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Tule Lake

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NOTE BY F.S.FREDERICK

Tule Lake

Part of group of 15 who refused to register.

1st group from Tule to be received at Moab.



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME:	Harada, Teruyoshi	FAMILY NO.	28058
AGE:	22	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D.	4/2/43 at Moab, Utah transferred to Leupp, Ariz. 4/27/43	SOCIAL STATUS:	Single
NATIVITY:	American	MILITARY SERVICE:	None
RACE:	Japanese	RELIGION:	Buddhist
EDUCATION		OCCUPATION:	Retail sales clerk
(a) Japan:	Graduate High School Ohmuta, Fukuoka, Japan	CITIZENSHIP:	United States ( dual )
(b) United States:	None		

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Harada was arrested in Tule Lake on March 18, 1943 and taken to a former C.C.C. camp situated nearby. He was tried on March 31, 1943 before Paul Fleming on the following charges:

1. Refusing to Register.
2. Conspiring to impede the registration.

He pleaded guilty on count #1 and claims that the reason he refused was because the real intention of the WRA was very uncertain at that time and that he thought it best to wait until the doubtful points were clarified. Ninety days was the sentence on this count.

He pleaded not guilty on the second count stating that he had never taken part in any group action regarding the registration. Trial was set for April 15, 1943 on this count.

Harada claims that he was not given a fair trial because he was not advised of his rights nor was he given the opportunity to defend himself.



Harada, Teruyishi

#### PERSONAL HISTORY

Harada was born in Sacramento, California on July 29, 1921 and was taken to Japan when he was three years of age. He remained there for sixteen years and graduated from high school in Ohmuta, Fukuoka, Japan.

He returned to this country on May 8, 1939 and resided in Sacramento until the evacuation. He has not received any schooling in the United States and was mainly employed as a general helper in his uncle's retail shoe store.

#### INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Harada is very definitely pro-Japanese and has, apparently, some difficulty in understanding the Occidental way of doing things. He understands very little English. Partly because of his youth and also because of his personality make-up, he is easily led. All of these factors considered, it follows that he would be likely to experience some difficulty in adjustment.

He arrived at the Isolation Center at Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943, and was arrested and sentenced to three months for Unlawful Assembly on April 14, 1943. After serving one month, he was released on parole and has been very well behaved since that time. He appears to have learned much from this experience and his debt is considered paid in full.

He has signed for expatriation and refused to answer the loyalty questions. He is definitely Tule Lake material and he hopes to return to Japan.

His release from this center to Tule Lake is therefore recommended.

F.S. Frederick  
Chief of Internal Security

November 6, 1943



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Imahara, Henry Masao	FAMILY NO. 27136
AGE: 30	IDENT. NO.
DATE REC'D. April 2, 1943 at Moab, Utah transferred to Leupp on April 27, 1943	SOCIAL STATUS: Married
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE: None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION: Buddhist
EDUCATION	OCCUPATION: Farmer
(a) Japan: None	CITIZENSHIP: United States (not dual)
(b) United States: Completed 8 yrs grammar school at Perkins, Cal.	

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Imahara was charged, according to the Tule Lake reports, with the following:

1. Refusing to register.
2. Conspiring to impede the registration/

At his arraignment before Mr. Paul Fleming on March 31, 1943 Imahara pleaded "Guilty" to count number one and "Not Guilty" to count number two.

Imahara was arrested February 21, 1943 and taken to Alturas Jail for eight days. He was then removed to the Isolation Center at Tule Lake and on March 31, 1943 given a hearing before Mr. Fleming. See above.

Imahara states that he was not advised as to his legal rights at this hearing and was sentenced to 90 days on count number one. He was sent to Moab Relocation Center at Moab, Utah, arriving April 2, 1943.

Information has been received at this center that Mr. Coverley, Project Director at Tule Lake, has commuted the sentence of Imahara to the time spent by him in the Alturas jail and the Isolation Camp at Tule Lake which should remove any legal reasons for further detention of Imahara at Leupp.

Immediately following this page is a Statement of Imahara describing his version of the registration as it pertains to him.



STATEMENT OF IMAHARA

On, or about, February 15, 1943 Block #42 was ordered to register on Special Selective Service forms and on February 18 I had my wife obtain forms for repatriation in preference to registering for Selective Service. We were told to apply for repatriation to Japan or register on the Selective Service forms.

On February 19 I filled out the repatriation forms and took it to Administration office but they were refused. I was told it was a new Army order and I would have to register whether I liked it or not.

My reasons for refusing to register for Selective Service are: On October 16, 1940 at Precinct 114, Ward 9, Sacramento, California I registered for Selective Service and was classified as 3A because of my farm which I was operating with my wife. Later I moved to Gridley, California to do similar farming, truck gardening. Then evacuation came along and I was put in camp despite my American citizenship and never got a full and equal right as a citizen of America.

On February 19 the majority of Block #42 took same action bringing repatriation form witnessed of signing. I chose to do it on my own accord as to my reason and I never told anyone or been told by anyone not to register as stated in my complaint I received for hearing.

On February 21st at 4:45 P.M. Block #42 was surrounded by Army guard with machine guns and bayoneted rifles and we were arrested without warrant and taken to Alturas County Jail and Klamath Falls Jail. There were about 27 arrested.

I was taken to Alturas Jail with group and stayed for 8 days. During my stay I was questioned by F.B.I. and Project Attorney. The purpose of the questioning appeared to be to find out who was responsible for our conduct. I told them I acted on my own accord for reasons I have already stated.

On March 2nd I was taken to Tule Lake Isolation Camp as an Army prisoner and was compelled to work. This was very hard for me as I had an ulcer and had been on a special diet for four months. A guard followed me every step I took with a rifle and bayonet until W.R.A. took over several days later.

While at the Isolation Camp all the letters, incoming and outgoing, were censored by the Internal Security and a few of the letters my wife wrote were taken away for evidence of my being head of a bad family. This I found out at my hearing on March 31st.

On March 30th I received a warrant and complaint and was told I was to get a fair trial.

Next day about 4 P.M. I took the stand in court with Mr. Fleming acting as Judge for Mr. Coverly, Project Director and Mr. Obrien, Project Attorney for W.R.A.



I didn't have any defense on my part with only Mr. Tsuda as the interpreter. I had 2 counts on my complaint:

1. Refusing to register
2. Conspiring with others of Block 42.

I had refused to register so I plead "Guilty" on the first count but "Not Guilty" on the second count, as which I had no knowledge of doing, and I was sentenced maximum 90 days to Isolation or Concentration camp, and I was to have a hearing on March 17 at 10 A.M. for the second count. On the same night I was put in closed truck with padlock and rode approximately 5 hours on rough road which I got knocked over to other side several times and reached small station at 1:30 A.M. At the station I was told by guard to stay in truck without any blanket or extra clothing for about 5 hours until train came in. It was freezing weather.

After boarding the train we had our breakfast at 11:30 A.M. and supper at 9:30 P.M. The guard who came along with us drank whiskey almost all the way on the train and one guard was drunk most of the time on the train and drunken soldiers threatened to hit us. We were very hungry all the way until we reached our destination after riding and waiting for 36 hours with just two light meals.

We all are very anxious to get back as soon as our term is up so we will be with our families again.

About a week after entering Moab Isolation Camp we read in the Tulean Dispatch which was sent to us by a friend, and were very surprised to see that Mr. Coverly had dismissed all our charges and acted on Mr. Myer's advice to send us away as dangerous characters.

I would like to get my case cleared and be reunited with my family.



### PERSONAL HISTORY

Imahara was born in Watsonville, California on October 28, 1912. At about the age of five the family moved to Perkins in Sacramento County. He was graduated from the eighth grade and attended a Japanese Language school while in Perkins.

After graduation at the age of 14, Imahara worked for his brother on a farm and obtained seasonal work on various farms. During the fall of 1933 he began operating a farm of his own and continued this operation until 1941. He moved to Gridley in the spring of 1941 to operate a farm on the share cropping basis until evacuation.

Imahara was married in April, 1937 and has no children. He was never out of the state of California until his evacuation.

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### INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Imahara arrived at Moab on April 2, 1943. Like the boys who came with him, he was confused and upset but succeeded in adjusting in a satisfactory manner.

He has been steadily employed and is in good standing in the Isolation Center.

Imahara has never been to Japan.

He is most anxious to return to Tule Lake so that he can be reunited with his family.

His release is recommended without reservation.

August 20, 1943

Chief of Internal Security



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME:	Iseri, Fujio	FAMILY NO.	37301
AGE:	27	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D	May 7, 1943	SOCIAL STATUS	Single
RACE:	Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE	None
NATIVITY:	American	RELIGION:	Buddhist
EDUCATION		OCCUPATION:	Fruit-vegetable packer
(a)	Japan: 2 yrs. grammar school Kumamoto, Japan	CITIZENSHIP:	United States
(b)	United States: See Personal History below		

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Iseri was arrested on February 27, 1943 and charged with riot. Pleading guilty to the charge, he was sentenced to 4 months in the Alturas County jail with the last two months suspended. After serving the first two months he was returned to the Isolation Center at Tule Lake where he remained for one week. He was then

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## PERSONAL HISTORY

Iseri was born in Knights Valley, Sonoma County, California on March 29, 1916 and was taken to Kumamoto, Japan at the age of two by his parents. He completed two years of grammar school at the age of eleven and returned to this country when he was twelve. He resided at 1535 Buchanan St., San Francisco, California, and attended the Garfield Grammar School for three and a half years. He also attended the Buchanan Special School for Foreigners for two years and Continuation School for one year. He quit school at seventeen and was unemployed for one year. He then became a migratory farm worker and was so employed at the time of the evacuation.

## INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Iseri arrived at Leupp on May 7, 1943 and his record since that time has been satisfactory. His intelligence seems to be in direct proportion to his limited education. There is evidence that he is sensitive to this lack of education which may account for his anti-social tendencies. Society's habit of forcing a person with such a background to the lower social and economic planes frequently causes rebellion on the part of the individual concerned, and in all such cases the individual's personality is affected. His trouble at Tule Lake may have been an effort on his part to assert himself and to elevate himself in the eyes of his people. As is evidenced in the account of his difficulty at Tule Lake he



apparently has little initiative or other inner drive that would make him a dangerous person. He is undoubtedly of the type which is easily led but he hasn't the courage to follow through. He does respect authority when it is explained to him but edicts, proclamations, and other such media of authority might not bring about the desired results in this case.

Judging from his type of personality, it is very unlikely that Iseri will ever become dangerous from the anti-social point of view. Petty violations would probably be the extent of his anti-social activities. It is felt that his stay in jail and at Leupp have done much in the way of educating him in the rewards of living in a law abiding manner. Many persons of his type do not possess enough imagination to realize just what jail is like and, therefore, do not have the fear of jail that the average, normal citizen feels. Full realization does not come to them until they are actually in a jail but once learned, it is a lesson that they seldom forget.

Iseri has refused to register and it is felt that his basic loyalties are with Japan, making him Tule Lake material.

Release is recommended in this instance.

F. S. Frederick  
Chief of Internal Security

September 8, 1943



HISTORY OF MITSUO KAIDA

Mitsuo Kaida, born April 27, 1912, Ocone, Nebraska, Family #38733.

Education: 2 years American school in United States.

Up to 2nd year high school in Japan, little training corresponding to R.O.T.C.

Left<sup>for</sup> Japan 1920

Returned to America August 1930.

Prior to evacuation a truck farm operator in Sunnyvale and Santa Clara, California.



## HISTORY OF BLOCK 42 CASE

### ON REGISTRATION by MITSUO KAIDA

On or about February 15, block 42 was ordered to register for the selective service (special form for those of Japanese ancestry. On or about the 18th of February the administration office stated there were two choice opened to register. We all had a choice of either repatriating to Japan or registering for the special selective service. On or about the 18th of February, I made out the repatriation form and took it to the Administration Office but at the office the staff told me that new order was issued by Washington to refuse all repatriation to Japan, as were the case of other block 42 people.

My reason for refusing to register for the special selective service are: On October 16, 1940 at Santa Clara for Jefferson Precinct #2, Santa Clara, California, and believed unnecessary to register for the second time. As law-abiding United States citizen, I have not been accorded equal privileges and rights; I, like many other thousands were sent into camp; it made no difference as to whether Japanese aliens or American citizens.

On 21st of February, 4:45 P.M. army guards with bayonetted rifles and machine guns surrounded block 42 and I was arrested without warrant and taken with a group of other blk. 42 boys to Alturas jail. While in jail I was questioned by F.B.I. agents and project attorney Mr. O'Brien for the purpose of finding who was responsible for our conduct. I told them that I refused to on my own accord based on my own reasoning and neither did I tell anybody not to register nor anyone else told me not to register nor conspire with others.

After being detained in jail for 10 days, I was taken to Tule Lake Isolation Camp, where were to either work or we will not be fed. We were compelled to work without any returns. All the incoming and outgoing letters were being strictly censored.

On March 30, I received complaint and warrant and on the next day I was taken to Tule Lake Project and took my stand in court before Mr. Flemmings, acting as judge for Mr. Coverly, and project attorney, Mr. O'Brien. I never had anyone for my defense and was never given an opportunity to defend myself. (Mr. Tsuda was interpreter). Two counts were charged against me, count 1 for refusing to register. Count 2 for conspiring with others to halt or impede registration. (Records sent here from Tule Lake will show more details of the complaints, please refer to them). I pleaded guilty to count 1 and "not guilty" on count 2, which is false charge. The judge pronounced a maximum of 90 days on count 1, and set date for hearing on count 2 for April 21, at 2 P.M. Like the rest of the Tule Lake boys here, I never had the second hearing.

The same day at 8:50 P.M. I was loaded into a waiting closed truck with others and nature and destination unknown began the long rough trip for about 5 hrs. ride and finally reached a small railroad depot called Doyle, California. We were told to stay inside the cold truck without blanket nor extra clothing for about 5 hrs. in cold freezing weather.



Mitsuo Kaida - page 2.

In the early morning we were told that we were going to get warm breakfast in town, but we never saw breakfast until we boarded the train and about 4 hrs. afterward at around 11:30 A.M.

April 2, 8:30 A.M. we finally arrived in Moab Isolation Camp. I believed that soon as my 90 days sentence was served out, I could go back to the project to live with my wife and children age  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and also with my aged parents. After weeks at Moab, I read the Tulean Dispatch which is Tule Lake Colony paper, which stated that our case and all outstanding charges were dismissed and that at Mr. Meyer order we were sent to Moab because we were too dangerous for the security of the project. Over 100 so-called dangerous person that were residing at same Tule Lake Isolation Camp were return to the project soon after I was sent to Moab. I am very much surprised after having had a hearing before a court and court proceedings and not be able to be released after serving out the 90 day sentence.

I am very anxious to go back to Tule Lake project and live with my family as are all the other boys that were in the same Tule Lake Isolation camp, who with our same case and charges were released to return to their homes and families.



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Kamimori, Seio	FAMILY NO.	27107
AGE: 26	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D. 4/2/43 at Moab, Utah transferred to Leupp, Ariz. 4/27/43	SOCIAL STATUS:	Single
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE:	None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION:	Buddhist
EDUCATION	OCCUPATION:	Farm operator
(a) Japan: Completed 2 yrs. high school Kumamoto, Japan	CITIZENSHIP:	United States ( dual)
(b) United States: Studied English in private night school at Colusa, California		

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Kamimori was arrested at Tule Lake on February 21, 1943, held in the Klamath Falls, Oregon jail for a few days, and then transferred to a C.C.C. camp near the Tule Lake Center. He was charged with:

1. Refusing to register
2. Conspiring to impede the registration

He pleaded GUILTY to count #1 and NOT GUILTY to count #2 and was sentenced to 60 days in an Isolation Center.



#### PERSONAL HISTORY

Kamimori was born in Marysville, California on May 3, 1917.

At the age of 6, he was taken to Japan where he remained for eleven years. He was educated through two years of high school in Kumamoto, Japan and worked in a drug store for two years after he finished school.

He returned to the United States in 1934 and settled in Colusa, California. He was employed as a farm worker in Red Bluff for about four years and then operated his own farm for about four years prior to the evacuation.

His father, mother, three brothers and one sister are presently residing in Tule Lake and he is anxious to be reunited with his family.

#### INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Kamimori arrived at the Isolation Center near Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943.

His adjustment was satisfactory and he has been steadily employed since that time. He gets along well with everyone and has an excellent behavior record.

As stated above, he is anxious to be reunited with his family and states that he wants to go back to Japan.

His transfer from this center to Tule Lake is recommended.

F.S. Frederick  
Chief of Internal Security

November 8, 1943



## Light History of Block 42 Registration

In Tule Lake at this special registration of Japanese ancestry, we were represented by army officers from Washington. They in turn came to project mess and lectured us on special registration on Japanese ancestry. The point was it was army compulsory order and if refused to register it meant 20 years in jail plus \$15,000 fines.

Few days latter we in 42 block were chosen to be among 1st to register. Day ahead we had Caucasian representing the administration office came and told us, if we repatriated to Japan there was no necessity of registering. Which I have done so but were refused on account of Washington order.

My feeling have been hurt ever since the evacuation took place. As a citizen I believed in freedom of said constitution but unfortunately my rights of citizen have been taken away. As I enter the camp voluntarily I understand it was for our protection. As days fled by I could not forget how I was mistreated with barb wire surrounding me and a machine gun towers pointing the gun toward us rather than for our protection.

As citizen my feeling are hurt and could not change it over a night. Thinking of the past I took my own individual stand with out the others help nor I haven't influenced others.

Without mob violence on Feb. 21, 1943, our block was surrounded by military force with machine gun and bayoneted rifles. With rest of 42 boys that refused to register we were forced in truck and were taken to Klamath Falls Oregon. We crossed the boundary without the warrant. There I was kept in jail about 1 week and were moved to near the Tule Lake. There we were told that we were prisoners of war by U.S. Army Lieutenant. Where ever I go to work I was followed by sentry with bayonet. I have been put to work as compulsory worker and if I refused the Lieutenant said a punishment of 6x6x10 ft. deep hole was waiting for us.

Then three days latter everything was turned over to WRA under our good behavior. Even at that our work was compulsory and were told those persons that are not working will not be fed, but got fed just the same. Furthermore all our letters were censored.

Then I was taken to project for trial and was told I didn't need no lawyer. The trial itself was fixed one sided and I was founded guilty on 1st charge and plead not guilty on second count. I received 90 days sentence to any WRA designated place and on my second count trial was set some time in April. After the trial I was rushed off to unknown place called Doyle, California. From there on I've experienced many hardship on account of drunken guards but manage to reach Moab Utah safely.

Few days after reaching Utah our case was made known in Tulean Dispatch by Mr. Coverley stating all our outstanding charges were dismissed.



Light History of Block 42 Registration - page 2.

Here I am with my sentence expired long ago and I am very anxious to join my folks whom are not very well in health. I would appreciate if you would clarify my status.

Seio Kamimori  
born Marysville, California  
age 26, May 3, 1917  
Duel citizen  
Private night school, Colusa, 2 yrs (English)  
8 years in Japanese school Kumamoto, Japan  
Went to Japan, June 1923  
Had no military training in either country  
Return to U.S. July 1936, San Francisco, Calif.  
Farmer (self) in Colusa, and Red Bluff Calif.  
Still single.



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Kamiya, Hiroshi	FAMILY NO.	27105
AGE: 26	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D. Apr. 2, 1943 at Moab, Utah transferred to Leupp on Apr. 27, 1943.	SOCIAL STATUS:	Single
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE:	None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION:	Methodist
EDUCATION:	CITIZENSHIP:	United States
(a) Japan: None		
(b) United States: Graduate Marysville Union High School, Marysville, Calif.		

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## LEGAL HISTORY

From the information received at this center from the Tule Lake Project and from interview with Kamiya, it appears that he was arrested, tried and convicted for:

1. Refusing to register
2. Conspiring to interfere with the registration

In regard to the two counts listed above, Kamiya stated that he refused to register because he had already registered with the selective service and could see no reason for twice signing the same thing. He further stated that he did not understand the second count and pleaded guilty after he was told that it was a violation of law to "get together" and "to agree." He clarified this by stating that he did not influence others or have any designs of interfering with the registration but that he did "get together" with other boys whose thoughts were the same as his and they did "agree" and that if this getting together and agreeing constituted a violation of law he was, therefore, guilty as charged.

As a result of interview with Kamiya and study of the questions and answers at his arraignment, it appears that the Tule Lake officials presented this registration to be an army order and a selective service order and that refusal to register was a prison offense punishable by imprisonment up to twenty years and by fine not to exceed \$10,000. It further appears that the army, through a Major Marshall and a Lieut. Carroll, shares the responsibility with the War Relocation Authority for presenting the registration as described above. That such misrepresentation of the registration resulted in misunderstanding and confusion is



LEGAL HISTORY  
( continued )

obvious, judging from the reactions of the Japanese people at this center to the registration and from comparison of their reactions to the reactions of the other centers where the registration was presented in a different manner.

. Near the conclusion of the questions and answers recorded at Kamiya's arraignment, a paragraph describing the activities of Kamiya and 30 other boys appears. It states that these boys met and signed a paper in a mess hall to the effect that they would be willing to repatriate at any time, then marched to the Administration Building in a body, handed the paper to Mr. Kristovitch and hollered "banzai". In the absence of other evidence, it does not appear that such activities of this nature are illegal in these United States. The inference of the boys' hollering "banzai" appears to be comparable to a "Heil Hitler" salute and there is some question in the writer's mind as to this inference. Merely saying "banzai" is not necessarily indicative that it is directed at the emperor of Japan but the inference tends to create this impression. Banzai is a salutary expression of the Japanese wishing good luck to the person or persons at whom it is directed. It could be compared to a statement such as "Heil" with the "Hitler" left off. The "banzai" might have been directed at Mr. Kristovitch himself, wishing him good fortune for a million years. In any event, Kamiya denies having said "banzai" and stated that the boys with him did not say it. He explained that a crowd gathered when they gave this paper to Mr. Kristovitch and that the "banzai" came from the crowd.

Kamiya denies emphatically that he ever made any speeches of any kind and points out that he is not educated enough to make a successful speech and is too bashful to get up in front of a group of people and make a speech.

Reference is made to the letter from Harvey M. Coverley to Dillon S. Myer dated May 17, 1943 regarding the justification of transfer of Kamiya to the Isolation Center. Regarding the speeches that Kamiya allegedly made, the above paragraph contains his denial. As to his influencing his brothers, Kamiya stated that they asked him what he was going to do and he told them that he was going to refuse to register. They said that they would do the same. He emphatically denied having tried to talk them into this belief and stated that they merely did the same as he did.

Kamiya declared that he was sentenced for ninety days by Mr. Fleming who conducted the arraignment and trial. Later, he said that he read in the project newspaper that he was sentenced for ninety days on each count and that the sentences were to run concurrently. Still later, he learned that all charges were dropped against him and that further disposition of his case was up to the authorities of the Isolation Center at Leupp since he was now under their jurisdiction.

Since his arrest on February 21, 1943, Kamiya has spent one week in the Klamath Falls County Jail, over a month in the Isolation Camp at Tule Lake, and about four months at Moab and Leupp Isolation Centers.



## INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Kamiya arrived at Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943. At first, he appeared to be deeply hurt, confused and angry. He was neither cooperative nor uncooperative. He viewed every Caucasian with distrust and acted as if every white man was looking for ways and means of inflicting further injury upon him. As he became more acquainted with the personnel and more acclimated to the environment, he changed from the fixed notions and convictions described above to a more uncertain position. After about three weeks from the date of his arrival, he abruptly changed in a favorable manner. He became most cooperative, went to work and aided materially in the maintenance at Moab and at Leupp. His assistance with the defective plumbing at Leupp was most helpful. His knowledge and ability in laundry operation was utilized in putting the Leupp laundry into shape. Keeping the project cars in operation is another function that he has carried out in a very satisfactory manner.

His example of cooperation "broke the ice" and many others followed suit. He has minded his own business throughout his stay at both Moab and Leupp and has never attempted to influence others. His influence has been indirect and desirable.

Although usually jolly and good-natured, he becomes serious when he thinks of his parents. They are quite old and in poor health. He would like to be with them in their last days and is anxiously awaiting that time when he can rejoin them.

Kamiya refuses to register and is, therefore, eligible for Tule Lake if he is allowed to leave this Isolation Center. Tule Lake is where his parents are presently residing and Kamiya would like to be with them in this center. Mr. Best, Project Director at Tule Lake, has personal knowledge of this man and it is not anticipated that he would object in any way to his being returned to Tule Lake.

It is recommended that Kamiya be given full consideration in this matter and his release from Leupp is recommended without qualification.

Chief of Internal Security



## PERSONAL HISTORY

Name: Masao Kawate

Family No. 25416 A

Tule Lake Add.: 1016 D

Birth date: June 26, 1913

Birth place: Lockeford, California

### Educational history:

Japan - 1920-1926 Grade School  
1926-1928 Middle school

### United States -

1928-1931 Penryn Grammar School, Penryn, Calif.  
1932-1935 Placer Union High School, Auburn, Calif.  
1935-1937 Sacramento Junior College, Sacramento, Calif.  
1938-1940 University of California, Berkeley, Calif.

### Occupational history:

Worked only during summer vacations almost exclusively on fruit ranch in Placer County, California. Since 1940 worked in Placer County on fruit ranch and also in San Joaquin County, California, on vineyard. Since 1941 until evacuation I rented a fruit ranch in Penryn, California, and was running it.

### Record of residence outside of U.S.

1919 (?) - 1928 Japan, stayed with parents.

1937 (june) - 1937 (Dec.) Japan, straighten out family affairs after father's death.



LEGAL HISTORY OF MY CASE  
MASAO KAWATE

On March 5, 1943 a note was delivered to me requesting my appearance before Mr. Coverley at one o'clock p.m. on the following day in connection with the registration for the special selective service form, because I had not registered. Accordingly I went to the specified place on the following day together with about ten other young kibeis who received the same notice. Instead of Mr. Coverley, Mr. Wilder Mr. Billigmire and the army officers received us.

Mr. Wilder asked me whether I organized the group to march to the place. It appeared as though I was the leader because I was walking at the head of the group when I appeared at the office. I answered "no" to Mr. Wilder, because it was not true. We got together more or less as a natural tendency to act together since everybody received the same kind of notice, which we were expecting at that time. We merely got together. We knew also that we would be put in the isolation camp if we refuse to register on that day. All of us were in the same opinion as to the registration, that is, to refuse registration under all circumstances at that time.

Then Mr. Wilder asked me the reason for my refusal to register. I renumerated my reasons. Firstly, I told him, it is an insult to ask us our loyalty in view of the fact that we had such a clean record and that we were placed in the camp without due process of law. Secondly, I have already registered for the selective service form and have been classified as 1B in 1940, hence I can not see any reason for re-registration. Thirdly, I cannot trust what the administration and the army officers told us as to its compulsionness, because administrations order was changed many times in succession since the beginning of registration. Fourthly, I, therefore, don't believe it could be a War Department order.

I also told him that I have more sympathy for Japan, when I was compelled to answer my loyalty.

He and Mr. Billigmire, who knew me in the project high school, urged me to register with the threat of 20 years imprisonment and 10,000 dollar fine. But I showed my determination not to register under any condition at least for the time being until everything is cleared. Consequently together with other boys I was sent to the isolation camp in the army truck.

Queer thing about the whole business of segregation was that not even one nisei (with the exception of block #42) was asked to appear before Mr. Coverley. They were all so-called kibeis. It is also interesting to note the fact that no kibei who had a wife was segregated. I have difficulty in comprehending such procedure.



After we entered the isolation camp, all of us had an interview with the WRA attorneys from San Francisco. At that occasion I told them practically the same thing as I told Mr. Wilder for my refusal to register. I found a very interesting fact from them that the said registration was not a War Department order and therefore it could not be compulsory! It was, however, made compulsory by the W.R.A. If that were true, then, the W.R.A. has power neither to imprison us for 20 years nor to fine us 10,000 dollars. The maximum penalty it can impose upon us (so long as petty crimes are concerned) is three months of imprisonment according to its instruction.

When we were taken to the isolation camp it was already under the direct supervision of the W.R.A. though our knives were taken away, coveralls was given with big number on it and we were told that the work was compulsory without pay.

During a short period of about 24 days threats were used against us time and again. On one occasion we were told that those who do not work are given only two meals a day which is composed of entirely different and low grade material or a smaller amount. At another time they told us that bed-sheets would not be provided and washed for those who do not work. As a matter of fact I refused to work after two weeks when they informed us that it was going to be voluntary. Nothing however happened to us. By this time we knew their tactic so well that we were not afraid of them.

Our letters were strictly censored and sometimes intercepted for no good reason without any authority. Only English was allowed for letter communication. Everything pertaining to registration and condition in both the isolation camp and the center was blotted out with ink. Why did they want to conceal the fact? As far as I can judge Mr. Coverley was afraid of his blunder in dealing with registration be revealed to the evacuees. He consistently followed the policy of bluffing the people with threat of segregation and imprisonment. My conviction is further strengthened by the event that followed in connection with our removal to Moab, Utah.

On March 30, 1943, twenty four days after our arrest, a warrant and a complaint were handed down to me. At about 11:00 o'clock a.m. on the following day I was told to pack up my stuff, because I was to appear before Mr. Coverley for a hearing (together with fourteen other persons).

Soon after our arrival at the center, our hearing commenced. It was held in the Caucasian recreation hall and I was the first one to appear. That was the first time I saw the court in the center, but it must have been the regular W.R.A. project court. The U.S. flag was displayed in the front; judge, attorney and few others were seated in the front; and there were audience seats for public witnesses. When I was seated in front of the judge, Mr. Flemming announced that



he was acting in the capacity of a judge for Mr. Coverley and that Mr. O'Brien was acting as a defense attorney for W.R.A. There were few Caucasian audience as witness, which later increased as more Japanese appeared. (As to what took place in the court will you please refer to the record sent to you from Tule Lake R.C.)

I was charged on one count; that is, refusal to comply with the W.R.A. order to register. (Note the fact that nothing was mention about the War Department order!) I pleaded guilty of course. No lawyer or consultant was allowed for me to defend!, contrary to my expectation. It can hardly be said a hearing under the democratic form of government. Nevertheless it was true in this particular case.

The judge communicated the sentence of two months in isolation camp or any place that the W.R.A. may designate, provided that the sentence be computed from the date of arrest. This was an undisputably clear pronouncement of sentence in the court.

The hearing for all of us was through at 8:30 o'clock p.m. and at 8:50 o'clock p.m. we were pushed in the closed box truck and padlocked and carried away to undisclosed destination. Until 1:30 o'clock in the next morning the truck sped with only one stop through very cold icy air. It was so cold that we shivered almost to death, because we were not told of such an unexpected journey and thus unprepared. Even when we reached the small train depot at Doyle, California, we were not allowed to get off the truck to take a warm place in the depot's waiting room, despite of our repeated request, while those Caucasian guards took themselves a warm place inside the building. We were told not to make any noise and to converse only in English, so that there would not be any trouble with the nearby residents. Not even a second could we sleep; we had to keep on moving in order to keep ourselves warm. To such condition we were exposed for more than five hours!! Was that the instruction given to those guards by Mr. Coverley? Whoever it may be, the person who is responsible for such inhumane treatment should have no excuse whatever morally and legally. To my judgment the responsibility should rest on Mr. Coverley and those two guards.

At long last when we boarded on the Union Pacific train our destination was disclosed to be Moab Isolation camp in Utah.

We were very tired when we reached Moab in the morning of April 2 from sleeplessness for two successive nights - one night from coldness and other from uncomfortableness in the train.

Until I got hold of the Tulean Dispatch dated April 5, I thought I could return to Tule Lake as soon as my term of sentence is served. On that issue, however, we found entirely different story. It said that Mr. Flemming recommended to Mr. Coverley the respective sentences who in turn presented the record of the hearing to Director Myer. But before Mr. Coverley had any time to act on Mr. Flemming's recommendation Mr. Myer ordered him to send us to Moab, Utah, because we were too dangerous for the security of the project. Furthermore, it stated that



Mr. Coverley comuted the sentence, dismissing all charges on the Tule Lake project, and sent us to Moab as Mr. Myer directed.

There were full of inconsistencies in the article, for which reason with the consent of Mr. Best I sent a letter to Mr. Coverley demanding clarification of those points in the early part of May, but so far I received no answer. In the first place, the hearing must have been held with bona fide intention, because it was held in public before the stars and stripes. Otherwise he has committed a very serious crime of using the flag for deceiving the public. In the second place, as I already stated, Mr. Flemming distinctly said in the name of Mr. Coverley, "I sentence you to two months in isolation camp or any place designated by the W.R.A." Thirdly, how can it be possible to present the record of hearing to Mr. Myer in Washington and receive his answer between 8:30 o'clock p.m. and 8:50 o'clock p.m. on March 31, 1943. Nevertheless it must have been the case if the statement on the Dispatch were correct. Tracing the steps that were taken to handle us, I can say that there is not a speck of doubt that the whole scheme was carefully planned beforehand. And judging from the fact that that article was published many days after the hearing, I believe that Mr. Coverley's intention was from the beginning to the end to deceive us and the public. If not, what else could it be? Mr. Coverley had not a bit of sincerity!

I am not objecting to the fact that I was sent here, because I pleaded guilty and accepted the two-month sentence and therefore I had to serve it no matter where it is. What I am demanding is the explanation of our over-due detention in this camp while all other people who were charged on the same count were permitted to return home. Four of us here from Tule Lake were charged on the same count, but without any explanation of whatsoever we have been detained here more than four months already.

I have no record of agitating other people in the Tule Lake center and yet I am compelled to serve more than other people. Only possible reason, I imagine, that Mr. Coverley chose me to be sent here is that I am a kibei and have more schooling in this country than most of the kibeis. But does it prove that I did or will do in the future any agitation? The answer must be "no". It all comes to this conclusion that Mr. Coverley attempted, rather unsuccessfully, to conceal his blunder by shifting his responsibility to other people who had no reason to take such burden. Undoubtedly I am one of the victims.

/s/ Masao Kawate  
August 13, 1943



LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME:	Kawate, Masao	FAMILY NO.	25416
AGE:	30	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D.	4/2/43 at Moab, Utah transferred to Leupp, Ariz. 4/27/43	SOCIAL STATUS:	Single
RACE:	Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE:	None
NATIVITY:	American	RELIGION:	Buddhist
EDUCATION		OCCUPATION:	Farmer
(a)	Japan: Completed 2 yrs. high school in Hiroshima, Japan	CITIZENSHIP:	United States ( dual)
(b)	United States: Graduate Univ. of Calif., Berkeley - Pol. Sc.		

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LEGAL HISTORY

Kawate was arrested on March 6, 1943 at Tule Lake and taken to a former C.C.C. camp situated nearby. He was arraigned before Paul Eleming on March 31, 1943 on the following charge:

1. Refusing to register.

He pleaded GUILTY to the charge and was sentenced to serve 60 days in an Isolation Center with credit being given him for the time already served.



#### PERSONAL HISTORY

Kawate was born in Lockeford, California on June 26, 1913. He was taken to Japan when he was five years of age and remained there for ten years. He was educated through two years of high school in Hiroshima, Japan and returned to this country in 1928. He settled in Placer County, California and graduated from Penryn Grammar School in three years.

He graduated from Placer High School in three years and completed two years in Sacramento Junior College. He graduated from the University of California at Berkeley majoring in Political Science and Economics was his minor. He has an A.B. degree in Political Science and was a member of the California Scholastic Federation as a result of his scholastic record while in high school.

His parents, one brother and two sisters are presently residing in Japan. He has signed for repatriation and wants to go to Tule Lake.

#### INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Kawate arrived in the Isolation Center at Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943.

There is no doubt but that he suffered disappointment when he was not released at the expiration of his sixty day sentence, but he adjusted satisfactorily in spite of this set-back.

He has been steadily employed and his behavior record is very good.

Kawate's transfer to Tule Lake is recommended.

F.S. Frederick  
Chief of Internal Security

November 8, 1943



## PERSONAL HISTORY

Name:.. Masao Kawate

Family No. 25416 A

Tule Lake Add.: 1016 D

Birth date: June 26, 1913

Birth place: Lockeford, California

### Educational history:

Japan - 1920-1926 Grade School  
1926-1928 Middle school

United States -  
1928-1931 Penryn Grammar School, Penryn, Calif.  
1932-1935 Placer Union High School, Auburn, Calif.  
1935-1937 Sacramento Junior College, Sacramento, Calif.  
1938-1940 University of California, Berkeley, Calif.

### Occupational history:

Worked only during summer vacations almost exclusively on fruit ranch in Placer County, California. Since 1940 worked in Placer County on fruit ranch and also in San Joaquin County, California, on vineyard. Since 1941 until evacuation I rented a fruit ranch in Penryn, California, and was running it.

### Record of residence outside of U.S.

1919 (?) - 1928 Japan, stayed with parents.

1937 (June) - 1937 (Dec.) Japan, straighten out family affairs after father's death.



LEGAL HISTORY OF MY CASE  
MASAO KAWATE

On March 5, 1943 a note was delivered to me requesting my appearance before Mr. Coverley at one o'clock p.m. on the following day in connection with the registration for the special selective service form, because I had not registered. Accordingly I went to the specified place on the following day together with about ten other young kibeis who received the same notice. Instead of Mr. Coverley, Mr. Wilder Mr. Billigmire and the army officers received us.

Mr. Wilder asked me whether I organized the group to march to the place. It appeared as though I was the leader because I was walking at the head of the group when I appeared at the office. I answered "no" to Mr. Wilder, because it was not true. We got together more or less as a natural tendency to act together since everybody received the same kind of notice, which we were expecting at that time. We merely got together. We knew also that we would be put in the isolation camp if we refuse to register on that day. All of us were in the same opinion as to the registration, that is, to refuse registration under all circumstances at that time.

Then Mr. Wilder asked me the reason for my refusal to register. I renumerated my reasons. Firstly, I told him, it is an insult to ask us our loyalty in view of the fact that we had such a clean record and that we were placed in the camp without due process of law. Secondly, I have already registered for the selective service form and have been classified as 1B in 1940, hence I can not see any reason for re-registration. Thirdly, I cannot trust what the administration and the army officers told us as to its compulsionness, because administrations order was changed many times in succession since the beginning of registration. Fourthly, I, therefore, don't believe it could be a War Department order.

I also told him that I have more sympathy for Japan, when I was compelled to answer my loyalty.

He and Mr. Billigmire, who knew me in the project high school, urged me to register with the threat of 20 years imprisonment and 10,000 dollar fine. But I showed my determination not to register under any condition at least for the time being until everything is cleared. Consequently together with other boys I was sent to the isolation camp in the army truck.

Queer thing about the whole business of segregation was that not even one nisei (with the exception of block #42) was asked to appear before Mr. Coverley. They were all so-called kibeis. It is also interesting to note the fact that no kibei who had a wife was segregated. I have difficulty in comprehending such procedure.



After we entered the isolation camp, all of us had an interview with the WRA attorneys from San Francisco. At that occasion I told them practically the same thing as I told Mr. Wilder for my refusal to register. I found a very interesting fact from them that the said registration was not a War Department order and therefore it could not be compulsory! It was, however, made compulsory by the W.R.A. If that were true, then, the W.R.A. has power neither to imprison us for 20 years nor to fine us 10,000 dollars. The maximum penalty it can impose upon us (so long as petty crimes are concerned) is three months of imprisonment according to its instruction.

When we were taken to the isolation camp it was already under the direct supervision of the W.R.A. though our knives were taken away, coveralls was given with big number on it and we were told that the work was compulsory without pay.

During a short period of about 24 days threats were used against us time and again. On one occasion we were told that those who do not work are given only two meals a day which is composed of entirely different and low grade material or a smaller amount. At another time they told us that bed-sheets would not be provided and washed for those who do not work. As a matter of fact I refused to work after two weeks when they informed us that it was going to be voluntary. Nothing however happened to us. By this time we knew their tactic so well that we were not afraid of them.

Our letters were strictly censored and sometimes intercepted for no good reason without any authority. Only English was allowed for letter communication. Everything pertaining to registration and condition in both the isolation camp and the center was blotted out with ink. Why did they want to conceal the fact? As far as I can judge Mr. Coverley was afraid of his blunder in dealing with registration be revealed to the evacuees. He consistently followed the policy of bluffing the people with threat of segregation and imprisonment. My conviction is further strengthened by the event that followed in connection with our removal to Moab, Utah.

On March 30, 1943, twenty four days after our arrest, a warrant and a complaint were handed down to me. At about 11:00 o'clock a.m. on the following day I was told to pack up my stuff, because I was to appear before Mr. Coverley for a hearing (together with fourteen other persons).

Soon after our arrival at the center, our hearing commenced. It was held in the Caucasian recreation hall and I was the first one to appear. That was the first time I saw the court in the center, but it must have been the regular W.R.A. project court. The U.S. flag was displayed in the front; judge, attorney and few others were seated in the front; and there were audience seats for public witnesses. When I was seated in front of the judge, Mr. Flemming announced that



he was acting in the capacity of a judge for Mr. Coverley and that Mr. O'Brien was acting as a defense attorney for W.R.A. There were few Caucasian audience as witness, which later increased as more Japanese appeared. (As to what took place in the court will you please refer to the record sent to you from Tule Lake R.C.)

I was charged on one count; that is, refusal to comply with the W.R.A. order to register. (Note the fact that nothing was mention about the War Department order!) I pleaded guilty of course. No lawyer or consultant was allowed for me to defend!, contrary to my expectation. It can hardly be said a hearing under the democratic form of government. Nevertheless it was true in this particular case.

The judge communicated the sentence of two months in isolation camp or any place that the W.R.A. may designate, provided that the sentence be computed from the date of arrest. This was an undisputably clear pronouncement of sentence in the court.

The hearing for all of us was through at 8:30 o'clock p.m. and at 8:50 o'clock p.m. we were pushed in the closed box truck and padlocked and carried away to undisclosed destination. Until 1:30 o'clock in the next morning the truck sped with only one stop through very cold icy air. It was so cold that we shivered almost to death, because we were not told of such an unexpected journey and thus unprepared. Even when we reached the small train depot at Doyle, California, we were not allowed to get off the truck to take a warm place in the depot's waiting room, despite of our repeated request, while those Caucasian guards took themselves a warm place inside the building. We were told not to make any noise and to converse only in English, so that there would not be any trouble with the nearby residents. Not even a second could we sleep; we had to keep on moving in order to keep ourselves warm. To such condition we were exposed for more than five hours!! Was that the instruction given to those guards by Mr. Coverley? Whoever it may be, the person who is responsible for such inhumane treatment should have no excuse whatever morally and legally. To my judgment the responsibility should rest on Mr. Coverley and those two guards.

At long last when we boarded on the Union Pacific train our destination was disclosed to be Moab Isolation camp in Utah.

We were very tired when we reached Moab in the morning of April 2 from sleeplessness for two successive nights - one night from coldness and other from uncomfortableness in the train.

Until I got hold of the Tulean Dispatch dated April 5, I thought I could return to Tule Lake as soon as my term of sentence is served. On that issue, however, we found entirely different story. It said that Mr. Flemming recommended to Mr. Coverley the respective sentences who in turn presented the record of the hearing to Director Myer. But before Mr. Coverley had any time to act on Mr. Flemming's recommendation Mr. Myer ordered him to send us to Moab, Utah, because we were too dangerous for the security of the project. Furthermore, it stated that



Mr. Coverley comuted the sentence, dismissing all charges on the Tule Lake project, and sent us to Moab as Mr. Myer directed.

There were full of inconsistencies in the article, for which reason with the consent of Mr. Best I sent a letter to Mr. Coverley demanding clarification of those points in the early part of May, but so far I received no answer. In the first place, the hearing must have been held with bona fide intention, because it was held in public before the stars and stripes. Otherwise he has committed a very serious crime of using the flag for deceiving the public. In the second place, as I already stated, Mr. Flemming distinctly said in the name of Mr. Coverley, "I sentence you to two months in isolation camp or any place designated by the W.R.A." Thirdly, how can it be possible to present the record of hearing to Mr. Myer in Washington and receive his answer between 8:30 o'clock p.m. and 8:50 o'clock p.m. on March 31, 1943. Nevertheless it must have been the case if the statement on the Dispatch were correct. Tracing the steps that were taken to handle us, I can say that there is not a speck of doubt that the whole scheme was carefully planned beforehand. And judging from the fact that that article was published many days after the hearing, I believe that Mr. Coverley's intention was from the beginning to the end to deceive us and the public. If not, what else could it be? Mr. Coverley had not a bit of sincerity!

I am not objecting to the fact that I was sent here, because I pleaded guilty and accepted the two-month sentence and therefore I had to serve it no matter where it is. What I am demanding is the explanation of our over-due detention in this camp while all other people who were charged on the same count were permitted to return home. Four of us here from Tule Lake were charged on the same count, but without any explanation of whatsoever we have been detained here more than four months already.

I have no record of agitating other people in the Tule Lake center and yet I am compelled to serve more than other people. Only possible reason, I imagine, that Mr. Coverley chose me to be sent here is that I am a kibei and have more schooling in this country than most of the kibeis. But does it prove that I did or will do in the future any agitation? The answer must be "no". It all comes to this conclusion that Mr. Coverley attempted, rather unsuccessfully, to conceal his blunder by shifting his responsibility to other people who had no reason to take such burden. Undoubtedly I am one of the victims.

/s/ Masao Kawate  
August 13, 1943



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME:	Marubashi, Frank Saburo	FAMILY NO.	27139
AGE:	23	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D.	4/2/43 at Moab, Utah transferred to Leupp, Ariz. 4/27/43	SOCIAL STATUS:	Single
RACE:	Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE:	None
NATIVITY:	American	RELIGION:	Buddhist
EDUCATION		OCCUPATION:	Farmer
(a)	Japan: 1st year grammar school-Hiroshima, Japan	CITIZENSHIP:	UNITED STATES (dual)
(b)	United States: High School graduate-Gridley, Calif.		

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Marubashi was arrested on February 21, 1943, held for a week in Alturas jail, and then taken to a former C.C.C. camp sometimes referred to as the Tule Lake Isolation Camp.

He was arraigned before Paul Fleming on March 31, 1943 to answer to the following charges:

1. Refusing to register.
2. Conspiring to impede the registration

Pleading GUILTY to the first count and NOT GUILTY to the second, he was sentenced to 90 days in an Isolation Center. The sentence was to begin as of February 21, 1943.



#### PERSONAL HISTORY

Marubashi was born in Colusa County, California on July 19, 1920. He was taken to Japan when he was six years old, remained there two years, and returned to the United States.

He resided in Yuba City, California for one year and moved to Gridley. In 1939 he graduated from the Gridley High School and claims to have operated a farm from that time until the evacuation.

He has one brother in the United States Army. His father, mother, another brother, and a sister are presently residing in Tule Lake.

Although he has not signed for repatriation or expatriation, he is desirous of joining his family at Tule Lake and then to Japan.

#### INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Marubashi has been steadily employed during his stay in the Isolation Centers and his behavior record is very good.

He is not a leader nor is he considered a trouble-maker. He enjoys good physical and mental health.

He is definitely Tule Lake material and his transfer to that center is recommended.

F.S. Frederick  
Chief of Internal Security

November 9, 1943



History of Block 42 Case  
on Registration  
Frank S. Marubashi

On or about February 15, 1943, block 42 was ordered to register for the selective service forms (Special). On or about February 18th I obtained repatriation form as an alternative to registering for the special selective service because it was stated to us by the WRA administrative department that we have an alternative of either repatriating to Japan or registering. On February 19 I filled the repatriation form and took it to the Administrative office but the repatriation form was refused because a new order was issued by the administration.

My reason for refusing to register for the selective service are: on February 14, 1942, at Gridley, Butte County, Local bd. #26, California I registered for the selective service and had been classified 3A prior to evacuation of Japanese alien and American citizens alike. Since entering Tule Lake Relocation Center I have been classified 4C "enemy alien." I have not been given equal rights as an American citizen.

Even though all of us in block 42 took the same ~~skunk~~ action I chose to do it on my own account based on my own reasoning. Neither did I tell anybody not to register nor anyone else told me not to register.

On the 21st of February, we were surrounded by a force of army guards and thrown into an army truck at the point of bayonets and machine guns without any warrants. We were taken to the county jail at Klamath Falls and Alturas. I was taken with a group to Alturas County jail. At Alturas I was questioned by F.B.I. agents and also by the Tule Lake project attorney. The object of the questioning appeared to be discovering a person responsible for our conduct. But, I said to them that, so far as I was concerned I acted on my own accord. When I was asked by them why I refused to register I told them the reasons stated in the preceding paragraph. They asked me if I knew the penalty for not registering for the selective service I told them I knew the penalty was 20 yrs and 10,000 dollars fine but that I have already registered for the draft and have been classified 4C. With neither explanation nor trial we were detained in jail for 8 days. Then we were transferred to Tule Lake Army Prisoners' Camp. We were compelled to work without compensation and were told that those who didn't work wouldn't be fed. The army guards followed us closely each step we took until WRA took over several days later. All the incoming and outgoing letters were being strictly ~~am~~ censored. Several of my letters were intercepted and sent back to the sender. One of my friends was stricken by a disease but it was many days after when he was finally given medical attention.

On March 30 I received a warrant and complaint and told me I was to have a trial. Next day at 4:30 P.M. I took my stand in court. What took place in court please refer to the records sent here from Tule Lake. Mr. Flenmings was acting judge in place of Mr. Coverly, project director. Mr. O'Brien was defense attorney for WRA. I'd like you to know that I didn't have anyone to consult for my defense (Mr. Tsuda was interpreter). I pleaded guilty to count 1 and not guilty to count 2. Then the judge



pronounced sentence of 90 days and set the date for hearing on count 2. In the course of the hearing I was not given a chance to defend myself. It can hardly be called a hearing; but it was only a matter of communicating a sentence.

8:50 P.M. of the same day we were crowded into a closed truck and padlocked. Without giving us any information as to our destination the truck sped until 1:30 A.M. next morning with only one stop. It was a cold cold night with neither a blanket nor sitting space. We were not told the nature of the trip so we were not prepared. Even after we arrived at a small train depot we were not allowed to get into a warm place, despite our repeated request. We were disposed to such a condition for more than 5 hrs. On the morning of April 2 we finally arrived at our destination., Moab Isolation Camp, Utah.

Until I received a copy of Tulean Dispatch dated April 3, I believed that I would be able to return to Tule Lake after serving the 90 days sentence. But in the Dispatch it was stated that Mr. Coverly dismissed all principal charges against us on the project, but we were sent here by Mr. Myer's order because he considered that we were too dangerous for the security of the project.

The 90 days sentence has been served out long before this. 6 months have almost past since leaving the Tule Lake project and I am very anxious to be with my family. Please have my case clarified at your earliest possible moment.

#### History of Frank S. Marubashi

Name: Frank Saburo Marubashi

Family No. 27139A, Born July 19, 1920, Colusa, Colusa County, Calif.

Education: Grammar School, East Gridley Grammar High School,  
Gridley, California. High School Union High  
12 years, Graduated  
McSweeny Trade School Auto and Diesel Kansas  
City, Missouri, Graduated with diploma

Occupation before evacuation: Truck gardener and rancher  
15 years in vicinity of East Gridley.

Education in Japan: None. Visited Japan with parents in 1926. Parents return to America soon after. Returned to United States when Mother came back to Japan to take us back. Naturally no military training. Prior to 1924 persons born before this date automatically held dual citizenship. Through no fault of mine I am dual citizen.

Evacuation of Japanese Aliens and American Citizens alike  
On July 10, 1942 I entered Tule Lake War Relocation Center. Since then my history has no important events.



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME:	Masumoto, Kazuto	FAMILY NO.	37306
AGE:	23	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D.	4/2/43 at Moab, Utah	SOCIAL STATUS:	Single
	transferred 4/27/43 to Leupp, Ariz.	MILITARY SERVICE:	None
RACE:	Japanese	RELIGION:	Buddhist
NATIVITY:	American	OCCUPATION:	Farmer - student
EDUCATION:		CITIZENSHIP:	United States
	(a) Japan: 3 yrs. High School		( dual )
	Kumamoto, Japan		
	(b) United States: Graduate grammar		
	school, Delano, Calif.		

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Masumoto was arrested on February 28, 1943 and taken to the Klamath Falls jail and after a few days was transferred to a C.C.C. camp situated near the Tule Lake Center. He was charged with the following:

1. Refusing to register.
2. Conspiring to impede the registration.

He was arraigned before Paul Fleming on March 31, 1943, pleading guilty to count #1 and not guilty to count #2. He was sentenced to ninety days in an isolation camp and credit was given for the time already served. April 16, 1943 was set as the day for a hearing on count #2.

In an interview at Leupp he stated that he did not understand what the registration was all about and that he refused to sign for the same reason that he would refuse to sign any paper unless he knew what he was signing.



#### PERSONAL HISTORY

Masumoto was born in Sunnyside, Utah on January 6, 1920. At the age of seven he was taken to Kumamoto, Japan where he remained for ten years completing three years of high school.

He returned to this country in 1937 and settled in Delano, California graduating from grammar school in 1939. He attended McKinley High School in Berkeley for six months and Delano High School for about a year and a half as a special student.

He has an older brother presently residing in Tule Lake and his parents, two brothers, and two sisters are in Japan.

Although he has not signed for expatriation, he wants to go to Tule Lake and to Japan.

#### INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Masumoto arrived at Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943 and has been steadily employed as head cook since that time. He has done an excellent job, thereby contributing considerably in bolstering the morale of the evacuee population.

He has not exhibited any anti-social tendencies in this center nor has he attempted to play the role of leader in any camp agitation or grievances.

His release from this center to Tule Lake is recommended.

F.S. Frederick  
Chief of Internal Security

November 6, 1943



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Morishige, Mamoru	FAMILY NO. 24381
AGE: 34	IDENT. NO.
DATE REC'D. April 2, 1943 at Moab transferred to Leupp April 27, 1943.	SOCIAL STATUS: Married
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE: None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION: Buddhist
EDUCATION: (a) Japan: 7 yrs. grammar school Kawashimo, Japan	OCCUPATION: Farmer, vegetable packer, carpenter
(b) United States: None	CITIZENSHIP: United States

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Morishige was sent to Moab Isolation Center for refusing to register at Tule Lake. He was arrested on March 2, 1943, taken to the Tule Lake Isolation Center, given a hearing on March 31 and pleaded "Guilty" to the charge of having refused to register. He was sentenced to sixty days, the sentence starting from the day of his arrest or March 2, 1943. He was sent to Moab arriving there on April 2, 1943. When Moab was abandoned he was transferred to Leupp arriving there on April 27, 1943.

In explaining his refusal to register, Morishige states that because of the general confusion regarding registration he did not know what to do and decided to refuse to register until he had made up his mind. He points out that he did not want to go back to Japan except to visit and that if he did so desire he would have signed for repatriation. When registration was conducted at Leupp he signed questions 27 and 28 in the affirmative.

## PERSONAL HISTORY

Morishige was born November 26, 1908 on the island of Kawaii, town of Kekaha, Hawaiian Islands. At the age of two he was taken to Japan by an older sister and was adopted by a family whose name he now uses. His original name was Mamoru Sagami. He lived with this family until he was 21 and was educated through 7 years of grammar school in Kawashimo, Japan. He quit school in 1922 and became an apprentice carpenter remaining at this work for seven years. He was married in 1928 and the following year returned to Honolulu, Hawaii where he remained for one year. In 1930 he came to the mainland and located in Watsonville, California. From this time until the evacuation he was employed as a vegetable and fruit packer and divided his time between Watsonville and New Castle depending upon the season.



INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Morishige arrived in Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943 and was later transferred to Leupp, Arizona when Moab was abandoned. Quiet and steady by nature, Morishige's adjustment was practically automatic. He minds his own business and gets along well with everyone. His work record is excellent.

Out of the group of fifteen boys who arrived with Morishige, there are only two who did not cling to their original convictions of refusing to register. Morishige answered questions 27 and 28 in the affirmative.

Morishige is married and has two children. Although his wife and children are in Japan, Morishige states that he does not care to return to the old country except to visit.

It is now over six months since he was arrested and he is considered eligible for consideration for release. He hopes to be transferred to Poston where he has friends.

His release is recommended without reservation.

F.S. Frederick  
Chief of Internal Security

September 7, 1943



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Sasaki, Kazuo Stanley	FAMILY NO.	38593
AGE: 27	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D. Apr. 2, 1943 at Moab, Utah transferred to Leupp, Ariz. April 27 '43	SOCIAL STATUS:	Single
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE:	None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION:	Buddhist
EDUCATION	OCCUPATION:	Farmer
(a) Japan: Graduate Hiroshima City Commercial High School	CITIZENSHIP:	United States
(b) United States: 3 yrs. Special Student at Central House, Butte County, California		

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Sasaki was arrested on March 5, 1943 and was detained in the Tule Lake Isolation Camp until March 31, 1943 at which time he was given a hearing and sentenced to 60 days for refusing to register. According to the copy of the testimony and proceedings conducted at this hearing, it does not appear that he pleaded guilty to this charge. As a matter of fact, he pleaded not guilty to the charge and qualified the plea by stating his reasons. He claimed that he was of the belief that he was not required to register since he had already applied for repatriation. It is the writer's opinion that the court was in error for assuming that an admission to the commission of an unlawful act is the equivalent of a plea of guilty. There is no evidence in this testimony to indicate the presence of the element of intent to commit a crime or that he wilfully and knowingly committed an unlawful act. If, as he claims, he had previously applied for repatriation, his refusal to register might be considered proper and in order.

The opinions expressed above are based on an analysis of the testimony recorded at the hearing held in Tule Lake on March 31, 1943.



### PERSONAL HISTORY

Sasaki was born April 5, 1916 in Marysville, California. He completed three years of grammar school and was taken to Hiroshima, Japan when he was nine years old. Graduating from Hiroshima City Commercial High School in 1936, he returned to the United States and resided with his parents in Marysville, California. He attended the Central House School, Butte County, California as a special student for three years and assisted his folks in the operation of their farm until the evacuation.

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### INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Sasaki arrived in Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943 and was transferred to the Leupp Center when Moab was abandoned.

His adjustment has been very satisfactory and he is one of the best behaved boys residing at Leupp.

As indicated in his Legal History, he is clearly a case for Tule Lake and his transfer from Leupp to Tule Lake is recommended without reservation.

F.S. Frederick  
Chief of Internal Security

September 21, 1943



Kazuo Sasaki

## History of my registration case at Tule Lake Project

In Tule Lake at this registration we were represented by 4 army officers. The officers in turn gather us in project mess hall and explained to us the purpose of this special selective service registration for Japanese ancestry only. At the gathering the officer told us plainly that this was army order and its compulsory. And also told us if we don't register it means 20 years in jail and \$15,000 dollars fine.

Then following day I was made known that person that repatriated to Japan or wanted to apply for repatriation didn't have to register. Before the war my father and I was planning to join the family in Japan. Unfortunately, the war broke out and I had no choice but signed for repatriation to Japan on Sept. of 1942 at Tule Lake. Since this registration too many repatriationer applied so it was made known from administration office that repatriation was halted by Washington, D.C. at this time. But my status shouldn't effect since I have done mine before this.

On March 5th of 1943 I had notice from administration to appear at the office. I have appeared on above day at the office and was asked by Sargant Tukahara if Im going to register. I have explained to him of the above case and demand further explanation. He did not attempt to explain to me but merely said if you refuse to register I will be sent to jail and serve 20 years and also fined \$15,000. I had no choice without complete explanation so I refused to register. Then I were loaded on waiting truck and was taken to isolation camp near by without warrant paper.

At the isolation camp I was put to work on next day as compulsory worker. As days goes by we were told those whom didn't work wouldn't be fed, nevertheless they got feed just the same.

Then WRA lawyer came from San Francisco and started to question us again. I was called and asked why I refused. I have told him before entering the camp I have registered on draft and no use of registering again. Further more I have asked army representative to explain me of further detail which they refused to do so. Also I have repatriated to Japan so I thought my case is closed. Then San Francisco lawyer in turn told me this wasn't no army order from beginning. If that the case I would like to know why WRA in Tule Lake didnt come out manly instead of using army name. At present my feeling are hurt and could not change my mind so easily like partsof machinery.

On 31st of March I had a trial at the project. I had no lawyer to represent me since they said it wasn't necessary. The trial itself was rushed in hurry and everything were fixed to one sided. I had no choice so plead guilty on only one charge. The judge in turn sentence me 60 days in any designate WRA place and told me I could return to Tule Lake after serving my sentence. I was rushed off after the trial and was loaded in waiting truck and started a journey to unknown place.



History of my registration case at Tule Lake Project

After traveling long hours we reached a station called Doyle California. Then we were ordered not to speak in Japanese since they have no protection for us. We waited and waited awake on cold wintry night while guards slept in warm station. Then early morning guard came up and told us we were going to have warm breakfast and took us in town. Instead of breakfast he drilled us in manner of military and g hungry we all board the train, filled with army and some navys. One 24 hours ride we were only feed twice furthermore our guards were drunk all the way and almost had a trouble with soldiers.

Few day after reaching Moab Utah it was made known in Tulean Dispatch that all our outstanding charged dismissed by director, Mr. Coverley. My time have expire long ago and I would like you to clarify my status. I am very anxious to join my aged father aged 70 in Tule Lake at earliest time.

Kazuo Sasaki  
age 27 Born April 5, 1916, Yaba City Calif.  
Family #38593A Sutter County

Went to Japan at age of 9 with the parents and stayed with mother and I went to school 11 years in Japan. Hiroshima  
3 years in America (Central House Butte County)  
Return to America in year of 1936, April. Had no training of military in either country.  
Dual citizen  
Worked as labor around Marysville, California.



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Takemoto, Hirome Ted	FAMILY NO.	28173
AGE: 22	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D. May 6, 1943	SOCIAL STATUS	Single
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE	None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION:	Presbyterian
EDUCATION	OCCUPATION	Student-houseboy
(a) Japan: Graduate Nichiu High Hiroshima, Japan	CITIZENSHIP	United States
(b) United States: Completed 2 yrs. High School- Sacramento, Calif.		

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## Legal History

Reference is made to the letter of Harvey M. Coverley, former project director at Tule Lake, addressed to Ray R. Best at Leupp regarding the behavior record of Ted Takemoto and dated May 10, 1943.

As stated in the above letter, Takemoto was charged and convicted of riot and received a six months sentence with the last three months suspended. The statement, "Because no physical injury was done to anyone, he and his associates were prosecuted on a charge of riot on March 2nd, etc." makes it appear that leniency was shown in this instance. One might rightly ask what would the charge have been if there had been any injury done? It is doubtful that he could have been charged with anything more serious than riot even if injury had been done to anyone.

Since Leupp is not classified as a penal colony, Takemoto's transfer here will, perhaps, not be considered as double jeopardy--punishing a man twice for the same crime. However, Takemoto himself feels that the sentence was excessive and regards every day that he spends here as punishment for this crime.

## Personal History

Takemoto was born in Fresno, California on July 18, 1921 and was taken to Japan by his parents while he was still an infant. He was educated through high school in Hiroshima, Japan and returned to this country immediately after graduation. Arriving in the United States in 1939, he resided with a married sister at Route #1, Fowler, California for about one year, working on his brother-in-law's



farm while attending school. He then went to Sacramento where he gained employment for a private family by the name of Twogood, 1215 Forty Third St. in that city. He remained with them for two years, completing two years of high school in Sacramento in the meanwhile. His job was terminated by his employer when the war broke out in December, 1941 for no reason of personal animosity on the part of the employer toward Takemoto. He quit school and got work as a waiter until the evacuation.

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#### INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Takemoto arrived at Leupp on May 6, 1943 and his conduct here since that time has been exemplary. He feels that an injustice has been done him in that the sentence imposed upon him was "too much" which implies that he felt discrimination against him merely because he was Japanese.

He is a good, quiet boy and it is hard to regard him as a person who would be a leader or a trouble-maker. He refused to sign regarding the loyalty questions, intimating strongly that he would have signed in the affirmative without hesitation had he been treated more fairly. He also points out that he has not asked for repatriation and hints that he still might answer "yes" after he is allowed to return to a normal center.

Pursuant to administrative instructions, Takemoto must go to Tule Lake if he is released from here and he has expressed a desire that this center is his preference. Takemoto is essentially a good boy and it is sincerely felt that keeping him much longer in this center will only expose him to the danger of infection from the less desirable element. While it is granted that his acts do come under the technical interpretation of riot, it is possible that this interpretation was, perhaps, a little too technical and that the punishment is a bit excessive as regards fitting the crime.

Takemoto's release and transfer to Tule Lake is recommended without reservation.

August 24, 1943

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Chief of Internal Security



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Takatsui, Kentaro	FAMILY NO. 11088
AGE: 27	IDENT. NO.
DATE REC'D. April 2, 1943 at Moab transferred to Leupp April 27, 1943	SOCIAL STATUS: Single
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE: None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION: Buddhist
EDUCATION	OCCUPATION: Student - hotel keeper
(a) Japan: 2 yrs. Buddhist Semin- ary School, Tokyo, Japan	CITIZENSHIP: United States
(b) United States: Graduate Broad- way High School, Seattle, Wash.	

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Takatsui was arrested on February 28, 1943 at Tule Lake and taken to the Klamath Falls jail in Oregon. He was detained there for one week and then transferred to the Isolation Camp at Tule Lake where he remained until the date of his hearing on March 30, 1943. He was charged with two counts:

1. Refusing to register
2. Conspiracy to impede the registration

He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to ninety days on each count, the sentence beginning on the date of his arrest on February 28, 1943.

On April 14, 1943, twelve days after his arrival at Moab, he was arrested and pleaded guilty to the charge of Unlawful Assembly. He was sentenced to three months and was paroled about a month later.

The sentences in both instances above have expired at this writing.

Attached to this sheet is Takatsui's account of his version of the Tule Lake registration and his refusal to register.



## THE FACTUAL CAUSES AND REASONS

### WHY I REFUSED TO REGISTER

by Kentaro Taketsui

When registration ensued in the Tule Lake Relocation Center, I was aiding registration by interpreting and filling out the registration forms (form 126A-form 134A) for the registrants. I was employed at the time under Miss Phillips in the high school, teaching history and art. Miss Phillips was one of the registrars, as were all school teachers, so I happened to be assisting her in the performance of the duties of a registrar.

A week had elapsed since the inception of registration but the number of evacuees appearing voluntarily for registration was negligible. Many were suspicious of the real intentions of the army or the W.R.A. There were rumors that spoke of soldiers forcing the evacuees into their jeeps and taking them to the administration building and making them register. There were whispered stories of how a nisei girl would be shipped away and required to work in a negro hospital if she signed "yes". There were conjectures about having our properties "frozen" by the government--that they would use our signed papers as a means to that end. That they would use our signed statements in any way they so desired. There were persons who definitely declared themselves that they had been "duped" by the W.R.A. That when they had registered "no"--found their "no" answers changed to "yes," when they appeared at the administration building to demand the return of their signed registration papers. They explained that they wanted their papers back because from the uncertain rumors circulating then, they had decided it was safer not to have signed "anything". Above all this confusion and dilemma an announcement printed on paper issued forth from the project director, Mr. Coverly. The announcement stated that if a father of an American citizen nisei should advise his son or daughter against registration--his punishment for such a crime would be twenty-years imprisonment and ten thousand dollars fine. The camp's reactions to this pungent declaration was similar to a lazy easy-going horse abruptly bitten by an enterprising bee. The residents assumed that any person who advised or conspired in a body or group against registration was also in the same category and liable to the same punishment.

About eight days after the commencement of registration there occurred an incident that many of us will not forget for a long time. An army of soldiers surrounded block 42 and at bayonet points, plus light machine guns, captured thirty-five boys of that block. I have heard about this occurrence from an eye-witness. Tears swelled my eyes as I heard his description of the heart rendering scene. Where little brothers and sisters clung tenaciously to their departing brothers, tearfully hysterical in their demand to wish to accompany them. Old men stood by helplessly, their eyes wet, dimmed, their lips hard pressed by angry teeth. Mothers pathetically waved farewells to boys whom they never expected to see again, their choked voices bade the boys "to take



care of themselves--good by". Some men raised their voices above the tumult of the crowd and shouted lusty "Banzais" to impart to the departing boys that they would not be forgotten. All the residents of the near-by blocks attracted by the commotion in block 42 massed there and witnessed this distressing sight. Those that saw this Commando style method of the army, hustling their prisoners into their trucks, were embittered with an impression that cannot easily be dismissed from their minds. As proof of this; Ward 5, which is the blocks adjacent to block 42, was nearly one-hundred per cent in its refusal to register. The other Wards in camp were not so well impressed so consequently they nearly all registered.

The reason the thirty-five boys were apprehended by the army was because the boys had signed a statement absolutely refusing to register. They had taken that signed statement to Mr. Coverly and presented him with it. They had caused no disturbance or violence while performing this act. They returned home safely that day and the army descended upon them the following night. As I look back now I think Mr. Coverly's predilection was to "throw a scare" into the populace and inclined to the belief that "fear of the consequences" would force the residents to register. Compared to the accomplishments of the other relocation centers, Mr. Coverly's methods resulted in a dismal failure of registration at Tule Lake.

These people had evacuated the Pacific coast peacefully and obediently because they were instructed by the defunct J.A.C.L. that to do so was to aid America in her war effort. Their beloved homes and livelihoods were swept away as if by a whirlwind tornado.

All my life, ever since I could remember, my father and mother worked, sweated and saved pennies so that our family could eat and have a roof over our heads. When they grew old with gray hair they were still working. They managed to own a small hotel with their life's work invested in it. I appreciated their loving endeavors on my behalf so I labored to help my aging parents in our hotel. Then suddenly came evacuation. I could not believe it would happen to us, until it actually came to the days before evacuating. Most of us sold our businesses and our household appliances for practically nothing, because we were pressed for time and there were so many of us that wanted to sell out. Our life's dreams and hopes evaporated overnight. We were transported to reception centers after being issued a number and a doctor's physical examination certificate. I felt as if I was being treated as an alien. Most of us were walking around in a daze those days. We thought it was some fantastic dream and kept hoping that we would wake up and discover that it was only a dream. It required us many days to become accustomed to the routine of restricted camp life and to the cold reality of things.

Among the foremost fundamental specifications of Occidental psychology are the words to the effect that the reason, emotions and actions are motivated by the effects of a persons environment.



Brother--behind barbed fences I assure you our reasons and acts were not exactly according to Hoyle. Living in a confined area day in and day out naturally tended to irritate a person's mind upon the slightest pretext. Crowded into limited quarters human nature begins to gasp for a wider space to breath in. A person eventually begins to find fault in others. They become sick and tired of viewing the self-same characters every day. The aloof and resentful attitudes of some of the W.R.A. personnel did not help relieve the emotional tension bubbling upwards hourly. Small and petty jealousies, personal enmities, misunderstandings between the W.R.A. and the evacuees, the heart rendering disappointments and disillusionments caused by evacuation and the harsh treatments encountered when behind barbed wire fence--all added up arithmetically. So when registration was instituted, the average mental make-up of the evacuee was: "don't trust the W.R.A." This is proved by the fact that in the first week of registration, even American educated niseis, excepting kibeis, did not register, when asked to do so voluntarily. Those that did so were in the negligible minority. They only started to register in huge scores when the W.R.A. commenced to call the registrants to the personnel recreation building, block by block, males on certain dates and females on specified dates.

After all their hardships, the populace of Tule Lake was stirred with indignation at the army's unnecessary method of apprehending the boys of block 42. Needless to say, I was aggravated too. I decided not to register. If they were treating those boys like prisoners for refusing to register--then I would join them too. With deep conviction in the righteousness of my cause and with a firm reliance on the protection of divine providence, I acted against registration. To the humanity living in a normal American community, the beliefs and actions of the evacuees in the centers may sound and appear mediocre but to us, the residents of the centers--our hopes, our misfortunes, our troubles appear immense because we are part of its life and existence. Those thirty-five boys taken at bayonet points were not just a couple of dead-end kids--they were a symbol of our resentment against oppression. The suppressed emotional bitterness, that was boiling upwards and had to have an outlet and this was it. Many Japanese young men who in normal life would have been ashamed at their own rash actions took the opportunity to bash a few heads in. It did not matter whether they had proof or not--just a hearsay was enough. Inus, dogs or suspected stool pigeons, were attacked hither and yon. The once quiet camp of Tule Lake was thrown into a pandemonium. I heard that even a minister was assaulted. Oh well, I guess in these days of ammunition passing preachers anything can happen.

The supreme court may pronounce the military evacuation of the Japanese from the Pacific coast legal, but there are some things that are not, cannot be ably controlled by judicial connivances and that is human emotions and reason.

My brother had volunteered and enlisted in the American army almost a year before Pearl Harbor. For my brother's sake and because



America is my birthplace, I harbor no ill will towards this country. I am classified as a Kibei and labelled a pro-Axis. It is strange indeed to be gazed upon with suspicion when I am not in a position to do harm. I have never published propaganda, nor organized a "Bund" or spoken against the government of the United States while living in Seattle those many years. My father, mother and sister are now residing in Japan that is the basic reason why I will not fire a gun against Japan. ~~Japanxxxxxxx~~ Of a certainty I will gladly work for America on the production front but I will not bear arms against my father's country. I will not bear arms against America either.

To some of those W.R.A. officials, who with their resentful attitudes toward the evacuees, and who added and made the aggravated situation worse, I would like to leave a joke that will be helpful to them in the future when they have to deal with human beings.

Lum and Abner upon their first visit to the big city in an old car, stop at a garage for gas. Lum calls out, "Hey, is thar ennyone hereabouts?" The attendant appears and with a glance at their jalopy sneers and grunts, "Whadda ya want?" Lum and Abner stare at each other dejected. Lum says, "Gorsh he sounds like a man with a guv'ment job, don't he?"

Strange that the words of Jefferson, should intone on the border of treason to an America at war. But I wish to close with an excerpt from Thomas Jefferson's most vibrant words, because it fully expresses my ideals and sentiment. In his time his minority was the oppressed minority--in my day, the minority I belong to is in a similar circumstances.

"I have sworn on the altar of God Eternal, hostility to every form of tyranny over the mind of man.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights; among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

#### Post Script:

I did not go in detail about my experiences in the Klamath Falls Jail, the Tule Lake Isolation Camp or Leupp Isolation Camp because all I wanted to set forth here is my reason for refusing to register. I realize I am putting the blame of all camp disturbances on the W.R.A. but I will be ready at all times to take any rebukes coming to me if the W.R.A. thinks I do so unjustly. I do not like to beat around the bush, I call a spade a spade.



A GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE "REGISTRATION INCIDENT" AT TULE LAKE  
by Kentaro Taketsui

When the accompanying problems adjacent to Registration first appeared in Tule Lake it did not signify to the residents that it was in any way a W.R.A. ordinance. Six army sergeants and a gray haired lieutenant brought the registration papers "direct from Washington" so they stated when the army officers called a general meeting among the evacuees in camp--explaining the whys and wherefores of the said registration. They informed us that this registration was directed from the Federal Man Power Commission in Washington. As registration day opened on February 17, 1943 the residents did not respond to their request s that the evacuees register voluntarily.

Several days following the commencement of registration, the number of registrants appearing to register was negligible. Thereupon the project director, Mr. Coverly, issued a statement on February 19th, especially printed on a white sheet of paper. This statement accompanied the Tule Lake camp newspaper upon its delivery. It warned the fathers of niseis "not to advise" their American citizen sons or daughters against registration. The punishment for such a crime was twenty years imprisonment and ten thousand dollars fine. When such a vigorous allegation was discharged by a project director that was aloof and miscomprehended by the populace, the result was more conjecture on top of misunderstanding.

On February 20th a group of thirty-five young boys, all residents of block 42, signed their names fo a statement that they had devised themselves, manifesting themselves against registration and absolutely refusing to register. The thirty-five boys marched into the administration building and presented the project director with the above statement. As far as is known, there was no violent scenes, no disorder and the thirty-five boys returned to their respective residences without incident that day. Those boys might have been trying to test the statement and threat issued by Mr. Coverly warning their fathers not to confer advice to their sons against registration. Perhaps the boys thought it was a "bluff". Perhaps Mr. Coverly devised to impress or rather "throw a scare" into the evacuees and abruptly called out the army.

Among memories of Tule Lake, the night of Feb. 21st will long be remembered by the residents. The above mentioned thirty-five young boys, the majority of them aged seventeen, eighteen years were taken to Alturas County Jail at the point of bayonets. They were apprehended by an army of soldiers equipped with light machine guns, tear gas bombs and fixed bayonets. The prisoners were all residents of block 42. The Commando equipped soldiers had surrounded that block and without much resistance had captured the thirty-five boys.

When all this armed might was being displayed there, the residents of the near-by blocks all gathered around and witnessed many pathetic, tearful scenes. They observed the capture of American-citizen niseis



A General Summary of the "Registration Incident" at Tule Lake - page 2.

by American soldiers. It might be specified here that the majority of those thirty-five prisoners were American educated niseis, there were only three Kibei among them.

These people had evacuated from the Pacific coast peacefully and obediently because they were told by the so called J.A.C.L. that to do so was to aid America in her war effort. All their livelihoods, their treasured homes, their fortunes were sacrificed so that America might be benefitted. All those men, women and children, brothers and sisters that looked on that night of Feb. 21st will not forget the sight. After being forced to live behind barbed wire fences for nearly a year, this act of unnecessary sword-rattling was insult upon injury. Their faith in Democracy's so labelled "with liberty and justice for all" was beginning to waver a little before their very eyes. There is a limit to human endurance, Mankind will concede that. Many cried as they waved farewells to boys that they expected never to see again. Many little kid brothers and sisters clung to their elder brothers--sobbing and hysterically screaming that they wanted to go with them. Soldiers tore them apart as they were arrayed into the awaiting trucks. Countless people shouted "Banzais" to express to the departing young boys that they will not be forgotten.

That night and the nights and days following, the once peaceful camp at Tule Lake was a bedlam of activities and commotion. Tule Lake was a scene of numbers of mob violence, convulsive meetings and the likes of a town in Ireland after an election day.

To the Japanese mind--the army's provocation was an indignity and a challenge. So they accepted the challenge and all those having conviction and courage had flatly refused to register, taking the similar stand as the thirty-five young boy prisoners of block 42.

So it came to pass that because of a blind personnel staff at the Tule Lake Relocation Center, and a small error that could have been avoided--the Registration at Tule Lake was a dismal frustrated failure, compared to the accomplishments of the other relocation centers.

The main point of the whole disturbance and unrest that swept Tule Lake in those hectic days was the high-handed method employed by the project director in apprehending those young boys from block 42. Thereafter the issue and question of registration became of secondary importance.



## PERSONAL HISTORY

Takatsui was born November 10, 1915 in Mukilteo, Washington. He completed the fifth grade at Rose Hill Grammar School at the age of ten and was taken to Wakayama, Japan by his parents. He received two years of elementary school while in Wakayama and returned to Seattle, Washington where he entered the sixth grade in the Bailey - Gatzert Grammar School, in 1937. He went to Japan in 1938 with his sister who was ill. He attended the Buddhist Seminary for over a year and returned to this country shortly after the death of his sister. In 1940 he traveled to Tokyo once more and completed two years in the Buddhist Seminary in that city. Returning to this country in February, 1941, he operated a hotel in Seattle owned by his father and was thus employed at the time of the evacuation.

Takatsui arrived with fourteen other boys from Tule Lake who were sent to the Isolation Center at Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943. He appeared to be quite upset over the registration in general and his own fate as the result of it. There was a lot of talk about discrimination, rights of citizens, the legality of the registration, etc.

His arrival at this time could be considered untimely and unfortunate from his point of view. The older members of the Isolation Center had reached a point where they were in the position of having to make a last stand. That is to say, some of the older members were in this position and not all of them. A few of the older residents attempted to set themselves up as leaders employing strong-arm tactics. A systematic and gradual strangulation of their power had been successfully instituted by the administration and they found themselves without followers. The arrival of this new group bolstered their hopes and they immediately set out to convert the new arrivals to their teachings. Being fairly eloquent and convincing talkers, they enjoyed much success mainly because of the susceptibility of the new group who felt that they were being persecuted, etc.

Takatsui was convinced that they were all in the same boat and went over to the side of the agitators. Soon after his arrest for Unlawful Assembly he realized that he had been sold a piece of goods and since that time has divorced himself completely from this element.

His conduct since his release from the project jail has been most satisfactory and it is felt that he has profited considerably from his stay in Moab and Leupp.

He has served his full time for all offenses and desires to be sent to Tule Lake. He has still refused to register.

Release in this case is recommended.

September 9, 1943

F.S. Frederick  
Chief of Internal Security



A GENERAL SUMMARY OF THE "REGISTRATION INCIDENT" AT TULE LAKE  
by Kentaro Taketsui

When the accompanying problems adjacent to Registration first appeared in Tule Lake it did not signify to the residents that it was in any way a W.R.A. ordinance. Six army sergeants and a gray haired lieutenant brought the registration papers "direct from Washington" so they stated when the army officers called a general meeting among the evacuees in camp--explaining the whys and wherefores of the said registration. They informed us that this registration was directed from the Federal Man Power Commission in Washington. As registration day opened on February 17, 1943 the residents did not respond to their request s that the evacuees register voluntarily.

Several days following the commencement of registration, the number of registrants appearing to register was negligible. Thereupon the project director, Mr. Coverly, issued a statement on February 19th, especially printed on a white sheet of paper. This statement accompanied the Tule Lake camp newspaper upon its delivery. It warned the fathers of niseis "not to advise" their American citizen sons or daughters against registration. The punishment for such a crime was twenty years imprisonment and ten thousand dollars fine. When such a vigorous allegation was discharged by a project director that was aloof and miscomprehended by the populace, the result was more conjecture on top of misunderstanding.

On February 20th a group of thirty-five young boys, all residents of block 42, signed their names to a statement that they had devised themselves, manifesting themselves against registration and absolutely refusing to register. The thirty-five boys marched into the administration building and presented the project director with the above statement. As far as is known, there was no violent scenes, no disorder and the thirty-five boys returned to their respective residences without incident that day. Those boys might have been trying to test the statement and threat issued by Mr. Coverly warning their fathers not to confer advice to their sons against registration. Perhaps the boys thought it was a "bluff". Perhaps Mr. Coverly devised to impress or rather "throw a scare" into the evacuees and abruptly called out the army.

Among memories of Tule Lake, the night of Feb. 21st will long be remembered by the residents. The above mentioned thirty-five young boys, the majority of them aged seventeen, eighteen years were taken to Alturas County Jail at the point of bayonets. They were apprehended by an army of soldiers equipped with light machine guns, tear gas bombs and fixed bayonets. The prisoners were all residents of block 42. The Commando equipped soldiers had surrounded that block and without much resistance had captured the thirty-five boys.

When all this armed might was being displayed there, the residents of the near-by blocks all gathered around and witnessed many pathetic, tearful scenes. They observed the capture of American-citizen niseis



A General Summary of the "Registration Incident" at Tule Lake - page 2.

by American soldiers. It might be specified here that the majority of those thirty-five prisoners were American educated niseis, there were only three Kibei among them.

These people had evacuated from the Pacific coast peacefully and obediently because they were told by the so called J.A.C.L. that to do so was to aid America in her war effort. All their livelihoods, their treasured homes, their fortunes were sacrificed so that America might be benefitted. All those men, women and children, brothers and sisters that looked on that night of Feb. 21st will not forget the sight. After being forced to live behind barbed wire fences for nearly a year, this act of unnecessary sword-rattling was insult upon injury. Their faith in Democracy's so labelled "with liberty and justice for all" was beginning to waver a little before their very eyes. There is a limit to human endurance, Mankind will concede that. Many cried as they waved farewells to boys that they expected never to see again. Many little kid brothers and sisters clung to their elder brothers--sobbing and hysterically screaming that they wanted to go with them. Soldiers tore them apart as they were arrayed into the awaiting trucks. Countless people shouted "Banzais" to express to the departing young boys that they will not be forgotten.

That night and the nights and days following, the once peaceful camp at Tule Lake was a bedlam of activities and commotion. Tule Lake was a scene of numbers of mob violence, convulsive meetings and the likes of a town in Ireland after an election day.

To the Japanese mind--the army's provocation was an indignity and a challenge. So they accepted the challenge and all those having conviction and courage had flatly refused to register, taking the similar stand as the thirty-five young boy prisoners of block 42.

So it came to pass that because of a blind personnel staff at the Tule Lake Relocation Center, and a small error that could have been avoided--the Registration at Tule Lake was a dismal frustrated failure, compared to the accomplishments of the other relocation centers.

The main point of the whole disturbance and unrest that swept Tule Lake in those hectic days was the high-handed method employed by the project director in apprehending those young boys from block 42. Thereafter the issue and question of registration became of secondary importance.



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Takemoto, Hirome Ted	FAMILY NO.	28173
AGE: 22	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D. May 6, 1943	SOCIAL STATUS	Single
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE	None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION:	Presbyterian
EDUCATION	OCCUPATION	Student-houseboy
(a) Japan: Graduate Nichiu High Hiroshima, Japan	CITIZENSHIP	United States
(b) United States: Completed 2 yrs. High School- Sacramento, Calif.		

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## Legal History

Reference is made to the letter of Harvey M. Coverley, former project director at Tule Lake, addressed to Ray R. Best at Leupp regarding the behavior record of Ted Takemoto and dated May 10, 1943.

As stated in the above letter, Takemoto was charged and convicted of riot and received a six months sentence with the last three months suspended. The statement, "Because no physical injury was done to anyone, he and his associates were prosecuted on a charge of riot on March 2nd, etc." makes it appear that leniency was shown in this instance. One might rightly ask what would the charge have been if there had been any injury done? It is doubtful that he could have been charged with anything more serious than riot even if injury had been done to anyone.

Since Leupp is not classified as a penal colony, Takemoto's transfer here will, perhaps, not be considered as double jeopardy--punishing a man twice for the same crime. However, Takemoto himself feels that the sentence was excessive and regards every day that he spends here as punishment for this crime.

## Personal History

Takemoto was born in Fresno, California on July 18, 1921 and was taken to Japan by his parents while he was still an infant. He was educated through high school in Hiroshima, Japan and returned to this country immediately after graduation. Arriving in the United States in 1939, he resided with a married sister at Route #1, Fowler, California for about one year, working on his brother-in-law's



farm while attending school. He then went to Sacramento where he gained employment for a private family by the name of Twogood, 1215 Forty Third St. in that city. He remained with them for two years, completing two years of high school in Sacramento in the meanwhile. His job was terminated by his employer when the war broke out in December, 1941 for no reason of personal animosity on the part of the employer toward Takemoto. He quit school and got work as a waiter until the evacuation.

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#### INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Takemoto arrived at Leupp on May 6, 1943 and his conduct here since that time has been exemplary. He feels that an injustice has been done him in that the sentence imposed upon him was "too much" which implies that he felt discrimination against him merely because he was Japanese.

He is a good, quiet boy and it is hard to regard him as a person who would be a leader or a trouble-maker. He refused to sign regarding the loyalty questions, intimating strongly that he would have signed in the affirmative without hesitation had he been treated more fairly. He also points out that he has not asked for repatriation and hints that he still might answer "yes" after he is allowed to return to a normal center.

Pursuant to administrative instructions, Takemoto must go to Tule Lake if he is released from here and he has expressed a desire that this center is his preference. Takemoto is essentially a good boy and it is sincerely felt that keeping him much longer in this center will only expose him to the danger of infection from the less desirable element. While it is granted that his acts do come under the technical interpretation of riot, it is possible that this interpretation was, perhaps, a little too technical and that the punishment is a bit excessive as regards fitting the crime.

Takemoto's release and transfer to Tule Lake is recommended without reservation.

August 24, 1943

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Chief of Internal Security



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Tanimoto, Masashi Mike	FAMILY NO. 27175
AGE: 29	IDENT. NO.
DATE REC'D. Apr. 2, 1943 at Moab, Utah transferred to Leupp on Apr. 27, 1943	SOCIAL STATUS: Single
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE: None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION: Buddhist
EDUCATION	OCCUPATION: Farmer
(a) Japan: 3 yrs. grammar school Hirashima, Japan	CITIZENSHIP: United States (not dual)
(b) United States: Graduate Woodrow Wilson Grammar School, Gridley, Cal.	

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## LEGAL HISTORY

Tanimoto was charged, according to the Tule Lake reports, with the following:

1. Refusing to register.
2. Conspiring to impede the registration.

An examination of the questions and answers recorded at his arraignment before Mr. Paul Fleming on March 31, 1943 reveal that at the beginning of the hearing Tanimoto pleaded "Not Guilty" to both counts but subsequently changed this plea to "Guilty" on count number one and "Not Guilty" on count number two.

Regarding count #1 it appears that he had a sound reason for refusing to register since he had been told by a representative of the W.R.A. that he did not need to register if he signed for repatriation. The element of intent to commit a crime is questionable if not lacking entirely in this instance. The fact that he changed his plea to NOT GUILTY appears to have been brought about by clever maneuvering on the part of the prosecution.

Since the defendant pleaded "Not Guilty" to count #2 and has never been tried or convicted on this count, it will not be discussed at this time.

The manner in which he answered the questions at the arraignment pertaining to boys who were drafted would indicate that he regarded the draft as a right rather than a duty - a right that had been denied him.



LEGAL HISTORY  
( continued)

In any event, information has been received at this center that Mr. Coverley, Project Director at Tule Lake, has commuted the sentence of Tanimoto to the time spent by him in the Alturas Jail and the Isolation Camp at Tule Lake which should remove any legal reasons for further detention of Tanimoto at Leupp.

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PERSONAL HISTORY

Tanimoto was born in Sacramento County, California on August 14, 1914. At the age of four, he was taken to Japan by his parents and completed three years of elementary school in Hirashima, Japan. He returned to this country in 1922 and resided with his parents on a ranch about a mile outside of Gridley, California. He attended the Woodrow Wilson Grammar School at Gridley and when graduated received an award given by the American Legion to students who excelled in or were outstanding in the following:

1. Honesty
2. Leadership
3. Sportsmanship
4. Scholastic Attainment
5. Does not remember what this was.

Because of the depression he was unable to continue his schooling and has operated his ranch near Gridley from that time to the time of the evacuation.

Tanimoto possesses good physical and mental health and appears normal in every respect.

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INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Tanimoto arrived at Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943 and his adjustment was immediate. He has been steadily employed and his general behavior has been excellent.

He has been deeply hurt by the evacuation and feels that such discrimination is contrary to all the principles for which this country stands. When he received his draft classification after he voluntarily moved into the relocation center and found that he had been reclassified from 2A to 4C, this was almost more than he could take. According to Tanimoto, 4C is the classification that is given to enemy aliens and that he is not even a dual citizen. There is no question in the mind of the writer that this hurt is genuine and not simulated in any way.

A close study of Tanimoto indicates strongly that there is a great conflict going on within himself. The constant reminders in the form of wire fences, guard towers, separation from his family, etc. keep the old



INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY  
( continued )

wounds inflamed. On the other hand, his teachings and beliefs for the many years prior to the evacuation wield a strong influence in his mind. That he was a loyal American citizen prior to the evacuation is very evident. Here is a boy who believed in America and its democratic principles to the point of being nearly idealistic about it and to have those ideals shattered hurts a boy of this type much deeper than the average run of the mill. In spite of himself, he is still a loyal American and would like to sign the registration in the affirmative but, according to the Japanese code, he has taken a stand on this issue and must follow through or lose the respect of his fellow men. He has a brother now serving in the United States Army.

Tanimoto hopes to return to Tule Lake to be with his parents. His father is 65 and in very poor health because of a heart condition. His mother, aged 60, is also sickly. He would like to be reunited with them in their last days.

His release from Leupp to any center or any other place is recommended without reservation.

Chief of Internal Security

Aug. 6, 1943



## LEUPP RELOCATION CENTER

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NAME: Yamato, Hoshio	FAMILY NO.	27158
AGE: 28	IDENT. NO.	
DATE REC'D. Apr. 2, 1943 at Moab, Utah transferred to Leupp on Apr. 27, 1943	SOCIAL STATUS:	Married
RACE: Japanese	MILITARY SERVICE:	None
NATIVITY: American	RELIGION:	Methodist
EDUCATION	OCCUPATION:	Manager retail grocery
(a) Japan: graduate Commercial School Fukuoka, Japan	CITIZENSHIP:	United States (not dual)
(b) United States: graduate Oakland Technical High School, Oakland, Cal.		

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## LEGAL HISTORY

According to Yamato, he was arrested in his home at 2:15 A.M. on February 28, 1943. The arrest was made by a Mr. Mortimer Cook and two other Caucasians. He was not told that he was under arrest but was informed that the project director wanted to talk to him. No warrant was served at this time. He was taken directly to the Klamath Falls jail situated across the state line in Oregon. Later on the same day he was questioned by two F.B.I. agents and asked to sign a written statement. He refused to sign. He, with other evacuees, was held in this jail until March 8, 1943 at which time they were taken to the Isolation Camp at Tule Lake.

They reported at the Isolation Camp office, registered their names, surrendered their pocket knives, assigned a number and were told that hereafter they would be referred to by this number rather than by their names, were issued dark blue coveralls with their number stamped on the front and back of the garment in white letters about three inches in height, and were told that they would have to start work the following day. Canvas cots, blankets, a pillow, sheets and pillow case were issued to them and they were assigned to quarters.

The following day they were put to work digging ditches and were told by the supervisors that they were war prisoners and would have to work without pay. Yamato told one of the supervisors that he didn't think he was a war prisoner and that he didn't come here to work from jail. He states that the supervisor became angry, recorded his name in a note book and told Yamato he was going to report this to the office. Following this, all the boys (some 110 of them) were told that those who did not work would not eat. Instructions were given to the mess crews



LEGAL HISTORY  
( continued )

not to feed the non-workers. Mamato said that he quit work along with several others and managed to eat in spite of this order. They did not, however, get clean sheets and pillow cases like the boys who did work.

They remained at the Isolation Camp for nearly a month and on March 30, 1943 a warrant was served on Yamato charging him with:

1. Refusing to register.

On March 31, 1943 he was arraigned before Mr. Paul Fleming and pleaded "Not Guilty" to count. Yamato states that he was not advised as to his legal rights. Trial in his case was set for April 16, 1943 at 2:00 P.M.

At about 9:00 P.M. after all the arraignments were completed, Yamato and fourteen other boys were put in an enclosed truck and the rear doors were padlocked from the outside. They assumed that they were to be returned to the Isolation Camp at Tule Lake. They were dressed in ordinary clothing such as a suit with no overcoat or other heavy clothing. At about 2:00 A.M. they stopped at a railroad station near the California-Nevada border and were allowed to get out of the truck. They were cold because of their inadequate clothing and the temperature on a thermometer registered 38 degrees above zero. They were told that they would remain there until a train came. The two Caucasian escorts instructed them to be as quiet as possible, that all conversation must be in English, and to remain in or near the truck. The escorts then went into the railroad station and slept by the stove.

Five hours later the train arrived and they proceeded to Salt Lake City before they were told that they were going to a place called Moab in Utah.

In the meantime, the sentences of all these boys were commuted by Mr. Coverley, Project Director at Tule Lake, and he maintained that further disposition of these cases was out of his hands since they were now under the jurisdiction of the Isolation Center authorities.

Yamato has never had a trial nor been convicted of anything at this writing. He states it is his opinion that he was removed from Tule Lake because of the letters he wrote his wife from the Isolation Camp at Tule Lake. These letters were censored and parts of his letters that were criticizing the WRA were obliterated. He states that he felt that it was his privilege to write to his wife informing her of the treatment he was receiving in the Isolation Camp and that he did criticize both Mr. Coverley and Mr. O'Brien, project attorney, in their Gestapo method or system of arrest and incarceration. He recalls that he called Mr. O'Brien a false arrest expert in one of his letters. He also criticized censoring of incoming mail that had been addressed through regular postal channels. His intention of enlisting the aid of the Lawyers Guild of the Civil Liberties Union was included in his letters to his wife. He feels that these accusations and criticisms of the WRA infuriated the



LEGAL HISTORY  
(continued )

officials at Tule Lake and resulted in his removal to Moab. He states that he regarded the whole procedure of arrest and incarceration as unconstitutional and un-American and felt that as a citizen of this country he was within his rights to protest against such treatment.

Yamato states that he did not refuse to register but merely failed to register until he understood clearly what it was all about. He points out that the City Council and the Planning Board themselves did not know what it was all about and were unable to explain to the people's satisfaction the reason for the registration. The members of both bodies mentioned above resigned because of the manner in which the registration was handled. He further states that he did not try to influence anyone as to how they should register for the simple reason that he, himself, did not know what to do at that time. Yamato states that he was only charged with refusing to register and was not charged with impeding the registration.

On June 12, 1943 Yamato was given the opportunity to register at Leupp and answered in the affirmative to both question #27 and #28.

Considering the manner of his arrest; the fact that he has never been convicted on any charge, together with the fact that all charges against him have been dropped by the Tule Lake authorities; and because he has been in jail, Isolation Camp, and Isolation Centers for over five months, Yamato is deemed eligible for consideration for release. The fact that thousands of other evacuees have refused to register in the various centers and have never been arrested should also be considered at this time. His protestations of the manner in which he was arrested and incarcerated might, by some people, be considered typical of any red-blooded American in similar circumstances.

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PERSONAL HISTORY

Yamato was born in Oakland, California on March 15, 1915. At the age of four he was taken to Japan by his father and left with his grandmother on the island of Fukuoka of the southwest coast of Japan proper. He was educated through the Iizuka Commercial School and upon graduation in 1931 returned to this country where he resided with his parents in Oakland, California.

He graduated from Oakland Technical High School in December, 1933 where he majored in business administration. Until 1935 he worked at odd jobs, including packing salmon for four months in Alaska. He was employed for about a year and a half with the Fujimoto Importer-Exporter Manufacturer concern at 246 Front St., San Francisco, California. From September 1936, he was employed as manager for the Friendly Food Store



PERSONAL HISTORY  
(continued)

on 2036 Market St., San Francisco and was employed in this capacity at the time of the evacuation.

He was married in 1938 and has one child.

Yamato is not a dual citizen and points with pride to the fact that he did not register his son with the Japanese government thereby making him a citizen of this country and this country only. Yamato considers himself as being 100% American and wants to rear his children as true citizens of this country.

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INSTITUTIONAL HISTORY

Yamato arrived in Moab, Utah on April 2, 1943 and his adjustment was immediate. He has been steadily employed since that time and now occupies a position of trust.

Shortly after his arrival, some trouble broke out in the center and Yamato was the only person in his group that refused to be influenced by the leaders and steadfastly stood his ground in the face of strong opposition.

He has cooperated with this administration at all times and his demeanor is deserving of the highest praise. He is honest, sincere, and a loyal American. He has signed question #27 and #28 in the affirmative and is most anxious to be reunited with his family and then hopes to be permanently relocated outside the relocation center.

Release of Yamato from this center is recommended with reservation.

Chief of Internal Security

August 7, 1943