

12, Social Science Building
University of Chicago
Chicago, 37, Illinois

June 20, 1944

Mr. Fujita
Employment Office
Stevens Hotel
South Michigan at East Balbo
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Fujita,

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your expressed willingness to cooperate with us in the study of occupational groups among the resettlers in Chicago. My only regret is that thus far I have always disturbed you in the midst of your busy days. I hope that we have not caused too much inconvenience.

Confirming our telephone conversation of June 15, we are at present interested in getting accurate statistical data on the workers at the hotel. Since much of the information in the files of the War Relocation Authority is available to us, the only information that we should like to request of you is: (1) names of all persons of Japanese ancestry ever hired by the hotel, (2) the date of hiring, and (3) the date of dismissal or departure. If the gathering of this information requires much clerical work, we shall be glad to send a stenographer from our office to do the copy work.

We had hopes that the actual statistics and the analysis of the characteristics of your workers and their turnover might possibly be of some value to you in your work in the employment office; if this is the case, we shall be glad to provide you with a copy of the computed data and the analysis.

Thank you again for so kindly offering your assistance. Without your aid we would hardly know where to begin. I shall be looking forward to seeing you again in the near future.

Yours very sincerely,

Tamotsu Shibutani
Research Assistant

12, Social Science Building
University of Chicago
Chicago, 37, Illinois

June 20, 1944

Miss Midori Sugita
Employment Office
John F. Cuneo Company
465 West Cermak Road
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Miss Sugita,

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your very kind cooperation in our study of occupational groups among the resettlers. The information that you provided was extremely helpful for getting a general picture of the situation. We were particularly interested in getting a factual account of the activities of resettlers in your plant because of the multitude of rumors circulating among the Nisei about the company. Many of the rumors are apparently unfounded.

It is with reference to this point that I wish to make one further request. Nothing speaks more eloquently than accurate statistical data. This is the reason why I asked for certain information about the characteristics of the workers. We have found that we can get considerably more information than we had thought possible from the files of the War Relocation Authority. Consequently, the only data that we should like to request of the company, if it is possible to get them, are (1) names of all persons of Japanese ancestry ever employed in the firm, (2) date of hiring, and (3) date of dismissal. We can get all the other information from the W.R.A. files. Would it be possible to get this basic data?

Thank you again for your assistance. I hope that I shall have an opportunity to see you again in the near future.

Yours very sincerely,

Tamotsu Shibutani
Research Assistant

Sample

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12, Social Science Building
University of Chicago
Chicago, 37, Illinois

Date

Firm
Address
City

Attention: Personnel Department

Gentlemen:

For the past two years a group of social scientists from the University of California have been engaged in making an extensive study of the mechanisms and consequences of the evacuation and resettlement of persons of Japanese ancestry. During this period the group has enjoyed the cooperation and sanction of the War Department, the Department of Justice, and the War Relocation Authority. Those who are in the study are working in the hopes, not only of getting objective information that might possibly be of some value in the post-war adjustment of ^{the} evacuated persons, but also have in mind a wider aim of providing a sound basis of knowledge for the planning and execution of possible mass migrations in the future. A part of this group is now engaged in the study of the adjustments of the Nisei who have resettled in the Chicago area, and at present we are particularly interested in the position of the Nisei in the Chicago labor market.

We understand that the (firm) has in its employ a large number of the resettlers and, ^{we} ~~are~~ are interested in getting objective data on the adjustments that have taken place in your (plant or hotel). Since there have been so many rumors about the Nisei in your organization, we feel that we should make a special effort to discover what is actually happening. We are particularly interested in getting the actual statistics of the occupational turnover of Nisei workers. ~~Through~~ the cooperation of the War Relocation Authority, Because of/ we have found it possible to get some of the data necessary. However, there are many gaps which cannot be filled, and we should like to request your assistance. Would it be possible for us to get: (1) the names of all persons of Japanese ancestry in your employ, (2) the date on which they were hired, and (3) if they were

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terminated, date on which it took place? There is some additional information that we should like to request with reference to matters of policy and especially the type of work being done by Nisei.

Since the compilation of such a list would undoubtedly incur considerable work, we shall be glad to provide the clerical assistance necessary. Furthermore, if you should feel that any analysis that we may make of the role of Nisei in your organization can be of any possible value to you in your future relations with Nisei workers, we shall be glad to provide you with a copy of our analysis.

I hope that we are not being too presumptuous in making this request. Our interest is only in seeking objective information. We are quite anxious to have these statistical data and could see no other way of getting them other than by appealing to your generosity. I hope that it will be possible to make some kind of arrangement whereby such information might be made available to us with the very minimum of inconvenience to you.

I shall be looking forward to hearing from you and hope that you will find our proposal agreeable.

Yours very sincerely,

Tamotsu Shibutani
Research Assistant

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT STUDY
207 GIANNINI HALL
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

July 24, 1944.

Andes Candies Shops,
4430 N. Clark St.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Attention: Personnel Department

Gentlemen:

For the past two years a group of social scientists from the University of California have been engaged in making an extensive study of the mechanisms and consequences of the evacuation and resettlement of persons of Japanese ancestry. During this period the group has enjoyed the cooperation and sanction of the War Department, the Department of Justice, and the War Relocation Authority. Those who are in the study are working in the hopes not only of getting objective information that might possibly be of some value in the post-war adjustment of the evacuated persons, but also have in mind a wider aim of providing a sound basis of knowledge for the planning and execution of possible migrations in the future. A part of this group is now engaged in the study of the adjustments of the Nisei who have resettled in the Chicago area, and at present we are particularly interested in the position of the Nisei in the Chicago labor market.

We understand that Andes Candies Shops has in its employ a large number of the resettlers and, we are interested in getting objective data on the adjustments that have taken place in your plant. Since there have been so many rumors about the Nisei in your organization, we feel that we should make a special effort to discover what is actually happening. We are particularly interested in getting the actual statistics of the occupational turnover of Nisei workers. Because of the cooperation of the War Relocation Authority, we have found it possible to get some of the data necessary. However, there are many gaps which cannot be filled, and we should like to request your

assistance. Would it be possible for us to get: (1) the names of all persons of Japanese ancestry in your plant, (2) the date on which they were hired, and (3) if they were terminated, date on which it took place? There is some additional information that we should like to request with reference to matter of policy and especially the type of work being done by the Nisei.

Since the compilation of such a list would undoubtedly incur considerable work, we shall be glad to provide the clerical assistance necessary. Furthermore, if you should feel that any analysis that we may make of the role of Nisei in your organization can be of any possible value to you in your future relations with Nisei workers, we shall be glad to provide you with a copy of our analysis.

I hope that we are not being too presumptuous in making this request. Our interest is only in seeking these statistical data and could see no other way of getting them other than by appealing to your generosity. I hope that it will be possible to make some kind of arrangement whereby such information might be made available to us with the very minimum of inconvenience to you.

I shall be looking forward to hearing from you and hope that you will find our proposal agreeable.

Yours very sincerely,

T. Shibutani

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

4 Japanese had working for us.
3 worked about 5 months and left
1 is still working and very satisfactory
has been employed here for about
6 months. We have not made
a practice of employing Japanese
Anders Candies Inc
E L Carver
7/26/44.

gauge structural

Gentlemen:

In our letter of July __ we requested certain information concerning nisei employees in your firm. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~
~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ We have since been notified by the Military Intelligence that your plant is engaged in war production and that consequently some of the information that we requested is confidential. Therefore, we have no alternative but to drop the study that we were contemplating.

Thank you for your very kind attention you have given this matter. We are sorry to have caused you any inconvenience.

Very sincerely yours,

J. F. Curran - June 28
James P. Blaine, Jr. V. & Co.

Shotwell

Tuttle & Keight

Duffin

Superior

Mohr - Sind - Saw

Date

Mr. T.R. Stanton, Personnel Manager,
H.P. Smith Paper Company,
5001 W. 68th St.,
Chicago 38, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Stanton:

I have your ~~xxxxxxx~~ letter of July 27th in which you kindly agreed to pass on to us statistical data referring to persons of Japanese ancestry~~x~~ employed by the H.P. Smith Paper Company. You indicated ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ that the data were not ready at that time but that they would be made available shortly. ←

We have not yet received the data and I should like to inquire whether there has been an unexpected delay, or whether you had already sent the material and some mishap has occurred *on route*.

I should very much appreciate your notifying us in the event that you have already sent the information in order that we may begin checking with postal authorities. In the event that the data has been held up unexpectedly we stand ready to provide any clerical assistance that may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to call upon us if we can be of any assistance to you in evaluating the data on Japanese-American workers.

Trusting that we shall hear from you in the near future,
I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Tom Shibutani
Research Assistant

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 57, Illinois.

July 27, 1944.

Tuttle and Kift, Inc.,
1823 N. Monitor,
Chicago, Illinois.

Attention: Personnel Department

Gentlemen:

In our letter of July 20th we requested certain information concerning nisei employees in your firm. We have since been notified by the Military Intelligence that your plant is engaged in war production and that consequently some of the information that we requested is confidential. Therefore, we have no alternative but to drop the study that we were contemplating.

Thank you for your very kind attention you have given this matter. We are sorry to have caused you any inconvenience.

Yours very sincerely,

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago, Illinois.

July 27, 1944.

Shotwell Candy Manufacturing Co.,
3501 W. Potomac,
Chicago, Illinois.

Attention: Personnel Department

Gentlemen:

In our letter of July 27th we requested certain information concerning nisei employees in your firm. We have since been notified by the Military Intelligence that your plant is engaged in war production and that consequently some of the information that we requested is confidential. Therefore, we have no alternative but to drop the study that we were contemplating.

Thank you for your very kind attention you have given this matter. We are sorry to have caused you any inconvenience.

Yours very sincerely,

Tatotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

July 27, 1944.

Duffin Iron Co.,
4837 S. Kedzie,
Chicago, Illinois.

Attention: Personnel Department

Gentlemen:

In our letter of July 20th we requested certain information concerning nisei employees in your firm. We have since been notified by the Military Intelligence that your plant is engaged in war production and that consequently some of the information that we requested is confidential. Therefore, we have no alternative but to drop the study that we were contemplating.

Thank you for your kind attention you have given this matter. We are sorry to have caused you any inconvenience.

Yours very sincerely,

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

July 27, 1944.

John F. Cuneo Co.,
465 W. Cermak Rd.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Attention: James B. Blaine, Executive vice-
president

Dear Mr. Blaine:

In our letter of June 27th we requested certain information concerning nisei employees in your firm. We have since been notified by the Military Intelligence that your plant is engaged in war production and that consequently some of the information that we requested is confidential. Therefore, we have no alternative but to drop the study that we were contemplating.

Thank you for your very kind attention you have given this matter. We are sorry to have caused you any inconvenience.

Yours very sincerely,

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

July 31, 1944.

Mr. A.J. Schiffmann,
Office of Military Intelligence,
Sixth Service Command, U.S. Army,
20 N. Wacker Drive,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Schiffmann,

Confirming our conversation of July 26, we are dropping our proposed study of the occupational adjustment of Americans of Japanese ancestry in the following Chicago industries:

1. International Harvesters (all branches)
2. Cuneo Press and the John F. Cuneo Company
3. Shotwell Candy Manufacturing Company
4. Tuttle and Kift, Inc.
5. Duffin Iron Company

Furthermore, pending clearance through your office, we are withholding all efforts to study the following firms which were placed on the doubtful list:

1. A.C. McClurg and Company
2. H.P. Smith Paper Company
3. Superior Pipe Specialty Company
4. The Club Aluminum Company
5. Gage Structural Steel Company
6. Midland Structural Steel Company
7. Mohr Lino-Saw Company
8. Universal Battery Company
9. Twentieth Century Glove Company

We have already notified the firms in the first list of our intention of dropping the study and are concentrating our attention upon those firms for which we had definite approval. The number of plants covered will probably be very small inasmuch as many of the companies on your approved list have indicated their inability to cooperate with us. We should appreciate word from you concerning the nine firms on the

-2-

"doubtful" list inasmuch as some of them have expressed their willingness to assist us in our work.

I am indeed sorry to have caused this inconvenience. Please rest assured that we stand ready to cooperate with you in any way.

Very sincerely yours,

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

12, Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois:

August 14, 1944.

Mr. H.O. Mohr, President,
Mohr Lino-Saw Co.,
126 N. Union Ave.,
Chicago 6, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

In our letter of July 20th we requested certain information concerning nisei employees in your firm. Since receiving your very kind letter of July 25th, we have been marking time awaiting clearance from Military Intelligence. Since your firm was not listed in the approved list which we received from the Sixth Service Command on August 10th, we are assuming that some of the information that we requested from you is held to be confidential by the Army. Therefore, we have no alternative than to drop the study that we were contemplating.

Thank you for your very kind attention you have given this matter. We are sorry to have caused you any inconvenience.

Very sincerely yours,

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

12 Social Science B Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

August 14, 1944.

Gage Structural Steel Co.,
3141 S. Hoyne,
Chicago, Illinois.

Attention: Personnel Department

Gentlemen:

In our letter of July 20th we requested certain information concerning nisei employees in your firm. We have since been notified by the Military Intelligence that your plant is engaged in war production and that consequently some of the information that we requested is confidential. Therefore, we have no alternative but to drop the study that we were contemplating.

Thank you for your very kind attention you have given this matter. We are sorry to have caused you any inconvenience.

Yours very sincerely,

Tamotsu Shibutani
Research Assistant

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

August 14, 1944.

Mr. Alfred Ford,
Superior Pipe Specialties Co.,
2618 S. Sacramento Ave.,
Chicago 23, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

In our letter of July 24th we requested certain information concerning nisei employees in your firm. Since receiving your very kind letter of July 29th, we have been marking time awaiting clearance from Military Intelligence. Since your firm was not listed in the approved list which we received from the Sixth Service Command on August 10th, we are assuming that some of the information that we requested from you is held to be confidential by the Army. Therefore, we have no alternative than to drop the study that we were contemplating.

Thank you for your very kind attention you have given this matter. We are sorry to have caused you any inconvenience.

Very sincerely yours,

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

12 Social Science Building
University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

September 12, 1944

Mr. B.N. Braun
Midland Structural Steel Company
1310 South 54th Avenue
Cicero, Illinois

Dear Mr. Braun,

In accordance with our verbal agreement of yesterday afternoon, I am enclosing with this letter the actual figures of the Japanese-Americans at Midland. As you can see, the numbers are so small that it would be dangerous to attempt any generalizations on the basis of these data alone.

The second column contains the average number of Nisei at Midland for each month. These figures will probably be slightly smaller than what you had anticipated, mainly because of the method used for computation. We have followed the standard technique used by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, which consists of adding the total number employed on the first day of the month to the total number remaining on the last day and dividing the sum by two. In this manner, those who started working and quit during the same month would be omitted altogether.

I am also enclosing the age distribution of your Nisei workers, arranged in accordance to the number of days they have been employed. Eleven persons were omitted because of insufficient data or some other reason. Here again the actual figures are so small that they are hardly significant.

I regret that this is all that we can provide at the moment. We hope to be able to send you more information in the near future.

May I again express my appreciation for all the courtesies extended to us.

Very sincerely yours,

Tamotsu Shibutani
Research Assistant

Enclosure

12 Social Science Building
University of Chicago
Chicago 37, Illinois

September 8, 1944

Mr. B.N. Braun
Midland Structural Steel Company
1810 South 54th Avenue
Cicero, Illinois

Dear Mr. Braun,

The attached report is a brief synopsis of our findings in the studies we have conducted at Midland and ~~Midland~~ ^{other} other firms in Chicago. The statements are by no means ~~our~~ ^{assess} final conclusions. They are all tentative, pending a more detailed analysis of all our data at the end of the war. We have hopes of continuing our study for some time to come and we certainly hope that we might be able to provide more definitive information at some later date.

If you wish to have some part of the report elaborated, please do not hesitate to call upon us. We shall be more than glad to clarify any of the statements. Furthermore, if in the future we can be of any assistance to you with reference to some problems involving the Japanese-Americans, please do not hesitate to call upon us. We shall be glad to do whatever we can.

Unfortunately, ^I we have not ~~yet~~ been able to begin our interviews with the workers. When ^{this} segment of the study is completed, ^{either by myself or someone else on our staff,} we shall notify you of any new findings with reference to your company.

May I take this opportunity to express our appreciation to you and all of the persons at Midland that made our study possible. I am indeed sorry to have inconvenienced you in this manner, but the data that we were able to get from you have provided the indispensable basis for more extensive studies. Thank you ever so much.

Yours very sincerely,

Tamotsu Shibutani
Research Assistant

Enclosure

→ Since I shall be ~~inducted into the armed~~ called to active duty in the armed forces shortly, I shall not be able to do this work.

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

September 22, 1944.

Mr. T.R. Stanton, Personnel Manager,
H.P. Smith Paper Company,
5001 West 66th St.,
Chicago 38, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Stanton:

I have your letter of July 27th and in which you kindly agreed to pass on to us statistical data referring to persons of Japanese ancestry employed by the H.P. Smith Paper Company. You indicated that the data were not ready at that time but that they would be made available shortly. We have not yet received the data and I should like to inquire whether there has been an unexpected delay or whether you had already sent the material and some mishap has occurred on route.

I should very much appreciate your notifying us in the event that you have already sent the information in order that we may begin checking with postal authorities. In the event that the data has been held up unexpectedly we stand ready to provide any clerical assistance that may be necessary. Please do not hesitate to call upon us if we can be of any assistance to you in evaluating the data on Japanese-American workers.

Trusting that we shall hear from you in the near future. I remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

September 22, 1944.

Mr. Frank Fujita,
Employment Office,
Stevens Hotel,
Balbo Drive & Michigan Ave.,
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Frank:

About the middle of August we forwarded to you names of a number of Nisei employed at Hotel Stevens and the data about them that was missing from our records. Inasmuch as it was impossible for us to continue our analysis, we forwarded the list to you as we had agreed at the time that you first made the information available to us. To date we have not received the material, and I should like to inquire whether there has been an unexpected delay or whether you had already sent the material and it was lost in the mails.

If you have already sent the material, please notify us at once in order that we may check with the postal authorities. In the event that you have been too busy to go through the unreasonably long list that we sent you, please do not hesitate to call upon us to do the necessary clerical work. We shall be more than glad to do the paper work.

We have completed our tentative study of eight of the ten firms under investigation. While our material is by no means conclusive, there may be some tentative conclusions which may be of possible assistance to you in your personnel work. We shall naturally be glad to forward this information to you, although we would prefer to base our judgments about the Nisei at Stevens on factual data collected at the hotel itself rather than in other companies.

I trust that we shall be hearing from you in the near future.

Very sincerely yours,

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

12 Social Science Bldg.,
University of Chicago,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

November 6, 1944.

Mr. Burton J. Bernstein,
Sovereign Manufacturing Company,
711 South Dearborn Street,
Chicago 5, Illinois.

Dear Mr. Bernstein,

The attached report is a brief synopsis of our findings in the studies we have conducted at Sovereign Manufacturing Company and seven other firms in Chicago. The statements are by no means our final conclusions. They are all tentative, pending a more detailed analysis of all our data at the end of the war. We have hopes of continuing our studies for some time to come and we certainly hope that we might be able to provide more definitive information at some later date.

If you wish to have some part of the report elaborated, please do not hesitate to call upon us. We shall be more than glad to clarify any of the statements. Furthermore, if in the future we can be of any assistance to you with reference to some problems involving the Japanese-Americans, please do not hesitate to call upon us. We shall be glad to do whatever we can.

Unfortunately, I have not been able to begin our interviews with the workers. Since I shall be called to active duty in the armed forces shortly, I shall not be able to do this work. When/if this segment of the study is completed, either by myself or someone else on our staff, we shall notify you of any new findings with reference to your company.

May I take this opportunity to express our

appreciation to you and all of the persons at Sovereign Manufacturing Company that made our study possible. I am indeed sorry to have inconvenienced you in this manner, but the data that we were able to get from you provided the indispensable basis for more extensive studies. Thank you ever so much.

Yours very sincerely,

Tamotsu Shibutani,
Research Assistant

Enclosure



CURTISS CANDY COMPANY

CHICAGO 13, ILLINOIS

Mr. Thomas Shibutani
12 Social Science Bldg.
University of Chicago
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Tom:

Thank you very much for your letter of Nov. 6 and the enclosure which I considered an excellent report on the evacuee employee situation. As far as Curtiss Candy Co. is concerned, those of us here in the Personnel Department enjoyed reading it and found it helpful. I think your conclusions are sound and we are grateful to you for your service compiling this study.

I learned that you are going in the Army and want to wish you all success. If I can be of any further assistance to your successor, will you please tell him to contact Harry Mayeda or myself.

With all good wishes,

Very truly yours,
CURTISS CANDY COMPANY

Elmer L. Shirrell
Elmer L. Shirrell
Personnel Department

ELS:m