

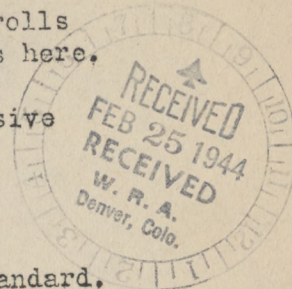
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SOME INTERESTING FACTS ON MANZANAR

1. Bring \$900,000.00 of "New Money" a year into Inyo-Mono.
  - (a) Estimated from direct purchases locally, percentage of payrolls spent locally; and visitors, official and others, it brings here.
2. Has developed 305 (375 by Jan. 1, 1944) acres of land for intensive cultivation including 22 miles of lined irrigation ditches.
3. Entire plant represents an investment of \$5,167,000.00.
  - (a) Sewage disposal plant one of the most modern (\$147,000)
  - (b) Steam plant, hospital, and laundry unit best U. S. Army standard.
4. Cost of operation in September 1943 was \$1.07 per day per person. This includes all food, shelter, heat, lights, salaries, hospitalization and education. This cost is decreasing monthly.
5. This year the farm produced 1800 tons of vegetables at an average cost of \$25.00 per ton. If purchased in the market at wholesale these vegetables would have cost an average of \$61.00 per ton.
  - (a) The farm raised 31 kinds of vegetables.
  - (b) The wholesale market value of this year's production was \$110,000.00.
6. The industrial unit produces clothing, furniture, prepared foods. It handles all vegetable storage and operates a dehydration plant.
  - (a) 25 tons of vegetables were dehydrated for winter use.
  - (b) 54 tons of vegetables were pickled for winter use.
  - (c) 386 tons of vegetables were stored for winter use.
  - (d) During the past 12 months this unit produced goods costing \$75,501. These goods if purchased in the wholesale markets would have cost \$166,276.
7. Out of 4343 employable persons now at Manzanar, 4007 are employed.
  - (a) They are paid: \$12 for unskilled work; \$16 for skilled work; \$19 for professional and administrative work.
8. An average of 26,000 meals are served each day using 34 kitchens.
  - (a) Cost of feeding varies from a low of 26¢ per day to a high of 34¢ per day per person through the various months of the year.
  - (b) Foodstuffs are rationed on the same basis as the independent housewife's food is rationed.
9. There are: 1195 students enrolled in Elementary school  
970 students enrolled in high school  
1005 students enrolled in adult classes
  - (a) Educational standards meet the highest requirements of the California State Department of Education and the University of California;
  - (b) English and Americanization classes are the most popular in the adult program.
10. The present population of Manzanar is 8468. There were 15 births in September and no deaths.
11. There are 158 members of the administrative staff.
  - (a) 25 of these are Inyo or Mono county residents.









## Description

At Manzanar, California, about 250 miles north from Los Angeles and on the main autobus highway to Reno, is the Manzanar Relocation Center. This is one of ten "Relocation Centers" for Japanese aliens the Japanese-Americans, all of which are located in what were desert areas of the states of California, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, and Arkansas. This particular center is under the shadow of Mount Whitney, highest peak in the United States, and 60 miles from Death Valley, lowest point in the country. It is a vast, treeless plain, surrounded by high, bare mountains which are snow-capt even in August.

During the early days of the war, when fear was rampant of subversive activities and fifth-column treachery on the part of Japanese residents of the West coast, the government ordered the evacuation of all Japanese and Americans of Japanese ancestry into what were called "Assembly Centers." Later, when the early war-hysteria had somewhat cooled, plans were made to remove these people into the present "Relocation Centers." The avowed object of the government in making this move was twofold: care lest actual subversive measures be taken, and provision for the safety of innocent people from mob action. Each center became a city of from 7,000 to 10,000 population of evacuees together with a Caucasian personnel of from 300 to 500 persons working under Civil Service appointment. The whole was under the direction of what came to be called War Relocation Authority with Dillon S. Myers as Director. The evacuees consist in each case of three groups: the Issei (first generation Japanese, born in Japan, and not eligible to American citizenship), the Nisei (second generation Japanese, born in this country and thus American citizens) and the Kibei (Japanese born in this country but with part of their life spent in Japan.) The set-up of the Manzanar Project is typical of that in all of the relocation centers.

Upon approaching the project, the first impression one receives is of a huge army plant. Long, low buildings of barracks style are laid out in even rows over a wide expanse of land, about 6000 acres in extent, the whole surrounded by barbed wire. There are two entrances to the project: the one, used by the Military Police whose quarters are separated from all the others of the center but whose chief duty is to keep guard over all activities; the other, for the appointed personnel. The evacuees are not permitted to leave the project, the reason for this restriction being that Manzanar is in the midst of a war zone. In this respect this center differs from some other centers which allow exit of evacuees.

There are lookouts at strategic points of the grounds where members of the Military Police are stationed to keep constant guard. Near the main entrance are the administration buildings and offices, the headquarters of the Department of Education, and the Community Welfare center. Here also are the building where the bi-weekly newspaper of the center, the "Manzanar Free Press", is produced, the post-office, the town hall, and the residences for the appointed personnel. All of these are one-story buildings; the residence quarters are in the form of apartment buildings - three or four apartments to a building - for families, and dormitories for those teachers and clerical workers who are without families. In the dormitories there are a few single rooms but in most of the rooms are two occupants. All of these



buildings have plumbing and are equipt with heating, kitchen, and frigidaire, but there are no "tiled bathrooms and luxurious appointments" such as were blazoned in early press notices.

On beyond, and stretching far to the side are the evacuee quarters forming a city which is laid out in blocks: 36 blocks in all, averaging 18 houses to a block. Each house has four apartments designated as one, two, or three-beam in size and proportioned to the evacuees according to the size of the family. In each block there are two latrines, one for men and one for women; a laundry; a mess-hall where the people in the block eat all meals, and showers. Serving the whole center are a canteen, a general store, a hospital, a main library with branches, and an elementary and secondary school. There is a "children's village" for orphan children; and a garment factory turns out clothes which may be purchased at cost. The religious life of the community is taken care of by three church organizations - Catholic, Community Christian, and Buddhist. An outdoor screen is set up in the center of the city where movies are held twice a week. The hospital is usually filled to overflowing, 160 new babies having been born there during the first six months; the school population of the year of 1942-43 was about 2200 with a teaching staff of about 60. Most of the teachers are of the Caucasian appointed personnel, but a few evacuees are used.

The work Manzanar means "apple orchard" and the district was, before the water was diverted into the city of Los Angeles, a fertile place. Since the opening of the project and the obtaining of water rights from L.A. some of that fertility has been restored. Spaces between the buildings have been sodded with grass which has grown rapidly until the making of lovely lawns; vegetables and fruit are raised on farms and used for food supply; and many of the evacuees have flower and vegetable gardens on their quarters. The cooperative principle is used for all such activities. The wind sweeps down from the mountains and dust storms may occur at any moment, filling eyes, and ears, and mouth; but the air is pure and dry. The temperature is high in summer, but the nights are cool; in winter it becomes very cold. It is a land of such perpetual sunshine that the appearance in the blue sky of a cloud is cause for marked attention on the part of the community.

There is at present in all of the relocation centers a program of segregation in process. This is in answer to public reaction to the indiscriminate mingling of evacuees who are loyal citizens of the U.S. with those whose loyalties are doubtful or openly with Japan. In the winter of 1943 questionnaires were sent from Washington to the centers and each evacuee answered these with a definite designation of his sympathies. It was decided to remove from the centers all whose answer to the "loyalty question" was "no" and to take all of these into one of the existing centers which would then be designated as the "segregation center"; those desiring to cast in their lots unequivocally with America would then be taken from that center and distributed among the other centers. The center chosen for the segregation center is Tule Lake in Northern California, close to the Oregon line. In Manzanar, as in all other centers, there is in process a series of interviews and hearings being conducted in an effort to arrive at decisions fair to all parties. The proportion in all centers that will be removed to Tule Lake must not be judged on the basis of loyalty or disloyalty to the U. S. The government has taken into consideration the strong sense of family unity which exists among



the Japanese and Japanese-Americans, and has given them the privilege of remaining together if they so desire. This has resulted in some cases of whole families signifying their desire to go to Tule Lake even though all except one or two may have answered "yes" to the loyalty question. The evacuation will begin the latter part of October and will continue until all whose loyalty is questionable have been removed. Those who remain in this and in the other centers will be American citizens and Japanese aliens who desire to cast in their lot with this country.

For some time past efforts have been made to relocate as rapidly as possible all who are willing to go out from the centers and can find a place outside. These efforts will be increased, and it is hoped, facilitated, when the segregation program has been completed. Two obstacles are in the way: the evacuees, having been uprooted from their homes at the beginning of the war, and having found a certain security in their present status, are loath to uproot themselves again and leave for an untried and uncertain future; the American populace, save in certain large cities and specified areas, is not inclined to welcome these who seem members of an alien and an enemy race. The fact that many of them are Americans, but with Japanese faces, does not lessen this feeling of distrust.

There are grave defects in the system which has been operating; there are dangers inherent in its continuation. But at its best, this vast experiment represents a sincere attempt of a democratic government to cope with a situation unprecedented in any part of the world. WRA authorities, appointed personnel, and the best element of the evacuee citizenry are working together to iron out difficulties. It is the firm belief of those associated in work in the centers that no other minority group would have reacted in so wholesome a way to the problems confronting them. There is bitterness among them, there are hatreds, there is a feeling that their faith in American democracy has not had a firm foundation; but there is also evident among them a growing belief that the American government has acted toward them in a far more considerate way than they might have expected in any other country. Mistakes have been made in administration, but there is little doubt that the government is trying sincerely to act in the best way for the solution of the problems of a minority group.

The church and school in America have hers a great opportunity. Some schools and churches have seen the vision; higher institutions of learning have opened their doors to the Japanese-American youth and some have even given to them high honors; churches are receiving them into their membership. After segregation has been completed, the young people will be relocating into normal civilian life more rapidly than at present. Clerical workers, farm laborers, domestic workers, doctors, nurses, teachers, professional workers, skilled mechanics will be wanting to take a part in the war effort of the country. Democracy and Christianity are on trial in the world court of public opinion. How are we as Christina American citizens meeting the challenge of the America-Japanese in our midst?



Perhaps the most gigantic piece of welfare work ever undertaken by a government agency, was the relocation of approximately 120,000 Japanese Americans in the ten centers where they were to be held until some other plan either for their expulsion from this country or they are allowed to seek new homes and reenter civilian life. The War Relocation Authority was set up for the handling of this mass hegira.

The government's policy has been a planned scattering of these interned Japanese to all parts of the country. It has been found that the Japanese follow the same general tendencies of other racial minorities; that of wishing to group themselves with their kind. Just as many cities have their "Little, Italy," Little "Moscow" and "Little Scandanavia" so will cities willing to receive these evacuees find themselves with Little "Tokyos" and "Little Osakas."

In the beginning to avoid the breakup of families, aliens, or Issei, and American-born, or Nisei, were moved together to the ten centers. Under this temporary arrangement all receive the same treatment and leave the Nisei wide open to the taint of the Issei: What is your American citizenship doing for you? You have no more rights than we have, yet you are citizens."

The Nisei who are more Americanized face the fear that their children may become more Nipponized as they are forced to live entirely with Japanese where the Japanese language is used entirely, and where every child in a school room is of Japanese parentage. In some cases parents are reluctant to have their children taught by Japanese though these teachers are graduates of American universities.



01.00 FILE  
Writing Room

WHAT HAPPENED AT MANZANAR

From the magazine, "Common Ground"  
Spring, 1943

Japanese Relocation Papers  
Bancroft Library

When military police marched into the Manzanar, California, Relocation Center on December 6 to quiet a disturbance among evacuees of Japanese ancestry, it was a relatively simple matter to label the disturbance a "pro-Axis demonstration" and let it go at that. Americans have not lost their love of the catch-phrase or their aptitude for finding what seems to be a simple explanation for the most complex of situations. The further fact that the outbreak occurred on the eve of the first anniversary of Pearl Harbor was also regarded as something more than mere coincidence and accepted as proof per se that Manzanar was a hotbed of pro-Axis sentiment.

The facts in the case do not warrant such an assumption. There were other factors present in the situation which were much more important and far too complicated and involved to be dismissed by a simple catch-phrase explanation. Officials of the War Relocation Authority have since made a careful investigation of the whole affair, and they are convinced that while manifestation of pro-Axis agitation was not entirely lacking, it was a minor factor, not a primary force, in the events leading up to the disturbance.

First of all, it is significant and worth noting that this disturbance at the oldest of the relocation centers was the first really serious outbreak of violence since 110,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were removed from their homes in strategic military areas along the West Coast and placed under guard in new, rough communities called relocation centers. In considering the problems involved in that movement it is also important to remember that nearly two-thirds of those evacuated were American citizens by right of birth.

The incident which opened this turbulent chapter in Manzanar history occurred on the evening of December 5, when six masked men, all evacuees, entered the apartment of Fred Tayama and gave him a severe beating. Later that night, members of the center police force arrested Harry Ueno, popular kitchen worker and former labor organizer, named by Tayama as one of the men who had attacked him.

Ueno was taken to the Inyo County jail at Independence, about five miles from the center. This was in accord with WRA policy concerning the handling of felony cases.



Next morning, Ueno's co-workers in the mess-hall kitchen and friends in the block where he lived called a meeting to discuss the situation and consider ways in which they could protest his arrest since they felt it had been unjustified and that Ueno was innocent. It was decided to call a larger meeting that afternoon.

A crowd of about 2,000 people turned out for this general mass meeting held in one of the open spaces on the center grounds. A public-address system was set up and speakers brought accusations against Tayama of having been an informer, violently denounced the arrest of Ueno and urged the crowd to demand his release from the Independence jail. A committee of five was chosen, and headed by this committee, the crowd marched off to the Administration Building to present its demands. Ralph P. Merritt, WRA project director, refused to meet with the committee unless the crowd would first agree to disperse. More speeches followed, many of them in Japanese and violently attacking the administration and certain members of the project staff. After about three-quarters of an hour of this, with the crowd becoming more unruly and giving no indication that it intended to disperse, Merritt discussed the situation with the captain of the military police and agreed to meet with the committee.

An agreement was reached that Ueno would be brought back to the center jail on a pledge by the committee, representing the crowd, that there would be no attempt made later to free him, that there would be no further mass meetings held with respect to his arrest, and that the committee would help to find Tayama's assailants. The committee agreed to these conditions, and a spokesman addressed the crowd in Japanese, advising it to disperse, and supposedly explaining the conditions under which Ueno would be brought back and to which the committee had agreed. It was learned later that the speaker referred to the negotiations as a victory for the evacuees, omitting the conditions of the agreement, and that he instructed the crowd to assemble again at six o'clock that evening.

After the crowd had dispersed, Ueno was brought back to the center jail. But at dusk that evening the crowd began assembling again, cheering and shouting and milling about, listening to more inflammatory speeches by its leaders. It then separated into two groups, one of which descended on the hospital with a demand that Fred Tayama, the man who had been beaten, be turned over to them. Tayama had been hidden, and the representatives of the crowd were unable to find him.

Thus thwarted, this part of the crowd joined the second group which had gone to the police station to demand the un-



conditional release of Ueno. It was estimated that the total group massed in front of the station numbered between 2,000 and 3,000 persons. Threats were made against evacuee policemen on duty at the station, and spokesmen said that unless Ueno was released the mob would take matters into its own hands.

Ralph Merritt, director of the center, realizing that the evacuees had broken their promise concerning mass meetings and further efforts to obtain Ueno's release, and that the evacuee police force was powerless to handle the mob, called in the military police and asked the captain in command to take charge of the situation. The company of military police deployed in front of the station. The commanding officer talked with leaders of the crowd at considerable length, and finally addressed the crowd as a whole, ordering them to disperse. The crowd remained, even though it was informed that tear gas would be used. Upon orders, the soldiers threw tear gas bombs. At almost the same moment, some evacuees released the brake on an automobile and started it rolling down grade toward the police station, where it hit the corner of the building and careened off. One of the lieutenants, being unable to see in the darkness that the car was driverless, fired at the tires with a sub-machine gun. Concurrently, the crowd scattered in all directions to escape the tear gas, and some of those in the front of the crowd moved in the direction of the soldiers. The latter, armed with shotguns, apparently thought they were being rushed by the crowd and three shots were fired. The crowd dispersed immediately, leaving an 18-year-old boy dead, and a 21-year-old youth mortally wounded. Eight others were injured by the shots and one broken leg was suffered, apparently as a result of crushing by the crowd.

During the days that followed, a pall hung over Manzanar. Only the essential work activities, operation of the mess halls, the hospital, fuel delivery, etc., were carried on. Schools were closed. All the evacuees who appeared out of doors wore black arm bands, ostensibly in mourning for James Ito, the young boy who was killed.

The military police took over the responsibility of guarding the area of the center in which the administrative buildings and warehouses were located and retained this responsibility until January 1, when they withdrew. Martial law was not declared, however, and the WRA staff retained administrative supervision of the center.

After a week, the evacuees were permitted to choose representatives, and the 108 chosen from the various blocks then selected a committee to negotiate with the administration



for a return to normal conditions. Terms of agreement were not easily arrived at, however, and no concessions on fundamentals were made by Director Merritt.

Meanwhile, the administrative staff was gathering evidence on trouble makers and agitators. Over a period of a few days, 22 men were arrested and lodged in jail outside the center. In the same period, some 65 persons who had been most active in collaborating with the WRA administration, and who had been threatened with physical violence by the agitators, sought protection and were moved temporarily to another location outside Manzanar. With the removal of extremists of both factions, tension gradually subsided, and negotiations between the evacuee committee and the administrative staff progressed slowly but surely toward an agreement.

In the negotiations, the committee of spokesman aired the underlying causes of discontent: discrimination against Issei (aliens) in favor of the younger, less experienced Nisei (American citizens) in administrative positions and also in the community government; pre-evacuation quarrels and factional disputes; delays in payment of wages and of clothing allowances; variations in quality of food between mess halls; the pro-administration and pro-government policy of the center newspaper; the separation of many families from their breadwinner, held in internment camps; trial of evacuees by civil courts outside the relocation center; uncertainty about the future in this country; financial loss in disposing of property at the time of evacuation; an unfriendly press outside the relocation centers.

The combination of these influences had made the entire community extremely volatile, ready to explode if a spark touched it off. The spark was provided by the arrest of Ueno, who was popular with most elements of the community, on charges of beating Tayama, who was unpopular because of the suspicion that he was an informer.

The presence of pro-Japanese element in the center was indicated before the disturbance, but individuals who were taking part in any pro-Japanese agitation succeeded in keeping their identities well concealed. Little by little, however, their activities came to light. Over a period of days after the disturbance of December 6, twenty-two arrests were made. Two of the men later were released because of mistaken identity, four others because of insufficient evidence. The remaining 16 were taken to an isolation center established in a former CCC camp, near Moab, Utah. Some will be held there indefinitely; others will be turned over to



the Department of Justice or to the Army for internment for the duration of the war.

The 65 who were moved for their own protection to another location have been granted indefinite leave from the relocation center, and most of them are now placed in private employment.

Thus, the War Relocation Authority has taken the first tentative steps toward segregation of the population in its ten relocation centers. Cases of individuals who are trouble makers or who are suspected of pro-Axis agitation are being reviewed, and it is probable that others will join the first group of residents in the isolation center. Formal segregation procedures have not been announced, but WRA officials admit they are being worked out as this is written.

"We have a cross section of a people," a WRA spokesman said. "There is a small group that must be regarded as definitely dangerous--trouble makers so long as they are in relocation centers, and possibly dangerous to society and to our national security if they are out. It is our intention to find them and see they are put in the proper place--and the proper place is not a relocation center. We are just as convinced that most of the evacuees are loyal to the principles of democracy and are desirable residents for any community. Our hope is to give them an opportunity to make new lives for themselves in normal communities in private employment."



Ralph P. Merritt, now project director at Manzanar, has an outstanding record of public and humanitarian service in California. He helped build the University of California, was Food Administrator of the State in the last war, made the name "Sun Maid" on raisins known the world over when he was president of that cooperative, and was brought out of retirement on a ranch in Nevada to take over the Manzanar job. Robert L. Brown, assistant project director and author of an earlier article on Manzanar in our pages (Autumn 1942), sends us a copy of a letter Mr. Merritt wrote his aunt on Christmas Day, which perhaps better than anything else reflects the spirit of the administrative staff in dealing with the explosive situation before and after the riot. With his permission, we quote the letter here:

Dear Aunt:

It is Christmas morning at Manzanar, the sun has not yet topped the Inyo's but its rays have turned the gray granite peaks of the Sierra to rose. Below is a white band of new snow. Still in the dark shadows are the rows of barracks that house our ten thousand Japanese evacuees.

Your father was the pioneer of Manzanar. He was the first white man to break the ground of this desert. He built his home where our barracks stand and here you were born. In those years following the Civil War there also were soldiers in Owens Valley to protect the settlers from the Indians. This was the first time Manzanar faced the problem of race relationship. You and your brothers and sisters solved that problem by playing with Indian children. Your father solved it by becoming "the Captain" to every Indian in the Valley and the most honored man of his day among his Indian friends. Today Manzanar has again become the scene of a test of racial tolerance--the greatest test a democracy has ever met. We are face to face with the question of whether we can live in peace and security with America citizens of Japanese ancestry and Japanese who by virtue of our laws are non-citizens. To all of them we have pointed to American democracy as a better way of living. These people--ten thousand of them--are now held inside barbed wire fence as a measure of national protection in this time of war.

The reality of this great drama is on my mind this Christmas morning because only thirty days ago the War Relocation Authority sent me here to Manzanar as Project Director with full administrative authority. It was like coming home to be back on the desert of Inyo that I have loved, and once again to see the seven mile shadow of



of Mount Williamson. But Manzanar was a volcano about to erupt. I knew that too when I came. Evil work had been done by the slow boiling of many bitternesses. Some were old--some as new as yesterday. These ten thousand people had no grudge in common. Many people were filled with many hates about many things--race hates--war hates--political hates--class hates such as these between Japanese born in America to whom Japan is a foreign country and Japanese born in America but educated in Japan who have become pro-Japanese--and just the common kind of hates we all know too well.

On a Sunday morning not three weeks ago a mob gathered like the summer thunder storm that sweeps from the Sierra. As darkness came on, mob violence grew and broke from the control of its leaders. As I walked in that mob at noon thaling with people here and there and urging them to be calm and go home, I thought of many things. I thought of you and the happy ranch life here of years ago. I thought of our men overseas who might be more cruelly treated by Japan if tear gas failed to break up this mob. I thought of the innocent who might be killed while the guilty escaped, if I had to turn to the military as a last resort. But after dark there was no other course. Soon there was the rattle of gunfire. Men fell in the blackness.

For days we lived under the military--no Japanese were seen outside the barracks--none came to work--sullen defiance hung over the camp. What would break the tension? How could these ten thousand people be let to want to work and play again? Could the real spirit of America be made to live among them?

Last Monday we buried the dead. At the Buddhist funeral held in the woods beyond the Lacey Ranch, we mourned with their families the death of the two boys--innocent of wrongdoing--the victims of the riot. The only soldier present stood at the head of one of the coffins--the brother of the dead boy. This Japanese American soldier, a member of Uncle Sam's Army, was on active duty at a distant point, but the Army granted my request to bring him home to his family. The Buddhist priest prayed that the lives of these young men might be a sacrifice for the sins of all the camp. May their God and our God hear that prayer!

The next day the Japanese workers--four thousand men and women--were back at work. On Wednesday I suggested that the tragedy should not rob little children of Christmas trees and presents or young people of singing carols.



Last evening we visited our Children's Village with its 65 orphans. They sang "Jingle Bells" and "Away in the Manger" and we helped them open packages that were greeted with the usual shrieks of joy while Santa Claus with a Japanese accent shouted greeting to all. Before the door of our home in the barracks, there was no mob but a hundred young people singing "Oh, Come All Ye Faithful".

The star was overhead and the ragged crest of the Sierra was shining in the moonlight of Christmas Eve. Peace and good will had come to Manzanar.

So we greet this Christmas morning. Shall the problems of keeping this peace and good will be solved by the military--or by being over-trustful of this show of good ness --or is there some safe middle course through which the ideals of peace and good will can mingle with the realities of race tolerance? If there is an answer it will be the cornerstone upon which a future peace of the world will rest.

This story of your old home is my Christmas present to you.

Affectionately,

Ralph



PROCLAMATION

February 1, 1944

In our present predicament our income is limited to a small amount. Concerning this condition, we must try to reduce our social expenses. We think it is a matter to be taken up immediately. The residents must foster the spirit of thrift and diligence, and prepare in anticipating post war events. It is very significant that the monetary gifts for weddings, parties, and other receptions is limited to 25 cents by resolution adopted at Town Hall. We wish every resident to observe this rule.

Town Hall

Manzanar

War Relocation Center



# 声明書

今回当マシザナ、戦時轉住所に在住する我々は、現在の境遇と其の限りある收入に局限されてゐる現状に鑑み、今後常例の結婚葬祭其他宴會等、り雇しに關する経費をなるとり輕減し、相互の経済的節約を企つるは、戦時統制下にある現在に於て、最も急務であると思ひます。

同時に、時節柄お互に勤儉力行の精神を涵養し、戦後の發展に備へて、本年二月以後に執行する凡ての式典披露並に宴會等の雇し事に対する祝儀又は贈物等は、今後一般に、金廿五仙と超過せざることに決定せしことは、最も時宜に通せる節約勵行法と認むるが故に、皆称、何卒当マシザナ住民一心一体の精神を以て、是れより規約を嚴守すると共に、戦後に於ける経済的發展の目的を達成するの一歩として、必ず是の決議を勵行せんことを切に希望致します。

一九四四年二月一日

マシザナ轉住所

タフンホール 謹告

各位







October 20, 1944

Dear Friends:

The appointed personnel of this Center have organized a recreation club to be called the Manzanar A.P. Club, and in order that you may be informed of its purpose and governing rules, we are enclosing, herewith, a copy of the Constitution and By-Laws which have been approved by the present membership. You will note that these may be amended by the membership at any time should the need arise.

The undersigned have been elected as your Executive Committee to carry on the functions of the club. We are very anxious to make this club a real success and an asset to the community. In order to do this we need the support of every possible member. Our plans include many good times and we want you to share those good times with us. The cost is small, only \$2.50 initiation fee which includes one months dues. Dues are only \$1.00 per month. You will not be asked for the second months dues until one month after the clubhouse is opened.

All of the tiresome detail work of forming the organization has been completed, and as soon as the club rooms are ready, we can begin to enjoy their use. We need you and want you to join us, so won't you give your Two and a half, (or if you prefer to pay at a later date, a signed membership pledge) to one of the undersigned Executive Committee. Yours for a successful club and many enjoyable good times.

Mr. Clyde Simpson, Chairman

Mr. David S. Bromley, V. Chairman

Mr. Aksel Nielsen, V. Chairman

Mrs. Robert Solomon, Secretary

Mr. Bert Norton, Treasurer



PROPOSED  
CONSTITUTION FOR MANZANAR APPOINTED PERSONNEL  
RECREATION CLUB

September 27, 1944

Article I. Name

The name of this club shall be the Manzanar A.P. Club.

Article II. Purpose

The purpose of this club shall be to furnish suitable recreational opportunities for Manzanar appointed personnel and members of their families.

Article III. Membership

The following people shall be eligible for membership: All appointed employees of the WRA and post office, officers of the Military Security Unit, and family members of the above 21 or over.

Article IV. Officers and Committees

Section 1. Governing Body

The governing authority of the club shall be vested in an Executive Committee of five.

Section 2. Election of Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be elected by a simple majority of the members constituting a quorum. It is recommended that no more than one officer be elected from any one section.

Section 3. Term of Officers and Sub-Committees

a. The Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be elected for six months. Vacancies for unexpired term shall be filled through appointment by the Executive Committee.

b. Sub-Committee

The term of any sub-committee is decided upon by the Executive Committee but in no case may the term of a sub-committee run beyond the term of the Executive Committee.

c. Auditing Committee

The Auditing Committee shall be elected for a term of six (6) months.

Section 4 Auditing Committee

An Auditing Committee of two (2) shall be elected by a majority vote of the members at the membership meeting at which the Executive Committee is elected.



Article V. Quorum

Section 1. By Membership

A simple majority if all the paid up members shall constitute a quorum.

Section 2. Executive Committee

Three of the members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum.

Article VI. Gambling

No gambling shall be allowed on club premises.

Article VII. Amendments

Amendments of this constitution shall be effected upon completion of the following steps:

1. Receipt by the chairman of the Executive Committee of a written petition, signed by at least 10 per cent of the membership, listing the proposed amendments.
2. Notification of writing to all members of the proposed amendments and of a general membership meeting to be called not sooner than ten days from the date of notice.
3. Passing of the amendments by a simple majority at the general meeting.

Article VIII. Dissolution of the Club and Disposal of Property

Section 1. Dissolution

The club may be dissolved in the following manner:

- a. Written notification to all members of a dissolution meeting to be called not sooner than one week from the date of notice.
- b. A three-fifths majority vote in favor of dissolving the club, cast at the general dissolution meeting.

Section 2. Disposal of Property and Funds

The manner and method of the disposal of funds, supplies, furniture, etc., will be decided upon at the dissolution meeting.



PROPOSED  
BY-LAW FOR THE MANZANAR APPOINTED PERSONNEL  
RECREATION CLUB

September 26, 1944

Article I. Title of the Executive Committee Members

The title of each of the five members of the Executive Committee shall be as follows:

1. Chairman
2. Vice Chairman - In charge of membership and special activities.
3. Vice Chairman - In charge of organized activities.
4. Treasurer
5. Secretary

The membership, at the election of the Executive Council, shall elect each officer to fill one of the above positions.

Article II. Powers and Duties of the Executive Committee

Section 1. By the Committee

- a. To hire personnel for the club house.
- b. That the committee be empowered to transact such business as may be necessary for the club to borrow such money without liability to the members as may be decreed necessary; and to otherwise transact business for the benefit of the membership of the club as from time to time may deem proper.
- c. To act as custodian of club property.
- d. To appoint sub-committees.
- e. To make appointments to fill unexpired terms on the Executive and Auditing Committees.
- f. To approve all purchases.

Section 2. By Individual Members

a. Chairman

- (1) To preside at meetings of the Executive Committee.
- (2) To preside at general and special meetings of the membership.
- (3) To call special meetings of the membership and of the Executive Committee.
- (4) Together with the Treasurer, to countersign all checks.

b. Vice Chairman in Charge of membership and special activities.

- (1) To keep membership list.
- (2) To be in charge of membership drives.
- (3) To recommend to the Executive Committee for appointment, sub-committee members for welcome of new employees, new members, and special activities.



- (4) To be general chairman of all sub-committees appointed on membership and special activities.

c. Vice Chairman in charge of organized activities.

- (1) To be in charge of all organized activities.
- (2) To keep records of all organized activities.
- (3) To make reports to Executive Committee and to members on organized activities program.
- (4) To recommend to the Executive Committee persons for appointment to sub-committees dealing with activities or programs.

d. Treasurer

- (1) To collect initiation and membership dues.
- (2) To keep financial records.
- (3) To make financial reports to the Executive Committee and to the members at general meetings.
- (4) Together with the chairman to countersign all checks.

e. Secretary

- (1) To keep records and minutes of general meetings.
- (2) To keep records and minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee.
- (3) To send out notices of general membership meetings.
- (4) To notify the members of the Executive Committee of committee meetings.
- (5) To keep records of all information turned over to him by other members of the Executive Committee.

Article III. Membership Meetings.

Section 1. Regular Meetings

A general meeting of the membership shall be called every three months.

Section 2. Special Meetings

Special meetings may be called by the chairman or when demanded in writing by ten per cent of the members.

Article IV. Meetings of the Executive Committee

Section 1. Regular Meetings

The Executive Committee shall meet regularly every two weeks.



Section 2. Special Meetings

Special meetings shall be called by the chairman at his discretion or when requested by any one of the members of the Executive Committee.

Article V. Use of Club House

The club house may be used by all members in good standing and by guests from outside of the camp.

Article VI. Dues

Section 1. Initiation Dues

All members will be required to pay an initiation fee of \$2.50. This initiation fee will pay for one month's membership.

Section 2. Monthly Dues

All members will be required to pay membership dues of \$1.00 in advance for each calendar month in order to be a member in good standing. This amount may be decreased by the Executive Committee but may be increased only by a majority vote of the membership at a general meeting. New members joining before the middle of the month will pay for a full month, while those joining after the middle of the month will pay for half a month.

Section 3. Special Assessments

Special assessments may only be made by majority vote of the membership at a special or regular meeting.

Article VII. Amendments

The By-laws may be amended by a majority vote at any general membership meeting.

Article VIII. Members in Good Standing, Termination and Reinstatement of Membership.

Section 1. Definitions of "Members in Good Standing"

A member in good standing shall be any person who has paid the initiation fee and the current month's dues.

Section 2. Termination of Membership

A members is terminated in one of the following manners:

- a. By written resignation addressed to the Chairman of the Executive Committee
- b. By being one month in arrears with the dues.

Section 3. Reinstatement of Membership



Ex-memberx may be reinstated in one of the following ways  
at the option of the person rejoining:

- a. Repayment of the initiation fee.
- b. Payment of the back dues.

Article IX. Standing Committee

Section 1. Procurement

One person shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to  
make such purchases as are authorized by the Executive Committee.

Section 2. Other Committees

Other standing or sub-committees shall be appointed by the  
Executive Committee as need arises.

\*\*\*\*\*



*Hon*

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Granada Project  
Amache, Colorado

In reply please refer to

GR: CA:JDN

November 21, 1944

Mr. Edwin H. Hooper  
Acting Project Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Manzanar Relocation Center  
Manzanar, California

Subject: Club Rules

Attention: Mr. Frank E. Hon, Chairman  
House Rules Committee

Dear Mr. Hooper:

Attached please find a copy of our by-laws (we have no Constitution) for the WRAnGLer's Club which we hope will become the play club for the appointed personnel. These were prepared by a committee and adopted only last Saturday, November 18, 1944. How well they will work we have no idea. They are more a device for getting together an organization with responsibility and authority to promote regular recreational activities among the appointed personnel.

I would be interested in receiving from you your own club rules or by-laws when formulated as well as those you may receive from other projects.

Very truly yours,

*James G. Lindley*  
James G. Lindley  
Project Director

56046







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## BY-LAWS OF THE WRANGLER'S CLUB

### ARTICLE I

The name of this organization shall be The WRanglers Club.

### ARTICLE II

#### Purpose:

The purpose of this organization shall be to provide wholesome and regular recreational opportunities for the appointed personnel and their families.

### ARTICLE III

#### Organization:

Section 1: Any member of the appointed personnel or Escort Guard and his or her family shall be eligible for membership.

Section 2: The dues shall be one dollar (\$1.00) per year per family. Each adult member of a family shall be a member.

Section 3: The association shall be governed by an Executive Committee of six (6) members and three officers who shall be members of the Executive Committee, and who shall be elected by a majority of those present at the annual meeting. Any vacancies occurring between annual meetings may be filled by the remaining members. A quorum shall consist of four (4) members.

Section 4: The officers shall be a President, Vice-President, and Secretary-Treasurer. Their duties and responsibilities shall be those ordinarily devolving upon such officers.

Section 5: The following standing committees may be appointed by the Chairman:

- (a) House Committee, which shall be responsible for the building, its appurtenances, equipment, and arranging for and supervising custodial care. 56046
- (b) Committee on Regular Activities, which shall be responsible for the promotion and supervision of regular activities, varied to suit the requirements of different



THIS IS TO CERTIFY TO ALL

that the following is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the

RECORDS

RECORDED

IN 1942

and the following is a true and correct copy of the original as the same appears in the records of the

RECORDED

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groups within the membership.

- (c) Membership Committee, which shall be responsible for soliciting membership, for keeping the membership built up to as close to the entire personnel as possible, and for keeping a roster of all members.
- (d) The Chairman shall have power to appoint such other committees as may from time to time be needed.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### Annual Meetings:

The association shall hold an annual meeting during the month of April for the purpose of electing officers and members of the Executive Committee; receiving reports; planning the ensuing year's programs; and other such business as may come before it. A quorum shall consist of 15 members.

#### ARTICLE V

##### Special Meetings:

Special meetings may be called by ten percent (10%) of all members in good standing at any time and for any purpose, provided written notice has been submitted to the officers and the Executive Committee at least ten days in advance of the meeting.

#### ARTICLE VI

##### Amendments:

These by-laws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the association, provided a written copy of the proposed amendment shall have been submitted at least ten days previously to the Chairman and each member of the Executive Committee. It shall be the duty of the Chairman to submit such proposed amendment to the entire membership prior to the meeting. A majority of those present is required to adopt an amendment.

#### ARTICLE VII

A temporary organization may be set up by the Planning Committee



attached and also a copy of

for information of State Police, California Division (C)

the above and should not be considered as evidence

and as no further action will be taken as to the above

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TO DIRECTOR



according to these by-laws which shall function with full authority  
until the first annual meeting following such original organization.







RECEIVED  
MAY 21 1944



Hon

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Gila River Project  
Rivers, Arizona

NOV 22 1944

Mr. Edwin H. Hooper  
Acting Project Director  
Manzanar Relocation Center  
Manzanar, California

Attention: Frank E. Hon

Dear Mr. Hooper:

In answer to your request of November 17, we are enclosing a copy of house rules adopted by the Gila Appointed Personnel Recreation Board.

Since you were last here, we have materially improved the hall and its facilities. The staff appears to be deriving a great deal of pleasure from the club and it should become a gathering spot for the group during coming winter months.

On the chance you may have overlooked the matter, it might be well to examine the various types of sales, amusement, admission, and other taxes which a formally organized group is subject to under California law. The Club has found them rather all-inclusive in Arizona.

You have our best wishes for a successful program.

Very truly yours,

*B. F. Runyan*

B. F. Runyan  
Assistant Project Director  
Administrative Management

Enclosure #1826



56650







## HOUSE RULES CLUB GILA

Access to the use of the hall and equipment is restricted to members of the appointed staff, their families and their guests.

Equipment such as, croquet sets, horseshoes, cards, chess sets, checkers, poker chips, must be returned to their designated place in good order when not in use.

Furniture disarranged for any reason must be returned to its proper place once its use has been completed.

Furniture and fixtures may not be removed from the hall without specific permission of the Committee. In the event of unauthorized removal the matter will be referred to the Property Officer for action in accordance with Administrative Regulations.

No minors under 16 years of age are permitted to use the pool table. All games must be open and available to any members desiring to participate. The posted schedule of prices for use of the pool table must be observed.

Keys to the music box and the box itself are under the control and supervision of the House Committee and all others are restricted from any attempt to change or rearrange this machine without proper permission.

Dogs or other pets are not allowed in the hall.

Hours for the snack bar will be regulated according to the demand for such service.

### SCHEDULE

10:00 A.M. to 10:15 A.M.

3:00 P.M. to 3:15 P.M.

7:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M.

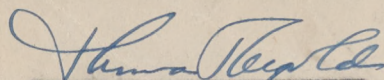
Except Sundays

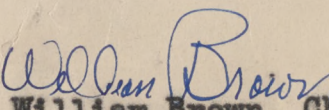
Groups desiring exclusive use of the hall for an evening must notify the Chairman of the House Committee in writing at least one week prior to the contemplated date. Unless this is done, the Committee cannot assure uninterrupted use of the hall and its facilities during the requested time. In this connection it should be understood the Committee will not ordinarily approve exclusive use of the hall for an entire evening by small groups. As a general rule unless the function is open to all staff members and their families, permission will be denied.

Children under 12 years of age shall not be permitted in the Recreation Hall unless accompanied by one of their parents. An exception will be made for children who wish to come in to purchase candy, soda pop, etc. or to attend the movies. It is emphasized that the hall is not a playhouse for children and it is hoped no unpleasantness will result from enforcement of this rule.

Youths above the age of 12 may enter the hall unattended provided they conduct themselves properly and use due care in handling the equipment. Where instances of abuse of this privilege or misuse of facilities are brought to the Committee's attention, persons so involved will be excluded from the hall for an indefinite period, depending on the circumstances.

APPROVED BY BOARD

  
Chairman

  
William Brown, Chairman  
House Committee







MEMORIAL SERVICES

In Memory of  
FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT  
President of the United States

Held at  
Manzanar War Relocation Center  
Manzanar  
Inyo County  
California

Sunday, April 15, 1945



News of the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt reached this isolated, war born community at 3:05 on the afternoon of Thursday, April 12, 1945. Two Internal Security officers, Americans of Japanese ancestry, slowly crossed the main street and lowered to half mast, the Stars and Stripes.

Nobuo Sawamura, Editor of the Manzanar Free Press, had heard the rumor of the passing of the President but had wisely awaited confirmation. If true, he knew the flag would be lowered and he was waiting for this sign of respect. It came and he quietly informed the staff of Japanese Americans who would be called upon to write the story concerning the death of their President.

At 4 o'clock Project Director Ralph P. Merritt called a Staff Meeting of the 160 Caucasian members of the Appointed Personnel. There many heard for the first time the news which chilled their hearts.

So Manzanar, isolated by distance, cut off from the normal channel of public information without daytime radio reception, reacted to the death of President Roosevelt much as any normal community.

Work slowed, then stopped. Groups gathered, stunned by the news. An old man, face tear stained, an alien without many English words, called at the Administrative offices saying to everyone, "Great man dead. Everybody sorry." As the evening sky turned cloudy that night and a cold north



wind blew through the Owens Valley, the people of Manzanar knew that their great President and protector had passed away.

Once there were a few more than 10,000 evacuees living within the barbed wire confines of Manzanar's mile square boundaries. Only 5079 still remained to hear that the President who had said, "The principle on which this country was founded and by which it has always been governed is that Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry", was gone.

Most of those who relocated have travelled, under escort, up the long winding mountain road that leads to Reno, Nevada, there to disperse throughout the nation, where, once again, they have taken their place as citizens or friendly aliens. Today, they work in War Industries, Ordnance Plants, or on farms where their efforts are bent, as are all loyal Americans, to winning a hard war.

One, Pfc. Frank Nobuo Arikawa, laid down his life in Italy last July 6. Two brothers, Capt. James Arikawa and Pfc. Burns Arikawa, the latter decorated with a good conduct medal, are fighting in the front lines. Their mother and father, Takeyoshi Arikawa heard of the passing of their sons' Commander-in-Chief while in their mess hall.

Eighty-nine have stood before Army officers in an induction ceremony and with upraised arm, stepped forward



into service, in the United States Army. Under Manzanar's magnificent night sky they have bid farewell to their families at a quarter to four in the morning while the cold of the desert bit deep, and military music, broadcast from a loud speaker, helped hold back emotions. There each received the best wishes of the Project Director and was gone from his loved ones.

John F. Aiso, thirty-five year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank T. Aiso has won his commission as Major. His father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Frank T. Aiso were at Manzanar to hear of Mr. Roosevelt's passing.

With the sad news, Manzanar's Town Council, the Block Manager's Assembly, immediately went into formal meeting. Thirty-three men and their leader Kiyoharu Anzai, all of Japanese ancestry, stood in reverent silence, honoring the memory of a man they knew to be their friend. When they turned to business it was to compose and send this telegram to the bereaved wife of the late President.

APRIL 13, 1945

MRS. FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE UNEXPECTED AND TRAGIC NEWS OF THE DEATH OF LATE PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT SHOCKED THE RESIDENTS OF MANZANAR AS IT DID THE REST OF THE WORLD. WE SINCERELY REGRET THE LOSS OF SUCH A GREAT LEADER WHO DEVOTED HIS UNTIRING EFFORTS IN PROMOTING ORDER PEACE AND TOLERANCE IN THESE TIMES OF TURMOIL.



ON BEHALF OF THE BLOCK MANAGERS AND THE RESIDENTS OF MANZANAR, I WISH TO EXPRESS OUR GREAT SORROW AND CONDOLENCE TO YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

KIYOHARU ANZAI, Chairman  
Block Managers Assembly  
Manzanar War Relocation Center

She too was their friend. From her they had received messages of encouragement. Words, which to them in their troubled days of readjustment to isolation, had meant hope. She had thought of them, now they could show that her thoughtfulness was appreciated and remembered.

Their next move was to request that Memorial Services be held in the Community Auditorium. A committee was appointed consisting of Chairman Kiyoharu Anzai, Mr. Yoshio Muramatsu, Mr. Pete M. Mitsui, Mr. Frank Kurahashi, and three members of the appointed staff.

Community resources were organized. Appropriate recordings were selected and a public address system set up. A piano was moved to the stage. All day Saturday they were busy selecting small pine trees from the lath house to line the aisles between benches where nearly 1300 would sit to mourn the loss of a great leader. A picture of the late President was banked with fruit blossoms raised by Issei and Nisei alike. American flags were arranged on the stage and floral wreaths were placed in tasteful profusion.

Meanwhile others, of diverse religious training, were preparing the services. All was in readiness when eleven



o'clock Sunday morning arrived.

As the notes of Dvorak's "Symphony from a New World" died away and silence prevailed in the nearly filled auditorium, the tramp, tramp, tramp of Army boots was heard as members of the 9th Service Command Detachment marched in to take seats reserved for them at the front of the Auditorium. These were the men, of many racial origins, maintained near the Center to guard Americans of Japanese ancestry evacuated to Manzanar.

Again there was silence. A Japanese American girl, Marie Shindo, arose and sang Schubert's "Ave Maria". Perhaps she thought, as she sang, of her soldier brother, Tak Shindo, who had lost his Commander-in-Chief.

Reading from the scriptures in English, a language foreign to him, followed when the Rev. Seizo Abe, Pastor of the Manzanar Protestant Church, selected verses from Revelations as his contribution to the rites.

Death is not taken lightly by those of Japanese ancestry. Heads were bowed when Kiyoharu Anzai, formerly a student at the Pacific School of Religion, stood to speak in Japanese. He told the silent assembly of the universality of the Commander-in-Chief, for such was the President to Mr. Anzai. He, too, has a son on the fighting front. These were the words of the soldier's father.



"It is indeed with a feeling of deep sorrow and regret that we are holding this memorial service for the late President Roosevelt. The residents of Manzanar Relocation Center join with the rest of the nation in mourning and in paying just tribute on the passing of our beloved President.

"The loss of his keen leadership will not only be deeply felt by the 130,000,000 people of the United States of America, but by all the peaceful and freedom loving people of the world. The entire world has truly lost a magnificent leader in the passing of our President.

"President Roosevelt will be remembered by all of us, not only as the first President to have served the record shattering period of more than 12 years as President, but for having accomplished so much good for the cause of the average man. He has clearly and forcefully demonstrated his ability as President by carrying this nation out of one of its darkest periods of economic depression to a period of greatest prosperity. The progress made by the nation during his tenure of office will go down in history as the period of aggressive progress.

"With the coming of the war, no man has more clearly demonstrated good leadership in guiding the



nation and the world in attempting to preserve justice, freedom and peace. It is indeed very untimely that he should be taken away from all of us before the realization of his goals. But under his initiative and lasting memory, we are confident that the purpose for which he gave his life will be realized before long.

"His courageous fight in the face of insurmountable obstacles, will be a fitting example for all of us to follow. Although stricken with an almost fatal disease, he lived through to become the nation's most beloved and respected citizen. His thoughts of the welfare for the common man will never be forgotten. Although an aristocrat by birth and wealth, he has devoted his wealth, wisdom, and knowledge in the furtherance of the cause of the common man and labor. He gave his life so that we may all live in security and contentment.

"His loss at this time of world wide strife and destruction is truly a great loss for all humanity. The formation of a lasting peace with President Roosevelt at the helm was being anxiously awaited by the world. We hope and pray that the policies as initiated by our great fallen leader will be carried out by his successors. We can all do our small part as loyal



citizens and law abiding aliens, by giving our utmost cooperation and assistance to the new President. Let us all carry on from here as I am sure our late President would have wished us to carry on. We give our pledge to follow under the capable leadership of President Truman, to bring to a successful conclusion the ideals and goals of our fallen leader.

"With these few words, I, in behalf of the residents of the center pay my deepest respect to our beloved President Franklin Delano Roosevelt. May his soul rest in peace."

Kiyoharu Anzai  
Chairman of Town Hall  
Manzanar Relocation Center  
Manzanar, California

When the Rev. Shinjo Nagatomi of the Manzanar Buddhist Church arose, he saw scattered throughout the mourners a score of Nisei soldiers in the uniforms of World War II. Wearing service ribbons and battle stars, these were the men who have returned from front lines to visit with friends and family. They heard, and many understood, the staccato syllables of this Buddhist Priest, who spoke these words in the Japanese language:

"The news of President Roosevelt's sudden death comes as a shock to the nation at this time of great national emergency. As a Japanese and on behalf of the



people of the Manzanar Buddhist Church, I, and they, offer condolences to his late Excellency and to Mrs. Roosevelt.

"There is too little time on this program to permit one to dwell upon the brilliant biography of this Statesman of world wide fame. He had the people's confidence and with it he was elected to the high office of President four times.

"Unfortunately, the United States and Japan are at war and we cannot now perceive a twilight of peace. We Issai are regarded as enemy aliens. The religion on which our belief rests has similarity with Christianity, the national religion of the United States, but it differs in dogma.

"It is apparent that faith and promises among individuals, societies and nations were kept well in times of peace. With misunderstandings and war they have often been renounced and no shame has been felt for this deed.

"At the outbreak of the war thoughtful Buddhists feared, through nights and days, that their freedom to worship might be denied during wartime. This fear came from needless anxiety.

"Among the four principles of the United States there is Freedom of Religion. Not only is preaching permitted but absolute protection is extended. For this we Buddhists



are grateful. Today Buddhism is preached at this Center, without restriction. Protection and facilities are offered and we are grateful that the golden rule of Freedom of Religion will shine everlastingly in these United States.

"That men of different religions stand on this platform today in honor of the late President is living evidence of this freedom. It is appropriate that out of my deep respect and admiration of our late President I swear, as does every Buddhist I here represent, by the memory of the dead President, that we will obey the Constitution of the United States. We will keep peace in the society in which we live. Particularly do we do so with the spirit of Buddhism and Peace, whether in the Center or relocated, whether in wartime or in the days when war has passed."

Following the Rev. Nagatomi, the rich baritone voice of Mr. Bill Wakatsuki was heard singing "The Lord's Prayer". Mr. Wakatsuki, awaiting call into the armed forces, is the brother of Pfc. Woodrow Wakatsuki, now stationed at Fort Knox.

Project Director Ralph P. Merritt then spoke for all those present of every religion and racial origin: " . . . He was a great soul leading the crusade for freedom for all people. Never in all history has one man's death united so



many people in the common purpose of keeping alive those ideals for which he lived and for which he died. . . .For every human need he seemed to hold realizable hope of achievement."

" . . .It was he who coined the phrase 'United Nations', but it is death that has suddenly made us 'the United Peoples of the World'. United For freedom - freedom of thinking, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of action that does not injure our neighbor. In this purpose we, the United Peoples of the World, go forward, marching in step, our heads held high to greet the dawn of the day of Peace."

" . . .We have now become co-workers with him that we may win the fruits of the sacrifices of war and may dwell in a world of peace which shall endure forever."

At the time of Pearl Harbor, Father Leo Steinbach, a Maryknoll Priest, was in Korea. Interned by the Japanese enemy, he eventually was returned to the United States on the first trip of the Gripsholm. There was no hate in his heart as he read the Catholic prayers to men and women whose ancestry went back to the land of his onetime captors.

As the service closed a minute of silence prevailed. Then the sound of army boots pounding the floor rose to a crescendo as uniformed soldiers marched down the aisle lined with pines, between the silently weeping rows of people of every race and every ancestry.



ADDRESS BY RALPH P. MERRITT, PROJECT DIRECTOR

At this very moment, liberty loving people of the world are standing in thought and spirit by an open grave. Franklin Delano Roosevelt is dead. More than the 32nd President of the United States, more than the Commander-in-Chief of its Armies and Navies, he was a great soul leading the crusade for freedom for all people. Never in all history has one man's death been so widely mourned. Never in all history has one man's death united so many people in the common purpose of keeping alive those ideals for which he lived and for which he died.

Yesterday the simple family funeral services of this great man were held in the White House in Washington. There were gathered his family, foreign diplomats, the chief figures of our national life, and also those who served closest to him - his secretaries, stenographers, the housekeeper and chief telephone operator. What a picture of the real democratic heart of America.

And in the description, the reporters told how as the moment neared for the beginning of the funeral services, the great East Room of the White House was in absolute silence as the mourners gathered, silent, except for the ticking of the clock that finally chimed the hour as time moved on.



Our poet of Manzanar, David S. Bromley, caught the spirit of this moment in beautiful lines he has written for this service:

"His voice is stilled, and yet the world moves on,  
The tides of human feelings rise and fall  
And tears are shed that one beloved is gone;  
Still ticks the little clock upon the wall.  
Time does not halt, the destinies of man  
Move on and on with slow and measured pace,  
With hope one day to win the Master's plan  
When peace supreme shall reign upon earth's face.

His hands have swerved the tiller of the world  
And guided it to more majestic heights;  
His eyes have seen the great red dawn dew-pearled  
That shall bring man its great revealing lights.  
His heart has throbbed with sorrow for mankind  
And given voice to earnest humble prayer;  
His brain has toiled the way of right to find  
That man might know there is a refuge there.

Hearts break with pain to know his voice is stilled,  
And yet, his wisdom still shall guide us here;  
While others take the burdens as he willed  
Without a moment's hesitance or fear.  
The clock ticks on, the world moves on its way,  
Time does not heed our tears nor our commands;  
And though from out our midst he's gone today  
Still shall we know the guidance of his hands.

Time knows no friend, the great and small alike  
Must one day pass beyond our narrow ken;  
Yet some men's deeds the gongs eternal strike  
Which ring forever for the race of men.  
Such then was he, his deeds are monument  
That shall endure unto the end of time;  
The way his hands have pointed bring content  
And make the stars of peace forever shine."

To all humanity he was their star of peace. To the children of this country he was the only President they have ever known and their love for him was as for a Father. To forgotten people, the aged and dependent people, he was



a hope of security provided by a generous country to those who had served with faith. To those who suffered as he did from physical affliction, he was their strength for he endured weakness without defeat. To those who serve in the Armed Forces of all United Nations he was their leader, caring for them, planning for them, leading them on to sure victory. To mothers, he was the promise that never again would their sons be taken to die on the field of battle. For those minorities who, in this great democracy, have heard noble phrases of equality, but have vainly searched for the concrete evidences of tolerance, he boldly and courageously said to all the world: "The principle on which this country was founded and by which it has always been governed is that Americanism is a matter of the mind and heart. Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry." For every human need he seemed to hold realizable hope of achievement.

He was your President and mine, who for you and for me and for all men who love freedom and equality was the living embodiment of the ideals which we, in our highest moments, hold most dear. We had come to accept the thought, without question, that, victory having come, he would lead the world into an enduring peace.

Suddenly victory dawns, but he is gone. The councils of men will know him no more.



Hearing the news of his passing, bewildered, stunned, and sorrowing, fear of an unknown future suddenly struck at the hearts of those who looked to him to speak and act for them. But out of the recent past have come his own ringing words, spoken at his first inaugural: "The only thing we have to fear is fear."

And so fear passed as quickly as it came, and into its place has sprung a new world force, the power of a united people with a new purpose - the purpose that each in his own fashion shall carry his share of this great human burden which the leader can no longer carry for us. It was he who coined the phrase "United Nations", but it is death that has suddenly made us "the United Peoples of the World." United for freedom - freedom of thinking, freedom of religion, freedom of speech, and freedom of action that does not injure our neighbor. In this purpose we, the United Peoples of the World, go forward, marching in step, our heads held high to greet the dawn of the day of Peace.

To that great Father of us all who looks down upon his children with deep compassion, we of many races and all religious faiths here give thanks that this world has been enriched by the life and ideals of Franklin Delano Roosevelt, and that we have now become co-workers with him that we may win the fruits of the sacrifices of war and may dwell in a world of peace which shall endure forever.



9-11

*file  
memor*      *Carter*

Mathilde Alch, Assistant Counselor, died in the Manzanar Hospital, January 22, 1945, of coronary thrombosis. A committee of staff members composed of Margaret D'Ille, Chairman, Margaret Leibovitz and Clyde Simpson was appointed by the Project Director to arrange a memorial service for Mrs. Alch.

The memorial service was held at 7:00 P.M., January 23, 1945 in the Library Building of Block 7. All residents of Manzanar and members of the WRA staff were invited. In attendance also were Mrs. Alch's brother, M. H. Alch of San Francisco, and her nephew, George. The brief program was as follows:

"Ave Maria".....Franz Schubert  
Mary Kageyama  
accompanied by Louis Frizzell

Address.....  
Kiyoharau Anzai, Chairman  
Block Managers' Assembly

Address.....  
Ralph P. Merritt, Project Director  
Manzanar War Relocation Center

"The Lost Chord"..... Sir Arthur Sullivan  
Henry Kano  
accompanied by Louis Frizzell

The Project Director spoke as follows:

"For the first time, death has taken an active member our Manzanar staff.

"We gather tonight to pay our tribute to Mathilde Alch who, suddenly stricken Saturday with a fatal heart condition, went quietly to lasting sleep early yesterday morning in our Manzanar Hospital.



This memorial service to our friend and co-worker is a simple but deep and sincere expression from the heart of all of us, telling of our gratitude that we knew her and shared our problems with her and she shared her problems in welfare with us.

"But did we know her? Yes, we knew her laughter, her gay and courageous spirit, we knew her fine training and equipment as Counselor in Welfare; we knew her devoted personal interest to the men, women, and children of this center whose sorrows and illness, whose needs and high hopes she shared; but, did we know the real Mathilde Alch? How many of us ever dreamed, as she strove here for tolerance and understanding for others, that she too had faced the stark realities of that world-wide human struggle? How many of us, as we heard her helping others to adjust themselves as foreign-born to the American way of living and to loyalty to America ever thought of her as one who was herself born in a foreign country of foreign parents and that she had given clear evidence of her own loyalty by service in the United States Navy in the first World War?

"The life story of Mathilde Alch is the dramatic story of the making of an American of finest understanding and shining example. What she taught others, she learned herself in the hard school of experience. To her and to those like her who have brought from their ancestral heritage the human values of a rich cultural life, America owes its greatness.

"Mathilde Alch was born in Kovna, Russia., or Lithuania, as we have known it. For many generations her mother's family had been



artists and scholars. Her father was a Russian physician who brought his family to America to escape the iron heel of militarism. This rich intellectual inheritance expressed itself at the University of St. Louis where she studied law and graduated in that profession, and followed it with success. Then came World War I, and Mathilde Alch joined the Navy as Yeoman First Class. There she served with distinction. Following the war she returned to practise law with marked success financially and professionally.

"But her interest in people whose lives were not successful, her interest in the causes of poverty and human misery, lead her to leave all the glamour of money and important position. From 1923 to 1926 she devoted herself to the study of social service at the University of California. In Oakland, California, she worked with the Probation Office on social problems arising from broken homes and deserted children.

"Then came another dramatic experience. Having gone to Central Europe to study child welfare problems, the State Department of this government asked her to supervise the needs of the American veterans who had remained in Europe after 1919. As the representative of the United States this former Russian girl was stationed in the town in which she was born, Kovna, in Lithuania.

"In 1933, Mathilde Alch returned to the United States and for ten years did important social service work in many places - in the West Virginia Relief Administration, in Buffalo, New York, in the State Relief Administration in California, and the Federal WPA in California. Then the Jewish Welfare Federation secured her services



in supervising relief work with refugees from Nazi controlled countries. From this work, Mathilde Alch came to join us in Manzanar as a member of our Welfare Staff. How deeply she was respected and admired; how unselfishly she served; how successful she was in ministering to all who needed her help; how greatly she will be missed by all of us is told by the genuine sorrow of hundreds of people in this center and by this memorial service. Here her brother and her loved nephew, George, 14 years old, have come from San Francisco to join us as we pay our tribute. To them and to all of her family we extend our sympathy and our appreciation that she joined with us in Manzanar in carrying out her ideals of lifting the load from those in need and making a happier world for all men of good will.

"In the dormitory where she lived her bright spirit brought happiness to many, in the Y.W. and the Red Cross where she gave generously in many thoughtful ways, and throughout the Welfare department, the cheery, wise, and guiding spirit of Mathilde Alch will always be deeply missed. Her monument will be found in the lives of hundreds of men, women, and children where understanding and courage grow today because she lived it and taught others to live it.

"When men or women of useful service are suddenly snatched from this world in the prime of their vigor, the question always comes - "Why this and not that one?" The plans and ways of a Divine Providence we do not know, but we do know that the spirit and soul do not die, they live on. I do not know the particular religion of Mathilde Alch;



she was broad and liberal in her views, attending many kinds of religious services, gathering strength from all of them. But I do know she believed deeply in God and that she held to a firm faith in those ideals we call religion.

"And how do I know that her spirit and soul live on? Three thousand years ago the Hebrew poet asked, "If a man die shall he live again?" To answer that question, another Hebrew poet sang -

"Yea, though I walk through the Valley  
of the shadow of death

I will fear no evil for thou art with me

Thy rod and thy staff they comfort me

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow  
me all the days of my life

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
forever."

And finally a thousand years later, another Hebrew gave the further, fuller answer. "But some one will say, how are the dead raised? Thou foolish one, that which thou thyself sowest, is not quickened except it die - and that which thou sowest, thou sowest not the body that shall be, but a bare grain. It may chance of wheat or of some other kind, but God giveth it a body even as it pleases him. So also is the resurrection of the dead. It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a natural body, there is also a spiritual body. And as we have borne the image of the earthy, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly. Death is swallowed up in victory. O death where is thy victory? O death where is thy sting?"

"And so in triumph, the life of Mathilde Alch on this earth has come to its close, but the valient spirit of this woman, who, as a little



girl, born in Russia, struggled to find her place in America, and, having risen to the heights of success and financial independence, left it all to serve her fellow man in the hour of his need, humbly, cheerfully, graciously, unselfishly, and effectively - this spirit and soul of this true American, this friend and co-worker, shall never die.

"May God bless the memory of Mathilde Alch."

Ralph P. Merritt  
Project Director



# THE ADMINISTRATION AND TOWN HALL

*announce a series of eight discussions*

## "AMERICA IN THE MAKING"

On Monday Evenings, March 27 to May 3

In Mess Hall 14, Commencing at 7:00 P. M.

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|---------|--|
| Mar. 27 | <u>Who Are Americans?</u> A discussion of the peoples who came to the United States, the reasons that brought them, and how they fared when they arrived.<br>Panel members: <u>Lucy W. Adams, Chairman, Aksel Nielsen, Chokichi Nakano, Morris Opler, Kazuko Suzuki, B. Bouche, Paul Maier, Ralph P. Merritt.</u>                            |
| Apr. 3  | <u>What is American Democracy?</u> A discussion of American ideals of freedom, education, equality of opportunity, health, popular government, and how we are living up to them.<br>Panel members: <u>J. Benson Saks, Chairman, Frank Yasuda, Virgil Morgan, Morse Little.</u>   |
| Apr. 10 | <u>American Citizenship.</u> A discussion of American concepts and laws of citizenship, and the ideal of a good citizen.<br>Panel members: <u>Clyde Simpson, Chairman, Melvin Strong, Lee Poole, Edward Chester, Howard Marumoto.</u>  |
| Apr. 17 | <u>Problems America Faces - Employment, Security, Minorities, Post-war Economy.</u><br>Panel members: <u>Robert L. Brown, Chairman, Roy Takeno, Arthur Miller, Todd Watkins.</u>   |
| Apr. 24 | <u>Problems of Residents of Japanese Ancestry in America.</u> A discussion of legal, racial, and cultural difficulties in adjusting to American life; public opinion and the attitude of the press.<br>Panel members: <u>Henry Bovenkirk, Chairman, Keikichi Murakami, Frank Yasuda, Genevieve Carter, J. Benson Saks.</u>                   |
| May 1   | <u>Japanese Adjustment in America.</u> A discussion of efforts by Japanese groups in America to adjust and contribute to American life; their success and failure.<br>Panel members: <u>Morris Opler, Chairman, Chohei Kondo, Thomas Higa, Margaret D'Ille.</u>  |
| May 8   | <u>The Future of People of Japanese Ancestry in the United States.</u> A discussion of opportunities now, and in the future, in various fields of American enterprise, and of obstacles and techniques for overcoming them.<br>Panel members: <u>Lucy W. Adams, Chairman, Walter Heath, Kiyoharu Anzai, Horace McConnell, Obo Sakaguchi.</u> |
| May 13  | <u>America at War.</u> A discussion of changes taking place in American life due to the war, and of thinking about post-war problems.<br><u>Speaker: Ralph P. Merritt.</u>   |

A SUMMARY IN JAPANESE WILL FOLLOW EACH DISCUSSION

Pictures

Music

Library Service