

2:14 JAPANESE-AMERICAN EVACUATION

SECULAR GROUPS

1941-45

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NOTICE TO ROUND TABLE PARTICIPANTS

This report of our discussion is sent you for any essential corrections. Please bear in mind these points:

- (1) Only important additions can be allowed, on account of space limitations.
  - (2) Notations on these sheets - either side - are preferable. Then return only sheets that bear notations.
  - ✓ (3) November 9 is the deadline for sheets to reach Miss Eleanor Breed, 18 Panoramic Way, Berkeley. Therefore, post them by afternoon of November 6th.
- Thank you most heartily.

Galen M. Fisher

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ISSUES PRECIPITATED BY THE JAPANESE EVACUATION

Round Table discussion at the University of California, Berkeley, October 13, 1942

PRESENT BOTH SESSIONS: Miss Alice Hoyt (Dean of Women), Dr. Paul S. Taylor (Dept. of Economics), Dr. E. N. C. Bellquist (Political Science), Miss Eleanor Breed, (Reporter), Rev. Gordon K. Chapman (Protestant Commission for Evacuees), Mr. Joseph Conard (Student Relocation), Mr. Galen M. Fisher (I.P.R.), Mr. Harry L. Kingman, Chairman (University YMCA), Mrs. H. L. Kingman.

PRESENT AT FIRST SESSION ONLY: Dr. John C. Bennett (Pacific School of Religion), Dr. Frank L. Kidner (Dept. of Economics), Dr. David P. Barrows (Political Science), Dr. Clarence S. Gillett (Cong'l. Christian Committee for Evacuees), Dr. Nisbet (Social Institutions), Mr. Ward Shepard (Indian Service), Mr. Stevenson (F.O.R.).

PRESENT AT SECOND SESSION ONLY: Mr. Julean Arnold (briefly), Mr. Beale (Student Relocation), Mr. Ernest Besig (American Civil Liberties Union), Mr. Herman Haydis (W.R.A.), Mr. Carey McWilliams.

The Chairman explained the purpose of the meeting: a Round Table formed by Mr. Fisher, Adviser to the Bay Region Division of the Institute of Pacific Relations, to discuss some of the Issues Precipitated by the Japanese Evacuation, and submit its findings to the national staff of the Institute, so that they may be made available to delegates to the triennial conference of the Institute, to be held in Canada, December 4-14.

Some Basic Assumptions

Basic assumptions, as given in the mimeographed draft, were read by Mr. Fisher: ✓

1. That all the evacuees, except those who choose to be repatriated, should be reincorporated into normal American life, after the war, if not during it. ✓

2. That the treatment of the evacuees during the war, and their satisfactory reincorporation after the war are closely interrelated and should be constantly kept in mind by the War Relocation Authority and responsible public leaders. ✓

3. That the evacuation, detention and relocation of the evacuees represent a serious breach in our traditional peace-time standards caused by war conditions, and therefore, that these measures should not be reappraised, on the basis of the Federal Constitution and of declared American war aims, and with a view to cooperative relations between the United States and Oriental nations and America's contribution toward a sound international order in the Pacific Area. ✓

It will be noted that these Assumptions are substantially those adopted by the House Select Committee on Defense Migration (Tolan Committee) and by the War Relocation Authority.

They were not questioned by the members of the Round Table.

#### I. DENIAL OF DUE PROCESS OF LAW - GENERAL REACTIONS OF EVACUEES

Mr. Ward Shepard: I am speaking informally and unofficially. I do not represent the W.R.A. but am a member of the Indian Service, which has supervision over the project at Poston. After two months' residence and work there I should like to give you some of my conclusions. On the question of the attitude of the Japanese in general toward the relocation, I might say that an interesting characteristic of the younger Japanese is their eagerness to be more than 100% American. They feel acutely anything that might be regarded as setting them off, as a group apart. They are supersensitive on that. We are, for example, developing an excellent school system in Poston, one that is going to be rather better than the average, with a very well trained staff. But the Japanese constantly raise the question: is this going to be just as good as other American schools?

It continues to be a tremendous shock that relocation could have happened. They did not believe it would really happen in this country. It consequently affects their feeling about their future. I recently had, however, an illuminating discussion with a very intelligent group, mostly young people, in a seminar at Poston in which we were reading Plato's Republic -- which, by the way, is very pertinent right now. We were discussing justice and injustice. They applied it to themselves: that if they allowed themselves to feel bitterness and vindictiveness they would suffer a deterioration in character, whereas if they rose above it, they might come out of the experience much better citizens of this country. I thought that an intelligent approach.

They feel more and more that they are all under a universal cloud of suspicion. A first step before the government in working this out to as good a solution as possible is to remove that suspicion through some hearing process like that proposed by the Intelligence Officer in his article in the October Harper's. I question one point -- that with the tremendous emotional tension in the camps, whether the evacuees

could determine who is to be cleared and who is not. I believe that the Department of Justice itself, with aid from the W.R.A. and, say, an advisory committee of nisei, could work out this matter of clearing individuals.

I want to emphasize that my interest in the whole relocation program and what I am here suggesting really has two main points: (1) to protect the rights of the Japanese and develop them as good material for future citizens, and (2) to develop a good program to help people outside to regard the evacuation as a very unfortunate circumstance in our history. When a government has been moved by various forces to do a thing of this sort it takes a good deal of skill to get it to reverse and ameliorate its policies. The most effective way for an outside group to work its strategy is not to accuse the government of something which is a fait accompli, but rather consider how to get out of the situation with a minimum of damage to the Japanese and a maximum of honor to the United States. I don't mean that we should pussyfoot the issues. They are quite clear cut. But for any group to accuse the government of wrong doing, and then in the next breath ask it to right it, is not very realistic.

One of the most important steps is the development of intelligent outside support. It is very reassuring that a group like this is meeting here in California, where much of the trouble originated. I hope that a group like this can develop a wide influence on public opinion. It will be impossible, in my opinion, for the government to carry out a successful policy of using Japanese labor outside the centers unless suspicion is removed. Outside groups could well bring pressure on the government on the ground that there has now been time to sort out the dangerous Japanese from the good, and that the good should be publicly and emphatically cleared of suspicion -- with two aims: (1) to take these people out of the camps, and (2) to work toward permanent relocation after the war. If the government does not do this, it is lining up tremendous difficulties for itself, and the sooner it begins to do this the easier will be the solution.

## II. THE WAGE SCALE

On the matter of the wage scale fixed in the camps, that is to the evacuees the most tangible case of unjust discrimination. The going is likely to be tougher and

tougher in the relocation centers until that matter is settled fairly. (Average: \$16 per month, plus board and lodging for family and a small allowance for clothing.) The evacuees are going to be accused of disloyalty and unpatriotism if they do not work effectively. It would be better and in the long run not more expensive for the government to make a carefully occupational classification within the centers, pick out the best people, pay them going wages, and tell the rest, "You are on relief, or you can go out and get jobs." There is no reason why people doing effective work should not be paid fair wages. It would be a drop in the bucket compared to the cost of the war. It is my opinion that some amelioration will come, in this direction, but I cannot be sure. If it does not, it will reflect both on the Japanese and on the government for failure to make a success of these relocation centers.

Professor Kidner: Does the wage scale involve no discrimination? Is it a flat rate?

Mr. Shepard: The scale is \$19 for professional and high administrative jobs, \$16 for semi-skilled, and \$12 for unskilled.

Mr. Barrows: These are wages paid for the worker's own benefit, or for the government's?

Mr. Shepard: At Poston they are subjugating land for irrigation, to return to the Indian Service eventually. It is essentially government work. The profits from projects like agriculture at Poston are supposed to go into a community fund for future community use. However it is problematical how that will work out.

Mr. Conard: Who set up the wage scale?

Mr. Shepard: It was set by the Appropriations Committee of Congress.

Mr. Fisher: Are there any other limitations upon the power of the W.R.A. in its administration?

Mr. Shepard: There is a great resistance developing to the manufacture of anything that might be shipped out of the centers and compete with outside groups. This resistance comes from manufacturing groups and labor unions. The War Department, however, in cooperation with the W.R.A. is developing a number of camouflage net factories in a number of centers. But I understand that none of them are going

satisfactorily because of the wage scale.

Mr. Kidner: In the case of professional men, doctors, dentists, etc., the assumption is that they are on the government pay roll in taking care of the people in the centers, and they are given \$19 a month. This seems an extremely clear case where the pay roll does not compare with the scale outside.

Mr. Chapman: I had a letter from an evacuee today who is teaching in one of the schools, and who feels keenly the fact that the Caucasian teachers who are her colleagues are getting \$135 and \$150 a month for the same work for which she gets \$16. She feels it shows in their attitude toward her, too.

Mr. Fisher: Has there been any organized expression of this attitude on the part of the Japanese?

Mr. Shepard: There has been a good deal of discussion and concern, but no organized action. They are especially worried about the possibility of a shortage of food in the country at large, and consequently they are particularly willing to work in the agricultural projects, feeling that they are likely to be the first to suffer, if food shortage becomes general.

Mr. Gillett: Does the standard of wages have anything to do with the setting up of a cooperative community?

Mr. Shepard: I think the original idea was to pay the evacuees the same amount that a private in the Army received, but now since the raise in the soldiers' pay that is no longer true. As a matter of fact, on the prevailing wage it is almost impossible for a family to buy mere necessities, such as clothes.

Mr. Shepard: The clothing allowance is small. Much of their present furniture in the camps is home-made from scrap lumber they have been able to salvage. Arrangements are now being made to ship in the private belongings and furniture of the evacuees.

Mr. Kingman: What is going on in the minds of the Appropriations Committee? Is there a group looking toward adjustment of this wage scale?

Mr. Shepard: I do not know. Congress is greatly influenced by public opinion. So long as extremist elements have the say, little can be done. I think adjustment is

feasible. Many of the features of the relocation program were developed when we were still full of anger and suspicion, after Pearl Harbor. Things have improved already.

Mr. Fisher: Is the fact that the Intelligence Officer's article was published, after having been passed upon in Washington, an indication that the attitude there has changed?

Mr. Shepard: As a guess, I would say that much thought lay behind approval of its publication. It may be a trial balloon, to feel out public opinion as to the possibility of clearing, as the article suggests, the innocent from the guilty.

Mr. Nisbet: I suppose that the administrators would have to move very cautiously in initiating any change. A sudden change might arouse reaction. It is perhaps a good idea to go slowly with little publicity.

Mr. Kidner: In connection with the wage scale, something rather drastic would have to be done to have any effect. Yet if the wage scale were raised to the prevailing one, awful howls would go up. And merely raising it, say \$5 all along the line would not help the Japanese.

### III RELEASING AND SETTLEMENT

Mr. Fisher: The new regulations as to releases to work and settle outside seem to show that the W.R.A. is taking a bold line now and is trying to start releasing and test public reaction.

Mr. Shepard: The W.R.A. is committed to getting as many persons out of the centers as possible, because there is a mounting need for their work, on the farms and elsewhere. The new regulations put out by the W.R.A. allow for careful advance arrangements to be made with employers and community officials where workers are to go. The evacuee who takes an outside job has a contract with the employer providing the current wage plus railway fare both ways, with advance assurance of adequate housing and protection. So far about 700 people have left Poston, among them some of our most able leaders. They have left, for the most part, for six weeks to two months. Almost none have left yet for indefinite - presumably permanent - resettlement aside from students, and people of so-called mixed marriages.

Mr. Nisbet: How much willingness is there on the part of the evacuees to be resettled in small groups in communities where they might find work but might also meet persecution?

Mr. Shepard: The bulk of them would prefer to return to their old homes, to take a chance on public opinion there. From a rational point of view many of them realize it would be better for them, however, to be scattered over a wide area. So far, at Poston there is no effort as yet toward permanent resettlement. The labor projects for short periods are an attempt to test out feeling, for the time being.

Mr. Chapman: It has been put up to the Federal Council of Churches and other private agencies to create a favorable public opinion and find openings for people to be resettled, this to be done on the understanding that they should not be concentrated in large groups.

Mr. Shepard: That is the policy they are looking forward to as a permanent solution. I doubt if there will be large scale work along this line for several months. That is, the W.R.A. will depend on private agencies to push it, though the W.R.A. may have a large share in it.

Mr. Chapman: At a meeting recently in Madison, Wisconsin, the mayor was present and said he was favorable to resettling the Japanese there. He said, however, it would be a tremendous help if the President or some high official in the government would issue a statement which would reassure communities in this venture and let them know of the government's interest. The mayor said he found difficulty in dealing with certain minority elements. He was able to make use of statements by prominent people here on the coast which we have been gathering.

Mr. Shepard: It seems to me that the most favorable time to get high official statements would be after this judicial process among the evacuees has taken place, - sifting sheep from goats - and then the high officials could give assurance that the dangerous people had been taken care of and the rest were beyond suspicion.

Mr. Fisher: How long should that process take?

Mr. Shepard: Roughly, two or three months if localized in the various centers.

Mr. Chapman: Aren't we assuming that they are guilty until they are proved innocent? Is it not unjust to assume with one race among us that all persons are guilty until proven innocent, and with others vice versa?

Mr. Shepard: Relocation, whatever the reasons for it, has left the public assumption that these people are guilty. The question before us is how best the government can remove that suspicion. There might be two ways: to assume that the F.B.I. has had time to find out who the dangerous people are, or to go through this positive judicial procedure. I am afraid that while we might assume that the F.B.I. has had time to locate the bad ones, some of the people are still under suspicion.

Mr. Fisher: One of the weak points in the Intelligence Officer's article is his assumption that all of the kibel are to be suspected. (reading from article) "Such persons (kibel) must be considered guilty until proven innocent beyond a doubt."

Mr. Shepard: It is very easy to exaggerate the importance of a sentimental attachment that immigrants have toward their home land. It doesn't worry me that the issei, who have been kicked around the worst, quite naturally have a yearning for their home country. It's a natural human feeling. That is why I also dislike lumping all kibel into one group.

Mr. Conard: What would be the objection to doing what we do with the students -- checking the names with the F.B.I.?

Mr. Shepard: I should much prefer to see the government tell the F.B.I. to hurry and finish the job of rounding up the subversive people, and then consider the rest innocent.

Mr. Chapman: As a matter of fact, many of us were urging the holding of hearings before the evacuation. We felt teachers and community leaders could give reasonable assurance of loyalty. Now that the evacuees are separated from their homes this procedure will be much more difficult.

Mr. Shepard: My personal preference is for the procedure you put forward. And most of us have confidence in the rigorous standards of the F.B.I.

Mr. Conard: I would add that dubious cases unearthed by the F.B.I. should have some kind of hearing also.

Mr. Shepard: This whole thing seems to me to have slightly humorous aspects. What is wrong with us if we are so fearfully frightened by some 100,000 out of 140 million people -- particularly when 40% or 28,000 of the nisei are under 15 years of age?

Mr. Beale: This whole process of mass evacuation may possibly bring good, if the Japanese are scattered throughout the country -- no more "Little Tokyos." Furthermore, if that is not accomplished, is there any hope of their getting out of the camps?

Mr. Haydis: The attitude of some of the states toward that is a matter of some concern. Where the governors of Wyoming, Arizona and Colorado have tried to persuade their people that Japanese settlers are only temporary and will be removed after the war, what can you do? Arizona is determined that the evacuees return to California after the war, and in California many insist that they shall not be permitted to return. And the evacuees see that in some cases they are on an Indian Reservation, and they do not want to be treated like Indians.

Mr. Fisher: Two other questions come to mind: (1) the sociological and civic soundness of the wide dispersal of Japanese over the country, and (2) the matter of encouraging the most enterprising and vigorous of the evacuees to leave the centers for outside employment, leaving the centers without progressive and capable younger leaders.

Mrs. Kingman: In Minidoka Project, so many have gone outside to work that the women have to learn to be policemen and fireman, to keep things going. Is there any possibility of the projects going on successfully if there is a constant drain of people leaving for outside work?

Mr. Besig: The question in the back of my mind is how many are willing to accept release. Are the first generation willing to stay in these centers and take leave as it comes? If they do secure release, won't they tend again to go to communities where their fellows are?

Mr. Chapman: The first generation are not yet being given much opportunity to leave.

Mr. Beale: Public opinion being what it is, it seems better to move the nisei out first.

Mr. Rowell: On this long-range proposition, you have to reckon with one American prejudice, not held so much by other nations, in connection with scattering the Japanese all over the country, the question of intermarriage, because if the groups are very small they cannot marry in their own group. If you were to scatter all Italians or all Germans all over the country no one would object. It will be a generation or two before there can be a similar attitude toward Orientals.

Mr. Fisher: Some of us have stated that the Japanese should be scattered not too far apart, within fifty miles, or "courting distance."

Mr. Rowell: We Americans are very inconsistent -- we have people who don't object to a little Indian blood, but do object to the Negro. They don't object to Greek or Italian, but do to the Oriental. It is only on intermarriage matters that the race line is drawn with that absoluteness.

Mr. Beale: I saw a questionnaire recently in New York that indicated that 51% of the alien Japanese and 57% of the American born have married white Americans or Europeans, sometimes of very good families.

Mr. Rowell: In New York, instead of having concentrations of Japanese, you have concentrations of Jews, and the latter rarely intermarry. The situation on the West Coast has been the reverse.

Mr. Kingman: Are there any objections in the main to the principles and proposals presented, as to the necessity of removing suspicion, of raising the wage scale, and dispelling public suspicion and hostility?

No dissent or remarks.

#### PUBLICITY POLICY ON RESETTLEMENT

Mr. Kingman: Then we come to the question: Do we feel that the W.R.A. should take a more aggressive policy in its publicity and public relations policy?

Mrs. Kingman: Several of us here in Berkeley have thought a lot about it. A group was organized and ready to send out 250 letters a day for a period of several months to group leaders -- P.T.A., League of Women Voters, churches, etc. -- in the middle west, giving them informative material about the Japanese. But W.R.A. officials to

whom I took this plan said they did not want any pressure right now, even of the most helpful kind, so we are delaying our work. The publicity and public relations angle of the W.R.A. has so far been negative. Our group is convinced that there are large numbers of people throughout the middle west who may be on the fence regarding the Japanese, but who are eager to back up the government in the war effort, and are waiting for the government to tell them what to do next. Aside from a few articles, there has been nothing done to educate the middle west. I should like to know if this group feels that the W.R.A. is sound in its point of view.

Mr. Beale: They are dependent on public opinion and on Congress, and if they carried on aggressive publicity under their own name they would get their heads taken off. If you know Washington, you know there is some reason for fear of appropriation cuts.

Mr. Bellquist: Publicity was discussed in connection with student relocation. These young people are carefully investigated, and placed after there has been acceptance of them by the university and by its community. The problem came up as to what extent publicity should be given to the effort to get a few students out. Agreement was general that it would be better not to have publicity. My own inclination at the present time has been along that line.

Mrs. Kingman: How would you think that any general acceptance for a wide dispersal program could be brought about in the light of almost complete ignorance on the part of people at large?

Mr. Nisbet: There is more than ignorance. There is antipathy. Enlightenment might pacify hostility. On the other hand, it might inflame hostility and endanger re-settlement.

Mr. Bellquist: It was definitely our feeling in the Relocation Council that publicity now would close those few channels that had been opened for the students and there would be no opportunity to go further.

Mr. Chapman: In September when the W.R.A. officials, Mr. Holland and Mr. Provins, conferred with church leaders in New York, it was felt that the time had come to be

more aggressive as far as public opinion was concerned. In accordance with their suggestions national and Coast church leaders are setting up an office to give direction to this movement. That office is now getting ready the first bulletin which will include statements from people on the Pacific Coast, such as presidents of the Universities, etc. I am convinced the time is ripe for just that kind of publicity, where people on the West Coast especially can give expression to their feeling on the matter of the Japanese. When I visited a town in Arkansas people told me that when they first heard of the settlement of a lot of Japanese near them they were ready to get out their rifles. But all they needed was information. When they saw the Japanese, they said, "Why, there're white folks, aren't they?" -- comparing them, of course, with the Negroes. The incident at Park College was an interesting one. When the townspeople discovered that over 300 letters had been received by the president of the college, commending him for taking in Japanese students, they all jumped on the band wagon and felt proud of what their community had done. People need education. When prominent Californians can give them some assurance that usually will suffice. I believe that now is the time to engage in more publicity. I have found newspaper men ready to use material where California men have something to say.

Mr. Bellquist: In the matter of wages, equal to those paid a private in the army, there was no small outburst: "Are you going to pay them as much as you pay a private in the army?" It is going to take a great deal of public education before that attitude can be changed. We need a vigorous statement from persons in quite high places. The President has made some excellent statements, such as that of July 11: advocating "the employment of aliens, including those of enemy countries, even in strategic war industries," -- but at no time has that been considered to apply to Japanese. Until that comes from a fairly high source I do not think that a letter campaign or any other will have much effect. In a small community with newspapers cooperating, a little can be done, but not as concerns the country as a whole.

Mr. Taylor: Is it Mr. Chapman's understanding that W.R.A. Director Myer's position is changing now?

Mr. Chapman: I know that it was after coming to an understanding with Mr. Myer that Mr. Provins and Mr. Holland went to New York to consult with the representatives of the Christian groups, with a view to securing their cooperation. As a result of that meeting, they are giving strong direction to public education, and some of us were asked to collect new material for their use.

Mr. Fisher: On the first of July in Washington, the first thing Mr. Holland said to me was, "We hope that the private agencies, particularly the church groups, all over the country will start a campaign of education toward resettlement. I believe that the clergy, as idealists and as having the ears of millions of people, ought to take the lead." One of the ways of implementing Mr. Holland's plea was to get statements by leading people on the Coast. I have secured a score already. They are brief and impressive. When these are put into a pamphlet and used in a quiet campaign and in hand-to-hand contact, in inland states particularly, and when people use extracts from them in writing letters to their own friends --the influence will be almost entirely salutary. If our agitation is not aggressive, but rather done as a matter of information and suggestion, it may change the attitude of many people in a comparatively short time. I feel that the time has come for such a quiet permeation of the public mind. The first aim should be to get openings for a few Japanese to settle and then let them become their own publicity agents. Take the Keetley Colony in Utah, one of the best pieces of evidence of the trustworthiness and economic value of a cross-section of the Japanese. The evidence of such groups will make the movement cumulative.

Mr. Shepard: It occurs to me that Mr. Myer in his discouraging of a widespread publicity might have been apprehensive regarding a newspaper campaign. It seems to me that neither the temporary sending of workers outside the camps nor the long-term resettlement later is thinkable without the type of campaign Mr. Fisher has mentioned. Three major public relations activities are needed: (1) informative material to go to editors, etc. in communities where Japanese are to be sent: (2) The continuance of constructive articles like Professor Taylor's in September

Survey Graphic. Professor George E. Taylor is preparing a series of articles for the Atlantic soon: (3) The formation of a strong and influential national committee. Anyone familiar with the government knows that public statements put out by a group sway opinion in Congress. It is necessary that the liberal, tolerant, decent people become articulate on this matter. This situation is comparable in importance to something as fundamental as the Dred Scott decision.

Mr. Taylor: While it is plain that we should not embark upon a campaign which might backfire, we should not do less than is needed. We should scrutinize ourselves to see that we are doing the maximum of what we should do.

Mr. Shepard: The essence of a battle is risk.

Mr. Kingman: I think most of us here feel that a little more should be done than has been done, and that we should possibly take a little more risk.

Mr. Taylor: A lot of objections that will be made will be laid when a comparatively small number of Japanese are relocated. You can say, "Here is an example." It takes just a few demonstrations to lay the fears that are so prevalent.

Mr. Conard: I should like to recommend that the I.P.R. (1) try to make available the consensus of opinion of groups like this today, to important groups across the country, putting the American Legion, for example, in touch with the most advanced thinking, and (2) make available this kind of information to potentially sympathetic audiences.

Mrs. Kingman: Our idea was not a newspaper campaign. We were planning to send a weekly release to editors, incidentally, but also to P.T.A. groups, the League of Women Voters, churches, etc. It was not to be primarily pressure for action, but pressure for understanding. Mr. Myer merely asked that it not be done at the time, but said he would want it done eventually.

Mr. Barrows: Do I understand that since the settlement in the relocation centers there has been no movement out of them yet to individual points of activity? That is, they are not free unless they have a contract with an employer?

Mr. Shepard: As far as I am familiar with the situation at Poston there have been no arrangements for permanent outside employment by the Japanese. This new labor

policy was only lately presented, and the whole emphasis has till now been on short-time employment.

Mr. Barrows: It was represented to me that the Army was anxious after the evacuation and relocation to turn the matter over to someone else. The Army has nothing to do with them after relocation, has it?

Mr. Shepard: The Army has something still to say about things.

Mr. Barrows: Suppose they went on farther to the east, would there be resistance there?

Mr. Shepard: The Army would make question as to where they were going and what sort of work they were going to do. Of course some moved of their own accord and without permit, before the freezing order.

Mrs. Kingman: If the prevailing wage should create the type of lack of cooperation we were speaking of, and if the W.R.A. relocation program should break down, would the army be inclined to take over?

Mr. Shepard: There is naturally a certain amount of apprehension along that line. I doubt, however, if the situation is likely to become as bad as that. You might define the present situation as a sort of universal slow-down. The Japanese people are too keen and realistic to see through appeals to patriotism and good sportsmanship, but of course there is a great deal of variability in their individual attitudes.

Mr. Barrows: Except for the possibility of hostility in the communities where they might want to go, I cannot see any reason why releasees should not be allowed to go east if they wish.

Mr. Shepard: Until the process is completed of sorting out those who are really dangerous from the others, I do not see how freedom of movement could be given. If there are dangerous elements among the Japanese, there are plenty of places in the interior of the country where sabotage could be committed. That is why the clearing of these people is of primary importance. As to the army -- we mustn't think of the army or the government as a great single-minded, monolithic structure. Subordinate officials often can do a great amount of polite sabotage of principles handed down to them. It depends upon the people who make the minor decisions, underneath.

Mr. Conard: The hostility that we have found in Student Relocation work has come only from subordinates who were pretty far down the line. When we had time to get to the army or navy officials near the top, we found them pretty understanding.

Mr. Gillett: I know of a few individual cases where there has been permanent relocation of Japanese. Everyone who can get employment outside can stay out as long as he is working, and is allowed a month from the end of his employment before he has to go back. They can take their families with them if there is housing. People are getting out on employment releases, and are practically free within the area to which they go -- can go to a certain county and move about within it. They are free to terminate their contract and go back to the Center on five days' notice. The thing that worries me most is the loss of morale on the part of the young people -- that seems to me very serious. One of the things which undoubtedly will help that will be to assure them that people outside are still working on this problem. I still find many people who don't know that the Japanese did not commit lots of sabotage at Pearl Harbor.

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*Civil Liberties Union*  
OCD  
Second meeting, Sept. 20, 1942

IV THE FIGHT FOR THE CIVIL RIGHTS OF EVACUEES

Mr. Besig: Legal Contests that have resulted from the Japanese evacuation.

There have been test cases started in Seattle, Portland, San Francisco and Los Angeles. The cases fall into two classes: (1) Petitions for writ of habeas corpus, (2) criminal.

In petitions for writ of habeas corpus no question has been raised concerning the constitutional power of the President or the military to exclude Japanese from this military area. It has been assumed that they had that power. All that is being contested is the right of the military to continue to hold or detain the Japanese once they have been evacuated from the military area. That question has been raised in three of the cases pending. One of these is the Wakayama case -- husband and wife. Mr. Wakayama is a veteran of the World War, member of a labor union, apparently a fine and loyal citizen. The right of the government to detain him is being questioned. In that proceeding Mr. A. L. Wirin, who represents the ACLU, has suggested that there has been a denial of due process of law, and he seeks to read into the Fifth Amendment the equal protection clause of the Fourteenth. He says, "You can't exclude and detain a person of Japanese ancestry, on a racial basis and without a hearing."

Essentially the same points were raised in the Endo case, as to dismissal of a State Civil servant. In that case the lawyer raised one other point. He said, "If you detain her, she will be losing her property (job) without due process of law."

In the criminal cases the issues are a little broader. In the Seattle case Gordon Hirabayashi, a Quaker and a conscientious objector, contends that as a Christian he cannot accept this discrimination against people because of their race. His attorneys attacked the power of the President to exclude any or all persons from the military area. They also attacked the statute under which failure to abide by the orders of the military were punished. They said that the President was usurping

legislative power in issuing this exclusion order; that the statute was indefinite, giving no standard by which a person might guide himself; that the failure to give a hearing, as required by due process in the Fifth Amendment was unreasonable class legislation directed against people merely because of their antecedents; that any classification based upon race was a denial of equal protection. They raised one other point. The Constitution, in Article 4, prohibits unreasonable searches and seizure and is a protection of the person against these, and they claim that in seizing people without giving them a hearing that article has been violated.

The Korematsu case, in which we are particularly interested, really raises no new issues. Counsel says it was unnecessary for the military to construe the President's order as they did. It could have been construed so that only persons whom the President has the power to exclude - aliens - would be. Such an interpretation could have been made of the President's order. Nowhere under the Constitution is the President given the right to exclude citizens. If the order is to be understood as covering enemy aliens, then the military, in seizing upon citizens as well as aliens, has exceeded its power. Moreover, the question of military necessity is raised in this case, and also in the case in Los Angeles. They claim that the question of military necessity is one of mixed fact and law, and that the military should be compelled to come into court and support its position.

These, then, are the pending legal cases. The progress that they have made has been slow. The Korematsu case is the farthest advanced. In the Hirabayashi case a trial is being held today in Seattle. Neither of the applications for a writ of habeas corpus has been decided. The only thing we have is a decision on a demurrer, written by Judge Black, in which he holds in brief that under military necessity you can do practically anything. It is not a well reasoned opinion, and I feel that when we go up higher we shall get something with a little better rationale.

The Portland case tests the right of the military to impose curfew on persons because of their race. The issue of class legislation is raised. It is not as important a case as the cases at Seattle, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Two cases on the disfranchisement of Japanese-Americans were filed, one in Oakland and one in San Francisco. The Alameda County case was dismissed with the consent of Mr. Webb, handling the case on behalf of the Native Sons. A lot of jurisdictional questions were raised in it. I think Mr. Webb preferred not to have them raised. In San Francisco the City Attorney's office was much more cooperative than they were in Alameda County. There was not much of a contest in San Francisco; nevertheless, Mr. Webb was licked. Our Union filed an amicus curiae in this case. No appeal has so far been taken, and I believe that the time for appeal has now expired, so it seems to be a dead issue.

In Congress, on the other hand, legislation was introduced by Senator Stewart of Tennessee to intern all Japanese, aliens and citizens alike, for the duration. The Committee's report had in it a recommendation that Japanese be denied citizenship. That is not a part of the bill itself. The bill has been reported favorably. Mr. Fisher: In Washington, I was told that the Secretaries of War, Navy and Justice had made known their opposition to Stewart's bill. I should like to ask about Lincoln Kanai's case. He went East without reporting, and was sentenced for 6 months in Federal Prison. Isn't that a bad precedent for other cases?

Mr. Besig: There have been 5 or 6 cases where persons of Japanese ancestry have pled guilty to violating the evacuation order. I think the Kanai case has not prejudiced other cases. Kanai was sentenced on his own plea of guilty. Judge Roche promised that he would write a decision, but he has not done so. Judges, I think, are going to find difficulty in setting forth adequate legal reasons for the evacuation. In the Portland curfew case the court itself was so troubled by the issues that it requested five or six large law firms to file amicus curiae writs. In Los Angeles the case was heard by three judges, sitting together.

Mr. Taylor: Did Judge Black say that he did not question the action of the military "in these times?"

Mr. Besig: He said: "There must of course be extraordinary reasons to justify curfew or removal of American citizens . . . but certainly since Pearl Harbor most extraordinary reasons have obtained."

Mr. Kingman: Do the members of the Round Table have misgivings on strategic or other grounds as to the advisability of making these test cases in court now?

Mr. Arnold: Are they loyal American citizens? Merely because they were born here? Have they given evidence of loyalty?

Mr. Besig: It was because of some doubt of their loyalty, presumably, that General DeWitt set up this military area from which he excluded both aliens and citizens. It has been contended in some quarters that if there was any question of loyalty, it should have been determined on an individual basis with hearings, rather than on a mass basis, without hearings. They did it in England with some 70,000 aliens - our number of Japanese in this area was 119,000, citizens and aliens, in a much larger region.

Mr. Bennett: Most of the aliens in England were Jews, in large proportions, and the assumption would be that they were enemies of Hitler.

Mr. Beale: In the Eastern states there have been hearing boards.

Mr. Besig: Yes, in the East, after arrest and detention, a board hears the evidence on whether the person should be held or released.

Mr. Beale: There was an announcement by General Drum that he was going to issue a mass evacuation order including not only Japanese but also Germans and Italians. There was such protest from influential sources that no evacuation order followed, but instead, individual hearing boards.

Mr. Besig: I had a letter today from Asst. Secretary of War McCloy that the mass evacuation of Germans and Italians in the East was so difficult (due partly to numbers, no doubt), that they decided to have individual hearings and individual evacuation. As you know, we are having individual evacuation of Germans and Italians now from this area.

Mr. Bellquist To come back to Mr. Kingman's question, I was invited to act as one of the sponsors of one of the law suits Mr. Besig has described, but after considerable thinking about it I declined. There is still doubt in my mind as to the practicality of carrying them through. On the one hand, I do not know that I agree with

the statement that it would be hard for a judge to find law here, and secondly, I think they would find law and the opinion would be such as I would not favor -- adverse to what most of us would consider desirable. And thirdly, if you did get a favorable decision, what would be the effect? Presumably the people would be released, and what then? I should like to hear your views on this and to raise another question. What is the time limit for appeal?

Mr. Besig: Ninety days.

Mr. Bellquist: Isn't it a matter of fact that Mr. Webb has indicated his intention, and there are funds available for it, to attack the Wong King Ark case all over the country, and whether the time limit has expired or not you will have more such cases. What about the minority opinion on it? And again, what about the matter of the advisability of carrying these law cases through?

Mr. Besig: We thought that bringing these suits might work to some extent as a club over the heads of the people who are holding the evacuees in these centers. We hoped that they would make rules that would permit the speedy release of the evacuees, if not back to their homes, to other areas. If in the long run the citizens were released from the relocation centers there might not be any more need for pressing these legal cases. The relocation people and the military are not too sure they have the right to detain citizens of Japanese extraction, although I think they feel they are on sure ground in so far as their right to evacuate these people goes.

Mr. Taylor: But are the adverse decisions that you have already had reassuring to them.

Mr. Besig: Everybody expects the lower courts to hand down adverse decisions -- but nobody knows what the Supreme Court will do.

Mr. Rowell: Or when.

Mr. Besig: What is to prevent Congress from passing a law outlawing habeas corpus?

Mr. Rowell: The Constitution does not say whether Congress or the President shall suspend it, but in either case the power is limited to certain conditions - invasion or rebellion. The mere fact that one Japanese submarine shot one shot ashore did not constitute a state of invasion, in which the right of habeas corpus could be

removed all over the country. The power of suspension of habeas corpus is clearly set forth in the constitution.

Mr. Bellquist: On the basis of the Milligan case, you mean.

Mr. Rowell: The Constitution's language is there, and it specifically states the condition under which it can be suspended. Isn't the language inescapable? Of course sometimes plain language is interpreted to be unplain!

Mr. Kingman: How many of us more or less agree with Professor Bellquist's misgivings of the ACLU's going ahead and fighting these cases?

Mr. Chapman: The authorities concerned have already accepted the principle which we desire, namely, releasing the evacuees as fast as circumstances permit. The pressing of these cases might prejudice that.

Mr. Besig: We want to see how releasing will work before we dismiss any case. They painted a very rosy picture about the speedy release of these people, the securing of jobs, etc. It looks now as if it would take two or three years before we have decisions in any case. There is still time to dismiss them if it seems advisable. But don't you think we ought to distinguish between the two types of cases? I can see where there might be a difference of opinion with regard to suits which challenge the right of the government to exclude persons from the military area, but suits with reference to the continued detention of such persons would seem to be on much surer grounds.

Mr. Fisher: I would like to put myself on record as favoring the latter type of case. Every person should have an individual hearing. The clearance by the F.B.I. and W.R.A. as now proposed by W.R.A. only applies to those who apply for release.

Mr. Rowell: It is a part of the business of the ACLU to do a good many things that the rest of us would not do. I very much welcome their independence of action, even in cases where we would not ourselves venture.

Mr. Chapman: As soon as public opinion is favorable and there are occupational opportunities it is possible to obtain their release.

Mr. Rowell: Suppose the employer is favorable and the community isn't?

Mr. Chapman: They cannot be released until both are favorable.

Mr. Beale: The new orders of October 1 regarding releases of evacuees are very complicated. They are based on the principle that any Japanese, American born or alien, has the right to go where he pleases outside of the relocation area, and once he gets out on an educational or occupational release he is as free as any one else. That is the W.R.A. interpretation of the orders effective October 1, as I got it in Washington. Only if they lose their means of support must they go back.

Mr. Besig: I have a copy of those regulations, and of course we have debated them with the W.R.A. So long as these persons fulfill the conditions they may remain at liberty, but once the conditions are in any way changed, they may have to return to the center. There is no such thing as an unconditional release. The strings are on them so that they may be pulled back.

Mr. Chapman: Mr. Holland, Director of Resettlement, in W.R.A., came to New York to explain this while I was there in September. He gave us assurance that when the Nisei have been cleared by the F.B.I. they may go out and accept jobs provided the communities are favorable, and while they are requiring releasees to report changes of address, Mr. Holland said that they were imposing no other restrictions.

Mr. Besig: At any time if in the judgment of the director of the center these people should be returned, they can be returned. This point has been a bone of contention between us in the ACLU and the W.R.A. We insisted that these people should be released without any strings attached. The solicitor and Mr. Myer wanted conditional releases.

Mr. Bellquist: I should like to hear Mr. Besig's opinion on another point. If there is anything we have been taught, it is that we could rely on the law with regard to American citizenship. Now the question of citizenship is raised, and will be fought. The mere fact that the question has been raised is going to have some effect on the morale of the young people in the centers. When you go back and read the dissenting opinion in the Wong Kim Ark case you see that there is strong disagreement that may be used later.

Mr. Besig: There is nothing to prevent people bringing a case testing the civil rights of any minority group in the country. Mr. Webb brought these two suits and I think that the time has now lapsed and the cases are dead. Judge St. Sure relied on the Wong Kim Ark decision. Whether the Supreme Court will change its mind is speculative. We cannot give absolute assurance to the Japanese that nobody is going to come along and raise the objections that were raised in the Wong Kim Ark case. The Attorney General's office have questioned bills introduced that would treat Japanese as though they were not citizens. I think that has been true in the Senate and in the House, too.

Mr. Bellquist: One thing on which there should be no disagreement on here is that when and if an effort is made along that line, then there should be publicity such as Mr. Rowell's article of last week. That was as fine a statement as I have seen, and a copy of it should be in every paper in the land.

Mr. Rowell: Here is an incidental thing. Wallace Ware is candidate for Attorney General in California, and as amicus curiae he presented a brief in the case before Judge St. Sure. Have any of you had the misfortune to read that brief? It was distributed as a political document. If you read it you will be horrified. He made no reference whatever to any of the legal points in the case or any of the evidence. He had no opinion. It was merely a long harangue.

Mr. Fisher: In that connection, I call attention to the brief against the State civil servants issued by the State Personnel Board. It was about as horrifying as the one Mr. Rowell describes. It too was a harangue.

Mr. Besig: I want to assure Mr. Bellquist that wherever the issue is raised the ACLU is going to be on the job.

Mr. Fisher: Mr. Bellquist questioned whether the effect on nisei of cases to defend their citizenship were not depressing to their morale. I should think the fact that these cases were being filed would perk them up a bit.

Mr. McWilliams: I do not think one can generalize as to the effect of either the evacuation or the legal cases on the nisei any more than on the entire group. I do

not know the effect on them, of the evacuation. There is an element in the camps who feel that the suits will not serve any important purpose in their cases. They recall that some of the cases brought up during the first World War were not settled until two years or more after the armistice, and they do not expect much better help from these cases.

Mr. Besig: I think that/<sup>is</sup>the feeling among left-wing evacuees. The communists ✓ among them are supporting the evacuation.

Mr. Haydis: The nisei are caught between the two groups. The communist group approves harsh measures because they want people irritated and angry. Others say, "I told you so. What good is it being an American citizen?" The nisei need all the help and understanding they can get.

Miss Hoyt: I had a letter recently from a Center, quoting the Director as saying to the residents that "those men working in the relocation area who are the best workers would be recommended for outside employment when opportunity comes, because we can't afford to have any people who are not good workers represent us and ruin our reputation outside." That in itself is a discrimination.

Mr. Besig: Yes. I do not think they are going to be very speedy in releasing people. Perhaps they have to be that way. After a while we want them to pick and move faster.

Mr. Haydis: The attitude of states like Arizona toward the evacuees has conditioned the evacuees' attitude toward working to save crops.

Mr. Rowell: Don't you think they are eager to go out of camp?

Mr. Haydis: They have pride in going out and doing a good job, but they dislike the discrimination they find in certain localities.

#### V INTERNATIONAL REPERCUSSIONS

Mr. Kingman: How about the effect of mass evacuation of the Japanese and their detention on our relations with China and India? What is the effect on other colored races?

Mr. Rowell: I don't think the people of India care at all, or the people of China much, about how we are treating these Japanese. But they have raised the question of the white man's treatment of the man of color, and I am quite sure there will be agitators among them who will use this. In the case of China, we have just tried to remove it by removing extraterritoriality and special privileges, and the British have joined us in that.

But immediately there follows the question about whether we will say anything about India -- which we won't -- nor, of course, will the British. Therefore if we won't and the British don't say anything about the application of these principles to India, there is an illogic in it. I don't think human beings are ruled much by logic, but propaganda uses logic as a tool. There is of course a certain justification in it. In America we have a large number of people who feel that the four freedoms should not apply to every American citizen. Personally, I am in favor of letting the Negroes have the full right to work at any job they are able to handle, under the same conditions as others. In the same way, I feel that these discriminations against the Japanese are wrong and dangerous. But the more practical thing is that they are being used in propaganda to question our sincerity. The Indian people will not take Britain's promise for anything, because they do not believe it. If we in American are going to underwrite Britain's promise, we have got to be sure there is reason to rely on us. In regard to the Chinese, our giving up of extraterritoriality is a nice sop to their pride, but a few airplanes would be much more to the point.

Mr. Besig: The reaction of racial minorities in this country is shown in the Negro paper Crisis, which says, "If they can do this to the Japanese they can try it on us." In line with the attitude of the Negro, you have the attitude of the Chinese. A student at Mills College told me that the Chinese aren't saying anything publicly, but among themselves they are saying that they do not like it -- that they are lucky, right now, in being on the right side, politically, but they can't tell how long it will last.

Mr. Rowell: We have another question on the part of the Jewish refugees from Germany, in connection with the policy of releasing the Italian aliens from the restrictions of the curfew. German Jews themselves regard it as unjust discrimination. They are all stateless and all Jews, and under the presumption of being anti-Nazi, and that presumption should hold.

Mr. Besig: I was speaking recently to a group of Jewish students and they raised that question. All I could say was, "I hope this release of Italians from the curfew is the first step toward releasing you and others."

Mr. Rowell: When I was in Washington, Asst. Secretary of War McCloy raised with me the question of what we should do in connection with the other people -- the Italians, for instance -- as soon as the Japanese were out. I stated that I hoped they would keep in mind the stateless people. He stated that he was very strongly of that view -- and then it was not done. I don't know, but I suspect that the difficulty was with an Army Commander. I had the curious experience of coming out from the War Department with a document in my pocket giving me permission to use certain material. I made a speech to the Commonwealth Club based expressly on that document. I got back to my office and found that the newspapers were forbidden to print the speech which the War Department had given me permission to make. As to the case of the Italians, we got two conflicting orders, one from the Attorney General and one from General DeWitt. Later, General DeWitt issued an order in accordance with that from the Attorney General.

Mr. Bennett: Dr. Horton told recently how at Oberlin College they had accepted a number of Japanese students, and then persons in the town objected. President Wilkins got hold of a Chinese student from Hawaii, head of one of the branches of the American Legion there. The Chinese said to the American Legion at Oberlin, "What are you doing, objecting to what the Army has asked, that these students be allowed to come here and finish their education?" The Legion then backed up the admission of the students, and the opposition subsided.

Mr. Rowell: And that was done in the American Legion?

Mr. Fisher: The Legion in certain other areas -- Madison, Wisconsin, for instance -- has shown a fair attitude.

Mr. Chapman: The Chinese feel that if there is any shift in the war in China, the Chinese here might be evacuated in the same way as the Japanese have been. The Jews feel also that they or any other minority could easily be treated similarly.

Mr. Rowell: It is very good luck, in this connection, that we have a written constitution which states certain rights clearly.

Mr. Bellquist: I do not see how the Chinese could be under any illusions as to the possible application of this to them. I have heard people here on this faculty say that exclusion should be applied to the Chinese as well as the Japanese.

Mr. Chapman: The experience of the Chinese after the completion of the Southern Pacific Railway here in the West has taught them that they are welcome only up to a certain point, while they are useful, and then they are in danger of mobs.

Mr. Rowell: I recall a time when an American Legion post over in Chinatown invited the 40 and 8's to a very nice dinner. The Chinese treated the affair with great dignity and conducted themselves in most admirable fashion. All of the American women and most of the men were most disgracefully drunk. Another sample of our treatment of the Chinese.

Mr. Fisher: Your references to Washington remind me of this clipping I received recently from Charles F. Loomis of Hawaii, stating that there is continued pressure from Washington politicians demanding more drastic treatment of the Japanese in Hawaii.

Mr. Rowell: There was unanimous action of our California Congressmen recommending such treatment in Hawaii, as well as on this Coast.

Mr. Beale: I have wondered whether the impulse in Congress came more from Southern than from Northern Congressmen. There is an interesting article in Crisis on this.

Mr. Rowell: I have no evidence of it, though it would be logical.

Mr. Fisher: As regards Senator Stewart, I was told in Washington that he would seize upon anything that would be "safe," and would win him election.

Mr. Taylor: The Congressmen who opposed Stewart were all from the North.

Mr. Rowell: I raised this question once along logical lines; to the effect that you could not get the consent of the South to a constitutional amendment eliminating the Japanese unless you applied it to the Negroes, and you could not get the consent of the North if you did. I was told that the analogy was not applicable -- that in the South they did not connect it with their own problem. I don't know.

Mr. Bellquist: In at least three speeches Rankin has definitely linked the Japanese and the Negroes. That involves the same thing Mr. Rowell is discussing. On the propaganda angle, I have a complete file of the Japanese propaganda to this country. I have listened to my radio for four weeks, at different occasions. Unquestionably the Japanese have used this evacuation pretty effectively, or got others to use it at any rate, to arouse the Negroes.

Mr. Rowell: Of course the communists are doing the same thing. They are the only political party in this country that believe in and practice complete equality with the Negroes. Fortunately for us, most of the Negroes pay no attention to it.

Mr. Bellquist: I listen to Shirer in his propaganda analysis. Evidently he has never examined the Japanese propaganda, or he could not state as he did that it is imitative of the Nazis and ineffective. It is very cleverly designed.

Mr. Fisher: I tried yesterday to get the records of last spring's Japanese propaganda broadcasts based on the evacuation. The O.W.I. said it might take a week to unearth these records. But in the afternoon of October 11, I did find some samples of how the Japanese press treated the evacuation: (reads) "President Roosevelt's order evacuating 10,000 (sic) Japanese has deeply shocked Christian circles in Japan." "This is one of the cruelest actions ever inflicted on a minority . . ." "Barbarism of the American Government and people . . ."

#### VI RESTITUTION FOR LOSSES CAUSED BY THE EVACUATION

Mr. Conard: To what extent is the possibility of restitution of property losses involved in the ACLU cases?

Mr. Besig: There is really one one such case that I know of -- the Endo case, which

claims that property rights -- the right to a job -- were violated without due process of law.

Mr. Rowell: There may be question as to whether that is property.

Mr. Haydis: What about people who had to sell cows and horses, etc., and lose their entire business interests. A span of beautiful horses worth \$400 was sold for about \$80, in the early rush of evacuation. The government finally took to buying cars at the blue book rates, since the Japanese had been so badly mulcted.

Mr. Fisher: Didn't much of that sort of thing go on at Terminal Island, where they were evacuated so suddenly?

Mr. Conard: There were cases of fraud where men phoned that the F.B.I. were coming, and their accomplices ran around to pick up property the Japanese were frightened into selling for a song.

Mrs. Kingman: The group who lost most heavily were those who were evacuated before the protective government regulations went through.

Mr. Besig: Your question would be whether, if a man sold his horses for \$80, whereas he should have got \$400, he should sue the government for the difference. I am very doubtful of the outcome.

Mr. Chapman: Government custodianship was tardy. In the Turlock region the Japanese had a large acreage. Pressure was put on them to turn it over to an agent. A man resigned from the Capitol Company to handle it. The terms asked by him were exorbitant. The Japanese held a meeting to formulate their policy, but pressure was put on them and they were unable to protect themselves. A good many of them stored their possessions in the churches and in their homes. Before they left, in one city, men were going around posing as deputy sheriffs and seizing things from them. Since the local sheriff would not help, I went to San Francisco and got the Army Provost Marshall to put M.P.'s in there. Then their things began to return to them, without comment. The County Sheriff knew nothing about it. Since that time, the Okies who have been brought in as tenants have claimed that the Japanese furniture stored in the houses they are renting is their own property. In many cases

there was a total lack of responsibility as far as the authorities were concerned, and the evacuees were pressed to liquidate their affairs, and obliged to do the best they could without any police protection.

Mr. Besig: I doubt if you are going to get Congress to compensate these people.

Mr. Rowell: You can't even get a law to compensate a man who has been unjustly imprisoned.

#### VII DETERMINING POLICY

Mr. McWilliams: One of the important things about the whole problem is the matter of policy. The W.R.A. is an agency in which administration and policy are combined in the same organization. With reference to what framework is that policy determined? The President's executive order creating the W.R.A. is a sketchy document. I don't think that you can say there is any policy in that order. Congress has not stated a policy. Therefore you have a situation where no long-range policy has been determined. The W.R.A. therefore makes policy by day-to-day decisions. Right now the emphasis seems to be on relocation and resettlement. This uncertainly has had a disconcerting influence upon the evacuees. They think, "Tomorrow, next week, next month, I may get out and be resettled." It has infused the feeling of uncertainty into the centers. This presents some serious problems. Perhaps the President intends to clarify the situation later, issuing a comprehensive statement on policy.

Mr. Chapman: The W.R.A. has had some long drawn out conferences on policy. The question of the labor status and pay took a two day policy conference. Mr. Eisenhower, Director at that time, was not dictating policy, and apparently the group were able to evolve a policy.

Mr. Conard: Uncertainty as to general policy arises in part from the general insecurity caused by the war. Neither the evacuees nor the W.R.A. know what the decisions of Congress will be. It is something W.R.A. cannot very well cure.

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Jack - This has a little  
added tape

MINUTES

7. COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRANT SERVING AGENCIES

FAMILY WELFARE COUNCIL

COMMUNITY CHEST OF SAN FRANCISCO

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1941 - 10:00 A.M.

45 Second Street

PRESENT:

Blaisdell, Allen, Chairman	International Institute Board
Baker, Miss Betty	American Friends Service Committee
De Andreis, Frank	State Dept. of Immigration & Housing
Duveneck, Mrs. Josephine	American Friends Service Committee
Leonard, Mrs. Marjorie	Northern Calif. Committee for Foreign Born
Miller, Miss Persis	American Committee to Save Refugees
Picard, Herbert	Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society
Rispoli, Milano	Italian Welfare Agency
Tichner, Miss Henrietta	National Council of Jewish Women
Treguboff, Sanford	S.F. Committee for Service to Emigres
Watson, Miss Annie Clo	International Institute

ABSENT:

Elliott, Robert	American Red Cross, S. F. Chapter
Hastings, Mrs. Russell	International Institute Board
Kahn, Mrs. Sidney	National Council of Jewish Women
Kimber, Mrs. Mary	American Friends Service Committee
Shea, Rev. Eugene	Affiliated Catholic Charities
Taylor, Miss Emilie	Travelers Aid Society
Tomas, Mark	American Red Cross, Pacific Area Office

ALSO PRESENT:

Buewald, Mrs. J. P.	Pasadena
Domoto, Yiniko	Alameda County Charities Commission
Fisher, Galen M.	Berkeley
Fisk, Alfred G.	International Institute
Kamata, Rev. R. M.	Buddhist Mission of North America
Kanai, Lincoln	Japanese Branch, Y.M.C.A.
Kaneko, Rev. T.	Chairman, Japanese Transfiguration in S.F. First Evangelical and Reformed Church
Kelley, Patrick	Community Chest of San Francisco
Kido, Saburo	Japanese American Citizens League
Layman, Dr. Mary H.	International Institute
Leffler, John C.	Rector, St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Mukaye, Miss Kimiko	Japanese Center, Y.W.C.A.
Musser, Miss Helen	Travelers Aid Society
Nugent, W. Carl	First Evangelical and Reformed Church
Okazaki, Mari	International Institute
Petti, Lorenne	Alameda County Charities Commission
Plant, Robert	International Institute
Porter, Robert	Community Chest of Berkeley

Ruettell, Miss Margaret  
Schmuck, Rev. Francis John  
Scott, Anne  
Sprunger, Ellis  
Stut, Bertha  
Yoakum, Mrs. Wilhelmine

Adjustment Bureau  
S. F. Church Federation  
International Institute  
Y. M. C. A.  
Travelers Aid Society of Oakland  
International Institute of Alameda  
County

PRESIDING  
OFFICER:

Mr. Allen Blaisdell, Chairman, presided.

TRANSPORT-  
ATION:

The Chairman called for reports on assignments given December 11th. Miss Musser of the Travelers Aid Society said that no tickets can be sold to a Japanese person unless he can prove his citizenship. The same regulations apply to Japanese children traveling alone as those which govern any child traveling unaccompanied by an adult.

CHILD  
CARE:

An example was cited of a Japanese who had been ordered from a bus in Bakersfield and it was stated that the Santa Fe Trailways has excluded Japanese from traveling on their lines. Some hardship is being experienced in cases where children have been left alone because parents were visiting in another city when war was declared and cannot return to their homes. However, this problem is partly solved since two Japanese families have opened up their homes for care of children who are separated from their parents.

EDUCATION:

Everyone was unanimous in feeling that the public school system had taken a fine attitude toward Japanese children. Statements have appeared in Berkeley and San Francisco papers urging tolerance. Miss Watson in meeting with representative public school teachers at their request to give them information which will help them to deal with the situation. It was suggested that Mr. Graves be invited to the meetings of this Committee.

EMPLOYMENT: Following is a summary of a conference of Lincoln Kanai and E. H. Sprunger with Sam Lee of the State Employment Department:

Mr. Lee felt that while he could not give employer reaction at this time, a short cooling-off period would be desirable because just at present, prospective employers will be inclined to be conservative and hesitant.

However, it was agreed that there were some areas in which distinct suggestions and recommendations could be made, as follows:

1. In the past, a small percentage of Americans of Japanese extraction have registered for employment with the State Department. It was suggested that the agencies urge more Americans of Japanese extraction to register for employment with the Bureau.
2. It was suggested that all agencies represented in the emergency group take all possible steps through bulletins, etc., to give information regarding jobs and employment.
3. That from time to time the emergency committee clear with the Employment Office to determine whether substantial registrations have been received and, if such is the case, to notify the cooperating agencies so that they may relay this information to their members and constituents.
4. The State Employment Department is willing to notify agencies of this group regarding job openings for unemployed Americans of Japanese extraction.
5. In the case of young women, it was recommended that those now unemployed who had been in office and clerical positions previously, register at the Employment Office and indicate their willingness to serve as domestics. Mr. Lee felt that while this was not the most desirable type of employment, there would be more openings in domestic positions, and that such positions offered a means of earning their livelihood.
6. It was suggested that young people below the age of 24 might apply to N.Y.A. and find some types of employment, even though the compensation might not be high.
7. All unemployed Americans of Japanese extraction should be urged to apply to the State Employment Office for unemployment insurance at once. While that will not relieve their acute situation immediately, it does indicate that possibly in a matter of three or four weeks, they might be in a

position to draw unemployment insurance. (Mr. Lee made it clear that he was not in a position to definitely guarantee that unemployment insurance will be paid, but he feels it is certainly desirable that application should be made, so in case it is recognized, payments can begin as soon as possible.)

RELIEF:

Mr. Born was unable to attend the meeting but sent word that the Public Welfare Department had received 15 applications for relief from Japanese in the last week. They were assisting these families with relief in kind.

The Adjustment Bureau was notified that two Japanese single men were unable to get assistance from the Public Welfare Department. Since the regular Public Welfare Department policy provides only camp care for single, employable men, the Chairman asked the Secretary to follow through on this.

FINANCES:

Mr. Kido made the following statement on finances:

Although Japanese Nationals are allowed under General License No. 11-A to receive up to \$100.00 per month for living and personal expenses for himself and his family, such payments being from either the National's bank account or from his employer in the form of wages, and under General License No. 68-A, certain firms are allowed to resume businesses, the following problems still exist:

1. Families with no reserve in personal accounts.
2. Families whose total funds are frozen in non-general licensed firms, and banks.
3. One hundred dollars cannot cover payments on installment purchases, insurance premiums, automobiles.
4. Families of those detained by the government cannot support themselves - majority with minor children, some without mothers. Neighbors cannot take care of them as would be done usually as they themselves are short of funds.
5. Families without funds very reluctant about reporting, although those fearing they will be without funds in the near future are very anxious to know what will happen if rent payments cannot be kept up, utilities, etc.

6. Telephone charges are arbitrarily raised. Businesses depending on phone calls such as cleaning and dyeing, etc., are greatly penalized when advance cash payments are requested sometimes \$30.00 to \$40.00.
7. Cases of stranded employees of fishing boats, not paid since unable to leave with fleet. Aliens unable to get back to city or town where bank accounts are located, families with minor children .
8. If insurance policy is in force, no relief through Public Welfare Department. Yet if premiums have been paid by National, such premiums are no longer accepted.
9. Medical care for a National who has lost his job and had been undergoing a series of treatments under a private doctor.
10. Social security cannot be paid to Nationals.
11. Pressure being put on employers from neighbors, etc., to discharge household employees, many of them supporting minor children. (Many housewives who have never worked outside of the home, as the husband is unemployed, will try to get outside domestic work. Such inexperienced women may be taken advantage of.) Some employers have discharged employees who have worked nine or ten years in the same family.
12. Civil Service is not accepting applications from Japanese Americans.
13. Cancellation of automobile insurance of Japanese Nationals.
14. Cancellation of liquor licenses of places operated by Japanese Nationals.
15. The Enemy Trading Act provision:
  - 3-a. It shall be unlawful for any person in the United States except with the license of the President, granted to such person, or to the enemy or ally of enemy, as provided in this Act, to trade, or attempt to trade, either directly or indirectly, with, or from, or for, or on account of, or on behalf of, or for the benefit of, any other person, with knowledge or reasonable cause to believe that such other person is an enemy or ally of enemy, or is conducting or taking part in such trade, directly or indirectly, for, or on account of, or on behalf of, or for the benefit of, any enemy or ally of enemy.
16. Closing of hotels operated by Japanese Nationals.
17. Housing. Landlords are asking Japanese to move.
18. Traveling - stranded in San Francisco.

19. Birth certificates which are needed to prove citizenship are often in safes of employers whose places are locked.
20. Stopping credits.
21. Pressing for payments.
22. Persons have represented themselves as F.B.I. agents and taken jewels and money from Japanese. Japanese have been told to ask for credentials from anyone representing himself as a government agent.
23. Japanese are being excluded from attending Red Cross units and are being asked to organize new units. This has been done to protect Japanese from embarrassment. The Committee does not agree with this.

Mr. Kido stated that a National who has been in the United States continuously since June 17, 1940, is permitted to operate his business as a generally licensed National. If he went out of the country since that date to travel abroad he will be required to operate under a special license.

ITALIAN  
SITUATION:

Mr. Rispoli stated that no alien who has been engaged in commercial fishing can carry on this activity since the declaration of war. Since there are approximately 550 Italian fishermen in San Francisco, this is working a hardship on this group. There are 9000 Italian aliens in San Francisco with an average age of 48. Any questions pertaining to the Italian group are to be referred to Mr. Rispoli, Douglas 6423.

GERMAN  
SITUATION:

Mr. Treguboff presented a digest of instructions to aliens from Presidential Proclamation No. 2526, and said that his office at 1600 Scott Street, Fillmore 4513, would be glad to answer any requests for information on the German Nationals. He read the following statement: "No alarm should be felt by peaceful and law abiding aliens residing in the United States. It is felt, however, that some of the vital information contained in the Presidential Proclamation should be known to aliens residing in this community for their guidance and protection. All those who are natives, citizens, denizens or subjects of Germany,

Italy and Japan, 14 years of age and upward, are classified as 'alien enemies'; this, of course, does not include naturalized American citizens but it should be noted that aliens possessing first papers only are still considered as aliens".

(Mimeographed copy of the Presidential Proclamation on file with original minutes.)

Since there are many legal questions pertaining to this whole problem, the question was raised whether or not an attorney should be invited to attend these meetings. Mrs. Marjorie Leonard from the Northern California Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, already a member of this Committee, is an attorney and said that she would be glad to help individual members with any problems they might want to refer to her.

The Chairman said that all possible leads should be followed through in order that the work of this Committee be effective. All problems concerning business should be referred to Mr. Kido of the Japanese American Citizens League. It was further suggested that the Secretary contact Miss Helen Bary of the Social Security Board and that Miss Watson should ask Miss Chickering to intercede with the Governor. The Secretary is to talk over this whole problem with Mr. Lundborg of the Chamber of Commerce before the next meeting.

Mr. de Andreis will get in touch with Mr. McWilliams of the State Immigration and Housing Bureau. Mr. Leffler and Mr. Hastings will contact the Legal Department of the Federal Reserve Bank.

Mr. Fred Nonoura, Glencourt 3126, and Mr. Hirao, Sweetwood 3940, are the representatives of the J.A.C.L. in the East Bay. The State Labor Commissioner, Mr. Carrasco, 515 Van Ness Avenue should be notified if Japanese employees are not paid. All problems of insurance should

be referred to Mr. Camanetti, State Insurance Supervisor. ~~Mr. Fisher~~ will take up the question of Civil Service jobs for Japanese with Mr. Benjamin Mallary, head of the State Personnel Board.

ATTITUDES: A great many problems have arisen because complaints have been registered by neighbors of people employing Japanese. The Chairman thought that employers should retain services of Japanese wherever possible but that this group probably could not be very forceful in publicity of this kind, that it would carry more weight if it could come through women's clubs, service clubs and the Committee for Fair Play to Japanese. Mr. Fisher will take this up with the Committee for Fair Play and discuss it with Chester Rowell and Bishop Parsons who are on this East Bay Committee.

The Chairman appointed Mr. John Leffler Chairman of a Subcommittee to plan the long time program for dealing with the whole problem of counteracting these attitudes. Rev. F. J. Schmuck, Dr. Fisk, Patrick Kelley and others whom Mr. Leffler will appoint will work with him on this.

Mr. Kelley of the Public Relations Department of the Community Chest was asked to write up a release on today's meeting and send copies to Mr. Galen Fisher and Mr. Robert Porter, Berkeley, and to the Community Chest of Oakland. They would like to have this information released at the same time.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned to meet Tuesday, December 23rd, at ten o'clock at the Community Chest offices.

rw:arq

Rhea Wendling,  
Secretary.

1855 - 31

C O P Y

LOS ANGELES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

May 11, 1943

To the Chambers of Commerce  
of Southern California

Gentlemen:

We are advised by our Washington office that proposals are still under active consideration to permit Japanese to return to military areas of the Pacific Coast. A group of our local people have been called together to consider these proposals and they believe the situation to be of sufficient importance to justify a determination of the sentiment and opinions which exist throughout our coastal areas.

Accordingly we would appreciate having the benefit of your expression in answer to the following questions:

1. Does your organization believe it desirable that Japanese who are considered loyal to the United States be permitted to return to Pacific Coast states during the war?
2. Does the opinion expressed in answer to question #1 represent the attitude in the community or area which your organization serves?
3. Would return, in your opinion, involve dangers to our war operations?
4. Is there any probability that return of the Japanese would jeopardize their personal safety?
5. Would their return cause resentment which would interrupt war production?
6. Is it desired that Japanese be permitted to return so that their labor may be utilized for:
  - (a) agriculture
  - (b) industry

We are enclosing a postal card with questions numbered as above. We will appreciate your returning the questions checked "yes" or "no".

If you prefer, we would be glad to have your answer by letter, with a more comprehensive statement concerning these questions, and other items which you think should be considered in connection with this problem.

Since this matter is very actively before officials in Washington, it is desirable that we have your response at an early date.

Sincerely,

LEONARD E. READ  
General Manager

34-138  
Encl.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

170 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY



ATTACK ON JAPANESE AMERICANS

June 13, 1943

To local committees and  
state correspondents

Friends:

The Dies Committee of Congress has discovered un-Americanism among the Japanese Americans in the relocation centers and is kicking up a furore intended to portray them as disloyal to the United States and therefore deserving continued confinement.

This attempt is directly contrary to the policy adopted by the War Relocation Authority and encouraged by the Senate Military Affairs Committee and all the agencies of the government concerned.

Members of the Dies Committee should hear at once and vigorously from all those opposed to this attack. Telegrams and airmail letters should go at once to the chairman and to members of the committee, particularly from their home states. They are: Martin Dies (D. of Texas), Joe Starnes (D. of Alabama), Wirt Courtney (D. of Tennessee), John M. Costello (D. of California), Herman P. Eberharter (D. of Pennsylvania), Noah M. Mason (R. of Illinois), J. Parnell Thomas (R. of New Jersey) and Karl E. Mundt (R. of South Dakota). They should be addressed at House Office Building, Washington, D. C.

In addition, letters should be sent to leading newspapers for publication endorsing the policy of releasing all American citizens of Japanese ancestry cleared by the FBI, for resettlement in homes and jobs outside the west coast military area. Editorial expressions in opposition to the Dies Committee should be encouraged. Interested agencies should pass resolutions. All possible public opposition should be expressed to counteract the effect on public opinion of the Dies Committee's phony "exposures".

Sincerely yours,

Roger H Baldwin

RNB:SH

*Make list of  
members of Dies  
Committee. OK my*

# CLEVELAND RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE

## (FOR JAPANESE AMERICANS)

### PLANNING COMMITTEE

Mr. George Trundle, Chairman  
Trundle Engineering Co.

Dr. Harold F. Carr, Vice-Chairman  
First Methodist Church

Miss Margaret Ferguson, Sec.  
International Institute

Rev. Shunji Nishi  
Cleveland Church Federation

Miss Beatrice Burr

Mrs. W. B. McKenna  
Youth Bureau

Miss Elizabeth Hayes  
Children's Service Bureau

Miss Eui Kimura  
International Institute

Dean Francis E. Bacon  
Western Reserve University

Mrs. Daniel P. Morgan

Mrs. Olive Hamister  
Humane Society

Major J. J. Simpson  
Salvation Army

January 5, 1945

Dear Friend:

Well, now that the bars have finally been let down and you have complete freedom of movement again, many Clevelanders are wondering what you will do,--whether you will pull up stakes, or stay with us. There is a strongly organized group, of which I am chairman, which is especially concerned with this matter. We are not merely curious. We are interested in what you decide to do, because, whether you know it or not, we have been working in your behalf for a long time now, and your decision will tell us, in a way, whether we have done a good job or a bad one. In other words, we have tried in many ways to make it easier for you to adjust yourself to life in Cleveland; and if you leave now, we will naturally feel that we have fallen down on the job.

But, perhaps, you have never heard of us. If not, it's time you did. Our group is known as the Cleveland Resettlement Committee. It is made up of industrialists, labor people, churchmen, social workers and people from nearby every walk of life. We have all lived in this city for many years. Our common interest in persons of Japanese ancestry was aroused more than two years ago, while you were still in a relocation center. Because we did not believe that a relocation center was the proper place in which a loyal American like you should live, we banded together and formed our Committee for the purpose of paving the way here so that you could leave the center and find a new life in this community.

By way of laying the ground work, both before you came here and afterward, we have done many things. We have worked through the churches, through scores of civic and social clubs, and through the YMCA, YWCA and the International Institute. We have explained the evacuation and the relocation program to literally hundreds of groups. Your story has been told over and over again in a variety of ways in Cleveland newspapers and in innumerable periodicals. With our assistance, the Cleveland Baptist Hostel was set up; and your housing problem has been brought to the attention of Cleveland landlords and Real Estate Agents. In your interest, our Committee has communicated with all of Cleveland's hospitals, its social service agencies, its various trade schools, and, of course, its Western Reserve University. In addition to doing these things, each of the 75 members on our Committee has, in a sense, been acting as a publicity agent for persons of Japanese ancestry, in that wherever we go, we are constantly educating the public in your behalf.

Since you arrived here, you have continued and greatly expanded the job we started by the excellent way you have succeeded in winning friends and supporters in all segments of the community. Employers, who knew nothing about you two years ago, are now highly appreciative of the service you have rendered in wartime production, and please remember that many of them are not going to forget you when this war is over. Landlords are realizing more and more all of the time that you keep your place clean and orderly and are prompt in paying the rent. You are always welcome in Cleveland's churches, schools, grocery stores, restaurants, hotels, and in the skating rinks, bowling alleys and other places of amusement. Indeed, I know of no instance where you or your fellow Japanese Americans are excluded from such places.

You are now at the crossroads. In deciding upon your future course, I believe it is extremely important for you to consider some of the things mentioned above. I think you should ask yourself some questions concerning the opportunities that exist here for you as compared with those on the West Coast:

WILL YOU HAVE AS MANY SUPPORTERS THERE AS YOU HAVE HERE?

WILL YOU BE ABLE TO GET THE KIND OF JOBS THERE THAT YOU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO OBTAIN HERE, AND BE ON SUCH FRIENDLY TERMS WITH YOUR FELLOW WORKERS AS YOU ARE HERE?

ARE YOU GOING TO BE ABLE TO LIVE IN PRACTICALLY ANY PART OF A WEST COAST CITY AS YOU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO IN CLEVELAND?

ON THE WEST COAST, WILL YOU FEEL FREE TO GO TO ANY CHURCH OR RESTAURANT OR HOTEL OR PLACE OF AMUSEMENT AS YOU HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DO IN CLEVELAND?

FINALLY, UNLESS I MISS MY GUESS, YOU WILL SOME DAY BE RAISING A FAMILY, IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY STARTED TO DO SO. I WONDER IF YOU HAVE GIVEN ANY THOUGHT TO THIS QUESTION: WHICH OF THE TWO ENVIRONMENTS, THE WEST COAST'S OR CLEVELAND'S, WOULD BE THE MORE WHOLE-SOME ONE IN WHICH TO BRING UP YOUR CHILDREN?

In closing this letter, I would like to say that in whatever way you solve your problem or whichever course you decide to take, you are always welcome here in Cleveland; and we,--the Cleveland Resettlement Committee,--will continue to work in your behalf as long as the need exists.

Sincerely yours,



Geo. T. Trundle, Jr.

COMPLETE MEMBERSHIP LIST  
CLEVELAND RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE  
(FOR JAPANESE-AMERICANS)

Mr. George Trundle, Chrmn. Trundle Engineering Co.	Dr. C. V. Thomas Y.M.C.A.	PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE
Dr. Harold F. Carr, Vice-Chrmn. First Methodist Church	Mr. George Washington Urban League of Cleveland	Dr. Harold F. Carr, Chrmn. Lakewood Methodist Church
Miss Margaret Fergusson, Sec. International Institute	Mr. John Stewart Y.M.C.A.	Mr. Irving Adams
Mr. O. M. Walton Cleveland Church Federation	Margaret Hawkins Cleveland Church Federation	Mr. Abe Hagiwara Y.M.C.A.
Dr. Everett M. Baker First Unitarian Church	Miss Kathleen McCarty Catholic Charities	Mr. George Hackett
Mr. Eugene Freedheim Jewish Social Service Bur.	Mr. Dan Knowlton Hill & Knowlton	Mr. L. R. Moffett
Miss Tomi Okura	Miss Emi Kimura International Institute	Mr. Fred Johnson
Mr. G. F. Basinger U.S.E.S.	Mrs. Marion McPherson Occup. Planning Committee	Miss Dorothy Young
Dr. Grace Coyle Western Reserve University	Miss Elizabeth Lamb Flora Stone Mather College	HOUSING COMMITTEE
Rev. Kengo Tajima	Mr. George Chida	Miss Beatrice Burr, Chrmn.
Miss Catherine Cronin Travelers Aid Society	Mr. Bob Itanaga	Mrs. Henry Sayles Francis
Miss Grace Mayette League for Human Rights	Mrs. Anne Kunitani Consumers League of Ohio	Mrs. Don Knowlton
Colonel Wm. Spatig Salvation Army	Mr. George Obata	Mrs. D. Miley Phipps
Mr. Victor Kambe	FAMILY RESETTLEMENT COMMITTEE	Mrs. Walter Magee
Rev. V. A. Peterson St. James Episcopal Church	Dean Francis R. Bacon, Chrmn. Western Reserve University	Mrs. Stanley W. Burns
Miss Elizabeth Magee Consumers League of Ohio	Mrs. Paul Bickel	Mrs. Charles Patch War Service Center
Mrs. Frank J. Lausche	Mrs. Sidney Hunt	COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION COMM.
Mr. Ray Livingston Thompson Products Co.	Mrs. Robert L. Meeks	Mrs. W. B. McKenna, Chrmn. Youth Bureau
Miss Margarette Fujita Medical Social Worker	HOSTEL COMMITTEE	Mrs. Theodore Evans
Mr. Mich Kunitani	Mrs. Daniel P. Morgan, Chrmn.	Miss Mamie R. Goodman War Relocation Authority
Rev. Shunji Nishi	Mrs. Olive Bannister Cleveland Church Federation	COUNSELING COMMITTEE
	Mr. Max Franzen Cleveland Hostel	Miss Elizabeth Noyes, Chrmn. Children's Service Bureau
	Dr. D. R. Sharpe Cleveland Baptist Assoc.	Mr. Claude Clark, Legal Aid
		Mr. Abe Sudran Jewish Vocational Serv. Bur.
		Mr. Dan Elliot Humane Society
		Miss Catherine Clark Institute of Family Service

From Berkeley Inter-racial Comm.

107 Tamalpais Road,  
Berkeley, Calif.  
April 29, 1945.

Mr. Harold Ickes  
Secretary of the Interior  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Ickes:

I should like to express the continued support of the Berkeley Inter-racial Committee to the policy of the Federal government in allowing persons of Japanese ancestry to return to California.

During the past months we have tried to help those returning in finding housing and jobs, and in creating community acceptance of their return, but we are at a loss as to how now to proceed when housing for these people during the war period is apparently not being considered by the Federal government.

As an example of the housing shortage here I might cite two typical problems of this week. A few days ago the local Oakland War Relocation Authority office told us that some 200 Japanese-Americans might be expected in the bay region by June 15 and that WRA is not prepared itself to do anything toward the creation of housing for these people. Yet ten days ago I asked the Oakland WRA office to find a room for a medically discharged Japanese-American war veteran, Mr. Yamaguchi, whom we found sleeping in an Oakland jail for lack of a room, and also for an elderly couple, Mr. and Mrs. Oishi, who can do day work if a house-keeping room can be found for them. In spite of three reminders by our committee during this period, the WRA has found no housing for these people.

Community agencies are neither able, by reason of lack of materials and priorities, to erect new dwellings, nor do they consider it their problem. We believe it is the responsibility of the government to provide duration-plus housing for those Japanese-Americans who wish to return to their former homes on the west coast.

Hostels, while practical in rural communities, are a futile gesture in urban communities where no permanent housing for any race is available.

We believe that if the War Relocation Authority camps are to be closed on January 1, 1946 the government must at once erect housing on the west coast to be made available to those Japanese-Americans who wish to return

Louis Stanselwood

*Mrs. Kingman*

C O P Y

COUNCIL OF SOCIAL AGENCIES

Community Chest . . . Oakland . . . Piedmont . . . Emeryville . . . San Leandro

202 Plaza Building  
506 Fifteenth Street  
Oakland 12, California  
Telephone Twinoaks 0400

July 30, 1945

Hon. Harold Ickes  
Secretary of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

re: Japanese Relocation

Understanding that the Centers in which approximately 5100 Japanese Americans from Alameda County have been concentrated under the War Relocation Authority, are scheduled to close November 1st and November 15th, we write to inquire as to what the policy of the Authority will be towards those who will have remained in the Centers up to closing time.

Our question is prompted by the critical housing shortage in this area because of which even war workers and veterans cannot find dwellings. To return suddenly at one time any considerable number of Japanese Americans without provision for their housing would inevitably lead to tensions and misunderstandings that would be unfortunate and unfair. Even those Japanese Americans already returned here, who are quite able to support themselves, are having a most difficult time to find places to live.

The hostel system now being tried here is useful as a small scale temporary measure, but is in no sense adequate as an answer.

While the official and voluntary agencies associated in this Council are giving and will continue to give every proper cooperation in carrying out any suitable plan, we must insist that it is the responsibility of the Federal Government to formulate a program for the return of these former residents which shall take due account of the conditions in the local community.

We ask to be informed well in advance of such plans.

Very truly yours

(Signed) Chas. P. Howard  
President

" Seward C. Simons  
Executive Director

By Action of the Board of Directors  
July 27, 1945

107 Tamalpais Rd.  
Berkeley, Cal.

April 30, 1945

Miss Leila Anderson, Secretary  
University of California Y.W.C.A.  
Union and Allston Way  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Miss Anderson:

As a result of the 4000 questionnaires on housing and jobs for returning Japanese-Americans sent out, with your co-operation and aid by the Berkeley Inter-racial Committee, we have been able to assist in the housing and employment of from 60 to 80 persons of Japanese ancestry who have settled in Berkeley and Richmond.

While we still have listings of rooms for temporary hospitality there are no houses, apartments or house-keeping rooms available in Berkeley for families of any race, and this situation exists widely in California urban communities.

We believe "duration-plus" housing for Japanese-Americans who wish to return to California or the West Coast should be provided by the Federal government. To this end we are writing to Mr. Harold Ickes, Secretary of the Interior, assuring him of our continued support of the government's policy of allowing persons of Japanese ancestry to return to the West Coast, of our work and interest in helping them, but of our loss as to how to proceed when housing for these people has apparently not been planned for or considered by the government. We have told him that we consider hostels, while practical in rural communities and as a temporary aid in cities, a rather futile gesture in urban communities where no permanent housing is available. We are urging that the government erect duration-plus housing available for these dispossessed Japanese-Americans.

We would urge that your organization and as many individuals as you can reach write also to Mr. Ickes, urging that the government erect housing for these returning dispossessed people.

Sincerely,

Doris Stanislawski  
Chairman Japanese-American Committee  
of the Berkeley Inter-racial Committee



107 Tamalpais Rd.  
Berkeley, Cal.

April 30, 1945

Mr. William Davis, Secty.  
University Y. M. C. A.  
2227 Union Street  
Berkeley, Cal.

Dear Mr. Davis:

As a result of the 4000 questionnaires on housing and jobs for returning Japanese-American sent out with your co-operation and aid by the Berkeley Inter-racial Committee, we have been able to assist in the housing and employment of from 60 to 80 persons of Japanese ancestry who have settled in Berkeley and Richmond.

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We would urge that your organization and as many individuals as you can reach write also to Mr. Ickes, urging that the government erect housing for these returning dispossessed people.

Sincerely,

Doris Stanislawski  
Chairman Japanese-American Committee  
of the Berkeley Inter-racial Committee

Copy of a letter from Willon Meyer to Doris Stanislawski

Dear Mrs. Stanislawski:

I have read with considerable interest your letter of April 29 addressed to Secretary Ickes, regarding the problem of securing housing for returning evacuees.

The acute shortage of housing in the big cities on the West Coast, as elsewhere in the United States, is certainly one of the most difficult problems with which we have to contend in the resettlement program. I do think that the two cases you cite are rather exceptional, since we have found that single men and couples willing to live in "rented rooms" are generally able to find this kind of housing with a moderate amount of searching. However, finding suitable living quarters in defense plant areas is hard enough right now for anyone.

We do not have authority to build new housing for evacuee resettlers, and much of the occupancy of public housing in crowded areas is limited, by legislation, to persons engaged in essential war activities. However, returning evacuees who enter essential activities will be eligible for public housing on the same basis as other individuals, and we are keeping in touch with the federal housing agencies to explore the possibilities of public housing for evacuee war workers.

I do think that a great deal can be done to solve this problem by making better use of the housing which is now available. We are arranging for one member of the WRA staff in each district office to devote full time to working on the problem of housing. The enclosed memorandum outlines some of the techniques which may be utilized in helping the evacuees to find temporary and permanent homes. The turnover in large cities is so great that individuals who can find temporary shelter and devote much of their time to house-hunting can usually find permanent housing suited to their needs, as we have found in relocating evacuees in Cleveland, Chicago, and other war-crowded communities.

The hostels in big cities serve a useful purpose in this process, by giving evacuee resettlers a place to stay while they hunt for permanent quarters. The hostels also enable a family head to bring his family with him when he leaves the center, a procedure which is highly desirable from the standpoint of locating housing, since an individual holding a regular job finds it hard to spend enough time house-hunting, and usually has to look late in the day after many vacancies have been filled. Hostels have already been opened in Los Angeles and Pasadena, as well as in many cities of the East and Midwest, and others are planned. We have made arrangements to transfer to West Coast hostels on a loan basis furniture and equipment surplus to our needs.

In addition, we will continue to explore other possibilities for temporary and permanent housing. While evacuee resettlers will find that locating homes takes a good deal of time and effort, and frequently the quarters located are not ideal from all standpoints, I believe that the housing problem is far from insurmountable, and even the less desirable shelter available is superior to the barracks homes of the relocation centers.

We do very much appreciate your interest and assistance in this problem, as in the resettlement program in general. I hope that we may continue to have this assistance during the coming months.

sincerely,

D. S. Myer (signed)

Director

Enclosure

*Relocation* *Memorandum 487.*

*YAPO*

# NATIONAL CIO WAR RELIEF COMMITTEE



GEORGE F. DELAPLANE, Area Director  
703 HARTMAN THEATRE BLDG., COLUMBUS 15, OHIO. AD. 9694

20 August 1945

PHILIP MURRAY, Special Advisor • IRVING ABRAMSON, Chairman  
JOHN BROPHY, Treasurer • TED F. SILVEY, Secretary • HAROLD J. GARNO  
SAUL MILLS • JOHN PHILLIPS • AUGUST SCHOLLE  
LEO PERLIS, National Director

Dear Friend:

From now on I shall be associated with the Jewish Labor Committee as its Western Regional Director, with my office located at 129 West Second Street - Room 606, Los Angeles 12, California. I shall be responsible for programs in the three Pacific Coastal States.

Realizing the extent to which the national program of the Jewish Labor Committee has been enthusiastically accepted by Labor, as well as by the community as a whole, I know I shall enjoy establishing and operating its first Regional Office.

The Jewish Labor Committee is composed of seasoned Trade Unionists who naturally understand Organized Labor. Its program, therefore, is eagerly accepted by all progressive Labor organizations. Significant, too, is the fact that the JLC is the only organization in its field clearly authorized by officials of the C.I.O. and the A. F. of L. to cooperate with and work within Local Unions. Besides its traditional roles, the new program of the JLC is threefold: to assist in the coordination of all community groups interested in eliminating anti-democratic practices; to organize, promote and conduct community-wide Institutes; and, lastly, to conduct within Local Unions educational classes designed to eliminate bigotry and intolerance.

During the past three years my experiences with the National C.I.O. War Relief Committee have been cordial, instructive and inspiring. However, as many of my friends know, for about a decade I have actively endeavored, avocationally at least, to lessen the prevalence and intensity of all manifestations of anti-democratic practices. Only for the reason that I have a strong desire to concern myself vocationally and full-time with this problem, and only because the JLC affords me such an opportunity, have I decided to leave the National C.I.O. War Relief Committee.

In the important field of race relations I hope (as do we all) that the patterns of racial discrimination and group antagonism will be eliminated by the establishment of sound community and Trade Union programs to promote understanding, unity and justice among all Americans. One means to this end, it seems to me, is that there must be displayed by all of us a vigorous effort to achieve immediately full, fair and useful employment.

Sincerely yours,

*George F. Delaplane*  
George F. Delaplane

GFD: gm  
uopwa

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**AT LEAST ONE HOUR'S PAY EACH MONTH**

COOPERATING WITH NATIONAL WAR FUND AND AMERICAN RED CROSS  
REGISTRATION NO. D-9, PRESIDENT'S WAR RELIEF CONTROL BOARD



August 27, 1945

Open Letter to:

Chamber of Commerce of Auburn, California  
Fruit and Vegetable Growers and Shippers of Placer County, California  
Business men of Auburn, Loomis, Penryn, and Newcastle, California  
Editor, Auburn Journal Republican

The time has come when the people of California and of the Nation have a right to expect responsible fruit and vegetable growers, processors, and business men of Auburn, Loomis, Penryn and Newcastle to speak for themselves. The moves coming from Placer County to drive out a persecuted race of competitors and laborers are now known to the world. The public, which is being used by Placer County interests as an unconscious support, is entitled to know whether those persons and organizations behind this drive who imply that they are speaking in their behalf, really represent them. And the growers, processors and business men are entitled to an opportunity publicly to clear themselves of these "spokesmen", or to accept them.

Any consideration of what may be the real attitude of the principal economic interests of Placer County, California, toward persons of Japanese ancestry who are lawfully entitled to live there, begins with public expressions and actions. The following are among those which have been reported in the Auburn Journal Republican since the first of this year:

1. Formation of the Placer County Citizens' Anti-Japanese League, with an "Auburn business man" as Chairman. During the "keynote address" the man elected as treasurer, who assumed to speak in the name of "Placer County and California Fruit and Vegetable Growers" made this proposal as a proper treatment of persons of Japanese ancestry:

"To say it is our duty to civilize, humanize and Christianize the Japs is just bunk. If we must do something for them, let us sterilize them." (Auburn Journal Republican, Jan. 18, 1945).

2. Soon thereafter, in Placer County, several persons were charged with attempting to set fire to the fruit packing shed of a returned Japanese American, on the night of January 17, and of attempting to dynamite the shed on January 18, on or about the same date that the League was formed. Civilians implicated were residents of Placer County, and two soldiers implicated with them in the attempts were absent without leave from the United States Army at the time. (Journal Republican, Feb. 22, 1945).

3. The defense attorney at the trial in Auburn closed with a plea that "This is a white man's country". (Auburn Journal Republican, April 26, 1945; S. F. Chronicle, April 25, 1945). Admissions of the offenses charged, made by defendants to the District Attorney, were read

into the record of the trial, and "the defense offered no testimony of any kind". Nevertheless, the defendants were acquitted, evidently on strength of the appeal for racial discrimination.

4. On the same day, when the Auburn newspaper reported the verdict of acquittal, it announced that the returned Japanese American whose property had been the object of the attempted arson and dynamite had gone under orders to Sacramento to take physical examination for military service. His two brothers already were serving the United States Army.

5. The "Placer County Citizens' Anti-Japanese League", renamed the "California Preservation League" proclaimed as its purpose "to discourage the return of people of Japanese ancestry to California by refusing to buy, sell, lease or trade with any Japanese", and to "buy or confiscate all Japanese lands or businesses, such properties to be offered to returning veterans", (excepting undoubtedly those American veterans unfortunate enough to be born of Japanese ancestry.

6. Early in May this "California Preservation League" held meetings to expand into a statewide organization, with the same "Auburn business man" as president who had been elected chairman of the "Anti-Japanese League" at the meeting in Auburn at which boycott and sterilization of persons of Japanese ancestry were proposed publicly.

In this very period during which these events were occurring with intent to drive out a portion of the local labor supply, announcements were being carried of an impending shortage in Placer County of farm labor. The preceding season school boys and girls from as far as San Francisco Bay had been recruited at public expense and by volunteer effort in order to help Placer County people harvest their crops. Mexican Nationals also had been imported to the county at public expense for the same purpose. By these means the crops had been saved. Indeed, the very same issue of the Auburn Journal Republican which announced formation of the Placer County Anti-Japanese Citizens' League under an "Auburn business man" acknowledged this, for it reported also a "good-will dinner" in "appreciation for the fine work which is being carried on within the fruit belt of Placer County by the Mexicans". Evidently those business men and others who saw fit to support measures calculated to "discourage" laborers of Japanese ancestry from returning to their Placer County homes, felt they could act with impunity to themselves, in confidence that the nation's taxpayers would again save their crops by sending in Mexican Nationals. If we are to believe recent statements in the Journal Republican, fruit and vegetable and business men of Placer County still have that confidence and those expectations. Recent publicity from Auburn reaffirms that fruit and vegetable interests and business men welcome the help of boys and girls from the Bay Area, and of Mexican Nationals supplied at public expense, because these are devices to enable themselves to eliminate some of their competitors by fostering race prejudice. Under the headline "To Bill from Dad", the Journal Republican published on June 14, 1945 a letter, excerpts from which follow:

"In a very short time the harvest camps will open and the youngsters who have helped pull the fruit men out of the hole here for the past three years are rolling up their sleeves ready to begin. Those of us who had felt another way, perhaps better than the Jap way, would be found to harvest our fruit, have had our faith in the youngsters fully justified in these past four years. I believe that all the businessmen, (both ranchers and merchants) now are agreed that economically speaking we are better off than we were before the Japs were moved from California, by the army . . ."

"In Placer County, as you know, we were so entirely dependent on Japanese farm labor that it was almost pitiful. That situation no longer exists. Mexican Nationals, as well as school children, have admirably filled the gap, and we are no longer dependent upon any group . . . "

"Much of the money received by the workers is spent right here in this vicinity. The businessmen in every community can tell you the result. Loomis, Penryn and Newcastle that once were thriving communities and then became virtual ghost towns, again look like their former selves . . . "

"At any rate the fruit crop is now beginning to roll into the fruit houses, and the communities are humming with the march of children's feet, all ending in fruit house row. The shouting and laughter of the 'kids' as they carry on is disconcerting to the old school, but from observation, your dad is free to say it has always been the youngsters who have found a way."

Upon the basis of this public record, we believe it appropriate to invite responsible fruit and vegetable growers and processors, and businessmen of Placer County to make public answer to several questions.

1. Do you believe that American taxpayers, through the War Food Administration and the Agricultural Extension Service, should pay for recruiting, transporting and supplying Placer County with Nationals from Mexico while in your community elements which assume to speak in your name advocate without contradiction, or employ devices to "discourage" laborers from returning home?

2. Do you expect parents and children from towns and cities to cooperate in recruiting boys and girls to harvest your crops, if that assistance is to be interpreted publicly within your community in your name, and without contradiction, as an aid to a formal program of economic and race discrimination?

3. Do you support the public efforts within your county to utilize race prejudice as a device to eliminate that portion of your competitors and laborers which is of Japanese ancestry?

4. If so, which of those measures publicly advocated or employed by persons or organizations in Placer County, that are intended to "discourage" the return of persons of Japanese ancestry to their homes and their labors, do you approve, and which do you not approve?

Our committee believes that the facts of this situation, clarified by the answers of responsible fruit and vegetable growers and shippers and business men of Placer County, should be presented to the War Food Administration and the Agricultural Extension Service at the next time allocations of Mexican Nationals are requested for Placer County; that these facts should be presented to the Congress at the next time when appropriations are requested for farm laborers who may be sent at public expense to Placer County; and that they should be presented to parents and boys and girls who in another season may be asked to volunteer to harvest crops in Placer County.

We understand that those who have helped to recruit girls and boys from Berkeley for this year's harvest in Placer County have protested that they did not do so in order to help anybody to "discourage" any other Placer County laborers. We believe that this protest is sound.

Why, under cloak of patriotism, should the public, and especially boys and girls, be used to foster a program of race discrimination designed openly to line the pockets of Placer County growers, shippers and business men?

If this interpretation of the publicly proclaimed actions in Placer County does not reflect your own attitude, we invite you to correct the record by a public disapproval of your assumed spokesmen. Further, we ask your cooperation in finding a remedy for the shockingly low state of public morals which their proclamations reveal.

Sincerely yours,

Copies sent to:

The Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.  
The Secretary of Labor, Washington, D. C.  
The Secretary of Interior, Washington, D. C.  
The Secretary of Commerce, Washington, D. C.  
President, California State Chamber of Commerce  
Director Agricultural Extension Service, Washington, D. C.  
Director Agricultural Extension Service, Berkeley, California  
California Delegation in Congress

Time  
Nation  
Christian Science Monitor  
New York Times  
PH  
Washington Post  
Chicago Sun  
St. Louis Post-Dispatch  
Des Moines Register  
Local and state press

1/3/43

A R I Z O N A is a powder keg. Of all the Rocky Mountain states, it is the potential dynamite.

1. Its recent history has been anti-Japanese.
2. In 1934 there were bombings of Japanese farmers in the Salt River Valley in the attempt to oust them from that area.
3. Most of the reported instances of violence to "voluntary evacuees" came from Arizona and resulting in the termination of the period of voluntary evacuation.
4. Gov. Osborne's attitude has been one of tacit and vacillating and acquiescent nod to discriminatory tactics.
5. Antipathy toward centers.
  - a. Refusal of coordination of center education with State standards.
  - b. Numerous instances of hostility toward center residents.
6. House Bill #186.
7. Social discriminations are developing.
  - a. Refusal to serve in stores and restaurants.

IF violence is committed, it will come as an:

1. Outgrowth of the present hysteria.
2. Insufficient legislative harshness.

Such a Display would:

1. Establish a precedent for other localities to flare into mob action. As Arizona goes, so may go other western states.
2. Set back WRA resettlement a year or more.
3. Make grounds to solidify sentiment within the centers to sit pat.

I t w o u l d a p p e a r i m p e r a t i v e that immediate steps be taken to prevent this situation from coming to a blow-off now or at any time in the future.

These steps would seem to be indicated:

1. Dispatching of State Department representatives to cool the fever---because of possible repercussions to American war prisoners and internees in Japan.
2. WRA to send their best trouble-shooters there. They should station their astute observer there.
3. War Manpower Commission should send in their Labor Utilization Consultants.
4. The Dept. of Justice should communicate this situation to their District Attorneys and FBI Special Agents.
5. Apprise church groups, labor groups, liberal groups, service clubs, women's clubs, schools, business groups.
6. Formation of a local Committee on American Principles and Fair Play.
7. Permanent liaison through the JACL between local Japanese and the above groups in Phoenix.
8. Interview editors, radio announcers---leave literature.
9. Counteract by having a continual stream of publicity pouring into local media.

(Geo. Bodel)

MEMORANDUM RE INITIATING COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION FOR HOSPITALITY  
TO JAPANESE-AMERICAN SERVICEMEN AND RETURNEES

- I. Sponsorship - Joint sponsors suggested
  - a. International Institute
  - b. Y. W. C. A. (Berkeley, (U.C.), Oakland, San Francisco
  - c. J.A.C.L.
  - d. A.F.S.C.
  - e. Y.M.C.A.
  - f. C.I.O.
  - g. Others (Church groups?)
- II. Financing - suggested plan
  - a. Door fees to defray operating expenses  
10¢, 25¢, 50¢ - for all each time
  - b. Financial underwriter
  - c. Pay-as-you-go plan
  - d. Setting up as a reserve fund for special events & contingencies
- III. Location - Survey of facilities & resources available
- IV. Suggested training courses for hostesses
- V. Organization toward developing sense of community responsibility
  - a. Membership & committees
  - b. Card file of attendance (form cards)
  - c. Paid supporting members
- VI. Publicity
  - a. Newspaper
  - b. Poster
  - c. Invitational cards and letters
- VII. Refreshments
  - a. Regular
  - b. Special Events - Japanese & Chinese dishes
- VIII. Rules for Control
  - a. Formulation of regulations
  - b. No hard liquors
- IX. Special Parties
  - a. Wiener roasts
  - b. Pionics
  - c. Swimming parties
  - d. Beach outing
  - e. Sightseeing tours (Maps)  
Hosts for individual home dinners
- X. Developing Integration Theme  
Inviting non-Japanese participation
- XI. Recruiting of hostesses
  - a. Fellowship Church
  - b. Hostels
  - c. Educational institutions

*Call Am. Club  
I feel for J  
was out of  
town - get  
notification  
return*

These are most of the points discussed in a meeting of representatives from Berkeley, Oakland and San Francisco, Thursday, September 13, 1945 at the S. F. International Institute. Co-Chairmen chosen were Miss Asako Saki and Miss June Tokuyama.

# To Our Fellow Citizens:

A small special interest group is now circulating petitions designed to place on next November's ballot a measure depriving certain aliens of the right to own real estate in Colorado. This same group failed to persuade the recent session of the Legislature to place a similar measure on the ballot.

Though ostensibly aimed at the competition offered by a few Japanese farmers—most of them American citizens—this measure is a potential attack on the rights of all minority groups. The fight in the Legislature amply demonstrated that fact. During the debate in the Legislature men and women representing all the principal religious and racial groups were present. Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Japanese-American, Italian American, Negro and Spanish-American representatives were all to be seen in the House and Senate chambers throughout the time when this question was being considered. From the beginning these people never had the slightest doubt that the measure under consideration, if enacted, would ultimately endanger some of the cherished liberties of their own race or sect.

Why are the people of Colorado to be called upon to deprive minority groups of the rights guaranteed them by the Constitution of our State? The answer lies in the racial and religious intolerance stirred up by certain propagandists. Such intolerance is a far greater threat to Colorado than is the presence of a few hundred elderly Japanese aliens, over half of them women.

We urge you to think clearly and earnestly about the motives involved and the directions indicated by these petitions. Do you want to support such prejudices against which we are warned by the wise provisions placed in our Constitution by far-sighted statesmen? Most men and women of good will do not.

## CITIZENS' EMERGENCY COMMITTEE.

Prof. Lewis Abbott  
A. Helen Anderson  
Prof. George Anderson  
Dr. W. D. Armentrout  
Mrs. George Barnard  
Mrs. Glen Ballard  
Mrs. Allen L. Beck  
Max Benton  
Prudence Bostwick  
Clark Bower  
Jack E. Boyd  
Edgar W. Bray  
Arthur A. Brooks, Jr.  
Alice C. Butler  
Farrington R. Carpenter  
Roy Chrysler  
Mrs. A. B. Cheney  
Dr. Joseph E. Cleveland  
Mabel C. Costigan  
Dr. S. J. Cox  
James H. Curtis  
Mrs. Alexander Campbell  
Pillman H. Erb  
Louise Evans  
Mabel W. Edwards  
Esther Erickson  
Helen Field  
Mr. Guy Fox  
Mrs. Guy Fox  
Alda Flansburg  
Rev. W. R. Ferguson  
Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman

C. P. Garman  
Helen Gauff  
Harold M. Gillmore  
Frances Gordon  
Jean Graham  
Leon E. Grubaugh  
Dr. Lester Griswold  
Mrs. Lester Griswold  
Mrs. E. W. Gunkel  
Edna Clingan Hanson  
Mrs. H. R. Holland  
A. B. Hirschfeld  
Phillip Horbein  
E. C. Harrah  
Bishop Wilbur E. Hammaker  
Mrs. Otto Houser  
Mrs. Tor Hylbon  
Faith Haines  
Lillian Henly  
Dean Roger Hazelton  
Mrs. Henry Hoffman  
Fairfax B. Holmes  
Dr. Clarence F. Holmes  
S. Arthur Henry  
Dr. Herber Harper  
Mrs. Herber Harper  
Walter W. Johnson  
Rabbi C. H. Kauvar  
William A. Lewis  
Mrs. Lawrence Lightner  
Mrs. W. R. Lee  
Rabbi Manuel Laderman

Samuel L. Maxwell  
Mrs. James MacPherson  
Mrs. S. W. Marble  
Mrs. Lee Moe  
Elizabeth McFadden  
Earl W. Mann  
Rev. Edward F. Manthei  
Mrs. W. H. Nalder  
Robert W. Ozanne  
M. Walter Pesman  
Wilson B. Paul  
Mrs. Gordan Parker  
Boardman Robinson  
Mrs. Boardman Robinson  
Paul Roberts  
Ruth Schacht  
Mrs. W. W. Speer  
Isadore Samuels  
R. B. Spencer  
Charles E. Southard  
Henry G. Smith  
Peg Stewart  
Ethel Torrence  
Mrs. Frank M. Talmadge  
Rev. F. E. Udlock  
Prof. Alice Von Diest  
Robert Wade  
Alice Wilson  
Mrs. Sidney White  
Edwin Wittlesoffer  
Rev. Raymond A. Waser

Gilbert S. Willey  
Mrs. F. S. Wing  
Edgar N. Wahlberg  
Benton Stong  
C. E. Huff  
Dr. Charles A. Lory  
Dr. I. E. Newsom  
Rev. Harold H. Wright  
Dr. C. C. Dobbs  
Rev. Daniel G. Hill  
Dr. Clayton L. Hawkins  
Lila M. O'Boyle  
Mrs. Lon T. Fidler  
Mrs. Fred P. Baker  
Mrs. Horace C. Campbell  
Albert Coppel  
Dorothy H. Culver  
Rev. Alphonso V. Esquivell  
Dr. and Mrs.  
Clarence W. Kemper  
Mrs. Ralph Rauscher  
Mrs. Milton C. Rebell  
Cora Riggle  
Marion L. Roberts  
Amos Sanchez  
Mrs. William P. Smedley  
Cora J. Trace  
Lorna May Tuttle  
Mrs. Herbert D. Ulmer  
Elliott A. Draine  
Irene McWilliams

School  
Church

Business

Professional

Medicine

Electricity

Prints

Social Work

Nursing

Music

Sports.

Art.

Literature

Visual

Politics

National Service

Armed Services

Med.

Business

Art

Intelligence

Defense Plant

Food Prod.

Unions ?

Red Cross ?  
Bonds ?

Maritime Service  
Employment

LITERATURE ON JAPANESE AMERICANS  
Rm. 726, 1052 W. Sixth St., Los Angeles 14, Calif.

Addresses by Robert Cozzens (WRA Ass't Dir.)  
Addresses by Dillon Myer (WRA Director)  
American Fighting Men Speak Out  
Americans Too, Japanese Americans  
70,000 American Refugees  
Asia and the Americas  
Balance Sheet on Japanese Evacuation--Galen Fisher  
Ben Kuroki's Story  
Beyond the Horizon--Yori Wada  
California State Laws on Rights of Citizens  
Challenge to Democracy  
Church Call  
Church Federation--Fair Treatment asked for Returnees  
Community Preparation Resettlement Japanese Americans  
Compiled News Clippings  
Concern of Church for Christian and Democratic Treatment  
Democracy--Joe E. Brown  
Democracy Demands Action  
Democracy and Japanese Americans--Norman Thomas  
Displaced Japanese-Americans  
Dual Citizenship  
Emergency Service Committee  
Employment Blanks  
Envelope Series (Japanese Americans No. Oct. 1942)  
Evergreen Hostel--A Hostel for Returnees  
Farm Facts--Dr. Paul Taylor--U. of California  
First Aid for Wartime Evacuees  
First Methodist Church Bulletins--Santa Maria  
Fools for Christ's Sake  
Friends of the American Way Letter  
Future of the Far East--H.P. Howard  
Get the Evacuees Out--Margaret Anderson  
Hirabayashi vs. U.S.A. (U.S. Circuit Ct. of Appeals)  
Homeward Bound  
Housing Blanks  
How Can We Help Japanese Americans--Gracia D. Booth  
Interracial Tolerance  
Issei, Nisei, Kibei  
Japanese in Hawaii--(Reprint from New Republic)  
Japanese in our Midst  
Joint Statement to Ministers  
Kaltenborn Letter  
Lest We Forget  
Mc Cloy Letter (Ass't Sec. of War)  
Making Democracy Work  
Meet Your Relatives  
Message from the President of the U.S. to Senate  
New Republic  
News Release--Joint Statement

Nisei in Uniform  
Nisei Officer Killed  
Now (Semi-Monthly Race Relations Paper) (Nitta Story Issues)  
Outcasts--Caleb Foote  
Over 100,000 New Boarders (Reader's Digest Reprint)  
Pacific Coast Com. on Amer. Prin. and Fair Play (Brochure)  
Pasadena Japanese American Clippings  
Pertinent Facts About Relocation Centers  
Pilgrim Highroad (Monthly Issues)  
Planning Resettlement of Japanese Americans  
Poll of Personal Opinion  
Races of Mankind  
Relocation Center Church Bulletins  
Relocation of Japanese-Americans  
Relocating the Dislocated  
Resettlement Bulletins  
Resettlement Handbook  
Resolutions Passed By American Legion Post #8  
Sneak Attack on Americans by Americans ("Frauds" reprint)  
Social Creed of Methodist Church  
Support of the War Dept. on Return of Evacuees  
Supreme Ct--Justice Murphy's Dissent (Korematsu vs. U.S.)  
These Are Our Parents--George Morimitsu  
Things To Do Now  
Topaz Times  
Touchstone of Democracy--Japanese Americans  
Test of a Free Country--Dr. Robert Gordon Sproul--U. of Calif.  
Truth About Jap Camps--Maxine Davis  
Truth About Pearl Harbor--John T. Flynn  
United We Stand  
Unsnarling Nisei Tangle--Galen Fisher  
Voice That Must Be Heard  
War Dept. Rescinding Exclusion Order  
Wardens of Understanding--A Call for Volunteers  
Washington Report  
What About Our Japanese Americans?--Carey McWilliams  
What We're Fighting For  
World Order Campaign Material  
Yank--The Army Weekly--Aug. 25, 1944  
You Can Do Something About It!

BOOKS TO LOAN

Brief of Japanese American Citizen's League Amicus Curiae--Korematsu vs. U.S.A.  
Final Report Japanese Evacuation From West Coast 1942  
Mother America--Co. Carlos P. Romulo  
Prejudice: Japanese Americans--Carey McWilliams  
National Defense Migration: Congress findings and recommendations on evacuation of enemy aliens and others from prohibited military zones May 1942.  
Moved-Outers--Florence Crannell Means  
Born Free and Equal-- Ansel Adams  
The Story of Loyal Japanese Americans  
Fortune--Japan--April 1944

File

CHINA COUNCIL

100 Berkeley Square, Berkeley, California.

August 7, 1943.

Dear Members:

At our meeting on August 5th, we unanimously agreed to ask each member of our Council immediately to get into touch by telephone and otherwise with as many as possible of friends to induce them to urge upon their Congressmen favorable action on the proposed REPEAL OF THE CHINESE EXCLUSION legislation.

The majority of the Congressmen are now back in their home towns or districts. They will be returning to Washington early next month. For instance Honorable John H. Tolan, who represents Alameda County, can be reached by addressing him at Room 229 Post Office Building, Oakland.

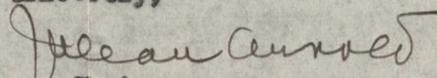
The repeal bill would place Chinese immigration on a quota basis. This would mean admitting 107 Chinese a year. It contemplates also according the Chinese the right to naturalization. In a word, it would accord Chinese immigrants equality of consideration with those of other friendly nations.

Some contend that the passage of this act would mean letting the bars down to the admission of hordes of Orientals, thereby endangering the economic and social standards of our people. Since developing the quota principle in immigration matters, we are now able to control these matters. Although the present bill has only to do with Chinese immigration, yet, later on should the subject be taken up with other Asiatic countries, we could likewise through the application of the quota principle, insure the admission of ridiculously small numbers.

It is suggested that when you communicate with your friends urging them to get into touch immediately with their Congressmen in regard to this matter, you also recommend that they take up the subject with the various organizations with which they may be affiliated, to get them to pass resolutions favoring repeal and see that these are immediately made known to their respective Congressmen.

We must act quickly, if we would act effectively.

Yours sincerely,

  
Chairman.

Note: Bear in mind that every Congressman must take seriously the representations of his constituents.

# ***You Can Do Something About It!***

## **70,000 AMERICAN REFUGEES**

### **Here Are The Facts:**

- 1.** Our Government is behind the program of relocating Pacific Coast evacuees.

*President Roosevelt:* "Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry . . . Every loyal American citizen should be given the opportunity to serve this country wherever his skills will make the greatest contribution."

*Paul V. McNutt:* "The War Manpower Commission thoroughly endorses the employment program developed by the War Relocation Authority."

*John J. McCloy, Asst. Secretary of War:* "Anything that can legitimately be done to compensate loyal citizens of Japanese ancestry for the dislocation to which they have been subjected, by reason of military necessity, has our full approval."

- 2.** 70% of the 100,000 evacuees are American citizens — most of them never have been in Japan — cannot speak or write Japanese.
- 3.** This next year Congress is asked to appropriate \$80,000,000 to feed and house those in Relocation Centers. This expense falls on American taxpayers.
- 4.** "50,000 of these interned persons of Japanese ancestry are employable; for a fraction of what it costs to maintain them they could be individually investigated by FBI and Military Intelligence operatives; all questionable elements segregated, and the majority freed to work in agriculture and industry, or to enter the armed services." (*Reader's Digest, March, 1943.*)
- 5.** Nearly 5,000 young men of Japanese parentage are in the armed forces of our country. Recently from over 10,000 volunteers, 3,600 more were accepted for active service.
- 6.** The *War Relocation Authority* has been established as an independent agent of the Government, and is in charge of all aspects of the life of the evacuees.
- 7.** This agency has developed procedures for releasing evacuees from these Relocation centers as rapidly as jobs and living quarters can be made available. Many are now ready for prompt release.
- 8.** The *War Relocation Authority* needs the assistance of patriotic citizens to help place these people. *Will you help?*

*Get further information and ways to help from:*

**CITIZENS COMMITTEE FOR RESETTLEMENT**  
**6501 Wydown Blvd. • St. Louis, Missouri**

This to all Committee Chairman & key people listed + all new contacts (leaders) in outlying communities who are considering idea of organization.

Mr. Crotty

1355-31

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN PRINCIPLES  
AND FAIR PLAY

875 South Manhattan Place - Los Angeles 5, California

August 21, 1945

Dear Friend:

Enclosed is a list of committees in Southern California communities with the name and address of the chairman of each.

While most of these committees, like your own, were organized primarily to assist in the return of former Japanese and Japanese-American friends and neighbors, the majority of them are also deeply concerned over the need to work for fair play for all minority groups in their community.

To you who are still in process of organization as well as to you who are well organized and following a definite program, it should be encouraging to note how many other communities share in your concern.

It would be of great assistance to our Committee on American Principles and Fair Play to receive, at your earliest convenience, a brief but comprehensive report of the progress of your work. We would also appreciate information regarding special problems or areas of tension where we might be of help; and reports on unpleasant incidents, if any occur.

It would be of interest to know, too, if your organization is representative of a general cross-section of community life such as - Catholic, Protestant, Jewish; as well as labor, professional, legal, educational and realty groups, all working together in an effort to achieve civic unity and fair play for all.

We have asked the American Council on Race Relations and the Council for Civic Unity to mail you some literature on the subject of community relations and organization, which we trust will prove useful.

With best wishes for success in your efforts.

Sincerely yours,

*Mrs. Gracia D. Booth*

Mrs. Gracia D. Booth, Executive Secretary  
For Southern California

GDB:aw

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN OR KEY PEOPLE

Prepared by  
Gracia D. Booth, Exec. Sec.  
Committee on American Principles and Fair Play  
~~1052 W. Sixth St., Los Angeles 14, California~~  
*875 So. Manhattan Pl. 3-*

- San Diego  
Citizens Committee  
Rev. Ray Kinney  
1910 Kearney St.
- San Pedro  
Citizens Committee  
Mrs. Lester Kaems  
841 Twenty-first St.
- Lancaster  
Fair Play Committee  
Mr. Roy Mumaw  
*1205 Alate St*
- Long Beach  
Citizens Committee  
Mrs. Violet Sell  
1709 Cedar Avenue
- Covina  
Citizens Committee  
Rev. Paul C. McFarlin  
Second and Italia Sts.
- San Fernando  
Coordinating Council  
Rev. E. Alexander Gray  
323 Hagar Street
- Palos Verdes  
Fair Play Committee  
Mr. Clarence Lee  
Palos Verdes Estates
- Van Nuys  
Valley Council for Civic Unity  
Mrs. Hollister Noble  
15041 Bel Gado  
Sherman Oaks
- Los Angeles  
Coordinating Committee for  
Resettlement  
Mr. Joe Moody  
1342 W. Slausson Ave. (44)
- Los Angeles (con't)  
L.A. County Committee for  
Interracial Progress  
Dr. George Gleason  
139 North Broadway St. (12)
- Congregational Committee of  
Christian Democracy  
Clarence Gillett, Rm. 723  
1052 W. Sixth St., (14)
- Santa Monica  
Interracial Progress  
Committee  
Mrs. Hubert Wilkin  
230 Twenty-first Street
- Sierra Madre  
Citizen's Committee  
Mr. Remington Stone  
321 East Grandview
- Fullerton  
Rev. Graham Hunter  
203 W. Amerigo Street
- Santa Ana  
Civic Unity Committee  
Rev. John Ashley  
Sixth and Spurgeon Sts.
- Redlands  
Race Relations Committee  
Mrs. James Tuck  
132 Terracina Blvd.
- Riverside  
Mrs. Milton Hutchinson  
475 Luther Street
- Rialto  
Mrs. Afton Nance  
329½ No. Magnolia St.
- Gardena  
Rev. Martin Eidsath  
1720 West Gardena Blvd.

So. Calif. Community Committee Chairmen or Key People

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Claremont

Mrs. May Kimball  
1041 North College Ave.

Whittier

Mr. Ralph Robbins  
President University Club  
705 E. Earlham Drive

Montebello

Rev. Harold E. Baker  
115 North Twelfth Street

Norwalk

Dan Donovan  
Editor "Norwalk Call"

Santa Barbara

Fair Play Committee  
Dr. John DeForest Pettus  
80 Eucalyptus Lane

San Luis Obispo

Rev. Edwin Krapf  
884 Pacific Street

Ventura

Mr. Dean E. Triggs  
Box 851

Santa Maria

Rev. Allen Heist  
Broadway and Cook Sts.

Bakersfield

Fair Play Committee  
Mr. Ray W. Henderson  
Morgan Building

El Centro

Major Hartney  
War Relocation Authority  
110 North Sixth Street

Pasadena

Fair Play Committee  
Mrs. Maynard Force Thayer  
466 East California Street

Friends of the American Way  
William C. Carr  
1360 W. Colorado

South Pasadena

Committee for Civic Unity  
Mrs. Harry Henderson  
1703 Oak Street

Eagle Rock

Friends of the American Way  
Mrs. Paul E. Webb  
2563 Hill Drive  
Los Angeles 41, California

Pomona

Council for Civic Unity  
Rev. Donald F. West  
715 No. Gary

Ruth

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Los Angeles 41, California

# AN OPEN LETTER

## To Colonel Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy

December 19, 1943.

Colonel Frank Knox  
Secretary of the Navy  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Secretary Knox:

I have just finished reading the book, *Betrayal from the East*, by Alan Hynd, a sensational dime novel thriller, being blown up by ballyhoo of Commander Walter Winchell, USNR, to be a million dollar best seller.

It is noted the author gives the impression that the information therein was obtained from the confidential records of Naval Intelligence. In the opinion of the writer, if the author had deliberately set out to show up the ignorance, stupidity and general incompetence of Naval Intelligence, and make it ridiculous in the eyes of the people, he couldn't have done a better job.

All the goings on! All the running back and forth matching wits with the wily Japs, following the hot trails picked up by the master minds of O.N.I.! Let me ask you, as a veteran newspaper publisher, if the greenest cub reporter on the police beat were to bring in the penny-ante stuff of which this book is so largely made up, wouldn't you think your paper was being kidded and thrown off the track for an ulterior purpose? Do you really believe the Japanese were fooled by all this Luke McGlucke hocus pocus?

Take the chapter "Mystery of the Bubbling Acid," which described how a lot of drums of acid were discovered in a warehouse in Ensenada, Lower California, and that one drum was stolen by government secret agents, and the acid analyzed, when it was found that this acid was so powerful that when loosened from the drums

"by a magnetic exploding device that would go into operation when a battleship passed over the drums, the containers would be shattered and the contents released. Once the contents mixed with salt water, a bubbling acid would be formed, which would quickly rise to the surface and fasten itself in gummy form to the plates of battleships. The acid would eat completely through the plates within twenty-four hours. . . . Uncle Sam made an analysis of the contents of the drum that had been taken. The analytical findings were so astounding that they seemed almost incredible. Had a quantity of the drums containing the acid been sown like mines beneath waters where our fleet would pass in time of war, and had the contents been released by means of magnetic devices that would have exploded the drums, something would have happened to our fleet that had never happened in all the history of naval warfare. What the German chemists and the Japanese had in mind—and the chemical analysis showed how close they were to their hideous objective—was that the acid from the drums would attach itself in gummy form to the steel plates of our battlecraft and eat right through, so that the ships would be crippled beyond hope of possible aid while far at sea."

This bubbling acid story has been fed out to the public for several years. According to the Los Angeles Times

**LAUCKS LABORATORIES, INC.**  
Analytical and Consulting  
**Chemists - Assayers**  
**Metallurgists**  
**Engineers**  
**Samplers - Inspectors**  
**Seattle**

December 9, 1943.

Mr. Miller Freeman  
Miller Freeman Publications  
71 Columbia Street  
Seattle 4, Washington

Dear Mr. Freeman:

You called the writer's attention to a book entitled "Betrayal From The East" by Alan Hynd, and particularly to Chapter 7 headed "Mystery of the Bubbling Acid."

Therein the author endeavors to convince the reader it is possible to so corrode the under-water portion of the hull of a steel vessel, by means of mysterious reaction between an unnamed chemical and sea water, as to seriously damage said hull. And all this while the vessel is at sea or at least in tide water.

It is the opinion of the writer that the author of the book is not only unfamiliar with the rudiments of steel chemistry but, if the story is merely repeated by him as stated, he is an extremely credulous individual.

Any laboratory assistant who has ever dissolved steel drillings in acid knows the difficulty of such a procedure. A little thought of the quantity of acid required to dissolve a 6-inch square piece of steel only 1 inch thick will convince the most credulous that our old friend, Baron Munchausen, had little on Mr. Hynd.

With kind regards,

Yours very truly,  
Laucks Laboratories, Inc.,  
By H. P. BANKS,  
Vice President.

of March 2, 1940. "A Naval Intelligence Bureau report of a metal-eating acid said to have been stored in many-barrel quantities by Japanese near Ensenada, Mex., entered the espionage trial of two Russians and a former member of Naval Intelligence yesterday. . . . Standing before United States District Judge Ralph Jenney, U. S. District Attorney, Ben Harrison, field general of the government's case, read into the evidence, Report 560, from the files of the San Pedro division of the Naval Intelligence Bureau. . . . 'In June, 1937, the fishing boat *Flying Cloud* registered to Matasuko Tsuda, San Diego, entered Ensenada, Mex., from the south, with a heavy load of gasoline drums taken from the German freighter *Edna*. These were stored there in a flour mill. In September, 1937, the *Flying Cloud* brought in another load. The keeper of the flour mill was an Italian who maintained a two-man guard over the site, day and night. . . .

"In October the contents of one barrel was secured and the substance tested. It was not gasoline. It proved to be an acid substance which, mixed with water, turned to minute bubbles just under the surface of the water, violently attacking any metals placed

in the solution. . . . The Naval Intelligence report listed two instances in which the acid was apparently used: In the fall of 1937 a vessel in the molasses trade was loading at Honolulu. Some of the substance reportedly was dumped overboard by Japanese fishermen. Carried against the molasses ship by the rising tide, the substance ate away 25 per cent of the craft's iron plates, the document said. Again in February, 1938, two Japanese were arrested by the Fish and Game Commission at Terminal Island for using acid in catching tuna, the report continued."

**Pacific Motor Boat will contribute the sum of one thousand dollars to Navy Relief if it be proven that this acid will eat through a steel plate of the thickness used on the hulls of war vessels within twenty-four hours, or twenty-four days, if applied in the manner and under the conditions described. The judges to be three accredited members of the American Chemical Society.**

This offer is made because it has been the opinion of the writer for some time that the American public is being systematically deluded and misled by the publication of misinformation. Undoubtedly you have the analytical findings of this acid in the files of Naval Intelligence at U. S. Naval Headquarters in Washington, D. C.

My conviction is that if you would examine the records of Naval Intelligence during the last ten years you would find that the cases cited in this book are just fair average samples of the fantastic reports cooked up and turned in on secondary clues by the amateur Hawkshaws of this service, while the real evidence of the sinister intrigues, espionage and propaganda of the Japanese government, found on every hand, was largely overlooked, played down or by-passed.

Yours respectfully,

MILLER FREEMAN,

*Publisher, Pacific Motor Boat.*

Reprinted from January, 1944,  
issue of Pacific Motor Boat.

# "Betrayal From the East"

Debunking Naval Intelligence — a protest against deluding the public by misleading, if not fraudulent, information . . .

By MILLER FREEMAN

"I will be willing to wager a good deal of money that your offer will not be taken up, and would not be taken up if the sum offered were ten times as much."

**T**HUS comments Charles L. Parsons, Secretary of the American Chemical Society, Washington, D. C., on the offer of one thousand dollars made by *Pacific Motor Boat*, to be paid to Navy Relief, if it be proven that an acid had been discovered by Naval Intelligence officers, in Southern California in the hands of Japanese, that when loosened in the water would eat out the bottoms of battleships within twenty-four hours.

In an open letter to Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox, published in the December issue of this journal, this writer pointed out that the American public is being systematically deluded, if not defrauded, by authors who infer that their sensational "disclosures" are based on official information. The example cited was a book, "Betrayal From the East," which contained a number of lurid episodes picturing the cleverness of Naval Intelligence in ferreting out and foiling plots of the wily Japanese. The author, one Alan Hynd, claims that,

"to gather the facts so dramatically presented in 'Betrayal From the East' Mr. Hynd established many contacts, both official and unofficial that enabled him to watch the secret activities of Japanese agents working in Washington, in cities along both the Pacific and Atlantic seaboards, and in Mexico, Panama and South America. As he cautiously pursued his investigations he frequently did so at great personal risk, particularly when he made firsthand observations of the Japanese fishing fleet on and off Terminal Island."

Hynd said that a number of drums had been discovered in the hands of the Japanese, filled with an acid so powerful that when exploded by magnetic devices when a battleship passed over, it would, when mixed with sea water, rise to the surface, and completely eat through the bottom plates of battleships within twenty-four hours. The book adds that "one of our investigating bodies took the bull by the horns, for a mysterious fire and explosion broke out which destroyed the flour mill and the drums" stored at Ensenada, Lower California.

If it were true that such acid were found, capable of destroying our battleships, Mr. Hynd, by publishing the facts, would be rendering an outstanding public service. If true, why haven't the officers of the Naval Intelligence who made the discovery been given the recognition that is their due for such an outstanding feat of sleuthing?

The offer by *Pacific Motor Boat* of one thousand dollars for proof of the existence of such an acid in the hands of the Japs or anyone else, has not been taken up. It still stands.

"Betrayal From the East" ordinarily would be worthy of no more attention than thousands of other dime novel detective thrillers. It is given a standing of a sort by the endorsement over the radio by Walter Winchell, who has a commission in the Naval Reserve, and to whom the book is thoughtfully dedicated by the author.

The motion picture rights of "Betrayal From the East" have been purchased by R.K.O. Radio Pictures Company, who will rush it into production as soon as possible.

"Yes," replied Sid Rogell, executive producer of R.K.O., to this writer's inquiry; "I have read your criticism of the Hynd book. But we have bought the rights and are going ahead and make a picture out of it. It's a free country, you know."

In reply to my open letter Colonel Knox wrote:

"I don't know anything about 'Betrayal From the East' but I am sure that the author did not have access to the classified records of Naval Intelligence. It is unfortunate if some people think the book is sponsored by the Navy Department, but I have no control over inferences that sometimes are drawn in such matters."

The myth of the "bubbling acid" having been exploded, there remains the question whether Naval Intelligence men were actually as gullible a group of busy-bodies as the author unintentionally portrays them. In the effort to pin down the facts the writer addressed Captain W. D. Puleston, USN, who was chief of Naval Intelligence in Washington, D. C., from 1934 to 1937, as follows:

"I am enclosing herewith copy of letter I have addressed to the Secretary of the Navy.

"As most of the examples of vigilance and astuteness of Naval Intelligence described in the book, 'Betrayal From the East,' occurred while you were Chief of Naval Intelligence, it seems to me in order for you to examine this work, and check to what extent the information presented therein can be considered authoritative.

"I presume you, as Chief of U. S. Naval Intelligence, authorized your district agent in Southern California to supply the U. S. District Attorney with Report No. 560 of the San Pedro Division, which described the discovery of the stock of acid at Ensenada, Mexico.

"Do you recall receiving the analysis of this acid, and were you convinced that it would actually eat through the bottom of a war vessel within twenty-four hours?

"How was the destruction of the flour mill at Ensenada, Mexico, where the drums containing this acid were stored, accomplished?

"Were any agents of the U. S. Naval Intelligence involved in the destruction of this property in a foreign country?

"What do you recall about the intrigues with the Japs of one Blake, which takes up nearly a hundred pages in this book?

"Another question is, why, after war begun, the 13th Naval District office of Naval Intelligence undertook to recruit members of my publishing business, with the injunction that they were to keep their enrollment secret from me. I had been on the rolls of the U. S. Naval Reserve from 1910 until my recent retirement for age. You know perfectly well that all my files have been open to Naval Intelligence for many

years, and that my personal record was easily available.

"What sort of examination was given to people enrolled in Naval Intelligence in these various districts? How did you happen to take in men who were connected with law firms, and others, having Japanese connections? No man can serve two masters."

"I know the difficulties with which you were confronted during your term as head of Naval Intelligence, including lack of finances, but from the description in the book, 'Betrayal From the East,' it looks as though the field personnel of Naval Intelligence was purposely taking up trivial matters, manufacturing cases to make a showing, and spend the government's money and which so exhausted the funds that it was not possible to make an honest and thorough investigation of the many Japanese activities in this country.

"What was the underlying influence that caused Naval Intelligence to avoid making any investigation of the Japanese encroachment in the North Pacific Area?

"Why was an order given to the district agent of Naval Intelligence, in the 11th Naval District, to lay off Japanese surveillance?

"The payoff on the incompetence of Naval Intelligence came with Pearl Harbor; with the fiasco at Kiska; and at Tarawa. Whenever I used to express my concern about Naval Intelligence the answer was, 'Well, we aren't so much on land, but at sea we are the eyes and ears of the Navy.'

"Now that you are retired, it may be that you will feel free to supply the above requested information as a service to the Nation.

Respectfully,"

To the above Captain Puleston on Jan. 11, 1944, replied:

"Many thanks for your courtesy in sending me a copy of your letter to Secretary Knox. I am no longer connected with Naval Intelligence so I am in no position to answer the various questions raised by you. About the book, 'Betrayal From the East,' I have not read it. Some friends of mine told me about the book, but I am very busy; and as it deals with matters in the past, I simply do not have time to go into it.

"I will assure you, because I know of your genuine interest in Naval Intelligence, that between 1934 and 1937, the personnel of Naval Intelligence was not taking up trivial matters and manufacturing cases to make a showing. I know that fact because I was Director of Naval Intelligence. And, I do not believe that either my predecessors or my successors were guilty of such conduct either.

"I can understand your indignation with the general attitude of Americans towards Japanese espionage. But, I do want to assure you that within the limits of its facilities and means, Naval Intelligence did its utmost to prevent the Japanese obtaining information of our Navy.

"With kind personal regards and best wishes for a Happy New Year, I am . . ."

The writer certainly does not believe that any regular officer of the U. S. Navy knowingly engaged in anything of a compromising nature. The truth is that Naval Intelligence duty was not in their line and was repugnant to them. Therefore, this branch of the service practically went by default through all the past years leading up to Pearl Harbor, with funds so limited it was impossible to maintain an efficient organization. It would be strange indeed if some very questionable characters didn't worm their way into this service. There is still room for further improvement.

Reprinted from the March, 1944, issue of *Pacific Motor Boat*.

# Victoria Daily Times

4 \* MONDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1943

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## Getting Together

THERE IS MUCH TO BE SAID FOR THE kind of international gathering held in Spokane last week. Sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Trade Association, it brought together businessmen from British Columbia, the Yukon, Alaska, Washington, Oregon and Idaho. The discussions revealed a mutuality of interests in many fields. And the whole of the Pacific Northwest owes a special word of commendation to Mr. Miller Freeman, the well-known Seattle publisher of the many excellent and progressive publications which bear his name, whose initiative and indefatigable labors in consistently emphasizing the association's objective cannot be too highly regarded.

Of particular importance to all those who attended the Spokane conference was the question of getting a "feeder" route built through British Columbia to the Alaska Highway. The siphoning off of trade from this far northwestern territory of the United States to the east by way of Chicago already has reached what the American delegates described as nothing short of alarming. To expedite the building of the proposed Prince George "feeder," moreover, Congressman Magnusson is appealing to the Congress in Washington for \$6,000,000 to supplement a similar sum which British Columbia's Premier Hart has set aside for this purpose.

As the Spokane Spokesman-Review says editorially, "the Northwest Trade Association proposes that these states, provinces and territories work together in peace as they are working together in war to promote their common interests." To this end, therefore, its program contemplates removal of all trade and immigration barriers between the United States and Canada, equalization of American and Canadian currencies, abolition of censorship between the two countries, planning of a program of permanent defence for the north Pacific region and association of official agencies and civic organizations on both sides of the boundary in the general scheme for building up this great empire. And to all of which every British Columbian will add a resounding Amen; for, willy-nilly, our lot in the Pacific Northwest is going to be closely associated with that of our neighbors on the immediate south.