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WAR DEPARTMENT

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Office of the Assistant Secretary
Washington, D. C.

April 17, 1942

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE WAR DEPARTMENT AND WAR RELOCATION
AUTHORITY

Preamble: The War Relocation Authority is an independent establishment created by Executive Order of the President, No. 9102 dated March 18, 1942, with a primary objective of relieving the military establishment of the burden of providing for the relocation of persons excluded from military commander acting pursuant to Executive Order of the President, No. 9066 dated February 19, 1942. The emphasis in all War Relocation Authority activities will be increasingly to alleviate the drain on military resources with regard to all phases of evacuation and relocation. The War Relocation Authority has agreed to prepare itself as rapidly as practicable to assume those burdens now imposed on the War Department respecting such activities and particularly in connection with Pacific Coast evacuation now in progress. Accordingly the following understanding is executed between the War Department and the War Relocation Authority to meet the present situation.

1. The evacuation of combat zones is a military necessity and when determined upon must not be retarded by resettlement and relocation. In other words, the timing of evacuation is a military function which War Relocation Authority will do all in its power to accomodate.

2. Assembly Centers are staging areas and necessary because of the time required to select relocation sites and to construct Relocation Centers (Reception Centers). Assembly Centers are constructed and will be supplied and operated by the War Department.

3. Relocation sites, upon which Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) are built, are to be selected by the War Relocation Authority, subject to War Department approval.

4. The acquisition, as distinguished from selection, of sites for Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) is a War Department function. Such acquisition will be made by the War Department upon the request of the War Relocation Authority. The War Relocation Authority will reimburse the War Department for the acquisition cost of relocation sites, or pay the cost in the first instance.

a. As a part of the acquisition procedure, respecting both private and public lands, the War Department, through an appropriate military commander, will advise the Chief Executive of the State concerned of the military necessity for the location of a relocation project within that State.

b. The War Relocation Authority has full responsibility for compilation of the necessary data and descriptions in connection with 3 and 4 above.

5. Construction of initial facilities at Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) will be accomplished by the War Department. This initial construction will include all facilities necessary to provide the minimum essentials of living, viz., shelter, hospital, mess, sanitary facilities, administration building, housing for relocation staff, post office, store houses, essential refrigeration equipment, and military police housing. (War Department construction will not include refinements such as schools, churches and other community planning adjuncts.) The placement and construction of military police housing will be subject to the approval of the appropriate military commander.

6. The War Department will procure and supply the initial equipment for Relocation Centers (Reception Centers), viz., kitchen equipment, minimum mess and barrack equipment, hospital equipment and ten days' supply of non-perishable subsistence based on the Relocation Center (Reception Center) evacuee capacity. From the date of opening, or the date on which the War Relocation Authority initiates the operation of any Relocation Center (Reception Center), as the case may be, the War Department will transfer accountability for all such equipment and property to the War Relocation Authority. The War Relocation Authority agrees to assume such accountability. Thereafter, the War Relocation Authority will maintain and replace all such equipment and property, including subsistence, and will procure whatever additional supplies, subsistence and equipment it may require. The War Department agrees that the War Relocation Authority may effect its procurement through War Department Agencies.

a. As to all routine procurement effected by the War Relocation Authority through War Department Agencies, said Authority agrees that it will transmit to the War Department a forecast of its requirements semi-annually in advance and that it will confirm in writing to the appropriate War Department Agency its actual requirements from time to time as the need for such procurement develops. The War Relocation Authority will take all possible and practicable steps to inform the War Department well in advance of its requirements.

7. After pending arrangements for existing Reception Centers are completed, the War Relocation Authority will operate Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) from the date of opening. This will include staffing, administration, project planning and complete operation and maintenance.

In undertaking such operations the War Relocation Authority will not retard completion of the evacuation process but will accomodate military requirements. It will be prepared to accept successive increments of evacuees as construction is completed and supplies and equipment are delivered. In each case the War Relocation Authority will provide a project manager who will be available to the War Department local construction representative for consultation as soon as a given project is approved for construction.

8. The War Department will provide for the transportation of evacuees to Assembly Centers and from Assembly Centers to Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) under appropriate military escort. The War Department, through the Western Defense Command, has arranged for the storage of household effects of evacuees through the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco. At War Department expense, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco has acquired warehouse space, provided civilian guards, and has arranged for inventories of goods stored by each evacuee. When evacuee goods are stored and the Federal Reserve Bank delivers inventory receipts to the War Relocation Authority, said Authority will accept such receipts from the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco and, upon such acceptance, said Authority assumes the responsibility now borne by the War Department for the warehousing program, including the assumption from the date of delivery of receipts, of payment of all costs. Thereafter, the disposition of such household effects and the transportation thereof to Relocation Centers, or elsewhere, will be the sole responsibility of the War Relocation Authority.

9. In the interest of the security of the evacuees relocation sites will be designated by the appropriate military commander or by the Secretary of War, as the case may be, as prohibited zones and military areas, and appropriate restrictions with respect to the rights of evacuees and others to enter, remain in, or leave such areas will be promulgated so that ingress and egress of all persons, including evacuees, will be subject to the control of the responsible Military Commander. Each relocation site will be under Military Police patrol and protection as determined by the War Department. Relocation Centers (Reception Centers) will have a minimum capacity of 5,000 evacuees (until otherwise agreed to) in order that the number of Military Police required for patrol and protection will be kept at a minimum.

10. It is understood that all commitments herein as relate to the use of War Department and/or War Relocation funds are subject to the approval of the Bureau of the Budget.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

By: M. S. Eisenhower /s/

WAR DEPARTMENT

By: J. J. McCloy /s/
Assistant Secretary of War

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MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING AS
TO FUNCTIONS OF MILITARY POLICE
UNITS AT THE RELOCATION CENTERS
AND AREAS ADMINISTERED BY THE
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

1. Purpose and scope of memorandum

It is the purpose of this memorandum to prescribe the functions of military police units at War Relocation Centers and Areas within the jurisdiction of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army and to indicate the relationship between such units and the respective Project Directors, War Relocation Areas, and War Relocation Centers.

2. Definitions

(a) "Center" or "Relocation Center" means a community administered by the War Relocation Authority pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order No. 9102, issued March 18, 1942.

(b) "Area" or "Relocation Area" means the entire area which surrounds and includes a Relocation Center, which is under the general administrative jurisdiction of the War Relocation Authority, and which has been designated a military area pursuant to Executive Order No. 9066, issued February 19, 1942.

3. Purpose of Relocation Areas

Relocation Areas have been established for the purpose of caring for Japanese who have been moved from certain military areas. They have been moved from their homes and placed in Relocation Areas as a matter of military necessity. The Relocation Centers and Areas are not concentration camps, and the use of this term is considered objectionable. Relocation Centers are not internment camps. Internment camps are established for another purpose and are not related to the evacuation program.

4. Freedom of movement of evacuees

Japanese evacuees in the Relocation Centers should be allowed as great a degree of freedom within the Relocation Areas as is consistent with military security and the protection of the evacuees. In general, the evacuees will have complete freedom of movement within the Relocation Areas from sunrise to sunset. From sunset to sunrise the evacuees will

not be allowed beyond the Center limits without the special permission of the Project Director. The boundaries of the Relocation Centers and Areas shall be marked, respectively, by signs in both the English and Japanese languages indicating their limits.

5. Functions of the Project Director

Relocation Centers are operated by civilian management under the War Relocation Authority. A Project Director is in charge of each Center. The Project Director will determine those persons authorized to enter the Area and will transmit his instructions to the Commanding officer of the military police. The Project Director is authorized to issue permits to such evacuees as may be allowed to leave the Center or Area. The Project Director is responsible for all means of communication within the Area.

6. Functions of civilian police

Civilian police will be on duty to maintain order within the area; to apprehend and guard against subversive activities, or undercover crimes and misdemeanors; to make such search of the person and property of the Japanese evacuees as may be necessary to guard against the introduction or use of articles heretofore or hereafter declared contraband; to control traffic within the Center; and to enforce camp rules and regulations.

7. Functions of military police

The military police on duty at Relocation Centers and Areas shall perform the following functions:

(a) They shall control the traffic on and the passage of all persons at the arteries leading into the Area;

(b) They shall allow no person to pass the Center gates without proper authority from the Project Director;

(c) They will maintain periodic motor patrols around the boundaries of the Center or Area in order to guard against attempts by evacuees to leave the Center without permission. The perimeter of the Relocation Area shall be patrolled from sunrise until sunset and during such other time as the commanding officer of the military police units deems advisable. The perimeter of the Relocation Center shall be patrolled only from sunset to sunrise.

(d) They shall apprehend and arrest evacuees who do leave the Center or Area without authority, using such force as is necessary to make the arrest.

(e) They shall not be called upon **for** service in apprehending evacuees who have effected a departure unobserved.

(f) They shall be available upon call by the Project Director or by the project police in case of emergencies, such as fire or riots. When called upon in such instances, the commander of the military police shall assume full charge until the emergency ends.

8. Conduct of enlisted men

Enlisted men will be permitted within the areas occupied by the evacuees only when in the performance of prescribed duties. A firm but courteous attitude will be maintained toward the evacuees. There will be no fraternizing.

9. Cooperation between commanding officers and the War Relocation Authority

Commanding officers of military police units will be furnished copies of operating instructions issued to Project Directors. The Project Directors and their assistants and the commanding officers will maintain such close personal contacts with each other as will assure the efficient and orderly operation of the Area, and the proper performance of the duties of all.

Date July 3, 1942

FOR THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

/s/ E.R. FRYER
Regional Director

Date July 8, 1942

FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL, WESTERN
DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY

/s/ KARL R. BENDETSEN
Colonel G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff,
Civil Affairs Division

(COPY)

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
Presidio of San Francisco, California

17 September 1942

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NO. 19)

POLICIES PERTAINING TO USE OF MILITARY POLICE AT WAR
RELOCATION CENTERS

1. Under the authority granted the Commanding General Western Defense Command pursuant to Executive Order No. 9066, February 19, 1942, Japanese civilians have been moved from certain military areas in this command as a matter of military necessity.

2. Pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order No. 9102, March 18, 1942, the War Relocation Authority has been established as a civilian agency to assist the military in the evacuation of certain persons; to provide for the relocation of such persons in appropriate places; to provide for their needs; to provide for the employment of such persons at useful work; to supervise their activities; and other related matters.

3. For the purpose of carrying out the directions of Executive Order No. 9102, the War Relocation Authority has selected the following sites in the territorial area of the Western Defense Command: Manzanar, California; Tule Lake, California; Poston, Arizona, (Colorado River); Sacaton, Arizona, (Gila River); Delta, Utah; and Minidoka, Idaho. These sites are designated as military areas known as War Relocation Project Areas. The boundaries of such areas shall be marked with appropriate signs in both English and Japanese language. The provisions of Public Proclamation No. 8, this headquarters require that those Japanese persons evacuated to a War Relocation Project Area shall remain in that area, except as movement is authorized in writing by this headquarters, transmitted thru the War Relocation Authority. Violations of these provisions are subject to prosecution as provided by Public Law No. 503, 77th Congress.

4. The War Relocation Project Area, later referred to as "Relocation Area" or "Area" covers the entire area and includes one or more "Relocation Centers." The Relocation Center includes the populated area and the administrative and industrial area. The Relocation Centers and Areas are not "concentration camps" and the use of this term is considered objectionable. Relocation Centers and Areas are not internment camps. Internment camps are established for another purpose and are not related to the evacuation program. While the relocation program up to the present time has related particularly to the Japanese, the same program may be extended to other civilians as military necessity may dictate.

5. Relocation centers are operated by civilian management under the War Relocation Authority. A Project Director is in charge of each center. The Project Director will determine those persons authorized to enter the center or the area, other than evacuees being transferred by War Department authority. The Project Director is authorized to issue permits to such evacuees as may be allowed to leave the center or the area. He will transmit his instructions regarding passes and permits to the commanding officer of the military police unit.

6. Civilian police, operating under the Project Director, will be on duty to maintain order within the area; to apprehend and guard against subversive activities; or undercover crimes and misdemeanors; to make such search of the person and property of the evacuees as may be necessary to guard against the introduction or use of articles heretofore or hereafter declared contraband; to control traffic within the center; and to enforce camp rules and regulations. Public Proclamation No. 3, this headquarters, March 24, 1942, designated certain articles of contraband which are denied to all persons of Japanese ancestry within the limits of this command.

7. Each relocation site will be under military police patrol and protection as determined by the War Department. Certain Military Police Escort Guard Companies have been assigned to duty at each of the relocation areas in the Western Defense Command.

8. The military police on duty at relocation centers and areas shall perform the following functions:

a. They shall control the traffic on and the passage of all persons at the arteries leading into the area;

b. They shall allow no person to pass the center gates without proper authority from the project director;

c. They will maintain periodic motor patrols around the boundaries of the center or area in order to guard against attempts by evacuees to leave the center without permission. The perimeter of the relocation area shall be patrolled from sunrise until sunset and during such other times as the commanding officer of the military police units deems advisable. The perimeter of the relocation center shall be patrolled only from sunset to sunrise.

d. They shall apprehend and arrest evacuees who do leave the center or area without authority, using such force as is necessary to make the arrest;

e. They shall not be called upon for service in apprehending evacuees who have effected a departure unobserved;

f. They shall be available, upon call by the project director or by the project police, in case of emergencies such as fire or riot. When called upon in such instances, the commanding officer of the military police unit shall assume full charge until the emergency ends.

g. They shall inspect parcels and packages consigned to evacuees at those centers where the inspection is directed by the Commanding General, Western Defense Command. Special instructions for such inspections and for the confiscation of designated items of contraband will be issued by the Commanding General, Western Defense Command.

9. Evacuees in the relocation centers should be allowed as great a degree of freedom within the relocation area as is consistent with military security and the protection of the evacuees. In general, the evacuees will have complete freedom of movement within the relocation area from sunrise to sunset. From sunset to sunrise, the evacuees will not be allowed beyond the center limits without special permission of the project director, Sentry towers, with flood lights, may be placed outside of the boundaries of the center to assist the military police in maintaining proper control.

10. Enlisted men will be permitted within the areas occupied by the evacuees only when in the performance of prescribed duties. A firm but courteous attitude will be maintained toward the evacuees. There will be no fraternizing with evacuees.

11. All military personnel will be impressed with the importance of the duties to which their unit has been assigned, the performance of which demands the highest standards of duty, deportment, and military appearance.

12. The commanding officer of the military police unit is responsible for the protection of merchandise at the post exchange furnished for the use of the military personnel.

13. In areas where there are black-out regulations, the commanding officer of the military police unit will be responsible for the black-out of the center. A switch will be so located as to permit the prompt cut-off by the military police of all electric current in camp. The commanding officer of the military police unit will notify the project director of his instructions relative to black-outs.

14. Commanding officers of military police units will be furnished copies of operating instructions issued to project directors. Project directors, their assistants, and the commanding officers of military police units will maintain such close personal contacts with each other as will assure the efficient and orderly operation of the area, and the proper performance of the duties of all.

By command of Lieutenant General DeWITT:

J. W. BARNETT,
Brigadier General, G.S.C.,
Chief of Staff

B. Y. READ,
Colonel, A.G.D.,
Adjutant General.

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In reply refer to SPMCF 701.-1

WAR DEPARTMENT
Services of Supply
Office of the Surgeon General

Washington

April 5, 1943

Subject: Medical Care and Treatment of Military Personnel at War Relocation Centers

To: Director, War Relocation Authority,
Barr Building,
Washington, D. C.

1. Reference is made to your letter of March 12, 1943, concerning the above subject.

2. This matter has been given consideration in this Office and referred to the Chief, Medical Branch, Seventh Service Command, who comments as follows:

"2. The proposed arrangements are not entirely satisfactory in the following respects:

a. Caucasian staff medical service cannot be guaranteed to members of the military police, but insofar as possible the Relocation Authority is willing to provide for this.

b. It is not possible to set aside a separate ward for military police, and private rooms are not available. Some segregation, with separate bathing facilities, can be provided.

c. Majority of the nurses are of Japanese descent.

d. No dentists other than evacuees."

In view of the foregoing comments, it is the opinion of this Office that the medical treatment proposed cannot be considered adequate for the military personnel, and the Seventh Service Command is being authorized to make its own arrangements with local civilian hospitals.

3. Your consideration of this matter is appreciated, and while it has been determined that the proposed arrangements are not entirely satisfactory in the Seventh Service Command, your continued cooperation

is requested in the event it becomes necessary to use your hospitals
at Centers where more adequate civilian hospitals are not available.

s/

Walter J. Cummins,
Lieut. Colonel, Sanitary Corps
Director, Fiscal Division

Departure Station

HEADQUARTERS, WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY

PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE
(June 15, 1943)

ISSUANCE OF TRAVEL PERMITS TO PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY BY COMPANY COMMANDERS
OF MILITARY POLICE ESCORT GUARD COMPANIES AT WAR RELOCATION PROJECTS

1. No person of Japanese ancestry, except American soldiers of Japanese ancestry in uniform and on authorized leave or furlough, may travel within the evacuated area of the Western Defense Command (Military Area No. 1 and the California portion of Military Area No. 2) without a written permit from the Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army.

2. a. Tule Lake and Manzanar War Relocation Projects are within the evacuated area, all travel therefrom involves travel within the evacuated area.

b. Colorado River and Gila River War Relocation Projects are not within the evacuated area, but travel therefrom requires in many cases, due to available means of transportation, travel through portions of the evacuated area.

3. Company Commanders of the Military Police Escort Guard Companies at the Tule Lake, Manzanar, Gila River and Colorado River War Relocation Projects have been authorized, by name, to sign and issue travel permits issued on behalf of the Commanding General, WDC & 4A, for the travel of persons of Japanese ancestry from the project at which such Commander is stationed through the evacuated area to a point outside of the evacuated area. Company Commanders will not issue travel permits where the destination is other than a point outside of the evacuated area.

4. a. Each Company Commander will be furnished travel permits in blank, bearing the seal of Hq. WDC & 4A and numbered serially, and franked addressed envelopes. The Company Commander is not authorized to make any alteration or changes in the form of travel permit supplied.

b. Upon receipt of request from the Project Director for a travel permit, the Company Commander will, where the proposed destination is outside the evacuated area, cause to be completed a permit, in original, record (green) copy, and five white copies. If the permittee is an alien, the Alien Registration Number will be inserted in appropriate space; if permittee is a citizen of the United States, the words "U.S. Citizen" will be inserted in such space. The completion of the permit by the project staff is permissible; however, blank permits and copies thereof will not be turned over to the project but will be retained by the Company Commander. Upon completion of the permit (all blank spaces of the permit being filled), the Company Commander will:

(1) Sign the original permit and deliver it with one white copy thereof (not signed) and franked addressed envelope to the Project Director;

(2) Mail the record (green) copy and three white copies direct to "Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, Presidio of San Francisco, California (Attention: Civil Affairs Division)" in franked addressed envelope;

(3) Retain a white copy in the files of the Company.

5. The procedure set out in paragraph 4b will govern in all cases where the travel is from one of the four named projects to a point outside the evacuated area and includes bulk or work party travel permits. Where a large number of persons is involved, the names of the permittees, if too many to insert in space provided on the face of the permit, will be typed on the reverse of the permit and appropriate lines drawn to prevent the adding of additional names.

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Regional Files, 002, Wash. D.C.
Myamoto

Want me Civil Central Admin. Admin.

Memo from Bendetsen to Colonels Hass and Evans
March 31, 1942
Subject: Separation of families

1. In evacuation operations planning and temporary settlement operations planning, close liaison will be maintained in order that the separation of families will not become prevalent. Every effort will be made to prevent ~~separation~~ this. In addition, so far as practicable, based on the capacity of reception centers, communities will not be separated. This is particularly important from the point of view of future community planning, as in most instances, a community section is already reasonably well balanced with a cross section of professions, trades and crafts.

2. While we have evacuated persons from Seattle to Owens Valley and will include a group from San Francisco and San Diego there, this practice of mixing small sections of communities should be avoided as nearly as practicable.

Regional Files, Wash. D.C. .002
Miyamoto

Letter from Durbin to Warren
July 3, 1942

*W.F.
Major Durbin, QMC, to
Mr. L. A. Warren, Safeway Inc.,
Oakland, Cal*

"Pursuant to our telephone conversation of July 1st am enclosing herewith the correspondence discussed with you at that time.

I would appreciate it very much if you would furnish us with the name of the individual or designation of the office of the WCCA who furnished Mr. pringle with the information mentioned in paragraph 2 of his letter.

This matter has been discussed with the WRA and for your information you are advised that at no time has either the WRA or the Wartime Civil Control Administration issued any directive which would prohibit the free trade of evacuees with any business establishment, chain store or otherwise. We do have a restriction on the storage and cooking of foodstuffs in evacuees quarters. However, there is no restriction against their procurement so long as they are stored and prepared in established kitchens within the center.

Should you have brought to your attention any specific example of non-conformance with the above outlined policy of the WCCA, I would appreciate very much being informed so that appropriate action may be taken for correction.

Regional Files, Washington D. C. .002
Miyamoto

Memo from Lt. Col. Cress for Col. Bendetsen
April 13, 1943

Subject: Military Intelligence Officers of WRA Projects.

It occurs to me that perhaps one officer of the Military Police Organization guarding each relocation site might act as project Intelligence Officer. This Officer, of course, would be in the same relation to the project authorities as the Military police Organization to which he is assigned. He would cooperate with but not be subject to orders of the WRA project personnel.

I believe some such plan will be necessary at the Parker Project in view of the limited time available for arrangements. However I feel that the Intelligence Officer on all projects within the Pacific Coast Theater of Operations should come from the Army. This will permit continuity of policies of WCC and WRA. It will also allow the closest coordination in the execution of military policies effecting these evacuees. Since the responsibility of the Military Commander is continuous, I believe his own personnel should be utilized to furnish early information of any activities inimical to the war effort. Finally, I believe that the performance of the Military Police as exterior guards will be facilitated by efficient Intelligence activities within the project.

Please let me have your reaction to this proposal as soon as practicable. If we are to do this, the subject undoubtedly will have to be taken up with Headquarters of Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, and in addition the Provost Marshal General should probably be consulted.

Regional Files, Wash. D.C. .002
Miyamoto

Memo from Lt. Col. Evans to Col Cress April 14, 1942

1. With reference to your memorandum concerning military intelligence officers at WRA projects (attached), General DeWitt has defined a policy wherein no military agencies will operate in any respect within the confines of reception centers.
2. Our policy is that the policing of the interior security of the center is the responsibility of the camp management. In this connection, we have hired police officers and at a propitious time expect to request the F.B.I. to perform a shakedown inspection of the whole center.
3. The only conditions under which General DeWitt will permit the military to operate within a center is in the case of the military police having to enter to quell a riot or in some other emergency.

Regional Files, 002. Wash. D.C.
Miyamoto

~~The~~
Written note from E. F. Cress to Fryer
No date

The suggestion having been made and disapproved, our skirts are clear. No further action recommended at this time.

General De Witt's policy may be amplified as follows:---
"After the Army turns over the Evacuees to WRA, the Army withdraws from the picture except so far as its presence is necessary to provide exterior guards. Maintenance of law and order and the enforcement of laws within each community will be handled by civilians.