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ORGANIZATION FOR CENTER RELOCATION PLANNINGA. Community Council Commission on Relocation Planning:

Basic to the success of joint staff-evacuee planning is the establishment of a group by the Community Council with its members drawn from the community and representative of it. A suggested name for this group is "Relocation Planning Commission." If the Council has an already established Relocation Committee, consideration should be given to expanding its membership and functions with the original group serving as a nucleus for the new Commission.

It is the function of the Commission to coordinate the efforts of the various committees, to prepare regular reports of progress, to receive suggestions for improvement of the program, and to transmit these suggestions and reports to the Relocation Executive Board. The Commission will submit the name of a recommended evacuee candidate to the Project Director for appointment as an Executive Secretary.

1. Participating Non-Council Groups:

The participation of non-Council groups is a useful device for widening community representation. This can be best achieved by having each such group elect an official delegate to be a regular member of the Commission. It would be the responsibility of each of these delegates to present to the Commission the contribution which his organization might make to the program and represent that organization in efforts where several such groups cooperate in one phase of the program. As an example, the religious groups can work out plans for transferring church affiliations and providing letters of introduction to the relocating evacuee. The following groups should be represented:

- a. Board of Directors of Consumers Enterprises
- b. Credit Union
- c. Religious Groups
- d. Parent-Teachers Association
- e. Block Managers
- f. Community Activities Trust
- g. Other groups such as YWCA, YMCA, etc.

2. Participating Council Committees:

Council committees should also be related to the work of the Commission, and where there is no appropriate group, a new one may be established or responsibilities of old

ones expanded. Where these committees are composed entirely of Council members, consideration should be given to expanding them to include qualified persons from the community. The Chairman or another member selected by each of these Council committees should serve as a permanent member of the Commission.

As the program develops, several committees of the Council will be brought into a significant relationship. As illustration of the role which such committees may have, descriptions have been provided for those on Counseling, Education, Employment, and Information. Other committees, such as Health, have an equally important place.

Counseling Committee

This committee will work in close collaboration with the Welfare Section, particularly the Welfare Counselor. It will be concerned with bringing to the attention of the residents the facts of the counseling program, develop plans for scheduling interviews, and will be available to work with the Welfare Counselor in analyzing progress, planning further interpretation, and advising on the general conduct of the program.

Education Committee

In addition to its regular duties in connection with the school program, the Education committee should give special attention to the vocational training and adult education programs. These two phases of the education program should be geared to preparing individuals for a satisfactory economic and social adjustment as they seek homes in new communities.

Employment Committee

Planning "on-job" training should be a major contribution of the Employment Committee. The purpose of such training is to provide replacements for persons who leave essential positions for relocation, and to provide training for those who are securing additional techniques or experience for future off-project employment. The Education and Employment committees may wish to establish a joint sub-committee to work with the staff Retraining Committee.

Information Committee

This committee can make a number of specific contributions to the emphasis, direction, and policy of the relocation Commission. It can participate in organizing, and conducting "Public Opinion Polls" on various subjects. The technical cooperation of the Statistician and the Community Analyst should be helpful in framing questions and developing scientifically tested methods of sampling to reveal public attitudes. The committee can advise on types of information which residents desire. It can organize and conduct surveys of persons who have resettled for the purpose of learning economic and social factors which contribute to or hinder adjustment, and for the dissemination of such knowledge to center residents.

B. Staff Committee on Relocation:

Coordination of staff efforts and establishment of cooperation with participating evacuee groups is a basic consideration in the organization of a relocation program. The first step is the establishment of a working group of key project staff members which, working under the direction of the Project Director, can plan the coordinated contribution of the various divisions and sections to a total program.

This committee appointed by the Project Director and with the Relocation Program Officer as the Executive Secretary should include representatives from all divisions and sections. The following persons should probably constitute the nucleus:

1. Chief of the Administrative Management Division
2. Chief of the Operations Division
3. Chief of the Community Management Division
4. Reports Officer
5. Welfare Counselor
6. Personnel Officer
7. Superintendent of Schools
8. Community Analyst
9. Project Attorney
10. Evacuee Property Officer
11. Chief Medical Officer
12. Statistician
13. *Business enterprises*

The staff Relocation Committee will be represented on the Relocation Executive Board by three members plus the Relocation Program Officer who will also act as Executive Secretary of that group.

The Relocation Committee will have a number of spe-

cific responsibilities and functions. It will be responsible for planning and coordinating the contribution of the various divisions and sections to relocation. It will develop procedures and provide general guidance for all coordinated operations. It will prepare and submit recommendations to the Project Director on changes in organization or program emphasis which lead to better working relations between the divisions and sections. It will be responsible for planning active participation of all staff members and utilizing interests and capabilities of all persons in whatever capacity.

The Relocation Committee also has certain responsibilities to the Relocation Executive Board. It will prepare for the use of this Board plans for and evaluations of Council-staff cooperation, recommend policy and procedures, and provide information on facilities, available funds, and technical supervision.

Since there is no single aspect of relocation which does not depend upon cooperation and contributions from other sections and divisions, it may be found desirable for the Relocation Committee to establish sub-committees for consideration of special problems. For example, training is a concern of both Education and Employment sections; financial aid is a concern of Administrative Management, Community Management and Relocation Divisions; evacuee attitudes are a concern of the Reports Officer, the Statistician, and the Community Analyst; etc.

Progress reports should be the responsibility of the Executive Secretary and should be prepared for the information of the Project Director and the entire staff, and for the use of the Relocation Executive Board.

C. Relocation Executive Board:

The major responsibility for developing an over-all program, determining policies, planning integrated staff-evacuee participation, and coordinating functions can be best achieved by joint staff-evacuee efforts. It is proposed that these efforts be formalized by the establishment of a Relocation Executive Board.

This Board will be composed of three staff members appointed from the Relocation Committee by the Project Director, and three members from the Relocation Planning Commission appointed by that body. In addition, the Relocation Program Officer will serve as Executive Secretary, and the Executive Secretary of the evacuee Commission will sit as an ex-officio member.

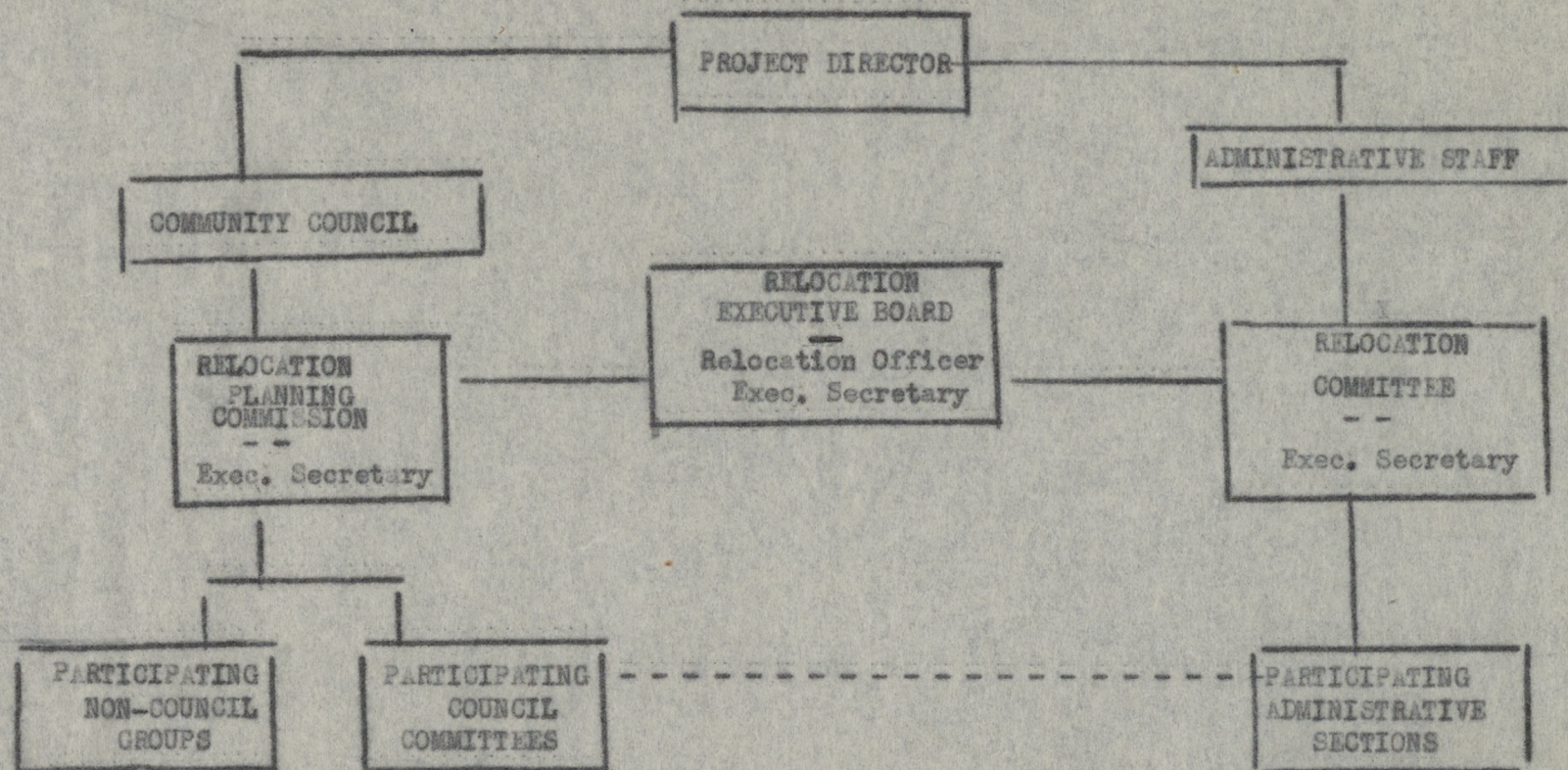
This Board will be directly responsible to the Project Director who will sit as chairman. It is his responsibility to review the findings of the Board, to transmit to Washington its recommendations where these necessitate policy or program changes, and to secure agreement on policies and plans.

The general responsibilities of the Board are planning, coordination, and guidance. It shall define the respective responsibilities of staff and evacuee groups, and where they are the same for each, develop the necessary cooperative relationships. It shall determine the sequence in which each phase of the program will develop. It is responsible for ironing out staff-evacuee differences in approach or method if they exist. It will make recommendations to the Project Director.

The approved decisions of the Board will be transmitted to the Relocation Planning Commission and the Relocation Committee and to those administrative divisions or sections, and evacuee groups which are directly concerned. It will receive progress reports and recommendations from the staff Committee and the evacuee Commission and where these are in agreement, work out details implementing such agreements, and where they are in disagreement, determine the basis for joint action.

It is responsible for developing techniques for keeping all staff members and residents currently informed of new policies or programs, progress of programs already initiated, and general information concerning relocation.

The Executive Secretary is responsible for preparing the agenda for each meeting and having the appropriate documents or minutes of other meetings available for the consideration of this group.



Notes:

- (1) The Relocation Executive Board is composed of three representatives each from the Relocation Planning Commission and the Relocation Committee, directly responsible to the Project Director and with the Relocation Officer as Executive Secretary and the Executive Secretary of the Planning Commission as an ex-officio member.
- (2) The Relocation Planning Commission is composed of representatives from non-Council groups and already established Council committees. An Executive Secretary shall be appointed.
- (3) The Relocation Committee is composed of members of the staff with the Relocation Officer as Executive Secretary.

from the community on various committees. These committees might make a more official impression if they were connected with the elected council. It is suggested that special committees be appointed from time to time to check on Counseling, Education, Employment, and Health, rather than to have standing committees. This gives an opportunity to assign duties to a larger number of people, and would also tend to keep the assigned individuals from growing stale.

B. Staff Committee on Relocation

The staff committee on relocation at the Minidoka Center is known as the Relocation Guidance Committee. This committee consists of:

1. Assistant Project Director, in Charge of Community Management
2. High School Counselor
3. Reports Officer
4. Senior Employment Officer
5. Welfare Counselor

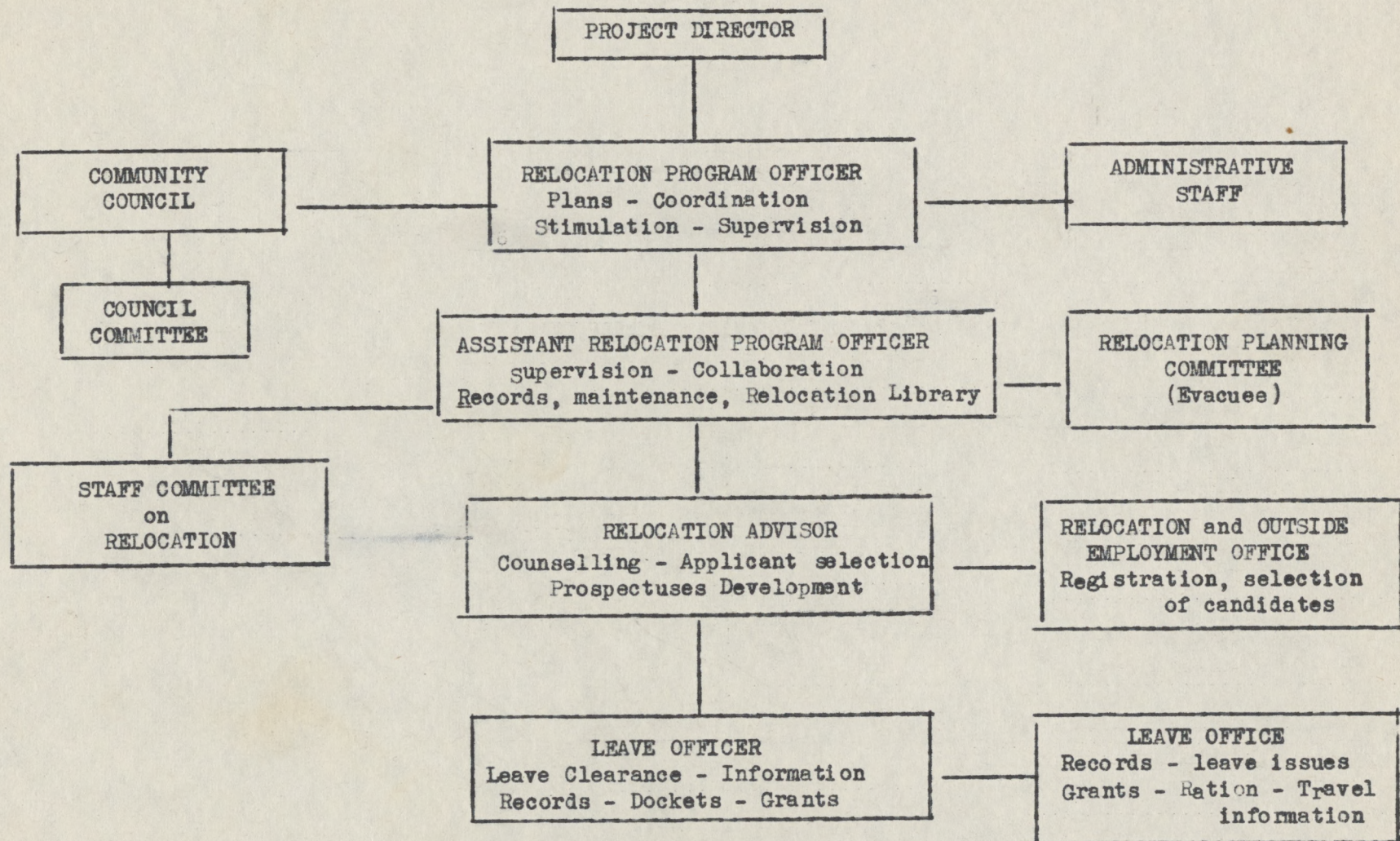
The Community Analyst sits in as ex-officio member. The Senior Employment Officer has acted as chairman. This group holds joint meetings with the Relocation Advisory Council (evacuee) at frequent intervals. This group also is in close contact with the Project Re-training Committee. The Relocation Guidance Committee also accepts responsibility for planning and coordinating the contributions of the various division and sections to relocation.

C. Relocation Executive Board

The establishment of a Relocation Executive Board would no doubt enhance the relocation program. However, we wish to submit an organization chart that we feel will permit a more flexible operation and still retain the same line of authority due to the fact that the relocation program operates under the immediate supervision of the Project Director.

The chart proposed by Washington might encumber the Relocation Program Officer with too many meetings and clerical work to the detriment of actual contact with prospective relocatees and the proper attention to over-all supervision.

PROPOSED ORGANIZATION OF RELOCATION PLANNING







UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

War Relocation Authority

Hunt, Idaho

Relocation Offices As of 1/31/45

Harold S. Fistere
Area Supervisor (Wash. & Oregon Area)
309 Walker Building
Second and University
Seattle 1, Washington

Sheldon G. Hagen
Relocation Officer
1331 Third Avenue
Room 612
Seattle, 1, Washington

Clyde W. Linville
Relocation Officer
~~836 American Bank Building~~
Portland 5, Oregon

*715 Bedell Bldg.,
6th & Alder Streets,*

Murray E. Stebbins
Relocation Officer
439 Liberty Bldg.,
416 E. Yakima
Yakima, Washington

William K. Tuttle
Relocation Officer
~~Room 206, 610-16th St.~~
~~3283 Lakeshore Avenue~~
Oakland, California

John R. Robertson
Relocation Officer
Room 625, Bank of America Bldg.,
343 East Main St.,
Stockton 5, California

*Fred W. Ross
Relocation Officer
406 Sutter St.,
San Francisco, Calif.*

File in Relocation

I would like to submit the following discussion concerning the relocation program:

The present WRA policy seems to be more favorable to the relocation of individuals and small families rather than the large families. Many young people have left this Project. The "dispersal plan" - - - that is to say, the scattering of all the evacuees to the various parts of the United States instead of in the formation of "little Tokyo" within any large community is not only the policy of WRA, but it is also the policy of the government. This dispersion method may work out well with the Nisei group; however, unfortunately, such is not the case with the Issei. The Issei have been gregarious people and up to the time of evacuation they were used to living in a community of their own. They have no desire to step into an unknown community where everyone is a complete stranger. It is admitted, that such a gregarious tendency of the Issei should be discarded, but it is very difficult for them to do so.

As far as the evacuees are concerned, they feel that there is very little or no security in the outside world. When we speak of security, we mean economic or material, psychological and social security. This security becomes uncertain as soon as the evacuees leave the center. No one wishes to take such a risk. Let us suppose that a person went out to a big city and obtained a job. In the event that he was terminated after a month or so, what will become of him. There are only two ways in which one can meet with such unfavorable situation: one method is to secure another job and the other would be to return to the relocation center.

There is no assurance from the WRA that one can return to the center if working conditions prove to be unsatisfactory, or if wages turn out to be cheaper than what it should be. In order to assure economic security, it is advisable to make the procedures of returning to the center as easy as possible. Then, there will result in the possibility of more people going outside to try their luck instead of merely sitting back in the relocation center thinking without any action.

In order to give better opportunities in the outside,

such group relocation as:

- group farming by the aid of FSA or WRA
- group work projects such as construction of dams or canals, or
- self-supporting group colony

may be suggested. If the ultimate goal of the WRA is to clear out all the relocation centers, such group relocations should be contemplated very carefully and seriously and some constructive plans should be worked out whereby such ideas could be put into practice.

With regard to travel grants, there is definitely unfairness existing. As far as this travel grant is concerned, the amount is the same whether you have 3 dependents or 5. This will and does hinder the relocation of large families; therefore, something should be done regarding this matter, that is to say, the change in the policy is desirable.

There are several factors which we have to take into consideration concerning the relocation program.

I shall attempt to deal with the problem of seasonal work. There is some argument as to the feasibility of granting seasonal work leave to evacuees from the standpoint of permanent relocation. Some people are of the opinion that seasonal work leave will hinder the indefinite leaves because whenever evacuees feel like leaving the center, they go out, and as long as such practices are going on, they will never leave the center permanently. On the other hand, many farmers of Oregon, Idaho, Utah and Colorado are depending on the evacuee workers for their harvest. It seems very wise to recruit workers from the centers to save the crop as well as to solve the manpower problem from the standpoint of public relationship.

Many evacuees still have some hope of returning to the Pacific Coast before the war is over. If such is the case, many evacuees will be glad to return to the coast and will start farming where the evacuees are familiar with the soil as well as the climate. Evacuees have great deal of doubt as to a permanency of any job or business in a new and strange community; they feel that it is safer to do anything within the localities where they are familiar and accustomed to.

There is pro and con arguments with regard to the question of making center conditions worse in order to accelerate relocation of the evacuees. Some people might present

the argument that any method is good as long as the purpose is accomplished. There is a great deal of doubt as to the expediency of such practice in the long run. Making center life 'as tough as possible' might result in the repercussion which might be very serious. Psychological reactions of the evacuees towards such method should be taken with due consideration. It must be remembered, that there are some who are unable to relocate because of the various personal reasons.

Finally, we come to the problem of: what to do with the residue population as I have stated above. There are some who can never relocate and these people have no alternative other than to remain within the center. Some steps should be contemplated in order to take care of the people who come under this particular category.

Summary:

The program of relocation is well understood by the majority of the evacuees, and the basic policy of the WRA is to relocate as many people as possible from the centers. Consequently, many evacuees have a feeling of anxiety and fear that the WRA is trying to force and drive them out of the center.

As pointed out by the WRA social analyst, relocation like marriage is not to be undertaken lightly. It requires much talking from the various angles before one reaches a conclusion and makes up his own mind.

As to the policy of forcing people out of the center, it may result in a grave consequence. Instead of that, certain types of motivation as well as outside incentives should be presented to the residents so that evacuees within the centers will eventually leave the center spontaneously. In the long run, pulling the evacuees out of the center is a far better method than pushing them out.

submitted by

Dick Kanaya

Dick Kanaya
member of the Relocation
Guidance Council

A REALISTIC APPROACH TO RELOCATION

Today within the confines of the Minidoka Relocation Center, there are more than 7000 residents whose future as far as the WPA is concerned was actually defined by the announcement made some months ago by Director Myers of the impending closure of the War Relocation projects. As far as can be determined from the lists of persons leaving the center since the announcement, it seems hardly likely that the center will be completely emptied of all its inhabitants before the start of the new year.

For the majority of the residents, the announcement of the closure date of January 2, 1946, came as a distinct shock --because they had felt secure in the knowledge that the centers would not be closed until all had voluntarily relocated under their own wishes or until the termination of the war. It is obvious that a goodly number of the residents are now actively worried about their future in terms of this declaration of WPA purpose.

It is the general consensus of the residents that the setting of the closing date was done in a rather arbitrary fashion and that it showed a genuine lack of understanding on the part of the "powers-that-be" of the true problems present in the relocating of the more than 70,000 residents in WPA camps.

Relocation as contrasted with evacuation is purely an individualistic endeavor and that while the latter was all-inclusive in its concept, this problem of resettlement is basically individual. In the solving of this relocation enigma, it would *do* well for the WRA to remember that fact and act accordingly. Furthermore, the mere setting forth of resettlement directives to the residents is not going to solve the problem. Each and every resident who is reluctant in leaving the project should be given an opportunity to present his or her difficulties in relocating to the proper authorities in a private manner and on an informal basis. Then, it is the job of the WRA to try to solve the problem in terms of the particular individual. It seems imperative that the WRA show an ever greater understanding of the personal, social issues involved in each individual case.

Director Wyers has consistently made the point that relocation will not be forced and yet in direct contrast came the announcement of the closing of the center, of the termination of surplus laborers and that certain services would be curtailed.

Now let us be frank in our observations--relocating is not going to be speeded up by the use of coercive methods--it will only be worked out by the cooperative working together of the appointed personnel and the residents. Tied up with this is the fact that most of the people who were interested in relocation have already left the center and that the residue who are left are those who are reluctant to leave. For these

individuals--the WPA must show more understanding than ever before.

Let us name several groups in the center who present particularly difficult problems. One, the elderly parents with their "bread-earning" sons in the armed forces and they themselves are too old to begin "pioneering" now. Another is that group which have a number of young children who are distinct liabilities in any relocation venture. Then there are those whose family heads are infirmed. Also are a number of others who have still other individual problems. Admittedly, the problem which has been perplexing is getting even more complex, and now with the announcement of the closing of the center, the whole problem has been thrown into the open. It is high time for all the intelligent elements in the community to get together and work out a more basic relocation philosophy.

Only nine months remain for the fulfillment of the relocation program according to the WPA timetable--so if we can possibly work out within the next few weeks a more workable relocation formula, there may be a strong possibility that most of the residents may be placed on the outside. If, however, should the WPA continue its obvious program of attrition, the relocation program will be thrown out of gear.

Let us become realistic; let us become personal and informal; let us become cooperative and understanding--the stake of the entire WPA program is hanging in the balance.

LEAVE PROCEDURE AND RELOCATION

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LEAVE PROCEDURE

WRA Library Washington 2

During the period of somewhat over a year since the start of the evacuation program, there has been a gratifying trend in WRA policy away, insofar as has been possible, from the many restrictions and losses of civil rights, toward a restoration of many of these same rights.

The first manifestation of this general trend was in the inauguration of a leave policy which permitted qualified and properly investigated individuals to leave the Relocation Centers. The initial emphasis was placed on Student Leave, which meant that many who were anxious to resume their normal place in civil life, left the Relocation Center as students, even though in many cases, only graduate or part-time studies were undertaken.

Somewhat later, with the tremendous demand from agricultural areas for farm labor, and with the pressure to release idle labor from Relocation Centers, group work leave for qualified individuals was inaugurated. Use of this type of leave, in general, created a very favorable impression in agricultural areas adjacent to Relocation Centers, or within easy traveling distance. It is quite probable that what change has taken place in public sentiment toward the residents of Relocation Centers stems largely from the assistance given to agriculture by persons released during the summer and fall of 1942 on group work leave.

Quite naturally, there were certain abuses in the use of this type of leave, but in most cases, they were prompted by a sincere desire to assist in the relocation of individuals rather than to evade the established procedure. However, it should be pointed out that one of the biggest problems facing the Project at present, is an outgrowth of the issuance of work group leave. This has been brought about because a great many individuals initially released on work group leave have remained and are remaining away from the Project. Many of them have not made proper application which will permit Washington to act in granting them indefinite leave and, since they were away from the Project during the Mass Registration in February, indefinite leave can not be issued from the Project.

Along with the use of work group leave came short-term leave and indefinite leave. Short-term leave was established for the purpose of granting an individual leave from the Project for a short period of time to interview a prospective employer or to attend to personal affairs which required the individual's presence away from the Project. Indefinite leave was granted to individuals through the Washington office and, as it worked out in actual practice, almost without exception required six weeks to two or more months.

In an effort to facilitate the relocation of individuals who have suitable offers of employment or other satisfactory reasons for wishing to be away from the Project, considerable use was made of short-term leave over and above the strict or legitimate use prescribed in the leave regulations. There still exists, away from the Project, a number of cases involving individuals released on short-term leave who have not yet received indefinite leave from Washington (some have not even applied for this leave), and who can not be issued indefinite leave from the Project because they too, were absent during the Mass Registration.

It was the desire of the Employment Division in Washington that considerable effort be made on the Project during the winter to secure leave clearance for any individuals who contemplated leaving the Project, so that indefinite leave could be issued quite rapidly as employment or other legitimate opportunities presented themselves.

It was promised that leave clearance cases would be handled within a month at the maximum, and that subsequent applications for indefinite leave made by persons with previous leave clearance would be handled in seven to ten days. It is not meant to be implied that there was any intent on the part of the Washington office to do other than to process leave clearance and indefinite leave within these promised periods, but in actual practice, with the tremendous volume of applications which poured into Washington from all of the Projects and with the additional burden imposed by the transmission of forms taken during the Mass Registration, Washington action on leave clearance and indefinite leave cases fell woefully short of the promised time. There were cases of leave clearance applications which had not been acted upon for as long as four and five months after the date of transmittal. There were indefinite leave applications exclusive of those applying to enter the Eastern Defense Command Area, which had not been acted upon for a similar period of time. In the face of mounting pressure which was being brought to bear on Washington from all of the Projects for action on such cases, (and this pressure was only a reflection of that brought to bear upon the Project by its residents) it was quite logical that there should be a shift in emphasis in the matter of leave procedure from Washington to the individual Projects.

As might have been expected, complete freedom in the issuance of leave could not be delegated to the Projects but the whole procedure has been loosened up and speeded up tremendously. Probably more than any other single factor in the series of WRA actions designed to facilitate the relocation of individuals, this delegation of leave authority to the Projects has had the most favorable effect.

During the past three months, there have been a number of rapid and significant changes in leave policy and procedure which have tended to minimize or remove entirely many of the problems

which were confronting the Projects. Projects still are without authority to issue indefinite leave to individuals desiring to go directly from the Project to some point within the Eastern Defense Command Area. There are a few individuals who have waited for as long as six months for indefinite leave to be issued to them from Washington for entrance into the Eastern Defense Command Area, although ironically enough, there is no prohibition against an individual's moving into the Eastern Defense Command Area from some other point to which indefinite leave originally was issued. For example, residents of this Project who apply to go directly from here to New York City must have their indefinite leave applications acted upon in Washington. Such action involves not only WRA and FBI approval, but also the approval of the Eastern Defense Command. Under present conditions, action can not be expected on such an application in less than four to six weeks. On the other hand, indefinite leave can be issued by the Project for an individual to go to Chicago in the matter of one or two days. From Chicago, the individual can proceed to New York or to other points within the Eastern Defense Command Area without restrictions other than the routine requirement of notification of change of address.

One significant change which has been made in leave procedure this year is the substitution of seasonal work leave for group work leave as used last year. Seasonal work leave may be issued for an employment period of six months and may show an expiration date of one month after that. In other words, the seasonal work leave permit may show a total period of seven months or less from the effective date of the leave. It is also being used where an individual has employment for a longer period than the seven months, but where he is somewhat uncertain of his reception and is anxious to maintain closer ties with the Project than those he would feel should indefinite leave be issued. Seasonal work leave is also being issued to individuals attending NYA school, where the usual course lasts about three months. The reasoning behind this use of seasonal work leave is that should employment be obtained upon completion of the course, indefinite leave will be issued; otherwise, it is expected that the student will wish to return to the Project.

The ordinary use of seasonal work leave involves a transportation guarantee wherein the prospective employer agrees to transport employees both to and from the Project. A definite problem is created every time an individual leaves the employ of the employer who has guaranteed his return transportation to the Project. The field service must be brought in to assist in this problem for it is obviously impossible for the Project to obtain a return guarantee from the subsequent employer or employers and it is not always possible for the original employer to supply the Project with the names of these subsequent employers.

In summarizing WRA leave procedure, it is apparent that during the past few months, great strides have been made in the direction of expediting leave by placing major responsibility on the Project. An additional burden is placed on the Project as a penalty for the expediting which has been obtained in that the Project must assume much more responsibility and judgment in the matter of leave issuance. Furthermore, it must be remembered that every action of the project in the issuance of indefinite leave is subject to review by Washington, and it is quite natural to suppose that there will be occasional cases where individuals must be recalled to the Project at the direction of the Washington office, until the case is clarified.

RELOCATION

In a very basic analysis of the relocation problem, it must be recognized that the fundamental hindrance to satisfactory relocation is the inability of the average American to distinguish between the Japanese nationals with whom we are at war, and people of Japanese descent in this country, both American citizens and those to whom citizenship has been denied, and who have made this their home through choice. One must recognize that the United States Government is on one hand fighting the war against the Japanese nation, a war involving tremendous amounts of propaganda calculated to instill in the average American citizens, fear, hatred, etc., while on the other hand through WRA and facilitating agencies, it is concerned with a relocation program designed to permit the reentry into the same average American scene of persons who racially resemble this enemy we are fighting. My point is that, to the mind of the average American, it is quite difficult, apparently, to make the proper distinction, but until it is made, satisfactory relocation can not be expected. To make the problem more complicated, there are present a number of rabble rousers--opportunists, who seek to enhance their own position at the expense of those whom we are attempting to relocate.

In this connection, I should like to point out for what it is worth my feeling of tremendous need for a term to define the residents of the Projects; a term better than "Japanese-Americans," which is unsatisfactory because of its length and because it contains the word "Japanese"; and for terms better than "Issei" and "Nisei" which are unsatisfactory because they are not American terms.

It is apparent that the Project must shoulder the major load in the satisfactory relocation of its residents. To date, this relocation has been predominantly through employment. Until the field service is able to function more fully than at present, employment opportunities probably will continue to be secured by the individuals themselves. It reflects very favorably on the abilities and attitudes of those individuals who have been relocated to date that, in the main, they have secured their own

employment opportunities and have sold their abilities to their prospective employers. Under such a system, it is quite natural that the more competent and energetic individuals have been relocated first, and that those left on the Project will find it somewhat more difficult to be relocated satisfactorily. It follows that relocation of such individuals will become largely the responsibility of WRA. In this process, the need for closer cooperation with the field branch will be imperative.

In a summary of relocation which has taken place to date, it is unfortunate that HostelX and hospitality offers and employment secured through efforts of ministers and other public spirited persons, appear to be more predominant than offers from what might be called the normal American groups. In local areas, it is apparent that efforts of the field service have been satisfactory in securing employment offers which will place individuals at levels for which they are qualified and will provide incomes equal to that of comparable worker.

On the Project, there is an apparent need for greater efforts to obtain qualified individuals to fill job offers which are received and to play down domestic, restaurant and substandard offers. In view of certain unfortunate results which have occurred when unqualified individuals were referred to employment offers, it would seem beneficial (providing there is time and proper facilities) that the employer's acceptance of the individual be received before leave is issued.

The Project will find it a tremendous problem to handle the residue which inevitably will be left when all or most of the qualified people have been relocated. Membership of this residue largely will be confined to individuals too old for employment, or without relatives with whom they could live. However, it is probable that there will be a few who wish to remain on the Project for reasons best covered perhaps by the term "psychological cases", i.e., those who are afraid of the treatment they would receive off the Project; those who hold considerable resentment as a result of evacuation; or those who are qualified to resume normal positions in American life but lack the confidence to do so.

There are a number of problems of Project origin which contribute toward making relocation difficult. For example, there are the persistent rumors that, once indefinite leave has been issued to an individual, he will be unable to return to the project. Another is that if the head of a family secures employment off the Project and leaves his family here, he will be required to pay board and room for them.

Perhaps one way to assist the whole relocation situation is through the establishment of a bureau or service to consult with persons planning to leave the Project. What I have in mind is a service to be performed which is not covered at present by the Counselor; which is not covered by the Leave Section as it

functions at present; nor by the travel counselor. Probably rather than organize a new bureau, the function that I have in mind could be delegated to the leave officer or could be shared jointly by the counselor, the travel bureau, and the leave officer. The mechanism would not matter so long as the function were performed.

Some of the activities which could be covered would involve a discussion with individuals as to their plans upon leaving the Project. For example, the head of a family going out alone to accept employment should have definite plans formulated to have his family join him as soon as it is possible. This is only natural if satisfactory relocation is to be accomplished. There are many congested areas and occupations. These problems should be discussed with individuals contemplating relocation. For example, it is felt that Denver, Salt Lake City, and the Twin Falls area, insofar as this Project is concerned, are caring for the maximum number of people from Projects who can be satisfactorily relocated. (It has been decided by the Relocation Supervisor in Denver that no more individuals should be relocated in domestic employment in the Denver area.) There are other problems for which no satisfactory answer has yet been proposed, such as what action to take in regard to individuals who do not report to the place for which indefinite leave was issued to them, or who leave the place of employment without proper notification. There is need to interpret to employers individuals who are particularly shy, self-conscious, or momentarily terrified at the prospect of reentering normal American life. Individuals leaving the Project should be cautioned against concentration, both as to place of residence and social gatherings, at places where adverse criticism might be expected.

POSTWAR CONSIDERATIONS

On the face of it, it is extremely difficult for many individuals who have been evacuated to overcome the shock which loss of income, loss of position, and loss of social status have brought. The failure of the Government to evacuate persons of German ancestry and Italian ancestry along with those of Japanese ancestry, presents a problem which cannot be answered to the satisfaction of a great many Project residents. The psychological racial barrier usually erected by the Caucasian majority against any racial minority group has tended, in most cases, to force those of Japanese ancestry to live in concentrated areas and to organize and participate in their own social life.

The history of this country's past treatment of minority racial groups does not lend too much optimism to treatment which will be accorded Project residents as they are being relocated now, or as they will attempt to reenter normal American life after the war. In all honesty, one cannot make any promises that residents of the Projects will be permitted to return to pro-

perty and positions occupied prior to evacuation; nor can any reward for services be held out. It is almost axiomatic that where residents of the Project are known, they are liked.

Dislike seems to spring from some form of fear, such as fear of competition or fear of some traitorous action.

If we were able to predict postwar conditions, many of these problems would automatically be answered. It would appear to be our place to further satisfactory relocation by every available means, to instill into each individual being relocated the doctrine that he is in effect an emissary of all other residents who will be approved or condemned partially, at least, on the basis of his conduct, and to bring about insofar as possible, through our individual actions, the type of postwar world which we desire and in which the Project residents can assume an equal place with all other Americans.

May 4, 1943

Ten Broeck Williamson

Leave Officer

MINIDOKA RELOCATION PROJECT,
HUNT, IDAHO

JP

RELOCATION SURVEY

MINIDOKA RELOCATION CENTER

The Relocation Survey at the Minidoka Relocation Center was set up in an attempt to best serve the counselling features of the program and the interests of the evacuees as well as to provide basic material for a future over-all planning program. In the interviews the following four points were observed: 1) The discussion of the family situation was carried on to assist the family in developing a plan for the future. This might include a plan for relocation if this seemed to serve the best interests of the unit, or of one individual, or might mean a plan to remain at the Center for the present because of one or more reasons. 2) To furnish, to those interested in relocation, information about the resources available in the communities open to resettlement. These resources included not only employment possibilities but also assistance and services which might be given by both public and private agencies. 3) To compile adequate family data to prepare a relocation record and summary to be transmitted to the Relocation Officer in the new community and 4) To provide W.R.A. with complete material for program planning, not only for those interested in relocation, but also for those interested in remaining in the Center. For the latter group this included an adequate explanation of the deterrents to relocation.

Because it was felt the evacuees should not be subjected to another interview in which detailed family information, already given several times, should again be required, an attempt was made to compile as much of the basic family information as possible prior to the actual interview. In order to do this, all existing records on each family were gathered together and all pertinent information on them was transferred to the forms used in the Relocation Survey. This was accomplished prior to May 16, 1944 on which date the actual interviewing began. The residents of each block were informed, prior to the date of the interviews in that block, of the purpose of the survey, the information that would be requested, the service that could be given, and the time that the interviewers would be available. This was done by contact with the block managers who distributed material which had been prepared in both English and Japanese. Additional material was continuously disseminated during the Survey through the Minidoka Irrigator.

At the time of the interview the information already obtained was brought up to date and the individual, representing the basic family unit, was encouraged to discuss the family's plans and problems. This discussion included 1) present status of the family, 2) health of all family members, 3) educational plans and opportunities, 4) financial resources and needs, 5) employment, both past and present, 6) relative resources and needs, and 7) plans for, or deterrents to, relocation. The family was advised regarding relocation opportunities and counselling was given, if deemed advisable. If it was felt that continued counselling involving case work service was indicated, the family was referred to the Welfare Division. Material regarding relocation opportunities, such as the Facts about America Series, was made available to anyone interested in having it.

In a great many cases it was felt that the opportunity to discuss, with some one outside the administrative personnel of the particular camp, the problems, plans, and prejudices of the individual and the family, led to a more normal, healthy outlook on the part of that individual, and subsequently the family, by providing a release for any resentments which may have been piling up. However, the need for this release was apparent only indirectly in the majority of contacts as the attitudes encountered were very cooperative and objective, and the evacuee seemed, in almost every case, to be making a sincere effort to adjust his personal life, plans, and thinking to a realization of the necessity for the action taken and to be motivated by a desire to cooperate in the future plans of W.R.A.

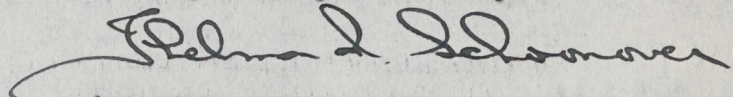
The information which was obtained was set up on a face sheet, a relocation outlook, and a summary, and these forms were prepared in quadruplicate. Of these copies, one was sent to the Statistical Department, one to the Welfare Department, and the other two were retained by the Relocation Division, one to be kept on file there and the other to be sent, when plans for relocation were made, to the Relocation Officer in the district for which a preference had been expressed. It was decided that by this arrangement complete family information would be on file, in every interested department, for each family on the project without the necessity of subjecting the family, at a future date, to another interview in order to obtain the same material.

During the time the interviews were in progress, this interviewer talked with one or more representatives of four hundred and twenty-nine families. Out of this number ninety-four expressed an interest in relocation, either immediate or future, and three hundred and thirty-five stated they were not interested in relocation, or offered deterrents which prevented relocation plans being worked out at that time. In a consideration of the material obtained, it was the consensus that it was advisable to complete the survey of the entire camp before the detailed follow-up work was begun as the information being obtained indicated it would be of value for future planning and should be secured while the evacuees were prepared to give it. However, it was also the consensus that an immediate follow-up should be done on this approximately twenty-two percent who had expressed an interest in relocation in order that aid might be given in working through the tentative family plan or in completing the program already set up for the family unit.

In the follow-up program of counselling with those who wish to relocate it is suggested that careful attention be given to what might seem to be comparatively small details in the family plan but which actually loom large when a family is faced with a complete readjustment of its way of life. Concern was expressed on such items as adequate housing, leave grant plans, whether leave grants would be given only to the family group or to individual members at different times, acceptance by communities, educational facilities, etc. It is recommended that the housing teams, set up in some communities, be contacted before the family completes final arrangements in order that they may be assured of

living quarters immediately upon arrival, even though they may later wish to change, that detailed information about assistance available at the point of departure, as well as at the place of future residence, be carefully given, and that the Relocation Officers in communities open to resettlement be encouraged to find groups to undertake such projects as meeting relocatees at the train, assisting the children to become established in schools, and assuming the responsibility for introduction to sympathetic church, educational, and social groups. It has been learned that some Relocation Offices have already expressed the opinion that the Survey has been most worthwhile and that beneficial results are already being noted, not only in the interest expressed in family as well as in individual relocation, but particularly in the type of information now available to the Relocation Officer in the new community. Detailed information about the family group, their background, history, employment record, health, standards of living, relative resources and responsibilities, education, etc. which is contained in the summaries now being sent from the camps will be invaluable to the satisfactory completion of the task of the Relocation Officer.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Thelma I. Schoonover". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

(Miss) Thelma I. Schoonover