

MCCLOY, JOHN JAY, 1895-

3 LETTERS, 1943

WRITTEN WHILE ASST. SECRETARY
OF WAR

LETTERS, MAR. 20 & JUNE 22 WRITTEN
FOR HIM BY WILLIAM P. SCOBEE.

LETTER, MAR. 20, 1943, IS A COPY.

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C O P Y

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

March 20, 1943

Dear Mr. Kingman:

The Secretary of War has directed that I reply to your letter of March 12, 1943. The statement which you enclosed with your letter has been read with interest. Information of that type should be widely publicized so that the American public in general may understand that there are loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry.

A request has been made that Sergeant Yori Wada of Camp Robinson, Arkansas be transferred to the Japanese-American combat team.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED)

WILLIAM P. SCOBEEY
Colonel, General Staff
Executive

Mr. Harry L. Kingman, General Secretary
Young Men's Christian Association
2227 Union Street
Berkeley, California

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

22 June 1943

Dear Mr. Kingman:

In the absence of Mr. McCloy, who is out of the city for the next few days, I acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 15, 1943.

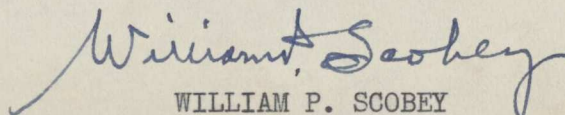
On behalf of the Assistant Secretary I wish to express his appreciation for your statements of support being given to the War Department's views on handling the Japanese problem. The basic principle of the War Department policy is contained in the public statement made by the Secretary of War on January 28, at the time announcement was made of the War Department's plan to organize a Japanese American combat team.

While I cannot speak the personal view of Mr. McCloy with authority, nevertheless, I believe I can say that he feels there are a great many loyal Japanese Americans whose services should be employed in the war effort, and to keep these people under the restrictive conditions of the war relocation centers makes no contribution to the war effort. At the same time Mr. McCloy is cognizant of the fact that there are a great many, even among the citizens, who are not loyal to the United States. I am sure he feels that these are entitled to no consideration, but while they are being held under restriction they should be treated with the consideration we would wish our own internees in Japan to receive.

I am sure that Mr. McCloy will be glad to learn that a definite program for considering this matter has been undertaken by a representative group of West Coast citizens.

I will give your letter to Mr. McCloy upon his return to the city.

Sincerely,



WILLIAM P. SCOBey
Colonel, General Staff
Executive to Ass't Secretary of War

Mr. Harry L. Kingman
2227 Union Street
Berkeley, California



THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
WASHINGTON

July 9, 1943

Dear Mr. Kingman:

Colonel Scobey has referred to me your letter of June 15th as well as his reply.

Recently, as you know, there has been a great deal of agitation on this matter, but I believe that a humane and intelligent solution of the problems brought about by the war and the evacuation of the Japanese will not be impossible. I recently appeared before a Committee of the Senate which was considering the advisability of turning the relocation camps over to the control of the Army. I found the Senators from the western states who appeared at the hearing to be reasonable and moderate in their views and with every disposition to be helpful.

In many ways the problem of the Japanese citizens and aliens in this country is national, and the western states cannot fail to take their share of the burden which is involved in the solution of the problem. I am glad to learn that there are groups along the West Coast that are giving serious consideration to the matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J. D. Dill", is written below the word "Sincerely,".

Mr. Harry L. Kingman, General Secretary
Young Men's Christian Association
2227 Union Street
Berkeley, California