dr. Miles E. Cary, Mr. Lorne Bell and others and organized three classes. The classes studied politics, democracy, frontier life of early America, American manners and customs. We feel that the course helped the men a great deal.

On July 1, in cooperation with the other island morale committees, we established the office of territorial executive secretary, who devoted his full time on morale work.

Other activities of the committee included the following: the distribution of service flags and attendance at memorial services, fulfilling the requests of boys overseas to present memorial flowers to the parents of AJA's who gave their lives in battle, creation of a handbook describing the activities of the committee and distribution of same, subscribing local newspapers for boys at Camp Shelby and other camps and hospitals, assisted in the organization of the Women's War Service Association, donation of \$600 to Camp Savage for theater curtains, distribution of Camp Shelby album, distribution to mainland leaders of leaflets, titled Democracy at Work, assisted next of kin of AJA soldiers in filling out blanks for insurance and dependency allotment.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley Miyamoto, secretary

Somewhere in France
December 31, 1944

Dear Masa:

Your Christmas card with the kind note reached me just the other day, reminding me again of home and the friends I left behind.

From your remarks, I gathered that the Emergency Committee is anxious to help those of us who are in the service. It is fortunate for those of us overseas that such committees as yours are committed to this policy, for I am certain that many will need help in some form.

This war is far from being won, in this theatre as well as in the Pacific. Add to the already imposing roll of honor the many more who will be killed or injured and you will get a faint impression of the great challenge which confronts such service groups as yours. The families of the deceased, the maimed and their dependents, and the fortunate few who will return sound in mind and body - all will need help in the difficult days ahead.

And since you have asked for suggestions as to how your group might be most helpful, I am taking the liberty of offering a few thoughts at random in the hope that they may serve to guide you in your work.

To me, first and most important is the creation of a working Post-War Planning Committee. Its members ought to be community and social leaders who know just how far the people in their respective localities and in the Territory are willing to go to help the soldier and the already returned veteran who will be able to present the wants, the desires, and the aspirations of their fellow servicemen. The job of this committee ought to be just what the name suggests, formulating plans whereby the returning soldier may best fit into the post-war world, economically and socially, so that he may make the greatest possible contribution to society in general and to himself in particular.

It is taken for granted that the government and other groups will do much for the discharged soldier. But, it must also be taken for granted that such aid will be institutionalized, arbitrary, and impersonal. Soldiers of Japanese ancestry who have done so much to make the future for all Americans, and those of Japanese descent in particular, secure are entitled to more than that. They are entitled to the special consideration of their kind, so that even should they be lost in the great shuffle among all returning veterans after this war by larger agencies they shall not be forgotten by such as yours. This much, at least, I feel, is owed us. For we have risked life and limb time and time again that persons of Japanese extraction may walk the streets in dignity and honor after this holocaust is over.

Take the hospitalization of the wounded, for an example. Our men are entitled to more than a government dole. They are entitled to a system of planned recreation and rehabilitation which supplements the gov't program. They might even be entitled to special research

along those specific lines most vital to most of them, in conjunction with government research of course, but which might not obtain with the maimed servicemen of other nationalities.

Take the matter of employment, for another example. Our soldiers are entitled to a more personal, humane employment service. Our returning soldier should receive individual, personal, friendly aid in selecting jobs and in being placed in the jobs of their choice. Too often disinterested government clerks are more prone to fit the individual into quotas and begging-jobs than in locating work to fit the individual talents.

Now, all this may have given you the impression that the wounded veteran and the returning soldier expects or demands special treatment and consideration. He himself only asks that he be given the same equal chance with all others. But, some one must aid him in adjusting himself to a world which has changed since he has left--and that is where your committee comes in. One thought to keep uppermost in all your planning, though, is that the average soldier wants to get as far away as possible from regimentation and institutionalized mechanics.

Since the returning veterans are all combat soldiers who have seen life and death in its most brutal forms--life indeed at times has seemed to have been the most expendable article on the front lines--you will find that they are not the same inexperienced, naive youth who left Hawaii to fight our country's enemies. Some will have an air of cockiness because of the remarkable record of the Combat Team, and some will show aggressiveness beyond the call for it, I am afraid.

You who have not been through the "hell" of war must be broad-minded and tolerant toward such attitudes, remembering that they were developed at the risk of life for you at home. Be patient with them; do not judge them too harshly or too quickly.

You might be interested to know that not so long ago, during Delegate Farrington's visit to the Combat Team, I had the good fortune and the privilege of meeting with him and discussing many topics. He assured me that we from Hawaii will be well taken care of on our return and that our people are doing well there now. I sincerely hope that what he told me was true and that actual programs for helping us have advanced beyond the thinking, planning, and kindly intentions stage.

Though, at present, the war seems far from ending, we are still hopeful that 1945 will return us to the Islands and that we shall find your Committee and others prepared to welcome us in the true Hawaiian style.

Wishing you and yours the happiest and most successful New Year ever, my comrades join me in thanking you and your Committee for your interest in us.

Aloha,

/s/ Joe