

Tame + X on Gila Sept 1943

Administrative Notes: on Gila

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Several evacuees who work in the administrative offices claimed that the project is really run by James Terry, the project attorney. According to them Bennett is simply ~~th~~ an inefficient figurehead who subscribes to the policies dictated by his attorney. To demonstrate Terry's superiority over Bennett one of them cited an incident which occurred at the time of the departure of the repatriates for New York to board the Gripsholm. Both officials were scheduled to leave for Los Angeles in the evening but Bennett insisted on going about 3:00 p.m. Terry became annoyed and is credited to have made the following admonition within earshot of our informant: "This is one of the most important events so far. At least we should be here until the group leaves camp." The argument ended with the attorney "ordering" the project director to remain in Gila until evening.

One of our L.A. friends who is an administrative official there commented: "Mrs. Terry is a nice and charming lady but we don't like Terry. He seems to be awfully cold." The evacuees we talked to remarked that "Terry has no feelings for human emotions." Similarly, Bennett's popularity with the evacuees appeared to be nearly zero. Comments such as these were quite prevalent:

"No use talking to that guy."

"He is anti-Japanese."

"If you argue with him he will send you to Leupp."

The attitude of the Japanese toward the appointed personnel in general may be characterized by that toward Bennett. They claimed that both he and Terry showed great contempt toward them. They invariably stressed the difficulties involved in gaining entrance to Bennett's office. When we informed them that in Poston

the appointed personnel and the evacuees frequently sat together to discuss project problems they evinced great surprise and envy. They replied: "We don't talk to the A.P.'s because it's no use. If they don't like what you say they send you immediately to Leupp. Even if 10,000 of us got together and sent a petition to Bennett it won't be of any use. He won't listen to us." Since they feel they can't buck the administration the tendency is to take it out on the evacuee administrative workers. (Concerning this Nelson remarked on our return that Gila was going to the extreme in the treatment of its "incorrigibles". Its policy is to send any "undesirable" to Leupp or Santa Fe. Poston on the contrary was going to the other extreme in showing too much leniency towards its undesirables. He commented that the WRA was trying to find a middle course.)

A lack of coordination between the appointed personnel and the military police guarding the camp seemed quite evident. Bennett apparently is rather reluctant to have the camp "inspected" by WRA employees from other centers or by Washington officials. This observation was corroborated on our return by Nelson who contributed the following incidents suggesting such behavior:

When Rogers, the agriculture chief, arrived at the M.P. gate accompanied by two high-ranking officials from the Dept. of Agriculture the soldiers refused to admit them. Rogers was compelled to leave them at the gate and rush back to Bennett's office for entrance permits.

A.W. Empie, chief administrative officer at Poston, on his recent trip to Gila was forced to wait an hour before the M.P.'s would permit him to enter the project.

A WRA official from Washington presented her credentials at the gate but the M.P.'s would not let her in for an hour and a half. Being a visitor from Washington she decided that the proper procedure for her would be to call on the project director so she hurried to his office but was informed that he was too busy to see her at the moment. After waiting over an hour Bennett

appeared and greeted her rudely, "I haven't time right now to talk to you. I have to attend to some personal matters." After going through all that discomfort and being dismissed in such a summary fashion, she commented later to another official: "Bennett could at least have been civil and carried on a conversation for even a couple of minutes."

The evacuees appeared to resent keenly the display of favoritism on the part of administrative officials, especially in connection with the issuance of passes to Phoenix. There was a great deal of complaining that ad workers went to their departmental heads and got passes to Phoenix freely whereas it was almost impossible for the rank and file to procure one.

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According to informed circles Hugo Wolter is attempting to set a new policy ^{by} which evacuees will be brought into closer contact with the administration. Every evacuee we talked to expressed ~~surprise~~ praise or liking for him. One exclaimed: "It's natural that some people like a certain person while others do not like him. In Wolter's case, however, 99% of the evacuees like him. If Wolter could take over Bennett's job, Gila will be much better off." They claimed that Tuttle and Wolter were working close together.

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Dr. Sleath is credited to have said on his arrival in Gila that he came there to earn his living and was not all interested in the welfare of the Japs. However, as he got to know his hospital staff he began to like the Japanese and to understand them. Dr. Collier, his successor, expected the evacuee physicians to kowtow to him from his experience in the Orient, but much to his chagrin they refused to do it. During Sleath's sojourn the evacuee doctors fully cooperated with him and his difficulties lay in handling the appointed personnel, but with Collier the

reverse is said to be true. One evacuee doctor commented: "Well, we didn't know how good Sleath was until he left us."

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The Welfare Dept. was short of welfare workers at one time so Bennett recommended strongly the putting in of a couple of school teachers. Tuttle objected to this vigorously claiming that missionaries and school teachers do not generally make good welfare workers. According to a statement credited to him by his secretary he exclaimed: "They'll put school teachers in here over my dead body." As a result of this disagreement Bennett and Tuttle were not on friendly terms until the project director realized his usefulness at the time of segregation.

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The A.P.'s we talked to were more anxious to find out about the Poston strike than the evacuees. They wanted to know the details as much as possible. They emphasized the effect of the strike on outside public opinion but appeared totally ignorant of its therapeutic value. They condemned in no uncertain terms the threats and intimidations against the pro-American minority by the rest of the evacuees.

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It appears that in Gila, Mess Operations is one of the most important departments. Unkie Poston, mess halls are centralized and frequently the supervisors and the kitchen help do not reside in the blocks in which they are employed. Consequently there is no intimate tie between the mess halls and the block residents. The chief topic of conversation while we were there centered on food. There was much grumbling concerning meat shortage but no one had sufficient gumption to go up to the administration to register his complaints.

When the proposed cut in project employment reached the

administration it tried desperately to keep it a secret in contrast to Poston where the administration utilized every means available to inform the residents to secure their cooperation. In Gila they gradually let out the news and began releasing people. Mess Operations was the last department to be tackled. It was affected so late that the evacuees had come to believe the administration would do nothing about it. In fact Keadle was afraid to take any action and attempted to keep it as secretive as possible. Somehow the news leaked out eventually and the messhall workers became indignant claiming they could not operate with less people. The agitation was more or less fermented by the residents who felt they would receive poorer service. About this time there were also many complaints against the Personnel Messhall receiving better rations. Some maintained that when the evacuee messhalls were devoid of meat for two weeks the appointed personnel had indulged in 400 pounds of beef. A friend of X who handles ration points in Keadle's department told him that the Personnel Messhall frequently exceeded its quota and used up points which rightfully belonged to the evacuees. He had called Keadle's attention to this several times but the official had told him it was "alright" to do so.

As a result of the agitation against the proposed cut the messhall supervisors held a meeting and decided to call a strike. They subsequently returned to their respective messhalls and took a vote among the kitchen help. The general sentiment of these meetings was that they had better not call a strike lest someone be removed to Leupp. Furthermore, they would be inconveniencing their own people. The results of the voting were close in many blocks. A typical example was block 61 where 19 voted for a strike, 10 against, and 5 remained neutral. However, in many blocks

there were two to three agitators who wanted a strike and were successful in influencing others to take their stand. These agitators wanted a strike to show their antagonism toward the administration. Only a very few blocks voted against the proposal but these were expected to participate in the demonstration beginning the following morning. When morning arrived most of the kitchen help reported to work. In only one block was breakfast not served because only one worker turned up. At noon the meal was served as usual. The strike failed because the people were afraid to stage one. Some of the evacuees claimed that "the biggest spark to ignite failed because the incident had been ill-chosen". In other words, the shutdown of messhalls would have inconvenienced their own people.

Yamashiro, one of those who had been removed to Leupp following the registration disturbance in February, and who had temporarily returned to be married, was taken out immediately because Bennett suspected him of fermenting the messhall strike.

According to our friends the WRA is deducting \$15,000 from the subsistence appropriations for Gila to penalize her for refusal to comply with WRA regulations at once.

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All of the Nisei workers in the administrative offices were more courteous and helpful than those in Poston. We did not encounter any smart alecks which abound here. This may probably be due to the fact that all of the departmental heads are older and speak fluent Japanese so can readily understand the problems of both Issei and Nisei. X believes that their courtesy to strangers is a reflection of the tough, disciplinary measures to which they were exposed in the Japanese language schools.

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John Yamsaki, the Nisei Episcopal minister there and son of Rev. Yamasaki who was beaten at Jerome, told me: "The ministers come to me to request me to take various problems to the administration. When I ask then, 'Why don't you take them to Bennett yourself?', they invariably answer, 'If we come in contact with the administration too frequently, we'll be suspected by the evacuees.'"

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One evacuee lamented: "You must blame the administration for the gap between the appointed personnel and the evacuees and between evacuees themselves. The administration encourages squealers and stool-pigeons. When they squeal the administration gives them favors so more guys would act as informers to get favors. The rest of the evacuees naturally find out about this soon enough and become resentful of the administration's tactics and be suspicious and hostile to the Inu."

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In connection with the issuance of ration books and shoe certificates the Gila administration asked the ration board in Coolidge to place evacuees on its staff. The board replied it was against regulations. A compromise was finally worked out and now three evacuees go to Coolidge every Saturday to perform clerical work on the weekly applications. The books, however, must be signed by a Caucasian on the board.

In contrast to this, in Poston all applications are turned in at Parker where the ration board has a Caucasian worker devoted entirely to the handling of evacuee applications. This arrangement was made because, as Nelson puts it, "It's your baby." Otherwise the Poston officials insisted that a ration board should be established

on the project with full power.

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A 22 year old Nisei girl who was deeply in love could not marry the man of her choice because of strenuous objections on the part of her parents. The boy and girl presented their problem to the Social Welfare Department and requested aid. A welfare worker contacted her parents and did her best to have them withdraw their objections but they remained adamant. Finally Tuttle took the matter into his own hands and after consulting Wade Head by telephone ~~shipp~~ slipped the couple out of Gila. They were married in Phoenix and were transferred to Poston. When the welfare worker warned Tuttle that he would have to take the rap if her parents found out about it, he replied calmly: "Yep, I know that. But I'm willing to take the blame."

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Block Manager System:

In contrast to Poston where the block managers are under the direct supervision of the Unit Administrator, in Gila they are under the Community Management Division. Kinoshita, the central block manager, who corresponds to our block manager supervisor, is an old Issei who is not at all aggressive. Since he neither reads nor speaks English he does not attend administrative meetings but sends his assistant who is a Nisei. Kinoshita's selection is primarily due to the fact that the majority of the block managers are Issei and the type who are good-natured, easy-going, and who take pains not to offend anyone.

The regular block managers' meeting is held on Tuesday morning but instead of initiating camp policies as they do in Poston, the Gila managers listen to information handed out by Kinoshita who

had himself received it from his assistant. In Gila administrative notices are not announced in the messhalls as regularly done in Poston but simply posted on bulletin boards. Since very few individuals bother to read the bulletin boards people as a rule are not well-informed. Unlike Poston, block managers do not keep definite hours but leave their offices open until late at night since they reside in the adjoining apartment. There is nothing business-like about the manager -- in fact residents refer to him as the "buratsuku manager" (literally translated "loafing manager"). At present there are two on the block manager staff but they are contemplating cutting it down to one since there is not enough work to do. This is in marked contrast to Poston where the staffs are fighting for the retention of at least three. To demonstrate the inefficiency of the block managers, a friend related that at first the handling of the ration books was entrusted to the block managers but since most of them could neither read nor follow instructions, the ration board became disgusted and decided to handle them itself.

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Education:

One of my college friends told me: "The project was anxious to start night school classes as soon as the camp was opened but they couldn't do it because of lack of college graduates. They started finally after we came in from Santa Anita.

"A class on Foreign Trade was to be included in the curriculum to be taught by John (a U.S.C. graduate in Foreign Trade) but Le Baron objected to this because he didn't want the school to teach geography to the Japanese."

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Council:

The residents were saying at the time of our visit that even if they elected representatives to the permanent council nothing would be accomplished because the administration will not listen to them. Two block managers told us that if the officials would only permit them to handle things their way conditions would be considerably improved.

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Relocation:

According to a worker in the Leave Office, Freeland is highly incompetent. Things are in a mess and the files are not in order. She cited the case of three men who are on the stop list but who have been granted seasonal leave. In regard to this Freeland commented: "Well, there's nothing we can do about it now. I guess we'll have to wait until they come back."

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At the departure station one day X met an old Issei from Vacaville whom he has known for about twenty years, who was going out to relocate in a town about thirty miles from Chicago with his wife. The couple had obtained domestic work through the Employment Office. When X expressed surprise at their going out he replied: "If I remain here I will rot. I still have a few good years left in me and I am going to spend them usefully. One of my sons is in the army and another son is in Chicago working. My son in Chicago wanted me to come and live with him and his wife, but I'd rather work on some regular job. I can't stand idleness, as I have been working hard for more than forty years."

Mr. Yukawa is one of the pioneer Japanese who settled in the Vacaville area and successfully operated fruit orchards on the share-crop basis. He is about sixty-five but seemed healthy and vigorous for his age.

Hospital:

When an emergency call for doctors came sometime ago from Manzanar two of the Gila doctors were immediately dispatched there leaving only four doctors on the project. Now all of them with the exception of one is planning to relocate. The residents are considerably worried at the prospect of having no doctors in the hospital and the possibilities of retaining them were discussed at great length throughout the camp. It finally culminated in a block managers' meeting which was devoted entirely to the subject. At this time it was decided to send a petition to the project director and the Washington WRA to pay prevailing wages to all doctors in the hospital. (Such an action was taken in Poston last April -- this being another example of Gila being several months behind Poston in many activities.)

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Mrs. Roosevelt during her Gila tour visited the tuberculosis ward in the hospital and stood between the double row of beds to be introduced to each patient by the chief medical officer. As each was introduced she nodded and said, "How do you do?" The secretary accompanying her glared at the patients, according to one, "as if we might harm her." As the party was leaving the ward she called back, "Good luck to you all."

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Because of the great abhorrence to tuberculosis among older Japanese the hospital had great difficulty in securing nurse's aides to work in the T.B. ward. In desperation the doctors made it mandatory for each aide to work there for a six-week period, taking turns. It appeared that the nurse's aides had no scruples in working there but they had to accede to the objections of their

parents.

When a representative of the Washington WRA arrived on an inspection tour the parents requested clarification of this regulation. Some of the aides had already left the hospital at the insistence of their parents. The official ruled that no one could be forced to work at any job against his wished. After this there were only two aides to look after eighty patients. When they left at the expiration of their six-week period there was no one to replace them. Since there was no one to bring breakfast the first morning many of the patients went hungry. The more energetic ones made their own beds while family members attended to others. At the council meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 7, Dr. Hata made an urgent appeal for nurse's aides to work in the T.B. ward.

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Employment:

The great number of employable people loafing around their apartments was very conspicuous during our visit. They reminded us of the situation which existed in Poston during the early part of last summer. We learned that most of them had been "terminated" (the term used in Gila to designate release from a job) by the last cut in employment. One evacuee related that the official allotment for Gila was 4200 but the administration requested a reduction to 3200 claiming that that number was sufficient to operate the project. Another report maintained that the Jewish woman sent there by the WRA to determine the number of essential workers failed to take into consideration certain projects such as the dehydrating plant and the ship building program.

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Law and Order:

Gambling on a small scale was said to be going on in almost every block. Games played for stakes involving hundreds of dollars occur only in a handful of places. Block 55 was reported to be operating a professional gambling house along with a house of prostitution. We were told that the police tended to overlook this crime unless residents lodged formal complaints with them.

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The evacuee assistant to Tuttle informed us that there was very little difficulty in handling boy-girl relationships in Gila. Gang fights were also stated to be a rare occurrence. The major problem according to her was theft of government property by young boys who operated in gangs. While a few acted as decoys to engage guards in conversation, others performed the stealing. The Social Welfare Dept. seems to be the central office in handling juvenile delinquency.

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Evacuee Leaders:

It was reported that at the Turlock Assembly Center the clothing allowance was not paid to the evacuees as the WCCA had announced. In addition many failed to receive wages for the work performed in the center. When the residents complained bitterly about this, the councilmen reluctantly took the matter up with the administration but since they were "weak-kneed" the officials "stalled them off" successfully. As the agitation increased the councilmen consulted among themselves and decided to pacify the residents with the argument that "the clothing allowance is a form of charity and we, the Japanese are too proud to receive any form of charity." They reinforced their stand by maintaining that the Japanese in California had the lowest percentage of all racial groups in becoming public charges and that they should continue this high standard. Furthermore, with reference to the payment of wages, they argued that the matter would be taken care of sooner or later even if they were transferred to another center. They also claimed that some degree of inefficiency should be expected of all newly created governmental agencies like the WCCA. In this fashion they succeeded somewhat in checking the rate of increase in ~~xxxx~~ uneasiness.

When the inmates of the Turlock Assembly Center were transferred to Gila and learned from those who had come from the Tulare Assembly Center that they had not only received full payment of wages but had been paid their clothing allowances as well, their anger against the councilmen was revived. Their bitterness was further accentuated by the housing difficulty (they were transferred as you remember before the barracks were ready and some of them had to be quartered in the laundries and the block managers'

offices) and by the agitation of the voluble Kibei and Issei. In the Canal Camp the former councilmen at Turlock had to take the brunt of the accusations as the cry "Let's get the guys who were in the council" was heard in many places. In the meantime stories of the Poston strike and the attempt of several Nisei "leaders" to reinforce their hold by starting a JAACL chapter helped to widen the break between the Nisei and ~~Kibei~~ Kibei elements. The Nisei leaders such as Tada, Nobu Kawai, Taki Asakura, and Harry Miyake, faced the Kibei with their pro-American, pro-administration stand. (This situation is comparable to the stand taken in Poston by Saburo Kido, John Maeno, Harry Kita, etc. of Camp 2, and Dr. Tep Ishimaru of Camp 1 in the pre-strike days).

In opposition to this faction the Kibei gained control of the GYPU (or GYPA) which was originally intended to be an organization for both Kibei and Nisei. Yamashiro, Mizuno and Okamoto were leaders of this group and were successful in consolidating its strength by their pro-Japan utterances and activities. About this time the conception of Nisei leaders as Inu gained in intensity.

There is a strong indication that the raising of the Japanese flag on the butte on New Year's Day was conceived by the offenders from information they received concerning the Poston strike. (Many of the residents we talked to held the firm belief that genuine Japanese flags had been defiantly hoisted at the time of our strike). It is difficult to establish a direct relationship between the Poston incident and the intensified pro-Japanese activities and utterances of the Gila Kibei and Issei during the latter part of ~~xxx~~ December, January and February, but it is a fact that their actions became more brazen and more belligerent

about the middle of last December.

On New Year's Day the traditional Japanese ceremony was observed in several blocks, although varying in intensity. An extreme case was reported in block 66 where Mizuno, an Issei of about 40 years of age, appeared in the messhall in ceremonial kimono and led in the singing of Kimigayo, the Japanese national anthem. The ceremony concluded with three banzai for the "Great Empire of Japan."

The situation in the Canal Camp similarly took to the worse resulting in the beating of Tada by several assailants. One of them, a block manager and a leader of the camp, reported that the gang took Tada to the vacant area beyond the messhall and beat and kicked him until he lost consciousness. The wardens, hearing the agonizing screams, rushed to the scene but the assailants, with the exception of the block manager, escaped in time. The block manager, however remained on the scene and acted "as though I had been called by the screams too." He proudly told X that he

1. Tada was secretary of the Rafu Shoko Kaigisho, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Los Angeles, just prior to evacuation. He succeeded Akashi, an Issei, a few months before Pearl Harbor. Akashi relinquished his post to a Nisei because of the critical situation between American and Japan in the hope that he might be able to save the organization which had been working closely with the Japanese Foreign Office and the consulate. It was in line with the general trend in Japanese communities at that time to transfer title and leadership of firms and organizations to Nisei because of their citizenship. Tada has been accused by many of being cocky and arrogant.

had directed the wardens in the wrong direction in their pursuit of the criminals. Tada subsequently left camp and is reported to be at Camp Savage.

The passing of the JAOL resolution in Salt Lake City in November and the impending registration created a situation analogous to that found in Poston's Camp 2 at that time. The Kibei leaders made strenuous attempts to influence others into answering negatively to questions 27 and 28. Some of them even composed a "battle hymn" and sang it to the young people. They were ~~also~~ not above intimidating them in their attempt to make them fall in line.

The administration, however became cognizant of their threats through some evacuees who complained about their activities to the officials and it eventually resulted in the wholesale arrest of 26 Kibei and Issei agitators by F.B.I. agents in February. The arrested men included all the overt leaders such as Yamashiro, Okamoto and Mizuno. During the raid communication between Butte and Canal was completely suspended and the highway was patrolled by M.P.'s equipped with machine guns. The Canal residents became panicky as wild rumors permeated into their camp. One story heard during the raid reported that over one hundred Japanese had been taken out by the F.B.I. from Butte including all members of the Community Council. The excitement was increased when the employees in the Ad offices who regularly commuted to work from Canal failed to return home on time.

It should be noted that those individuals who had been secretly ~~ex~~ "egging on" the Kibei, such as Miura, Ochi and Ogasawara, remained in camp unmolested. ⁽¹⁾ Since the raid, these Issei

1. Ochi is a Zen priest who came to this country only a few years ~~ago~~ ago.

He lived in the same apartment with another priest and his wife, with whom he is reported to have carried on an affair. He was taken out of camp by the F. B. I. on Sept. 19.

behind the scene have been very quiet and unassuming especially Ochi, to whom is credited the statement that "it is too dangerous to talk or to do anything since there are too many Inu around." Miura, however, was a little bold in his about-face when he gained prestige in the administration as the insurance counselor. Our informant claimed that these men were only after political power and prestige when they were closely associated with those who were removed. He accused: "They are the worst type of opportunists -- ones without personal conviction or conscience."

At the time of the registration, the Japanese section of the Gila News-Courier carried an administrative instruction side by side with the translation of an anti-Japanese article which had appeared in one of the L.A. papers. The following is the story of writer A who purposely placed these articles side by side:

"The Reports Officer sent in an article regarding the intent and the procedures of registration and requested it to be translated and printed on the Japanese page. I didn't want to print it without comment but I knew I couldn't do that. But to express my idea that it was foolish to serve in the army of a country which does not trust and discriminates against Japanese, I translated an article of an anti-Japanese nature claiming that the Japanese should be deported to Japan and barred from returning to California. I showed both translations to Ogasawara, my chief. ~~He~~ He was surprised and scared. He said it was too dangerous and I couldn't do that. He added that Le Baron would be sure to detect our purpose and would call us into his office. I got disgusted and told him, 'You sure talk big all the time but when it comes to a time like this you don't have guts to do anything. All right,

if you ^{don't} ~~don't~~ want to take the responsibility, I will do it.'
Finally, Ogasawara reluctantly agreed to print them if I would be willing to go to Le Baron's office when he called for explanations.

"The articles appeared and had the effect on the residents as I had foreseen. And sure enough, Le Baron sent a messenger for us to come to his office. I told Ogasawara to go alone as he was the chief. But he was afraid and would not go. He said I had promised that I would be responsible for the act. In the end we both went to the Report Officer's office.

"Le Baron was mad. He wanted to know why we printed those two articles side by side. He accused us that we were obstructing the military registration. That was a subversive act, he maintained. We said that we had no ulterior motive. You wanted the article about the registration to be printed and we did that. We printed the anti-Japanese article in the space left on the page without any bad intention. We printed it because it was the topic residents are most concerned about. The people want to know how they will be treated in California after the war.

"Le Baron was not convinced and kept on accusing us. He added that if this had been reported to Washington we would be shot to death. That statement irritated me. I said to him that America is boasting about democracy and freedom of speech and press. We just printed some article which had appeared in an American newspaper. I couldn't see that we were guilty of a subversive act by reprinting some article which was alright for the Los Angeles paper. If they wanted to shoot us, I wish they would do it. It would be advertised all over as an example of the American type of the freedom of the press.

"I don't know what happened after that. As far as we were concerned, nothing was ever mentioned again. Soon afterwards, (re: Mrs. Egami) Ogasawara had to leave camp on account of the scandal and Le Baron left too. Now I am careful because Bennett is sending out anyone to Leupp or Santa Fe about whom he has the slightest suspicion. It is too dangerous to come out in the open and do anything out here."

According to A, after the F.B.I. raid overt expressions of a pro-Japanese nature disappeared from the community. Instead the residents complained about the administration in the dark, but there was no one to come out and fight against it.

About a month ago Mizuno returned from Santa Fe to attend the funeral of a close friend. It was reported that he was disgusted and indignant about the attitude of the residents. He particularly attacked the resigned atmosphere of camp. To him the residents lacked courage -- they were taking everything sitting back as though "they had lost life". He is claimed to have said: "These people are the rottenest of the Japanese. They should drink the decoction prepared from the dirt under the fingernails (an old Japanese expression) of the internees at Santa Fe!" He accused the Gila people of being defeatists and opportunists and attempted to instill in them the fiery spirit of the internees. However, he failed to receive much attention. Only a few individuals were seen with him and many avoided him, indicating the changed atmosphere in the intervening months.

(Mrs. Mizuno is reported to be an aggressive woman with two or three children. She is said to have worked once as a waitress in a cheap restaurant in Sacramento. Some claim she is a Nisei but she spoke to X in good Japanese but very poor English. An

evacuee worker in the Social Welfare Dept. told us that they have considerable difficulty with her because she would come there and make unreasonable demands in a loud, angry tone. This was verified by Mrs. Mizuno's own statement when she boasted to her friends: "I took my kids in rags and showed them to the people in the Welfare Office. I told them I was without means to take care of my family after they took my husband away. I made them scared because I bawled hell out of them (Kuso miso ni itte yatta). I was mad enough anyway and I didn't care what happened after my husband was taken away.")

Yamashiro, likewise, returned to Gila from Leupp about the same time. He had come back to be married and to be transferred to Tule Lake with the segregants. His account of Leupp as told to an intimate friend is significant. He said with much disgust:

"I had the idea that the people who were shipped to Leupp were the ones with firm convictions as to their loyalty. I thought they were courageous people who were willing to die for what they believed. Instead I found at Leupp cheap thieves and gamblers. None of them spoke our language. It was disappointing to find out that they totally failed to see why Japan is fighting this war. They also failed to appreciate things Japanese.

"At Leupp the military registration was held recently. We, the ones from Gila, worked hard to make them answer in the negative as we had done here, but we could not arouse enough interest. Most of them answered 'Yes' to the questions.

"I answered 'No' to the questions and took my paper to the project director. He looked at it and tore it up in a rage. He then grabbed me and shook me roughly. He said it wouldn't do; I hadn't thought deeply enough. He handed me another blank to fill

out and told me to be careful this time.

" I again wrote 'No' to the questions and took it back to the project director. He again tore up the paper and in return gave me another blank. He did not say anything this time.

"I filled the third blank in the same way and gave it to him as before. The project director got up from his seat, shook my hand and said, " I admire you. I respect you because you want to live according to your convictions."

"Then we talked in a friendly manner about the camp and the boys there. I was greatly surprised that he knew so much. Some of the things I was sure only Okamoto could have known. I became suspicious but I was not sure of my suspicions until he was released on good behavior to go to Poston. We found out then that he had been squealing to the project director and in return for service this ~~service~~ he had been released from Leupp."

Gohachiro Miura: Is an Issei who used to sell Manufacturer's Insurance in Los Angeles before evacuation. The residents described him as a meddlesome man who "tries to put his nose into everything." In the beginning he is reported to have made many pro-Japanese utterances to gain the attention of the evacuees but as soon as he entered Terry's office as an insurance counselor he changed color to procure favors from the administration. Many people accused him of being a stooge for the administration "selling the evacuees out." He was one of the recipients of the "poison pen letters" that Hankey refers to. Since then he has applied for a Japanese instructorship at the University of Michigan and is expected to leave camp soon.

1. Okamoto was an intimate associate of Yamashiro at Gila. According to the latter, he and Okamoto had at one time pledged brotherhood and had promised to "act as one."

Kenzo Ogasawara: The evacuees were still talking about the Ogasawara case when we visited there. The following is an account of the case as told by a man who worked with him in the Gila News-Courier office:

"Ogasawara and Mrs. Egami both worked in the same office. The affair was going on for a long time. Soon it got to the don't-care-what-other-people-say stage so we couldn't stay in the office and work with them. When they started their tete-a-tete we had to run out of the place. They didn't care. They acted in the same way outside, too. You know how cocky Ogasawara is. There were a lot of people who despised him and these people were happy to broadcast the scandal throughout camp. I am sure someone tipped Mr. Egami. He was formerly a Christian minister, you know, and had difficulty with her all the time. She was the kind who would spend at least a hundred and fifty dollars if he brought home a hundred dollars at the end of the month. She couldn't manage the house at all. She must be about fifty years old. She is the ~~wife~~ mother of the wife of the younger Mittwer -- Fred Mittwer's younger brother.

"People began talking about Ogasawara and Mrs. Egami sleeping together and Mr. Egami got hold of this story somehow. One day he went into the Internal Security office and complained that Ogasawara and his wife were at that moment in a vacant apartment and requested the police to arrest them. So a squad of wardens led by Mr. Egami was rushed to the apartment. They knocked at the door but there was no answer. So they had to break in. When they got inside they found Ogasawara and the woman hiding under a sheet, both naked. As a disciplinary measure Ogasawara was shipped to Poston, and Mrs. Egami to Topaz.

Ogasawara left Poston in August to work for a Japanese paper in Denver.

His Background: Ogasawara is a graduate of Waseda University and worked for sometime on the Yorozu Choho, a reactionary newspaper in Tokyo. He came to the U.S. around 1923 and worked for the Japanese American of San Francisco. Among his friends he was known as a typical Waseda man -- cocky, I-know-everything, wants-to-butt-into-everything type. They used to say that he would come to their homes just before mealtime and stay there to be invited. About a year after his arrival he and his middle-aged friends got together and attempted to gain control of the council of the Japanese Association of San Francisco for three years. When their attempts failed he acted as a parasite on the influential Japanese councilmen.

Among the Japanese he was one of the first to learn and practise dancing, which was practically unknown to the Japanese community. A few of the dancing enthusiasts got together, hired an instructor, and held classes regularly in the parish hall of the Episcopal Church on Buchanan Street. (The pastor of the church at that time was Rev. Tashima, a worldly, ambitious man). His friends referred to him as one who went after new things but tired of them easily. Not only was Ogasawara a good writer, but an eloquent speaker as well. About this time he conducted a class in oratory for young Issei. In the middle thirties he married one of ^{the} Rev. Tashima's daughters.

Soon after the Japanese American became involved in the labor dispute which rocked the Japanese communities along the Pacific Coast, he joined a rival paper in San Francisco, the Hokubei Asahi.

About 1935 he left the paper and became a Japanese language school teacher at Walnut Grove. At the same time it was ~~xxx~~ claimed by residents of the Sacramento River districts that he acted as an ambulance chaser and "runner" for some lawyer. His dealings in this field were shady and many who have had contact with him speak of him as a cheater and swindler.

Nobu Kawai: Former president of the Pasadena chapter of the JACL, who along with his brothers "ran" the Tulare Assembly Center. Nobu was one of those responsible for the formation of the JACL chapter in Gila and also for the JACL resolution drawn up in Salt Lake City last th November. At the time of the registration he made strenuous attempts to induce people to volunteer for the combat unit and was accused by many as one of those directly connected with the arrest of the 26 agitators. In fact he received many threatening letters at this time. People criticized his actions claiming that if he were so anxious to have others volunteer he should set an example by volunteering himself. Because of the antagonistic sentiment of the community towards him his wife became greatly perturbed and succeeded in having the family transferred to Heart Mountain. The residents interpreted his sudden disappearance as being due to enlistment in the army. They did not find out the truth ~~xxxx~~ until he returned to Gila recently to visit his sick father. By this time, however, the resentment towards him had somewhat subsided so there was no overt expression against him.

Taki Asakura: Former president of the Santa Barbara JACL chapter, who served as assistant to the administrator at the Tulare Assembly Center. Taki unwisely took charge of the Housing Dept. when he arrived in Gila so became the target for all complaints in camp. A month ago he relocated to Cincinnatti but the letters

to his family that we saw were not very encouraging. One of X's friends told him: "Well, things got too hot for him so he had to go out. He was too cocky." (Taki is one of X's ex-classmates and well-known to him so can furnish you his background if you wish.)

Segregation

Attitude of those going to Tule Lake:

We talked to a great number of individuals who are bound for Tule Lake and the following are some of the more prevalent attitudes we encountered:

"If we go to Tule Lake we will be able to go to Japan sooner."

"Being Japanese I don't want to go into the American army."

"If we stay here we'll be pushed out of camp. If we go to Tule we'll be safe for the duration."

"We're going to Tule. Lots of people are envying us. We feel sorry for them because they are worried as to their future at Gila."

A father who took his son to Japan to be educated in the late '20's and who called him back three years ago told us: "I made my son answer 'No' to 27 and 28 because we intend to go back to Japan and I don't want his status as a Japanese jeopardized. Now we are accompanying him to Tule Lake."

"I didn't change my answers. I stuck to 'No's' because my status as a Japanese might be altered if I answered 'Yes'. I intend to go to Japan after the war and I don't want my Japanese citizenship jeopardized."

"I don't see any future for myself in America. I will be better off at Tule Lake." (This attitude was quite widespread in the rural blocks where dual citizenship has a high percentage).

"My sons are in Japan. We want to go back to Japan as soon as possible. Looks like we'll be able to get there sooner by going to Tule Lake."

When X asked a boy whose family he knows intimately why he answered double negative he replied. "I don't know." His mother interrupted: "How can we be loyal to America?"

An Issei friend related to X: "I'm trying my best to go to Tule Lake but they won't accept my application for repatriation. So I'm taking this list up to them. (showing names of eleven relatives in Japan). You think this will do it?"

In all our conversations with the "disloyal" individuals we did not encounter anyone who was fighting for his convictions as exemplified by Kazuo Kawai in our segregation report. They all saw utility in going to Japan. They were without exception confident of Japanese victory and wanted to cash in on the spoils. Those transferring to Tule Lake are going there with much fanfare.

Attitude of those who changed from 'No' to 'Yes':

"Looks like I have to stay in America after the war because I've never been to Japan. It won't be so good if I go to Tule Lake. Of course I told those guys that I answered 'No' because I was sore on account of evacuation. That was the only thing we can tell those people on the hearing board." (This attitude was very widespread).

"At the time of registration I answered 'No' because that was the thing to do. then. Those Kibei guys weren't anybody to laugh off. Now the camp is changing and since those guys won't be around it might be better to change my answers anyway."

A priest belonging to a Buddhist sect told X: "I was in the ~~XX/XX~~ GYPU gang and answered 'No, No' in February. But I figured it wasn't good for me so I changed them to 'Yes' at the time I volunteered for Camp Savage. I was rejected, however, because I had T.B. once. I'm going out to the University of Michigan tomorrow. I couldn't have gone out because I was on the stop list but they gave me special consideration because I had volunteered."

A Nisei who wished to change his negative answers was called before the hearing board presided over by Terry. The attorney asked: "Do you believe in democracy?" He answered, "Do you want me to answer 'Yes' or do you want to hear the truth?" Terry replied: "We have known each other for some time. You can trust me, can't you? I want to hear the truth. I will keep it strictly confidential." The boy began to attack American democratic ideals arguing along the line of persecution of minorities, the injustice of evacuation, etc. etc. Toward the conclusion Terry became furious and barked: "If I have anything to do with this project I'll see to it that you won't get out of this place forever." The Nisei came out of the room raving mad and told his friends: "If I had known all of the Caucasians were like that I'm proud to have retained my No's."

Rumors about Tule Lake:

"I hear that at Tule Lake they've put up high fences electrically charged. They've built watchtowers with machine guns at intervals of 900 (some said 600) feet."

"People are not going to Tule Lake. They've dropped that plan."

"Troublemakers will be shipped to Tule Lake after the main segregation program is over."

"They can't put everybody in Tule Lake. They'll have to empty some other camp. Only the first two trains are certain of going to Tule Lake. They do not know where those on the third and fourth trains will be sent to."

"They are going to make Manzanar another segregation camp."
"They are going to make Jerome another segregation camp."

"Gila is sure to be vacated." "Either Manzanar or Jerome will be set aside ~~as~~ another segregation camp. People will be brought to Gila from the new segregation camp." (People were somewhat relieved to hear that new arrivals were coming in since that was proof that Gila would not be closed then.)

"The citizen status of those judged 'disloyal' will be the same after the war. There'll be no difference at all." (They are apparently trying to reinforce their stand in going to Tule Lake).

Repatriates Sailing on the Gripsholm:

There was much contrast in the departure of repatriates from Poston and from Gila. There was much fanfare at the time they left Poston. Approximately a thousand appeared at the departure station to bid them good-bye with lusty shouts of "Banzai!" led by the same individual who led the banzai to the "Great Empire of Japan" at the time of the November incident. The send-off at Gila was reported to have been an extremely quiet affair with only a handful of people present. One evacuee commented: "We were afraid to be seen out there because the officials might find out our true colors and begin to suspect us."

The repatriates from Manzanar, Poston and Gila who were to have their baggages inspected by the customs officials before their departure for New York were originally intended to be isolated from the rest of the community for three days but the plan could not be put into effect until the last day. At this time Yamada of Poston was searched especially thoroughly because one official did not trust him. In his baggage were included a number of

clothes for small children and other articles which could not be technically classed as personal effects. According to X he came to this country as a student two years before the outbreak of the war and possessed all the cocky mannerisms common to newly arrived Japanese in this country. It is reported that one of the customs officials stated repeatedly to the evacuees aiding inspection: "I don't like that man. He is the only one I don't trust among all these people."

When the time to inspect Mrs. Murakami's (mother of Dr. Murakami of Poston) baggage arrived she could not be located and Yamada presented himself as her guardian. He claimed that he had been appointed by Dr. Murakami to look after her since she was very old. He explained that she was not feeling well and could not be present at the inspection. The officials, however, were not satisfied with his explanations and sent a messenger to fetch her at her temporary quarters in Butte but she was not at home. After some inquiry she was traced to Canal. The officials were displeased at the idea that she could go to another camp when she had sent word that she was too ill to come for her inspection. After several arguments between the officials and Mrs. Murakami and her guardian, the inspection was completed. All papers and magazines were removed from the repatriates and all written inscriptions on merchandise aside from trade names were erased. They were then quartered in a hospital ward until the time of departure. (Incidentally, Mrs. Murakami was unable to board the Gripshom in New York because of low priority and was returned to Rowher along with others who were also unsuccessful. All of them with the exception of Mrs. Murakami (who was granted permission to rejoin her son in Poston because of her age) will be removed

to Tule Lake at the time segregation occurs in Rowher.

#####

One of the office workers in the administration who was well-liked by the Caucasian staff decided to sail on the Gripsholm against the wishes of her family. She was formerly employed by the Japanese consulate in L.A. and her name appeared on the list requested by the Japanese government. Her administrative friends attempted to dissuade her from going by offering her tempting jobs in the project and on the outside but she refused to reconsider. It is reported that as she was leaving one of the officials handed her her birth certificate so that she could return in case she changed her mind on the train. We were told when we were there that she was in love with a former employee of the consulate and was going to Japan to marry him.

#####

In disseminating information concerning segregation the administration depended entirely on the Gila News-Courier . In looking over the segregation articles in the camp paper we noted that they were not so complete as in Poston. We also discovered that the Issei in Gila as in Poston rely almost entirely on the Utah Nippo and the Rocky Shimpo to keep them informed on current events rather than on the Japanese section of the camp paper. They accept the news in the Japanese papers as biblical truth whereas they take the news in the Gila News Courier with a grain of salt.

Nelson who visited Gila while we were there remarked on our return: "The administrative officials at Gila did not know much about segregation. Even high officials like Rogers and Mac -- (Fiscal Officer) didn't know anything about it. They asked me a lot of questions. Those questions are the kind

you and I would consider elementary."

Odds and Ends on Segregation:

A block manger whom X has known for about fifteen years said many things ~~which~~ which one would expect only from a militant Kibei at the time he visited Poston in June. X therefore presumed that he had answered negatively to 27 and 28. While in Gila he encountered him so inquired whether he was going to Tule Lake or not. He answered: "No. Why should I go there? I answered 'Yes' to 28. I am going out in a couple of weeks on indefinite leave. I got to make some money because I want to get married."

#####

A woman from Vacaville whom X has known since his college days contributed ~~three~~ sons to the combat unit. Her former townfolk commented: "Mrs. Obata must have gone crazy!"

#####

An Issei about fifty years of age attempted to send through the Gila post office a letter written in Japanese to Premier Tojo, another in English to President Roosevelt, and a third in German to Adolf Hitler explaining the futility of carrying on the war and urging them to cease fighting. The postmaster's curiosity was naturally aroused by the names of these celebrities and the project director was immediately notified. The culprit was arrested at once but since he turned out to be a psychopathic case he was removed to the Phoenix asylum.

#####

Someone placed "subversive" markings on the segregation chart posted in the hospital a few weeks ago. On it "go to hell" was inscribed on the line leading from the segregation hearing to the American community and a Japanese flag was drawn close to the

segregation camp. Dr. Collier searched for the perpetrator and apprehended a Kibei youth who readily confessed. After a hearing he was sent to Leupp, but even Collier himself was not certain that he had really committed the crime. The Gila residents believed implicitly in the story purportedly given by him to his friends: "I answered 'NO, No' and also applied for repatriation so I have to go to Tule Lake anyway. I took the whole blame because I won't be losing anything. It ~~can't be~~ can't be worse."

#####

In the hearings conducted by Terry, according to some evacuees, he acted as if he were a prosecuting attorney. He fired the following question at one boy: "Do you observe the 11th of February?" ~~Terry snapped back: "I am asking you the question"~~ The boy asked innocently: "What is the 11th of February?" Terry snapped back: "I am asking you the question. You are to answer that." The boy replied: "I don't know what the 11th of February is so I can't answer that." Terry was dissatisfied with his answer and accused him of lying. It is claimed that several girls came out of Terry's room weeping after their hearings.

#####

Most of the people from the rural districts had a sort of defeatist attitude. They felt that it was best to stay in camp and keep quiet until the war was over. X commented that the Gardena people he knew seemed to have lost their pre-war fighting spirit.

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September, 1943

TAMIE AND "X" ON GILA

Administrative Notes: *on Gila*

Several evacuees who work in the administrative offices claimed that the project is really run by James Terry, the project attorney. According to them Bennett is simply an inefficient figurehead who subscribes to the policies dictated by his attorney. ¹ To demonstrate Terry's superiority over Bennett one of them cited an incident which occurred at the time of the departure of the repatriates for New York to board the Gripsholm. Both officials were scheduled to leave for Los Angeles in the evening but Bennett insisted on going about 3:00 p.m. Terry became annoyed and is credited to have made the following admonition within earshot of our informant: "This is one of the most important events so far. At least we should be here until the group leaves camp." The argument ended with the attorney "ordering" the project director to remain in Gila until evening.

One of our L.A. friends who is an administrative official there commented: "Mrs. Terry is a nice and charming lady but we don't like Terry. He seems to be awfully cold." The evacuees we talked to remarked that "Terry has no feelings for human emotions." Similarly, Bennett's popularity with the evacuees appeared to be nearly zero. Comments such as these were quite prevalent:

"No use talking to that guy."

"He is anti-Japanese."

"If you argue with him he will send you to Leupp."

The attitude of the Japanese toward the appointed personnel in general may be characterized by that toward Bennett. They

claimed that both he and Terry showed great contempt toward them. They invariably stressed the difficulties involved in gaining entrance to Bennett's office. ⁽²⁾ When we informed them that in Poston the appointed personnel and the evacuees frequently sat together to discuss project problems they evinced great surprise and envy. They replied: "We don't talk to the A.P.'s because it's no use. If they don't like what you say they send you immediately to Leupp. ⁽³⁾ Even if 10,000 of us got together and sent a petition to Bennett it won't be of any use. He won't listen to us." Since they feel they can't buck the administration the tendency is to take it out on the evacuee administrative workers. (Concerning this Nelson remarked on our return that Gila was going to the extreme in the treatment of its "incorrigibles". Its policy is to send any "undesirable" to Leupp or Santa Fe. Poston on the contrary was going to the other extreme in showing too much leniency towards its undesirables. He commented that the WRA was trying to find a middle course.)

A lack of coordination between the appointed personnel and the military police guarding the camp seemed quite evident. Bennett apparently is rather reluctant to have the camp "inspected" by WRA employees from other centers or by Washington officials. This observation was corroborated on our return by Nelson who contributed the following incidents suggesting such behavior:

When Rogers, the agriculture chief, arrived at the M.P. gate accompanied by two high-ranking officials from the Dept. of Agriculture the soldiers refused to admit them. Rogers was compelled to leave them at the gate and rush back to Bennett's office for entrance permits.

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A.W. Emple, chief administrative officer at Poston, on his recent trip to Gila was forced to wait an hour before the M.P.'s would permit him to enter the project.

A WRA official from Washington presented her credentials at the gate but the M.P.'s would not let her in for an hour and a half. Being a visitor from Washington she decided that the proper procedure for her would be to call on the project director so she hurried to his office but was informed that he was too busy to see her at the moment. After waiting over an hour Bennett appeared and greeted her rudely, "I haven't time right now to talk to you. I have to attend to some personal matters." After going through all that discomfort and being dismissed in such a summary fashion, she commented later to another official: "Bennett could at least have been civil and carried on a conversation for even a couple of minutes."

The evacuees appeared to resent keenly the display of favoritism on the part of administrative officials, especially in connection with the issuance of passes to Phoenix. There was a great deal of complaining that ad workers went to their departmental heads and got passes to Phoenix freely whereas it was almost impossible for the rank and file to procure one. (4)

#####

According to informed circles Hugo Wolter is attempting to set a new policy by which evacuees will be brought into closer contact with the administration. Every evacuee we talked to expressed praise or liking for him. One exclaimed: "It's natural that some people like a certain person while others do not like him. In Wolter's case, however, 99% of the evacuees like him. If Wolter could take over Bennett's job, Gila will be much better off." They claimed that Tuttle and Wolter were working close together. (5)

#####

Dr. Sleath is credited to have said on his arrival at Gila that he came there to earn his living and was not all interested

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in the welfare of the Japs. However, as he got to know his hospital staff he began to like the Japanese and to understand them. Dr. Collier, his successor, expected the evacuee physicians to kowtow to him from his experience in the Orient, but much to his chagrin they refused to do it. During Sleath's sojourn the evacuee doctors fully cooperated with him and his difficulties lay in handling the appointed personnel, but with Collier the reverse is said to be true. One evacuee doctor commented: "Well, we didn't know how good Sleath was until he left us." (6)

#####

The Welfare Dept. was short of welfare workers at one time so Bennett recommended strongly the putting in of a couple of school teachers. Tuttle objected to this vigorously claiming that missionaries and school teachers do not generally make good welfare workers. According to a statement credited to him by his secretary he exclaimed: "They'll put school teachers in here over my dead body." As a result of this disagreement Bennett and Tuttle were not on friendly terms until the project director realized his usefulness at the time of segregation.

#####

The A.P.'s we talked to were more anxious to find out about the Poston strike than the evacuees. They wanted to know the details as much as possible. They emphasized the effect of the strike on outside public opinion but appeared totally ignorant of its therapeutic value. They condemned in no uncertain terms the threats and intimidations against the pro-American minority by the rest of the evacuees. (7)

#####

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It appears that in Gila, Mess Operations is one of the most important departments. Unlike Poston, mess halls are centralized and frequently the supervisors and the kitchen help do not reside in the blocks in which they are employed. Consequently there is no intimate tie between the mess halls and the block residents. The chief topic of conversation while we were there centered on food. There was much grumbling concerning meat shortage but no one had sufficient gumption to go up to the administration to register his complaints. (8)

When the proposed cut in project employment reached the administration it tried desperately to keep it a secret (9) in contrast to Poston where the administration utilized every means available to inform the residents to secure their cooperation. In Gila they gradually let out the news and began releasing people. Mess Operations was the last department to be tackled. It was affected so late that the evacuees had come to believe the administration would do nothing about it. In fact Keadle was afraid to take any action and attempted to keep it as secretive as possible. Somehow the news leaked out eventually and the messhall workers became indignant claiming they could not operate with less people. The agitation was more or less fermented by the residents who felt they would receive poorer service. About this time there were also many complaints against the Personnel Messhall receiving better rations. Some maintained that when the evacuee messhalls were devoid of meat for two weeks the appointed personnel had indulged in 400 pounds of beef. (10) A friend of X who handles ration points in Keadle's department told him that the Personnel Messhall

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frequently exceeded its quota and used up points which rightfully belonged to the evacuees. He had called Keadle's attention to this several times but the official had told him it was "alright" to do so. (11.)

As a result of the agitation against the proposed cut the mess-hall supervisors held a meeting and decided to call a strike. They subsequently returned to their respective messhalls and took a vote among the kitchen help. The general sentiment of these meetings was that they had better not call a strike lest someone be removed to Leupp. Furthermore, they would be inconveniencing their own people. The results of the voting were close in many blocks. A typical example was block 61 where 19 voted for a strike, 10 against, and 5 remained neutral. However, in many blocks there were two to three agitators who wanted a strike and were successful in influencing others to take their stand. These agitators wanted a strike to show their antagonism toward the administration. Only a^{very} few blocks voted against the proposal but these were expected to participate in the demonstration beginning the following morning. When morning arrived most of the kitchen help reported to work. In only one block was breakfast not served because only one worker turned up. At noon the meal was served as usual. The strike failed because the people were afraid to stage one. Some of the evacuees claimed that "the biggest spark to ignite failed because the incident had been ill-chosen." In other words, the shutdown of messhalls would have inconvenienced their own people.

Yamashiro, one of those who had been removed to Leupp following the registration disturbance in February, and who had temporarily

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returned to be married, was taken out immediately because Bennett suspected him of fermenting the messhall strike.

According to our friends the WRA is deducting \$15,000 from the subsistence appropriations for Gila to penalize her for refusal to comply with WRA regulations at once.

#####

All of the Nisei workers in the administrative offices were more courteous and helpful than those in Poston. We did not encounter any smart alecks which abound here. This may probably be due to the fact that all of the departmental heads are older and speak fluent Japanese so can readily understand the problems of both Issei and Nisei. X believes that their courtesy to strangers is a reflection of the tough, disciplinary measures to which they were exposed in the Japanese language schools.

#####

John Yamsaki, the Nisei Episcopal minister there and son of Rev. Yamasaki who was beaten at Jerome, told me: "The ministers come to me to request me to take various problems to the administration. When I ask them, 'Why don't you take them to Bennett yourself?', they invariably answer, 'If we come in contact with the administration too frequently, we'll be suspected by the evacuees.'" (12)

#####

One evacuee lamented: "You must blame the administration for the gap between the appointed personnel and the evacuees and between evacuees themselves. The administration encourages squealers and stool-pigeons. When they squeal the administration

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gives them favors so more guys would act as informers to get favors. The rest of the evacuees naturally find out about this soon enough and become resentful of the administration's tactics and be suspicious and hostile to the Inu." (12)

#####

In connection with the issuance of ration books and shoe certificates the Gila administration asked the ration board in Coolidge to place evacuees on its staff. The board replied it was against regulations. A compromise was finally worked out and now three evacuees go to Coolidge every Saturday to perform clerical work on the weekly applications. The books, however, must be signed by a Caucasian on the board.

In contrast to this, in Poston all applications are turned in at Parker where the ration board has a Caucasian worker devoted entirely to the handling of evacuee applications. This arrangement was made because, as Nelson puts it, "It's your baby." Otherwise the Poston officials insisted that a ration board should be established on the project with full power.

#####

A 22 year old Nisei girl who was deeply in love could not marry the man of her choice because of strenuous objections on the part of her parents. The boy and girl presented their problem to the Social Welfare Department and requested aid. A welfare worker contacted her parents and did her best to have them withdraw their objections but they remained adamant. Finally Tuttle took the matter into his own hands and after consulting Wade

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Head by telephone slipped the couple out of Gila. They were married in Phoenix and were transferred to Poston. When the welfare worker warned Tuttle that he would have to take the rap if her parents found out about it, he replied calmly: "Yep, I know that. But I'm willing to take the blame."

#####

Block Manager System:

In contrast to Poston where the block managers are under the direct supervision of the Unit Administrator, in Gila they are under the Community Management Division. Kinoshita, the central block manager, who corresponds to our block manager supervisor, is an old Issei who is not at all aggressive. Since he neither reads nor speaks English he does not attend administrative meetings but sends his assistant who is a Nisei. Kinoshita's selection is primarily due to the fact that the majority of the block managers are Issei and the type who are good-natured, easy-going, and who take pains not to offend anyone.

The regular block managers' meeting is held on Tuesday morning but instead of initiating camp policies as they do in Poston, the Gila managers listen to information handed out by Kinoshita who had himself received it from his assistant. In Gila administrative notices are not announced in the messhalls as regularly done in Poston but simply posted on bulletin boards. Since very few individuals bother to read the bulletin boards people as a rule are not well-informed. Unlike Poston, block managers do not keep definite hours but leave their offices open until late at night

since they reside in the adjoining apartment. There is nothing business-like about the manager -- in fact residents refer to him as the "buratsuku manager" (literally translated "loafing manager"). At present there are two on the block manager staff but they are contemplating cutting it down to one since there is not enough work to do. This is in marked contrast to Poston where the staffs are fighting for the retention of at least three. To demonstrate the inefficiency of the block managers, a friend related that at first the handling of the ration books was entrusted to the block managers but since most of them could neither read nor follow instructions, the ration board became disgusted and decided to handle them itself.

#####

Education:

One of my college friends told me: "The project was anxious to start night school classes as soon as the camp was opened but they couldn't do it because of lack of college graduates. They started finally after we came in from Santa Anita.

"A class on Foreign Trade was to be included in the curriculum to be taught by John (a U.S.C. graduate in Foreign Trade) but Le Baron objected to this because he didn't want the school to teach geography to the Japanese."

#####

Council:

The residents were saying at the time of our visit that even if they elected representatives to the permanent council nothing would be accomplished because the administration will not

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listen to them. Two block managers told us that if the officials would only permit them to handle things their way conditions would be considerably improved. (13)

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Relocation:

According to a worker in the Leave Office, Freeland is highly incompetent. Things are in a mess and the files are not in order. She cited the case of three men who are on the stop list but who have been granted seasonal leave. In regard to this Freeland commented: "Well, there's nothing we can do about it now. I guess we'll have to wait until they come back." (14)

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At the departure station one day X met an old Issei from Vacaville whom he has known for about twenty years, who was going out to relocate in a town about thirty miles from Chicago with his wife. The couple had obtained domestic work through the Employment Office. When X expressed surprise at their going out he replied: "If I remain here I will rot. I still have a few good years left in me and I am going to spend them usefully. One of my sons is in the army and another son is in Chicago working. My son in Chicago wanted me to come and live with him and his wife, but I'd rather work on some regular job. I can't stand idleness, as I have been working hard for more than forty years."

Mr. Yukawa is one of the pioneer Japanese who settled in the Vacaville area and successfully operated fruit orchards on the share-crop basis. He is about sixty-five but seemed healthy and vigorous for his age.

Hospital:

When an emergency call for doctors came sometime ago from Manzanar two of the Gila doctors were immediately dispatched there leaving only four doctors on the project. Now all of them with the exception of one is planning to relocate. The residents are considerably worried at the prospect of having no doctors in the hospital and the possibilities of retaining them were discussed at great length throughout the camp. It finally culminated in a block managers' meeting which was devoted entirely to the subject. At this time it was decided to send a petition to the project director and the Washington WRA to pay prevailing wages to all doctors in the hospital. (Such an action was taken in Poston last April -- this being another example of Gila being several months behind Poston in many activities.)

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Mrs. Roosevelt during her Gila tour visited the tuberculosis ward in the hospital and stood between the double row of beds to be introduced to each patient by the chief medical officer. As each was introduced she nodded and said, "How do you do?" The secretary accompanying her glared at the patients, according to one, "as if we might harm her." As the party was leaving the ward she called back, "Good luck to you all."

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Because of the great abhorrence to tuberculosis among older Japanese the hospital had great difficulty in securing nurses aides to work in the T.B. ward. In desperation the doctors made

it mandatory for each aide to work there for a six-week period, taking turns. It appeared that the nurse's aides had no scruples in working there but they had to accede to the objections of their parents.

When a representative of the Washington WRA arrived on an inspection tour the parents requested clarification of this regulation. Some of the aides had already left the hospital at the insistence of their parents. The official ruled that no one could be forced to work at any job against his wishes. After this there were only two aides to look after eighty patients. When they left at the expiration of their six-week period there was no one to replace them. Since there was no one to bring breakfast the first morning many of the patients went hungry. The more energetic ones made their own beds while family members attended to others. At the council meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 7, Dr. Hata made an urgent appeal for nurse's aides to work in the T.B. ward.

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Employment:

The great number of employable people loafing around their apartments was very conspicuous during our visit. They reminded us of the situation which existed in Poston during the early part of last summer. We learned that most of them had been "terminated" (the term used in Gila to designate release from a job) by the last cut in employment. One evacuee related that the official allotment for Gila was 4200 but the administration requested a reduction to 3200 claiming that that number was sufficient to operate the

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project. Another report maintained that the Jewish woman sent there by the WRA to determine the number of essential workers failed to take into consideration certain projects such as the dehydrating plant and the ship building program. (15.)

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Law and Order:

Gambling on a small scale was said to be going on in almost every block. Games played for stakes involving hundreds of dollars occur only in a handful of places. Block 55 was reported to be operating a professional gambling house along with a house of prostitution. We were told that the police tended to overlook this crime unless residents lodged formal complaints with them.

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The evacuee assistant to Tuttle informed us that there was very little difficulty in handling boy-girl relationships in Gila. Gang fights were also stated to be a rare occurrence. The major problem according to her was theft of government property by young boys who operated in gangs. While a few acted as decoys to engage guards in conversation, others performed the stealing. The Social Welfare Dept. seems to be the central office in handling juvenile delinquency.

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Evacuee Leaders:

It was reported that at the Turlock Assembly Center the clothing allowance was not paid to the evacuees as the WCCA had announced. In addition many failed to receive wages for the work

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performed in the center. When the residents complained bitterly about this, the councilmen reluctantly took the matter up with the administration but since they were "weak-kneed" the officials "stalled them off" successfully. As the agitation increased the councilmen consulted among themselves and decided to pacify the residents with the argument that "the clothing allowance is a form of charity and we, the Japanese are too proud to receive any form of charity." They reinforced their stand by maintaining that the Japanese in California had the lowest percentage of all racial groups in becoming public charges and that they should continue this high standard. Furthermore, with referenceto the payment of wages, they argued that the matter would be taken care of sooner or later even if they were transferred to another center. They also claimed that some degree of inefficiency should be expected of all newly created governmental agencies like the WCCA. In this fashion they succeeded somewhat in checking the rate of increase in uneasiness.

When the inmates of the Turlock Assembly Center were transferred to Gila and learned from those who had come from the Tulare Assembly Center that they had not only received full payment of wages but had been paid their clothing allowances as well, their anger against the councilmen was revived. Their bitterness was further accentuated by the housing difficulty (they were transferred as you remember before the barracks were ready and some of them had to be quartered in the laundries and the block managers' offices) and by the agitation of the voluble Kibei and Issei. In

the Canal Camp the former councilmen at Turlock had to take the brunt of the accusations as the cry "Let's get the guys who were in the council" was heard in many places. In the meantime stories of the Poston strike and the attempt of several Nisei "leaders" to reinforce their hold by starting a JACL chapter helped to widen the break between the Nisei and Kibei elements. The Nisei leaders such as Tada, Nobu Kawai, Taki Asakura, and Harry Miyake, faced the Kibei with their pro-American, pro-administration stand. (This situation is comparable to the stand taken in Poston by Saburo Kido, John Maeno, Harry Kita, etc. of Camp 2, and Dr. Tep Ishimaru of Camp 1 in the pre-strike days).

In opposition to this faction the Kibei gained control of the GYPU (or GYPA) which was originally intended to be an organization for both Kibei and Nisei. Yamashiro, Mizuno and Okamoto were leaders of this group and were successful in consolidating its strength by their pro-Japan utterances and activities. About this time the conception of Nisei leaders as Inu gained in intensity.

There is a strong indication that the raising of the Japanese flag on the butte on New Year's Day was conceived by the offenders from information they received concerning the Poston strike. (Many of the residents we talked to held the firm belief that genuine Japanese flags had been defiantly hoisted at the time of our strike). It is difficult to establish a direct relationship between the Poston incident and the intensified ~~pro~~ pro-Japanese activities and utterances of the Gila Kibei and Issei during the

latter part of December, January and February, but it is a fact that their actions became more brazen and more belligerent about the middle of last December.

On New Year's Day the traditional Japanese ceremony was observed in several blocks, although varying in intensity. An extreme case was reported in block 66 where Mizuno, an Issei of about 40 years of age, appeared in the messhall in ceremonial kimono and led in the singing of Kimigayo, the Japanese national anthem. The ceremony concluded with three banzai for the "Great Empire of Japan."

The situation in the Canal Camp similarly took to the worse resulting in the beating of Tada by several assailants. One of them, a block manager and a leader of the camp, reported⁽¹⁾ that the gang took Tada to the vacant area beyond the messhall and beat and kicked him until he lost consciousness. The wardens, hearing the agonizing screams, rushed to the scene but the assailants, with the exception of the block manager, escaped in time. The block manager, however remained on the scheme and acted "as though

1. Tada was secretary of the Rafu Shoko Kaigisho, the Japanese Chamber of Commerce in Los Angeles, just prior to evacuation. He succeeded Akashi, an Issei, a few months before Pearl Harbor. Akashi relinquished his post to a Nisei because of the critical situation between America and Japan in the hope that he might be able to save the organization which had been working closely with the Japanese Foreign Office and the consulate. It was in line with the general trend in Japanese communities at that time to transfer title and leadership of firms and organizations to Nisei because of their citizenship. Tada has been accused by many of being cocky and arrogant.

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I had been called by the screams too." He proudly told X that he had directed the wardens in the wrong direction in their pursuit of the criminals. Tada subsequently left camp and is reported to be at Camp Savage.

The passing of the JACL resolution in Salt Lake City in November and the impending registration created a situation analogous to that found in Poston's Camp 2 at that time. The Kibei leaders made strenuous attempts to influence others into answering negatively to questions 27 and 28. Some of them even composed a "battle hymn" and sang it to the young people. They were also not above intimidating them in their attempt to make them fall in line.

The administration, however became cognizant of their threats through some evacuees who complained about their activities to the officials and it eventually resulted in the wholesale arrest of 26 Kibei and Issei agitators by F.B.I. agents in February. The arrested men included all the overt leaders such as Yamashiro, Okamoto and Mizuno. During the raid communication between Butte and Canal was completely suspended and the highway was patrolled by M.P.'s equipped with machine guns. The Canal residents became panicky as wild rumors permeated into their camp. One story heard during the raid reported that over one hundred Japanese had been taken out by the F.B.I. from Butte including all members of the Community Council. The excitement was increased when the employees in the Ad offices who regularly commuted to work from Canal failed to return home on time.

It should be noted that those individuals who had been secretly "egging on" the Kibei, such as Miura, Ochi and Ogasawara, remained in camp unmolested. Since the raid, these Issei behind the scene have been very quiet and unassuming especially Ochi, to whom is credited the statement that "it is too dangerous to talk or to do anything since there are too many Inu around." Miura, however, was a little bold in his about-face when he gained prestige in the administration as the insurance counselor. Our informant claimed that these men were only after political power and prestige when they were closely associated with those who were removed. He accused: "They are the worst type of opportunists -- ones without personal conviction or conscience."

At the time of the registration, the Japanese section of the Gila News-Courier carried an administrative instruction side by side with the translation of an anti-Japanese article which had appeared in one of the L.A. papers. The following is the story of writer A who purposely placed these articles side by side:

"The Reports Officer sent in an article regarding the intent and the procedures of registration and requested it to be translated and printed on the Japanese page. I didn't want to print it without comment but I knew I couldn't do that. But to express my idea that it was foolish to serve in the army of a country which does not trust and discriminates against Japanese, I translated an article of an anti-Japanese nature claiming that the Japanese should be deported to Japan and barred from returning to California. I showed both translations to Ogasawara, my chief, He was surprised and scared. He said it was too dangerous and

1. See footnote next page.

I couldn't do that. He added that Le Baron would be sure to detect our purpose and would call us into his office. I got disgusted and told him, 'You sure talk big all the time but when it comes to a time like this you don't have guts to do anything. All right, if you don't want to take the responsibility, I will do it.' Finally, Ogasawara reluctantly agreed to print them if I would be willing to go to Le Baron's office when he called for explanations.

"The articles appeared and had the effect on the residents as I had foreseen. And sure enough, Le Baron sent a messenger for us to come to his office. I told Ogasawara to go alone as he was the chief. But he was afraid and would not go. He said I had promised that I would be responsible for the act. In the end we both went to the Report Officer's office.

"Le Baron was mad. He wanted to know why we printed those two articles side by side. He accused us that we were obstructing the military registration. That was a subversive act, he maintained. We said that we had no ulterior motive. You wanted the article about the registration to be printed and we did that. We printed the anti-Japanese article in the space left on the page without any bad intention. We printed it because it was the topic residents are most concerned about. The people want to know how they will be treated in California after the war.

"Le Baron was not convinced and kept on accusing us. He added

1. (See page 19) Ochi is a Zen priest who came to this country only a few years ago. He lived in the same apartment with another priest and his wife, with whom he is reported to have carried on an affair. He was taken out of camp by the F.B.I. on Sept. 19.

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that if this had been reported to Washington we would be shot to death. That statement irritated me. I said to him that America is boasting about democracy and freedom of speech and press. We just printed some article which had appeared in an American newspaper. I couldn't see that we were guilty of a subversive act by reprinting some article which was alright for the Los Angeles paper. If they wanted to shoot us, I wish they would do it. It would be advertised all over as an example of the American type of the freedom of the press.

"I don't know what happened after that. As far as we were concerned, nothing was ever mentioned again. Soon afterwards, Ogasawara had to leave camp on account of the scandal (re: Mrs. Egami) and Le Baron left too. Now I am careful because Bennett is sending out anyone to Leupp or Santa Fe about whom he has the slightest suspicion. It is too dangerous to come out in the open and do anything out here."

According to A, after the F.B.I. raid overt expressions of a pro-Japanese nature disappeared from the community. Instead the residents complained about the administration in the dark, but there was no one to come out and fight against it.

About a month ago Mizuno returned from Santa Fe to attend the funeral of a close friend. It was reported that he was disgusted and indignant about the attitude of the residents. He particularly attacked the resigned atmosphere of the camp. To him the residents lacked courage -- they were taking everything sitting back as though "they had lost life". He is claimed to have said: "These people are the rottenest of the Japanese. They should

drink the decoction prepared from the dirt under the fingernails (an old Japanese expression) of the internees at Santa Fe!" He accused the Gila people of being defeatists and opportunists and attempted to instill in them the fiery spirit of the internees. However, he failed to receive much attention. Only a few individuals were seen with him and many avoided him, indicating the changed atmosphere in the intervening months.

(Mrs. Mizuno is reported to be an aggressive woman with two or three children. She is said to have worked once as a waitress in a cheap restaurant in Sacramento. Some claim she is a Nisei but she spoke to X in good Japanese but very poor English. An evacuee worker in the Social Welfare Dept. told us that they have considerable difficulty with her because she would come there and make unreasonable demands in a loud, angry tone. This was verified by Mrs. Mizuno's own statement when she boasted to her friends: "I took my kids in rags and showed them to the people in the Welfare Office. I told them I was without means to take care of my family after they took my husband away. I made them scared because I bawled hell out of them (Kuso miso ni itte yatta). I was mad enough anyway and I didn't care what happened after my husband was taken away.").

Yamashiro, likewise, returned to Gila from Leupp about the same time. He had come back to be married and to be transferred to Tule Lake with the segregants. His account of Leupp as told to an intimate friend is significant. He said with much disgust:

"I had the idea that the people who were shipped to Leupp

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were the ones with firm convictions as to their loyalty. I thought they were courageous people who were willing to die for what they believed. Instead I found at Leupp cheap thieves and gamblers. None of them spoke our language. It was disappointing to find out that they totally failed to see why Japan is fighting this war. They also failed to appreciate things Japanese.

"At Leupp the military registration was held recently. We, the ones from Gila, worked hard to make them answer in the negative as we had done here, but we could not arouse enough interest. Most of them answered 'Yes' to the questions.

"I answered 'No' to the questions and took my paper to the project director. He looked at it and tore it up in a rage. He then grabbed me and shook me roughly. He said it wouldn't do; I hadn't thought deeply enough. He handed me another blank to fill out and told me to be careful this time.

"I again wrote 'No' to the questions and took it back to the project director. He again tore up the paper and in return gave me another blank. He did not say anything this time.

"I filled the third blank in the same way and gave it to him as before. The project director got up from his seat, shook my hand and said, 'I admire you. I respect you because you want to live according to your convictions.'

"Then we talked in a friendly manner about the camp and the boys there. I was greatly surprised that he knew so much. Some of the things I was sure only Okamoto could have known. I

(1)
became suspicious but I was not sure of my suspicions until he was released on good behavior to go to Poston. We found out then that he had been squealing to the project director and in return for this service he had been released from Leupp."

Gohachiro Miura: Is an Issei who used to sell Manufacturer's Insurance in Los Angeles before evacuation. The residents described him as a meddlesome man who "tries to put his nose into everything." In the beginning he is reported to have made many pro-Japanese utterances to gain the attention of the evacuees but as soon as he entered Terry's office as an insurance counselor he changed color to procure favors from the administration. Many people accused him of being a stooge for the administration "selling the evacuees out." He was one of the recipients of the "poison pen letters" that Hankey refers to. Since then he has applied for a Japanese instructorship at the University of Michigan and is expected to leave camp soon.

Kenzo Ogasawara: The evacuees were still talking about the Ogasawara case when we visited there. The following is an account of the case as told by a man who worked with him in the Gila News-Courier office:

"Ogasawara and Mrs. Egami both worked in the same office. The affair was going on for a long time. Soon it got to the

1. Okamoto was an intimate associate of Yamashiro at Gila. According to the latter, he and Okamoto had at one time pledged brotherhood and had promised to "act as one."

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don't-care-what-other-people-say stage so we couldn't stay in the office and work with them. When they started their tete-a-tete we had to run out of the place. They didn't care. They acted in the same way outside, too. You know how cocky Ogasawara is. There were a lot of people who despised him and these people were happy to broadcast the scandal throughout camp. I am sure someone tipped Mr. Egami. He was formerly a Christian minister, you know, and had difficulty with her all the time. She was the kind who would spend at least a hundred and fifty dollars if he brought home a hundred dollars at the end of the month. She couldn't manage the house at all. She must be about fifty years old. She is the mother of the wife of the younger Mittwer -- Fred Mittwer's younger brother.

"People began talking about Ogasawara and Mrs. Egami sleeping together and Mr. Egami got hold of this story somehow. One day he went into the Internal Security office and complained that Ogasawara and his wife were at that moment in a vacant apartment and requested the police to arrest them. So a squad of wardens led by Mr. Egami was rushed to the apartment. They knocked at the door but there was no answer. So they had to break in. When they got inside they found Ogasawara and the woman hiding under a sheet, both naked. As a disciplinary measure Ogasawara was shipped to Poston, and Mrs. Egami to Topaz.

Ogasawara left Poston in August to work for a Japanese paper in Denver.

His Background: Ogasawara is a graduate of Waseda University

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and worked for sometime on the Yorozu Choho, a reactionary newspaper in Tokyo. He came to the U.S. around 1923 and worked for the Japanese American of San Francisco. Among his friends he was known as a typical Waseda man -- cocky, I-know-everything, wants-to-butt-into-everything type. They used to say that he would come to their homes just before mealtime and stay there to be invited. About a year after his arrival he and his middle-aged friends got together and attempted to gain control of the council of the Japanese Association of San Francisco for three years. When their attempts failed he acted as a parasite on the influential Japanese councilmen.

Among the Japanese he was one of the first to learn and practise dancing, which was practically unknown to the Japanese community. A few of the dancing enthusiasts got together, hired an instructor, and held classes regularly in the parish hall of the Episcopal Church on Buchanan Street. (The pastor of the church at that time was Rev. Tashima, a worldly, ambitious man). His friends referred to him as one who went after new things but tired of them easily. Not only was Ogasawara a good writer, but an eloquent speaker as well. About this time he conducted a class in oratory for young Issei. In the middle thirties he married one of Rev. Tashima's daughters.

Soon after the Japanese American became involved in the labor dispute which rocked the Japanese communities along the Pacific Coast, he joined a rival paper in San Francisco, the Hokubei Asahi.

About 1935 he left the paper and became a Japanese language

school teacher at Walnut Grove. At the same time it was claimed by residents of the Sacramento River districts that he acted as an ambulance chaser and "runner" for some lawyer. His dealings in this field were shady and many who have had contact with him speak of him as a cheater and swindler.

Nobu Kawai: Former president of the Pasadena chapter of the JACL, who along with his brothers "ran" the Tulare Assembly Center. Nobu was one of those responsible for the formation of the JACL chapter in Gila and also for the JACL ~~chapter~~ resolution drawn up in Salt Lake City last November. At the time of the registration he made strenuous attempts to induce people to volunteer for the combat unit and was accused by many as one of those directly connected with the arrest of the 26 agitators. In fact he received many threatening letters at this time. People criticized his actions claiming that if he were so anxious to have others volunteer he should set an example by volunteering himself. Because of the antagonistic sentiment of the community towards him his wife became greatly perturbed and succeeded in having the family transferred to Heart Mountain. The residents interpreted his sudden disappearance as being due to enlistment in the army. They did not find out the truth until he returned to Gila recently to visit his sick father. By this time, however, the resentment towards him had somewhat subsided so there was no overt expression against him. (17)

Taki Asakura: Former president of the Santa Barbara JACL chapter, who served as assistant to the administrator at the Tulare Assembly

Center. Taki unwisely took charge of the Housing Dept. when he arrived in Gila so became the target for all complaints in camp. A month ago he relocated to Cincinnatti but the letters to his family that we saw were not very encouraging. One of X's friends told him: "Well, things got too hot for him so he had to go out. He was too cocky." (Taki is one of X's ex-classmates and well-known to him so can furnish you his background if you wish.)

Segregation

Attitude of those going to Tule Lake:

We talked to a great number of individuals who are bound for Tule Lake and the following are some of the more prevalent attitudes we encountered:

"If we go to Tule Lake we will be able to go to Japan sooner."

"Being Japanese I don't want to go into the American army."

"If we stay here we'll be pushed out of camp. If we go to Tule we'll be safe for the duration."

"We're going to Tule. Lots of people are envying us. We feel sorry for them because they are worried as to their future at Gila."

A father who took his son to Japan to be educated in the late '20's and who called him back three years ago told us: "I made my son answer 'No' to 27 and 28 because we intend to go back to Japan and I don't want his status as a Japanese jeopardized. Now we are accompanying him to Tule Lake."

"I didn't change my answers. I stuck to 'No's' because my status as a Japanese might be altered if I answered 'Yes'. I intend to go to Japan after the war and I don't want my Japanese citizenship jeopardized."

"I don't see any future for myself in America. I will be better off at Tule Lake." (This attitude was quite widespread in the rural blocks where dual citizenship has a high percentage).

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"My sons are in Japan. We want to go back to Japan as soon as possible. Looks like we'll be able to get there sooner by going to Tule Lake."

When X asked a boy whose family he knows intimately why he answered double negative he replied. "I don't know." His mother interrupted: "How can we be loyal to America?"

An Issei friend related to X: "I'm trying my best to go to Tule Lake but they won't accept my application for repatriation. So I'm taking this list up to them (showing names of eleven relatives in Japan). You think this will do it?"

In all our conversations with the "disloyal" individuals we did not encounter anyone who was ~~gi~~ fighting for his convictions as exemplified by Kazuo Kawai in our segregation report. They all saw utility in going to Japan. They were without exception confident of Japanese victory and wanted to cash in on the spoils. Those transferring to Tule Lake are going there with much fanfare (18)

Attitude of those who changed from 'No' to 'Yes':

a "Looks like I have to stay in America after the war because I've never been to Japan. It won't be so good if I go to Tule Lake. Of course I told those guys that I answered 'No' because I was sore on account of evacuation. That was the only thing we can tell those people on the hearing board." (This attitude was very widespread).

b "At the time of registration I answered 'No' because that was the thing to do. Then. Those Kibei guys weren't anybody to laugh off. Now the camp is changing and since those guys won't be around it might be better to change my answers anyway."

c A priest belonging to a Buddhist sect told X: "I was in the GYPU gang and answered 'No, No' in February. But I figured it wasn't good for me so I changed them to 'Yes' at the time I volunteered for Camp Savage. I was rejected, however, because I had T.B. once. I'm going out to the University of Michigan tomorrow. I couldn't have gone out because I was on the stop list but they gave me special consideration because I had volunteered." (19)

A Nisei who wished to change his negative answers was called before the hearing board presided over by Terry. The attorney asked: "Do you believe in democracy?" He answered, "Do you want me to answer 'Yes' or do you want to hear the truth?" Terry replied: "We have known each other for some time. You can trust me, can't

you? I want to hear the truth. I will keep it strictly confidential." The boy began to attack American democratic ideals arguing along the line of persecution of minorities, the injustice of evacuation, etc. etc. Toward the conclusion Terry became furious and barked: "If I have anything to do with this project I'll see to it that you won't get out of this place forever." The Nisei came out of the room raving mad and told his friends: "If I had known all of the Caucasians were like that I'm proud to have retained my No's."

Rumors about Tule Lake.

"I hear that at Tule Lake they've put up high fences electrically charged. They've built watchtowers with machine guns at intervals of 900 (some said 600) feet."

"People are not going to Tule Lake. They've dropped that plan."

"Troublemakers will be shipped to Tule Lake after the main segregation program is over."

"They can't put everybody in Tule Lake. They'll have to empty some other camp. Only the first two trains are certain of going to Tule Lake. They do not know where those on the third and fourth trains will be sent to."

"They are going to Make Manzanar another segregation camp."

"They are going to make Jerome another segregation camp."

"Gila is sure to be vacated." "Either Manzanar or Jerome will be set aside for another segregation camp. People will be brought to Gila from the new segregation camp." (People were somewhat relieved to hear that new arrivals were coming in since that was proof that Gila would not be closed then.)

"The citizen status of those judged 'disloyal' will be the same after the war. There'll be no difference at all." (They are apparently trying to reinforce their stand in going to Tule Lake).

Repatriates Sailing on the Gripsholm:

There was much contrast in the departure of repatriates from Poston and from Gila. There was much fanfare at the time they left Poston. Approximately a thousand appeared at the departure station to bid them good-bye with lusty shouts of "Banzai!" led by the

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same individual who led the banzai to the "Great Empire of Japan" at the time of the November incident. The send-off at Gila was reported to have been an extremely quiet affair with only a handful of people present. One evacuee commented: "We were afraid to be seen out there because the officials might find out our true colors and begin to suspect us."

The repatriates from Manzanar, Poston and Gila who were to have their baggages inspected by the customs officials before their departure for New York were originally intended to be isolated from the rest of the community for three days but the plan could not be put into effect until the last day. At this time Yamada of Poston was searched especially thoroughly because one official did not trust him. In his baggage were included a number of clothes for small children and other articles which could not be technically classed as personal effects. According to X he came to this country as a student two years before the outbreak of the war and possessed all the cocky mannerisms common to newly arrived Japanese in this country. It is reported that one of the customs officials stated repeatedly to the evacuees aiding inspection: "I don't like that man. He is the only one I don't trust among all these people."

When the time to inspect Mrs. Murakami's (mother of Dr. Murakami of Poston) baggage arrived she could not be located and Yamada presented himself as her guardian. He claimed that he had been appointed by Dr. Murakami to look after her since she was very old. He explained that she was not feeling well and could

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not be present at the inspection. The officials, however, were not satisfied with his explanations and sent a messenger to fetch her at her temporary quarters in Butte but she was not at home. After some inquiry she was traced to Canal. The officials were displeased at the idea that she could go to another camp when she had sent word that she was too ill to come for her inspection. After several arguments between the officials and Mrs. Murakami and her guardian, the inspection was completed. All papers and magazines were removed from the repatriates and all written inscriptions on merchandise aside from trade names were erased. They were then quartered in a hospital ward until the time of departure. (Incidentally, Mrs. Murakami was unable to board the Gripshom in New York because of low priority and was returned to Rowher along with others who were also unsuccessful. All of them with the exception of Mrs. Murakami (who was granted permission to rejoin her son in Poston because of her age* will be removed to Tule Lake at the time segregation occurs in Rowher.

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One of the office workers in the administration who was well-liked by the Caucasian staff decided to sail on the Gripsholm against the wishes of her family. She was formerly employed by the Japanese consulate in L.A. and her name appeared on the list requested by the Japanese government. Her administrative friends attempted to dissuade her from going by offering her tempting jobs in the project and on the outside but she refused to reconsider. It is reported that as she was leaving one of the officials handed her her birth certificate so that she could return in case

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she changed her mind on the train. We were told when we were there that she was in love with a former employee of the consulate and was going to Japan to marry him. (20)

#####

In disseminating information concerning segregation the administration depended entirely on the Gila News-Courier. (21)
In looking over the segregation articles in the camp paper we noted that they were not so complete as in Poston. We also discovered that the Issei in Gila as in Poston rely almost entirely on the Utah Nippo and the Rocky Shimpo to keep them informed on current events rather than on the Japanese section of the camp paper. They accept the news in the Japanese papers as biblical truth whereas they take the news in the Gila News Courier with a grain of salt.

Nelson who visited Gila while we were there remarked on our return: "The administrative officials at Gila did not know much about segregation. Even high officials like Rogers and Mac -- (Fiscal Officer) didn't know anything about it. They asked me a lot of questions. Those questions are the kind you and I would consider elementary."

Odds and Ends on Segregation:

A block manager whom X has known for about fifteen years said many things which one would expect only from a militant Kibei at the time he visited Poston in June. X therefore presumed that he had answered negatively to 27 and 28. While in Gila he encountered him so inquired whether he was going to Tule Lake or not. He answered: "No. Why should I go there? I answered 'Yes'

Tamie Tsuchiyama - 34.

to 28. I am going out in a couple of weeks on indefinite leave. I got to make some money because I want to get married."

#####

A woman from Vacaville whom X has known since his college days contributed three sons to the combat unit. Her former townfolk commented: "Mrs. Obata must have gone crazy."

#####

An Issei about fifty years of age attempted to send through the Gila post office a letter written in Japanese to Premier Tojo, another in English to President Roosevelt, and a third in German to Adolf Hitler explaining the futility of carrying on the war and urging them to cease fighting. The postmaster's curiosity was naturally aroused by the names of these celebrities and the project director was immediately notified. The culprit was arrested at once but since he turned out to be a psychopathic case he was removed to the Phoenix asylum.

#####

Someone placed "subversive" markings on the segregation chart posted in the hospital a few weeks ago. On it "go to hell" was inscribed on the line leading from the segregation hearing to the American community and a Japanese flag was drawn close to the segregation camp. Dr. Collier searched for the perpetrator and apprehended a Kibei youth who readily confessed. After a hearing he was sent to Leupp, but even Collier himself was not certain that he had really committed the crime. The Gila residents believed implicitly in the story purportedly given by him to his friends:

Len Nelson complained about the tactic of the Leave Office of Gila.

Sometime ago, Gila sent out an undesirable Japanese without knowledge of consent of Poston. "They just loaded him on train without telling us," Nelson said. This project could not ship him back.

On the other hand, Gila is very strict about visitors from ^{Poston}~~Gila~~, let alone transfer of undesirables.

#####

12/22/43
New Center

Tamie Tsuchiyama - 35.

"I answered 'No 'No' and also ~~also~~ applied for repatriation so I have to go to Tule Lake anyway. I took the whole blame because I won't be losing anything. It can't be worse."

#####

In the hearings conducted by Terry, according to some evacuees, he acted as if he were a prosecuting attorney. He fired the following question at one boy: "Do you observe the 11th of February?" The boy asked innocently: "What is the 11th of February?" Terry snapped back: "I am asking you the question. You are to answer that." The boy replied: "I don't know what the 11th of February is so I can't answer that." Terry was dissatisfied with his answer and accused him of lying. It is claimed that several girls came out of Terry's room weeping after their hearings.

#####

Most of the people from the rural districts had a sort of defeatist attitude. They felt that it was best to stay in camp and keep quiet until the war was over. X commented that the Gardena people he knew seemed to have lost their pre-war fighting spirit. (22)

#####

October, 1943.

HANKEY - COMMENTS ON "TAMIE AND "X"
ON GILA"

Page 1 - Line ² 4.-

1. This is not a general sentiment. X's best friend in Gila hates Terry fanatically. Terry is very unpopular, however, especially among the young people who are reputed to break into tears when they hear that they have been assigned to his board for leave clearance. When assigned to Wolter's board they are happy as larks.

X's major informant in Gila, whose home I now visit regularly and with whose husband I am studying Japanese has had an unfortunate quarrel with Terry. Mrs. Kondo, the lady in question, has a child who is mentally ill suffering from encephalitis. This child is confined in a California institution, where, according to Mrs. K. the WRA forced them to leave it at the time of evacuation. All of Mrs. K's attempts to have the child released to her in Gila or in the event of her relocation have been unsuccessful. Terry, in his gruff way was very unsympathetic to Mrs. K. when she asked him for help. Terry, who I think is fairly decent at heart, is ever inclined to argue the legality of an action committed by the WRA, and will seldom have the grace to admit that even though it may have been legal it has caused great hardship and tragedy. From several people I have heard that he treats the young people who wish to relocate as if they were criminals, snapping questions at them. Many of them are frightened, and all, particularly if they consider themselves loyal citizens, are offended.

Terry called me into the office last week and tried to pump me on the evacuees attitudes toward the administration. He used the same criminal attorney tactics on me and, naturally, got nowhere. I merely grinned and said nothing. He then softened up and asked meekly what the evacuees really thought. I was feeling full of beans and drew my thumb-nail across my throat. Terry was astonished. He had no notion that the staff was so thoroughly disliked. However, he quickly rallied and began to argue the legality of administrative proceedings. I said the legality of the matter had no affect on people who were treated rudely, who, if they complained with any vigor, were sent to Leupp, who were forced to see their children eat insufficient and poorly cooked food. Terry changed his tune and began to complain about the opportunistic attitude of the Japanese. I said nothing.

Finally, he asked if I could suggest anything that could be done to improve matters. I said it was not my job to make suggestions to the WRA, but hoping that my remarks might find some root, I ventured to suggest that if the most moronic members of the staff were removed and if the remainder made some attempt to treat the evacuees, with whom they came in contact, courteously, and asked and sometimes followed their advice it would act as a salve to the situation, although I did not think it would affect a cure. Terry took it all.

I hear that at an historic staff meeting held yesterday, he quoted me as saying that the condition in Gila was beyond remedy. This meeting is one of the most interesting events in project history. Gordon Brown handed in a brief report to Wolter about a month ago.

It was a mild enough dissertation on evacuee attitudes and stressed the unsettled feeling of the evacuees, their hostility toward certain members of the administration (Bennett, naturally was not named), their sentiment that anyone who dared make use of freedom of speech was in danger of internment. (Brown has promised to paraphrase the report for me, and I shall include it in a more complete article I intend to prepare, administrative and evacuee interactions with regard to this New Permanent Council).

Brown then censored the report strictly, sent it to Washington, where the authorities sent copies to Terry and Bennett! Bennett was aghast. According to Brown, Bennett had no idea that the evacuees were reacting to his policies in this manner. He immediately called a staff meeting at which Wolter, Terry, Doucha (an Assistant Project Director who is a personal friend of Bennett's and whose character may be deduced from his choice of friends). Brown and Bennett started to thrash out the report. Wolter remarked to Brown later that this had been the most constructive staff meeting in the entire history of his (Wolter's) stay on the project. Brown remarked to me later that if this was true, all former staff meetings must have been crummy indeed.

Brown is emphatic in his statement that this information came as an utter bombshell to the "old man." He was dumbfounded. The meeting lasted only two hours and only the first three pages of the report were covered. Bennett took the attitude, "For Pete's Sake lets take our gloves off and see what can be done!"¹

1. How much of Bennett's eleventh hour change of attitude is due to his possible discovery that some of the Washington big shots have it in for him, is debatable. He may be seeing the handwriting on the wall. The silly cotton picking idea, in which Caucasian and

Terry took the attitude, "Yes, it's true we've failed," but kept putting up a legal defense for each admitted failure. Doucha said nothing. (He probably knew nothing about it anyway. He has remarked in my presence that the only way "to get these people to do something is to take a whip to them." He means the evacuees, not the administrative staff).

Brown stood his ground, stating that the sentiments expressed by the evacuees were mild selections, and if the gentlemen present so desired, he would go to his office and bring back his complete sheaf of stories. This was deemed unnecessary.

Wolter and Terry admitted that, as Mess Supervisor, Keadle was utterly impossible. Bennett said that Keadle is reputedly the best Mess Supervisor on all the ten projects. Brown thinks he may be lying. If Keadle is the best the others must be abysmal morons. The possibility of forming committees in each branch of the Administration to thrash things out was strongly favored. I assume these are to be committees of evacuees and administrative personnel.

Bennett asked if so much hostility was also to be found between the Caucasian heads of staffs and the evacuee staff in the Ad. offices. Brown said, "No." The personal relationships are better. In this respect he is correct. Some of the office heads are despised, among them Doucha and Mrs. Brown, head of the mail; but relationships are far better.

Wolter brought up his experience in Canal, where, when Wells

Japanese staff members picked cotton together for one afternoon, while Bennett ran about taking pictures may have been a publicity stunt to show non-existing cameraderie.

was head of Community Activities, he (Wells) was constantly getting into trouble. After the duty was handed to Hikida, trouble ceased almost immediately.

Bennett still had the nerve to defend Administrative policy at the time of the mess strike. "They (the evacuees) were given plenty of warning," said he. "I can never get them to make up their minds."

I visited the Wolters the evening of this revolutionary meeting. Wolter looked like the cat who has swallowed the canary. He hopes to get something done now. He was optimistic about making the Permanent Council a really democratic body and anticipates that Miyake will soon get himself into so much trouble that he'll have to get out. "He'll talk too much." Walter suspects Fukushima of nominating Miyake because "A chairman has no right to express his opinion."¹

I warned that when the lid is taken off, the people who have been oppressed for so long, may be expected to react violently. (I do not know whether he really means to take the lid off, but it doesn't hurt to throw out lines.) Wolter nodded wisely and said he was anticipating this. Brown remarked that it would not be a bad idea to let this notion seep into the skull of Mr. Bennett. Said I, "If you don't mention it, you're likely to have the place full of soldiers with fixed bayonets."

Page^d 2 - ~~line 3~~

2. Evacuee objections to the "class feeling" maintained by

1. I have verbatim notes on this meeting which will go into a report. I am now sitting in the cat-bird seat and may attend any council meeting I choose.

Bennett were pointedly mentioned in Brown's report.

Page 2 - Line 7. 3

3. This sentiment is extremely common. Mr. Ishizu, the extrovert block manager, dared to express this sentiment in the Council Meeting, covering it up with frequent giggles. It was commented upon with amusement and with nods of approval by my anti-Administration friends.

Page 3 - paragraph 2

4. The reason evacuees are not allowed to go to Phoenix is as follows:

The week of September 19th to 25th Terry and his wife and Graves¹ and his wife went to Phoenix for a blowout. They had a good many drinks and on the way back Graves suggested that they stop at a small bar and have some more. Terry demurred, but Graves was pretty far under and insisted.

In the bar they met a Japanese girl whom Graves knew. He invited her to have a drink with them. She had a coke. At the bar, the Japanese girl sat next to a soldier. The soldier started to talk to the girl and she talked back. About this time Graves and Terry went to the men's room. The soldier and the girl continued to exchange remarks and about this time an M.P. came up. The first thing they knew the evacuee girl and Mrs. Graves were under arrest. When Graves and Terry returned from the men's room and saw Mrs. Graves under arrest Graves pulled off his coat and started to fight
1. Head of Internal Security, replacing Williamson

the M.P. A terrific brawl followed. Graves was arrested on a charge of drunk and disorderly conduct and was forcibly removed by the police.

He was locked up in jail. When Terry finally managed to bail him out it was 2:00 a.m. As soon as he was out of the cell he started to fight again.

Bennett and Terry went to see Governor Osborn to try and get this arrest taken off the books. Osborn was very very provoked. Said he, "An officer of the law at least should know how to behave himself." Bennett and Terry finally got the governor to destroy the records - to avert scandal - by bargaining with the governor and promising to cancel all evacuee leaves to Phoenix. The inhabitants of Phoenix don't like to see Japs walking the streets. So all daily leaves to Phoenix have been cancelled since the end of September, to the great annoyance of some of the evacuees. Evacuees may go into Phoenix only on their way to be relocated.

Harry Inouye, who is a typical bold Hawaiian, is relocating the end of this month. He insists that he, his wife and children, should be allowed to go to Phoenix to buy some decent clothes so that they will not arrive in Philadelphia looking like paupers. Since he has been given leave clearance he feels that he ought to be allowed to go to Phoenix. After all, he is now a free American. Freeland hush-hushed him, but Inouye swears he will go to Bennett himself and tell him what he thinks. I have his promise to tell me all, in case he does this.

5. (?) This is accurate.

3

Page 4 - Hospital Situation

6. This is accurate but inadequate. Collier was transferred due to his remarkably bad adjustments with the hospital evacuee staff. The situation merits a short paper.

Page 4 - Poston Strike

7. This is very interesting. Tamie and X. see the Poston strike as the "deed that saved Poston." It has evidently given the pro-strike group in Poston tremendous self-confidence and self-satisfaction. Neither of them seems to realize the evil odor in which the Poston strikers are held by the American John Doe. X. stated that there is no hope for Gila whatever, unless we have a violent uprising and catharsis.

⁴⁴
Pages 5 - ~~paragraph 1~~

8. I am gathering what information I can on the diverting of food from Caucasian to evacuee mess. I have eaten in evacuee messes several times with Wolter's connivance. The food is inadequate, both in food value and in amount. The amount of meat served is roughly one-eighth of that given to Caucasians. I have been unable to pick up any out-and-out accusations of diversion of points, even from my complaining mess-steward friends. The trouble, says Kondø, is that the Caucasians are fed by meal count, not by the points in their ration books. The trouble is caused by the fact that many of the Caucasians, including myself, have not handed in their ration books. I am convinced, however, that points alone are not responsible for the poor meals served. Complaints are unceasing, but Wolter intimated at the interview mentioned above, that something was going

to be done next week.

The evacuees have circulated a petition that Dr. Lawson, the behemoth female who heads up the hospital diet, be put in charge of the diet of the entire camp. A rumor, which Wolter discounted, has taken complete possession of the evacuee mind: i.e., that Lawson has spent 200 dollars of her own money buying food for evacuee hospital patients. The evacuees, I am told, have made up a purse to pay her back. (I must get the straight dope from Miyake.)

Lawson has also gained great popularity by battling Keadle in public for adequate food for the hospital.

Page 5 - line ~~21~~¹.

9. This is an exaggeration. From all appearances, Keadle did not try desperately to keep the matter a secret. He merely lacked the guts to announce to the hostile mess supervisors.

Page 5 - line ~~26~~¹⁵.

10. This is true insofar as the evacuees got no meat for two weeks and have gotten little since, while the Caucasian supply has been ample.

Page 6 - line ~~4~~^{5 (one friend of K)}.

11. Kondo, who is probably the friend, refused to make the same statement to me. I have been told by a girl friend who works in the Caucasian mess that Stanley, the former mess cook of Canal Caucasian mess, who since the relocation of the Butte cook has taken charge of both messes, "knows the butcher boys and can get all the meat he wants."

Page 7 - paragraph ~~2~~¹.

12. Very true. Any evacuee who is seen going into the adminis-

trative offices is soon suspected of being an inu.

^{10 - 1st R.}
Page 11 - line 3.

13. Very common attitude, which I shall describe in detail when I tackle the council.

Page 10 - paragraph 2.

14. Such comments are legion.

^{12 - Employment}
Page 11 - line 3.

15. This loafing is assuming serious proportions. People who were terminated during the summer months are refusing to accept positions vacated by segegees. The new High School is being built by three carpenters and only one of them is any good. A call was sent out for 25, but no one applied. "Why should we work when they cut us from 19 to 16?" they say. Miyake is concerned. The agricultural group is desperate. Developments are going to be very interesting.

^{last}
Page 20 - paragraph 2.

16. Mrs. Mizuno is a sister of I, who dictated the long verbatim statement which will be included in my segregation report. I am rapidly becoming intimate with this strange lady and we have long chats. Like I, she eventually gets so riled up that she says far more than she intends. She is intelligent and appears to be well-to-do. She does not know "why my husband is interned." I hear all about her abused children.

Page 25 - Nobu Kawai

17. It was Nobu's brother and sister-in-law that I spent the night with at Sacaton. I'll try to get his statement typed soon and sent in.

²⁷
Page 29 - paragraph 4.

18. I think this is a little too cynical a viewpoint. Opportunism is certainly a powerful motive in decisions for repatriation. But many individuals are going to Tule Lake, and do not wish to repatriate. True, they think they will be safe in Tule, but they are puzzled, upset and terrified at the possibility of forced relocation. Many young people accompanied parents unwillingly and some parents accompanied No-No children. The young men who fell on their knees and wept aloud as the train pulled out of Casa Grande were, I think, moved by something more than sheer opportunism.

²⁷
Page 29 - paragraph 7.

19. This must be young Ishiura, who informed on Miura.

Page 30 - line 3.

20. Kimi Murakami, whose case is described more fully in my report.

^{33²}
Page 30 - line 5. *re Gila Lewis Conner*

21. Incorrect. Pamphlets were handed out and the block managers used extensively.

Page. 32 - paragraph 3.

22. The hopeless defeatism, the opinion that if you dare to say anything you'll be sent to Leupp lies over Gila like a wet blanket. It will be most interesting to see how this is affected by the developments promised by Wolter.

X's answer to Haakby's comments.

October 22, 1943

Prof. Thomas:

I have received your letter of October 20. Also the reports. I appreciate your encouraging words. I needed them, because I have lost Tamie's criticisms.

Leighton's suggestion is very amusing and interesting. It's an acknowledgement of his defeat. He has probably found the materials on hand inadequate. He tried to do something impossible. You can't analyze the evacuees by just coming to Poston at a moment notice and staying on the periphery for a year. That's too good to be true. After all, the evacuees' backgrounds dating back for so many years are the basis for their interactions and interreactions. Recently I have been told by some of the A. P.'s (Len Nelson, Ted Haas, and Nell Findley among others) that they withheld information from Leighton. Those evacuees who worked in the bureau were young kids who didn't know the Japanese or the community. Two good evacuees who knew the community (Fukushima and Sasaki) wouldn't dare to write. Another thing --- Leighton knew and knows that Tamie has collected plenty of good stuff. He considered her as the rival. I would ^{not} trade ^{any} of Tamie's for his. Only thing which might be valuable to us might be his records of interviews with evacuees --- life histories and Leighton's analyses of personality. He should have about 25 to 30 of these. Even these we can get them eventually when we can come around to it and when the community is ready. I would say --- for a bargain, no; for nothing, yes.

It appears as if I must accept the vice chairmanship of the new Executive Board. Every political leader is putting terrific pressure on me to accept the position. They worked out a compromise with my block. The committee suggested and the Council, Nelson, and Nomura all con-

curred in making an exception --- an evacuee holding two full time offices. I must work as the Block Manager of 45 and the vice chairman of the Executive Board. "Unless you accept, the evacuee participation in the administration is going to fold up," this is the way they put it. Only thing - I don't know how I can manage all the work. As far as the Cal work is concerned it's swell --- going to sit at the vantage point. I hope I won't be a wreck.

I have received a letter from my informant at Tule Lake. He reported the situation there is tense. He has been there only ten days yet but already many troubles occurred. (Detail in the journal)

1. The workers on the farm struck.
2. About fifteen Hawaiian Nisei broken up a dancing party forcibly.
3. The widows of the Housing Department destroyed. A Caucasian office worker beaten.

"I had expected all these things before coming here, but I didn't think they would happen so soon. It makes me gloomy," he concluded.

COMMENTS ON "HANKEY'S COMMENTS"

#1 (page 1 - line 4) We discarded the opinion of Mrs. Kondo on this subject, because we knew that she was biased. We based ours on Mary Obata, John Morooka, Ken Nishimoto, and Kawamoto.

#7 Poston Strike. There were no pro-strike group ^{and} ~~or~~ anti-strike group at the time of the disturbance. I must admit ^{that} the group Hankey refers as the pro-strike group are all the Poston evacuees except a few Nisei on the periphery. ~~we~~ Tamie and I fully realize the John Doe effect. It is true we forget inadvertently to mention that the American public also exists outside the fence. No evacuee at the time thought about the outside effect. It was a question of life or death to every one --- couldn't be thinking of what the American public might say --- at the beginning. It was nothing like the attempted mess strike in Gila. We had about fifty

of that kind, finally coming to the climax in November. The situation leading up to it was so bad. The emotional stress and motivational urge became so great that the strike happened without premeditation. There was a complete unanimity of opinion and unity of action, ^{among the evacuees} It was a mass movement of people--- Spicer at the height of the incident cried, "A social revolution!" I never experienced anything like it except once *before* *in my life* --- the rice riots in Tokyo (Riots were all over Japan. I only saw those in Tokyo.) It must be very difficult for the outsiders to realize the value deprived. The prevailing sentiment here is that the advantages offset all the adversities. I wonder ^{if} any one can realize ^{our} ~~that~~ ^{having} sanity ^{being} endangered by an accumulation of frustrations. The evacuees also feel that the public opinion is adverse to the Japanese anyway. It cannot be any worse. They believe that the Poston strike supplied one more topic to the race baiters and the pressure groups, ^{and no worse} If they didn't pick the strike, they would have found something else anyway. The evacuees feel that they received just as much adverse publicity from the derailing of the Santa Fe train on the Colorado bridge at Parker, which no Japanese was connected with.

Incidentally, we believed that the caliber of the evacuees at Poston is much higher than those at Gila. We withheld this opinion from the report because we were afraid that our ^{observation} ~~opinion~~ might have been biased. I have reflected upon it several times since then; I am still convinced of it.

#8 (page 5 - para. 1)

Shigeo Iwohara, the man who was in charge of the ration points, and S. Nakanishi, another member of the department, made those charges.

#9 (page 5 - line 11)

For the general statement at the beginning of the paragraph, John Morooka, the Evacuee Property Department chief, and John Yamasaki were

the informant. We presented this to make a contrast with Poston, where the A. P.'s presented Myer's teletype message within one hour after they had received it. They said, "Here is an order from Washington. What shall we do?" They had no staff conference to work out a policy among themselves first.

#16 (page 22 - paragraph 2)

Mrs. Mizuno is the sister-in-law of my neighbor in my block. She is not well-to-do. She knows d--n well why her husband had been taken away. She is sly and tough. Don't let her pull Hankey's leg.

#18 (page 29 - paragraph 4)

You must remember that was the ^{second} first week of September. ~~The~~ Segregation was still about one month away. The prevailing sentiment was not static. As the day approached the sentiment took a serious turn at Poston -- I presume it happened in Gila, too. She is correct with her criticism.

#18 (page 29 - paragraph 4)

This comment (the first line) didn't strike me so well. I am glad she doesn't agree with us. I didn't know that Tamie had slipped this paragraph in. I advised her not to put that in, because we are not ready to explain the background ^{to you} yet. It is not adequate. Let's keep it as an open subject a little while longer.

Another thing -- those accompanying "no-no" from their free will are not included in our term "disloyal" -- *they are just "accessories"*

#19 (page 29 - paragraph 7)

correct. I felt like spitting in his face. I distrusted him and disgusted with him thoroughly.

#21 (page 33 - line 5)

By pamphlets she probably means the booklets prepared by the WRA at Washington. We had the mimeographed instructions issued by the projects *here*.

Tamie should have written "mostly" for "entirely" (line 6).

#22 (page 35 - paragraph 3)

By "defeatism" I meant more than what she commented. I also meant the feeling of predicament of being Japanese. Now I started something. Will you wait until a later date for detail?

These comments were given on good faith with sincere intention to help.

Respectfully yours,

Copy sent to Tamie