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HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE LANGUAGE SCHOOL
Office of the Commandant

Savage, Minnesota

25 June 1943

Mr. Charles F. Ernst
Central Utah WRA
Delta, Utah

Dear Mr. Ernst

The enclosed sheets are copies of a press release from this Headquarters in connection with the present recruiting program for Camp Savage.

It is requested that this release be published in your Camp newspaper at the earliest convenient date.

Thanking you for your cooperation, I remain

Very truly yours,

/s/

KARL T. GOULD
Lt. Colonel, Cavalry
Director of Personnel

KTG:eb
Incls: 4 copies press release

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CAMP SAVAGE ARMY LANGUAGE SCHOOL

Army

The purpose of Camp Savage is to produce translators, interpreters and interrogators possessing knowledge of the Japanese language. The course runs for six months--naturally the applicants are required to have a background of some Japanese prior to entrance to the school. There is no spying work of any kind connected with the work in the school or at the school.

(1) The translator will translate captured documents, papers, and maps into English and this is done by the Army of every country today.

(2) The interpreter will interpret into English what the Japanese prisoners of war wish to have American officers understand. It is not the work of the interpreter to make the prisoners of war talk. His work is to interpret what the wounded Japanese prisoners of war want--namely, food, water, and other comforts. It is he who tells the American nurse what part of the prisoner's body hurts or is suffering. It is he who enables a prisoner of war to write a letter to his home if he so desires.

(3) The interrogator will interrogate the prisoner of war but a ~~nist~~ interrogator who understand Japanese psychology may fulfill the purpose without resulting to physical violence. It is already understood that the Japanese soldiers fight to the last man and only those who are unable to kill themselves are captured. Would they not appreciate it if somebody who speaks Japanese is around to console them? Would it not help them to feel strong if they realized that there is someone who understands them? Would it not be the real duty of a ~~nist~~ to offer their services in this connection?

The work at the School starts with translation of grammar school books and gradually advances. Men of different abilities study the same; however, the lower sections advance at a slower pace.

The men, without exception, will be promoted Corporal Technicians at the end of the fourth month. They will keep the rating until graduation and after the assignment is given, they will be appointed a rank lower than what they should get at the front. In other words, if a man deserves a Technical Sergeant's rating, he will be given a Staff Sergeant's rating before leaving the School. There is no other Army Camp in the United States which guarantees such a speedy promotion. After six months training the men who have had no basic training will get it. (The basic training is now given at Camp Shelby, Miss. for a period of two months.) The training is to equip a man with the art of self-defense, and at the same time, with that of destruction of the enemy.

RESTRICTED!

Already there are many graduates of the School who are assigned in various types of work at the front. The result of the work of these men will have hearings, directly or indirectly, upon the Americans of Japanese ancestry in the United States. The volunteers for Camp Savage are doing three good things at a time; for the country, he is doing a great work for which very few people, particularly caucasians, are qualified; secondly his work enables him to do a great favor for the rest of the nisei and issei; thirdly he is improving his Japanese as well as English.

In the very near future, representatives of the School are arriving to recruit the volunteers. Sgt. Matsui is here to list the names of those who are interested to expedite the work upon the arrival of such a crew. In the meantime, he is located at the Caucasian Dormitory No. 6.

To be released Monday, 22 October,
at noon.

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THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE LANGUAGE SCHOOL

OCT 22 1945

When the Japanese peace envoys lined up at Nichols Field in the Philippines to meet Major General Charles A. Willoughby, Assistant Chief of Staff in charge of intelligence at General MacArthur's GHC, they were met by non-handshaking, Japanese speaking Colonel Sidney F. Mashbir, Chief of the Allied Translator and Interpreter Section attached to General MacArthur's headquarters. Included in the official party were two officers of Japanese American ancestry -- Lieutenant George K. Kayano of San Francisco and Lieutenant Thomas T. Amada of Hawaii -- both graduates of the Military Intelligence Service Language School, at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. This was deserved recognition to the outstanding work which has been performed by Japanese-Americans (usually known as "Nisei") in the intelligence work of the armed forces in the Pacific theaters of operations.

Colonel Mashbir himself has said of the Nisei personnel who make up a large part of his Allied Translator and Interpreter Section staff, "Without Nisei, our work during the last three years would have been impossible."

Security and other factors had obliged the Niseis to work in anonymity. Now that hostilities have ended, recognition of their great job of work can be publicly made.

When the complete story of intelligence activities of the American and Allied forces in the Pacific, Burma-India, and China Theaters of war are revealed, the record will disclose that American born Japanese linguists broke the veil of secrecy in which the difficulties of the Japanese language had cloaked enemy activity. The record also will disclose that Nisei language personnel were used even in the European Theater of Operations for purposes of obtaining intelligence concerning the Japanese and their liaison with the Germans.

The story of how these Nisei language personnel became available for field duty is an interesting one. Even in this phase of military intelligence work, the army had set up a systematic training system to prepare these Japanese-Americans for their manifold duties as interrogators, interpreters, translators, radio announcers, propaganda writers, and cave flushers. This training has been carried on at the Military Intelligence Service Language School, situated since May 1942 in the Twin Cities area, first at Camp Savage and later at Fort Snelling where the school is still running at peak load training language personnel for duties incident to the occupation of Japan.

The sneak attack on Pearl Harbor found the United States largely unprepared to deliver the full weight of our power against the Japanese. Fortunately, thanks to the foresight of the War Department Intelligence Division the Fourth Army intelligence School teaching the Japanese language and combat intelligence work already was operating at the Presidio of San Francisco on Pearl Harbor day. Former language officers in Japan, then on duty with the General Staff, had foreseen that qualified Japanese language personnel would be essential for the successful prosecution of any war against Japan.

The War Department General Staff recognized the gathering clouds of war in the Pacific and knew the difficulties which our Army would face in combatting an enemy whose orders and messages would be in a language which is a complete mystery to the average American Army officer. Japanese officers had boasted that the security of Japanese military documents was no problem at all as Westerners could never learn to read and write Japanese, especially the abbreviated styles of writings known as "gyosho" and "sosho". These forms are about as similar to the printed Japanese character as a short-hand symbol is to an English word.

American Caucasian personnel of military age qualified in the Japanese language were dishearteningly few. With the crisis rapidly approaching,

there was little time to train additional Caucasian personnel. The War Department then made its decision to use Nisei Americans to solve the linguistic problem against Japan. It was admittedly a gamble for the United States for many believed then that the Nisei could not be trusted to stand the acid test of battle employment against their own race and blood. The decision to employ Nisei personnel in military Japanese language work certainly has proved to be a master stroke. The record of achievement by Nisei during the prosecuting of the war has been outstanding.

The use of Nisei linguists was not only militarily most shrewd quickly to provide our armed forces with adequate numbers of linguistically qualified personnel but was also politically far-sighted. Out of this group of Japanese-Americans in the army intelligence service has come American Nisei whose loyalty has been proven under fire in every theater in the war. Notwithstanding the evacuation and other hardships forced upon their relatives and friends in certain areas, they patriotically gave America all they had in her time of crisis. Before the formation of the 100th Infantry Battalion (Nisei) or the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, the Nisei engaged in Japanese language work for the Army intelligence were practically the only Nisei members of the armed forces. They were the test case which proved to the Army and the United States not only the loyalty and personal integrity of the Nisei but also the combat value of their linguistic services in the Pacific area.

It was thought at first that there would be enough Japanese speaking Nisei so that only a few weeks' review in general Japanese vocabulary and a little instruction in military Japanese terminology and combat intelligence would be required to fit them for field duty. These hopes did not materialize. After a survey of the first 3,700 Nisei, it was found that only 3 per cent were accomplished linguists, only about another 4 per cent were proficient, and a further 3 per cent could be useful only after a

prolonged period of training. The Americanization of the Nisei on the Pacific coast had advanced more rapidly than the United States public was aware. Japanese language schools created and encouraged by the Japanese Government to maintain ties with the homeland had not achieved the results with which they were credited. It quickly became evident that a special training school would be required to make the Nisei reasonably useful to the armed forces as Japanese linguists. Even Nisei well qualified in general Japanese had to be trained in Japanese military vocabulary and forms of writing.

The mustering of loyal Nisei qualified in the Japanese language became the primary difficulty. The screening of all of the Nisei personnel processed through the Selective Service stationed at the various army units on the Pacific Coast was accomplished. A personal interview and examination was given to each Nisei soldier in service. It was on one of these screening tours that the present Nisei Director of Academic Training at Fort Snelling, Major John F. Aiso, was found in the capacity of a "greasemonkey" in Company "D" of the 69th QM Bn (Light Maintenance). On the same screening trip Colonel Kai E. Rasmussen, the present Commandant, located in the 237th CA (AA) Pfc Arthur Kaneko who had had extensive Japanese language training in Japan. These two were ear-marked as potential instructors. Kaneko ever since has rendered superior service and is now a Lieutenant on duty in Military Intelligence research work.

Two Nisei civilian instructors, Mr. Akira Oshida of Berkeley and Mr. Shigeya Kihara of Oakland, were added to the staff. These four Nisei worked feverishly preparing the text books and classroom exercises for the Japanese language courses.

On November 1, 1941, about six weeks before Pearl Harbor the Fourth Army Intelligence School had started operations in an abandoned airplane hangar on old Crissey Field adjoining San Francisco Bay at the Presidio

of San Francisco. The first course at the school was opened with eight instructors and 60 pupils. Fifty eight students were Nisei and two were Caucasians who had studied Japanese either at the University of California or the University of Washington.

After Pearl Harbor day, it became evident that Japanese language personnel would be needed as never before, but other currents militated against the use of Nisei personnel. Most of the army personnel of Japanese ancestry not resident at the school were discharged or furloughed to enlisted reserve and relieved from active duty. Then followed the evacuation of all Japanese residents, aliens and citizens alike, from the Pacific Coast. The task of finding additional instructors or students from civilian life and in the army became more difficult.

The War Department then decided to place the school under its direct jurisdiction and reestablished it at Camp Savage, Minnesota, as the Military Intelligence Service Language School. The selection of Camp Savage as the site for this school was dictated by several factors: (1) the school was outgrowing its facilities at the Presidio of San Francisco; (2) Japanese evacuation from the Pacific Coast made it necessary to remove both faculty and students inland away from the excluded areas, (3) Japanese language instruction was so specialized that it would be difficult to fit it into the training program of any established military training center, and (4) a training center had to be found in a community which would accept the oriental faced Americans for their true worth -- American soldiers fighting with their brains for their native America.

The greatest problem which faced the Military Intelligence Service Language School after its removal to Savage was the recruitment of adequate numbers of students for the school to carry on an expanded program. Evacuation from the West Coast had been completed. The loyal Nisei and pro-Japanese elements were in conflict in the various Relocation Centers.

When the War Department adopted volunteer recruiting of Nisei language personnel, pessimists freely predicted that the school's quotas would never be met. Pro-Japanese elements apparently dominated the Relocation Centers and the loyal Nisei were reluctant to volunteer for army service because they felt that their rights as American citizens had been ignored in placing them and their families in the Relocation Centers which were barbed wire enclosures patrolled by armed soldiers.

Enough students volunteered to meet the school's requirements. In some cases they suffered beatings from pro-Japanese elements in Relocation Centers when they volunteered for language instruction at Camp Savage. Some were disowned by their pro-Japanese Issei (first generation) parents. Nevertheless, they reported by the hundreds. Many of the first groups of students were well over thirty, generally well qualified in the Japanese language and burning with a desire to vindicate themselves of any suspicions of disloyalty to America. So eager were they to finish their training as early as possible that it became necessary for the Duty Officer at Camp Savage to search the school area for burning electric lights in order to prevent students from extra study after lights out at 11:00 P.M. Many succeeded in extra hour study in spite of a long school day of seven hours instruction plus two hours study in the evening in the classrooms. Many requested that their training be accelerated so that they could get into the field as soon as possible "to get their hands on those dirty Japs that caused all the sufferings and hardships of evacuation" (of the Japanese from the West Coast.)

In G-2, War Department it became apparent that the Camp Savage school must be expanded. In August 1944 the school was removed to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, where it is presently located. The school today has a student body of nearly 3,000 composed principally of Nisei students, although there are Caucasian officer candidates, many of whom lived in Japan as children or young men, and a few enlisted men of Chinese and Korean ancestry. There are 125 classrooms.

Besides classroom facilities, there are the usual administration buildings and barracks. To these may be added a very modern short wave radio station where there are facilities for training students to become expert clear text wireless interceptors and radio monitors of Japanese broadcasts and wireless stations. In addition to the undergraduate training section, there is also a translation section and research and liaison section.

The teaching staff of 162 is composed entirely of Nisei Americans born in the United States and the Hawaiian Islands. Twenty-seven of the instructors are Nisei federal civil service employees, but the balance are Japanese-American Master Sergeants, Technical Sergeants, and Staff Sergeants.

From the Military Intelligence Service Language School have gone thousands of Nisei interpreters, interrogators, translators, radio interceptors, censors, radio announcers, and propaganda writers. They have been working quietly with American combat teams at Guadalcanal, Attu, New Georgia, the Philippines, and Okinawa; in Burma, India and China; and now in Tokyo itself. Their work has saved countless American lives and speeded victory. Many Nisei lie where they fell including Staff Sergeant Hachiya in Leyte, Captain Laffin in Burma, and Sergeants Shibata and Fukui on Okinawa. These Japanese-American heroes are alumni of the Military Intelligence Service Language School.

Major General Clayton Bissell, Chief of the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department General Staff, after reviewing the exploits of the graduates of the MISLS in the field said in effect at a recent commencement of the school: "If you Japanese-Americans are ever questioned as to your loyalty, don't even bother to reply. The magnificent work of the graduates of the Military Intelligence Service Language School in the field has been seen by your fellow Americans of many racial extractions. Their testimony to your gallant deeds under fire will speak so loudly that you need not answer."

NISEI LINGUISTS -- EYES AND EARS OF ALLIED PACIFIC FORCES

In the crucial battles of the Pacific, the Japs did not know (nor did thousands of Americans at home) that they were confronted not only by vastly superior American arms and daring Yankee intrepidity, but by an enemy who already had much detailed information of the Japanese plans for attack and defense. If the analogy to football to which some of the defeated Jap war lords have resorted recently is at all relevant, then the Japs were playing with their signals entirely known by their heavier and harder hitting opponents. But the Japs didn't know. They had lulled themselves into a self-complacent sense of security. They thought the complexities of the Japanese language in which their plans were written and communicated would be unfathomable to the Westerner.

For thousands of Americans on the fighting fronts knew this was so. They knew, however, that the American-born Japanese (better known as "Nisei") language specialists -- translators, interrogators, radio monitors, and order of battle experts -- were one of the chief means of obtaining intelligence of the enemy and his plans. The American Nisei trained at the Presidio, Camp Savage and Fort Snelling became the eyes and ears of not only the American fighting forces, but also that of the other allied armies fighting Japan.

These language specialists, working selflessly and in complete anonymity, translated from the Japanese language to English the enemy information concerning his tactical decisions and dispositions. This information greatly assisted our commanders in the field in making decisions, conducting effective maneuvers and avoiding surprise. Never before in history did one army know so much concerning its enemy prior to actual engagement as did the American army during most of the Pacific campaign.

It became almost routine practice for our Japanese-American language units to work so rapidly and accurately that our artillery was dropping shells on enemy command posts and gun emplacements within a few minutes of the time that information was obtained by the language detachment. On many occasions this intelligence helped clear the way for our doughboys slowly moving forward through the jungles.

AS one example, the official reports of the Americal Division disclose that it was the work of the language detachment that largely was responsible for the Divisional Commander knowing well in advance where and approximately at what time and in what strength the Japanese would attack the division along the Torokina River near Bougainville.

Graduates of the Military Intelligence Service Language School translated the entire Japanese battle plans for the naval battle of the Philippines. These plans were captured with Admiral Koga, then Commander-in-Chief of the Combined Japanese Fleets, when the plane in which he was hurrying to join his fleet made a forced landing in the Philippines. Slight wonder then that the Japanese suffered practically total annihilation and the worst defeat in naval history in the San Bernardino Straits and off the northeast coast of the Philippines.

Likewise, the complete Japanese plan for the defense of the Philippines also was made known through the work of the language specialists from the Military Intelligence Service Language School long before our forces had landed on Leyte.

Graduates of the Military Intelligence Service Language School include Americans of many racial backgrounds, but roughly 85 per cent of its graduates are Nisei Americans. Concerning the work of these Japanese-American language specialists, Joe Rosenthal, AP newscameraman who won the Pulitzer Award for his spot photo of the raising of the Star and Stripes at the crater rim of Mt. Suribachi, has written:

"Usually they work with headquarters in serving as interpreters. Armed with hand grenades at the entrances to Jap pillboxes or caves, they often convince the enemy to surrender where other officers, lacking the proper diction of the Jap language, would fail. They work so close to the enemy on these missions that with the danger of being killed by Japs, they run the risk of being shot, unintentionally, by our own marines. Their dungarees soon become ragged in rough country and the similarity of their physical appearance to that of the Japanese enemy makes their job much tougher.

"Many have paid with their lives, and many more have been wounded. They have done an outstanding job, and their heroism should be recognized. It

has been recognized by the marine commanders where I saw them in action at Guam, Peleliu, and Iwo."

Two of these Nisei, Technical Sergeant Kazuo Komoto with the 11th Airborne Division, and a Japanese-American Staff Sergeant with the 1st Radio Squadron Mobile, were among the first troops that landed at Atsugi Airfield near Tokyo. Komoto, incidentally, was the first graduate of the Military Intelligence Service Language School to win a purple heart when he was shot by a Jap sniper on New Georgia Island.

Another graduate, Technical Sergeant Robert Oda acted as interpreter when our naval forces took over the Japanese naval base at Yokosuka.

These language specialists came to the Military Intelligence Service Language School from all walks of life and from various parts of the United States, Hawaii, and Alaska. Among them were dentists, lawyers, PhD's, cooks, farm-hands, gardeners, laundrymen, houseboys, and even a professional gambler. One was a former member of the Territorial Legislature in Hawaii. A good cross section came as volunteers from behind the barbed wire fences of the Relocation Camps in which they had been placed shortly after Pearl Harbor. Some were veterans of World War I, well over 45 years old, and with three or more teen age children. Technician 3d grade James Yoshinobu who served with the 4th Marine Division on Iwo Jima and Technical Sergeant John Tanikawa, who was awarded a Bronze Star for his work with the 41st Division on Leyte, were veterans of World War I.

Nisei language specialists have been with every major unit in every engagement from Guadalcanal and Attu to the march into Tokyo. To mention all units with which they served would be to list every major unit that has engaged in combat in the Pacific. The great task of the War Department and the Military Intelligence Service Language School was to supply the demand for these linguists. This entailed a comprehensive study of the history of practically every Japanese-American male of military age.

A story is told about Lt. General Alexander M. ("Sandy") Patch's reaction to the Nisei. When the first group of Nisei arrived at his command, it is reported that he hesitated to use them. It is reported (perhaps apocryphally) that after their first campaign he thought so much of them that he would go

personally to the transports and welcome each group as they came off the gangplank. Today, General Patch, who also had under his command the 442nd Regimental Combat Team in the European Theater of Operations (also composed of Nisei), is one of the staunchest Nisei supporters.

From Guadalcanal, Lieutenant Colonel John A. Burden, then Captain in the G-2 Section of the XIV Corps wrote:

"The use of Nisei in the combat area is essential to efficient work. There has been a great deal of prejudice and opposition to the use of Nisei in combat areas. The two arguments advanced are: (1) Americans of Japanese ancestry are not to be trusted, and (2) the lives of the Nisei would be endangered due to the strong sentiment against Japanese prevailing in the area. Both of these arguments have been thoroughly disproved by experiences on Guadalcanal, and I AM GLAD TO SAY THAT THOSE WHO OPPOSED THE USE OF NISEI THE MOST ARE NOW THEIR MOST ENTHUSIASTIC ADVOCATES. It has been proven that only the Nisei are capable of rapid translation of written orders and diaries, and their use is essential in obtaining the information contained in them."

Lieutenant Colonel William M. Van Antwerp, in charge of intelligence for the 27th Infantry Division, had this to say: "The MAKIN operation afforded the first opportunity for the Language Section of this Division to operate in combat. Their actions and the results of their work reflect high credit on them and the Military Intelligence Service Language School."

Major General Ralph C. Smith who commanded the 27th Infantry Division added: "The language section attached to the 27th Division was invaluable in the MAKIN operation."

From the China-Burma-India Theater, Captain Barton Lloyd, a graduate of the Military Intelligence Service Language School, wrote: "I cannot overstate the value that Colonel Stilwell (son of General Stilwell) and his headquarters place on Nisei language men. As far as everyone who has had contact with the Nisei is concerned, they are tops -- they are doing a darned good job, much of it under conditions they never expected. Sergeants Matsuna and Mazawa were dropped by parachute deep in Kachin territory to an Office of Strategic Services unit. They have been working in areas behind enemy lines, doing both language and radio intercept work. These two volunteered without

any hesitation and took their jumps in fine form although having had no previous training in parachute jumping whatsoever. The paratrooper who gave them instructions and who accompanied them on their jump flight told me that when their turns came to jump, they took off themselves with 'no assistance'."

According to reports from Leyte, General Krueger repeatedly has congratulated and commended the Nisei language men for their fine work on Leyte.

A Nisei Technical Sergeant wrote from the Marshall Islands, "Incidentally, I was called in by Major General Corlett, the commanding general of the 7th Division, and he personally extended his congratulations to our team for the work that the boys did."

Recognition has been given to the work of these Nisei Americans in the field. Although the reports are not complete and records are only fragmentary, at least 50 Nisei have received direct commissions from the ranks as Second Lieutenants, and another 25 or 30 have been commissioned through the various Officer Candidate Schools in Australia and in the United States. One of these, Masaji Marumoto of Honolulu, has received a commission as a First Lieutenant in the Judge Advocate General's Department and was the civil affairs legal officer attached to Military Government in Okinawa when the last report was received.

A number of Nisei have been awarded decorations for intelligence work in combat but complete information in this respect also is lacking. As far as is known at present 1 Distinguished Service Cross, 2 Legion of Merits, 5 Silver Stars, 1 Soldier's Medal, over 50 Bronze Stars, and 15 Purple Hearts have been awarded. It is certain that many more decorations have been received by Nisei intelligence personnel.

Some Japanese-American language specialists have been assigned to the larger headquarters and in various stations in the continental limits of the United States and have been denied the opportunity of serving in combat. Most of the honor graduates of each graduating class were retained as instructors at the Military Intelligence Service Language School to train other students. It has taken considerable discussion to convince these men that they could render more important service in non-combat assignments.

Roy Cummings, Honolulu Star Bulletin correspondent, has pointed out the non-language side of their roles in the Pacific. He wrote: "Pocket

dictionaries aren't the only articles the men of the school make use of out there. Things happened fast after the landing on Okinawa. One of the language men was on guard the third night that we were there. He challenged a man who came out of the darkness. The man did not halt and when he came closer the sergeant saw that it was an enemy soldier, so he cut him down with his carbine."

Fourteen Nisei volunteered for service with Merrill's Marauders in Burma. An officer writing of their exploits says: "Throughout, whenever and wherever there was need for any of the boys, they never hesitated. They were not only interpreters but soldiers at the front. They faced danger willingly, whenever called upon. They faced the enemy, fought against him. Roy Matsumoto, Ben Sugeta, Robert Honda and Henry Goshu are credited with about 30 Nips. You can see by that that the boys have been right upon the line."

"During battles they crawled up close enough to be able to hear Jap officers' commands and to make verbal translations to our soldiers. They tapped lines, listened in on radios, translated documents and papers, made spot translations of messages and field orders, and in numerous other ways made themselves invaluable."

It was in the engagement at Myitkyina that these "Marauder boys" lost their commanding officer, Captain William Laffin (his mother was a Japanese) when he was strafed by enemy planes. Of the 14 Nisei who started out with General Merrill, six were commissioned as officers for meritorious service in the field, one was decorated with the Legion of Merit, and three received the Bronze Star. All received the Combat Infantryman's Badge and the Presidential Unit Citation.

It is interesting to note that many of the outstandingly daring feats were performed by graduates who were "Kibei" (those born in the United States but sent at an early age to Japan and educated there). These "Kibei" are mistakenly judged in some quarters as being pro-Japanese elements in the Japanese-American community.

Tech Sergeant Kaz Kozaki, a former non-commissioned officer instructor at the Military Intelligence Service Language School, is a "Kibei" and so is Technician 3d Grade Eiichi Sakaya. Kozaki won a Silver Star and a Purple Heart for rescuing an American army officer under fire when they were attacked.

by the Japanese as they were landing on New Guinea from their landing craft. Eichi Sakaiye rescued a wounded British officer under fire in the China-Burma-India Theater and likewise became the recipient of a Silver Star.

Technician 5th Grade Terry Takeshi Doi was an out and out "Kibei". His Japanese was stronger than his command of English. He had been caught as a dual-national in Japan and had been forced to serve in the Japanese army, thereby losing his American citizenship. He had been kept at the Military Intelligence Service Language School after graduation before he was cleared as being trustworthy for service in the combat zone. When Doi appeared before Judge Robert Bell of the U. S. District Court in the Twin Cities for restoration of his American citizenship, a Canadian dancer who also was scheduled to be sworn in as an American citizen requested Judge Bell to swear her in separately. As she put it, she refused to be "sworn in with a Jap". Judge Bell denied her request and she walked out of court.

Terry Doi was one of the first Nisei to land on Iwo Jima. Several had landed among the first waves, about "H hour plus 45". And from that time on he distinguished himself going into cave after cave with only a flashlight and knife persuading many enemy soldiers to come out and surrender. Wrote Lt. Wesley H. Fishel, Doi's commanding officer, to Judge Bell, "I know you'll be happy to know that Terry did one of the finest pieces of work possible. Doi was one of the first GIs to land on Iwo Jima. The limits of censorship prohibit details, but I can say Terry is one of the bravest and most capable men I have seen out here."

Another Caucasian officer graduate of the Military Intelligence Service Language School, Lieutenant Squire wrote: "There was nothing but praise for the Nisei boys, particularly a boy by the name of Doi.....There is a story about him people tell which goes something like this. He was continually going into caves with a knife and flashlight and hollering to the enemy to 'get the hell out or else'. Mr. Doi's middle name is now 'Guts'."

Technician Grade 3 Kenji Yasui is another "Kibei" who has won for himself the title of the "Nisei Sergeant York". Yasui, because of his schooling in Tokyo (middle school graduate and college division graduate of Waseda University) and his command of the Japanese language, was sent to the Office of War Information in India to work on propaganda leaflets to be

dropped over the enemy lines. Masquerading as Colonel Yamamoto, a local Japanese Commander, he brought in single handed a dozen Jap. prisoners of war. John Emerson, State Department Political Adviser to the Theater Commander, and himself a former State Department language officer in Tokyo, wrote Colonel Rasmussen as follows:

"I don't know whether you have heard yet that one of them, Kenji Yasui, has been recommended for a citation (Yasui received the Silver Star) for his courageous performance in bringing in 13 Japanese prisoners during the mopping-up operations in Myitkyina. Kenji and two others volunteered to go out to an island in the river to round up a bunch of Japs. He swam out, got a cramp half-way across and almost drowned, shouted to the Japs to come out, and finally got 13 together. Two had to be killed and one tried to blow Yasui and himself up with a grenade. Kenji luckily escaped that. He announced that he was a Colonel and made them line up and execute close order drill. Then he made them get in the river and swim across pushing a raft on which he stood with carbine aimed at them. Afterwards he learned the Japs had 20 rounds each and had a bead on him when he came ashore. Only because he started shouting military commands in Japanese did they hold fire."

Technician 3d grade Shigeto Mazawa served with the KACHIN RANGERS (native Burmese levies) and took part in daring raids against the enemy in Burma. Much to his surprise, he found himself a temporary Captain in the British Army commanding a whole company of KACHIN RANGERS.

Several have reported none too amusing incidents---that of being captured by Chinese troops and being mistaken for Japanese soldiers. They have reported that they never talked so fast with sign language and wrote so many "Kanji" (Chinese characters used in the Japanese language) in all their lives to explain that they were "Minkuo" (American) soldiers. They have described their complexion as having remained a pale green for the next three months or more.

Sergeant Vic Nishijima was on Ie Jima (Ie Island west of Okinawa) on the morning that Ernie Pyle, the GI's favorite correspondent, was killed by a Japanese machine gun ambush. Writing to his friends at Fort Snelling, Nishijima wrote: "I had to give war scribe Ernie Pyle hell for trying to cross

a mine field. Also wound up in a newsreel with him but didn't know who the 'elderly private' was until next morning."

Technician 4th Grade Seiyu Higashi was born in Los Angeles, but was taken back to the town of Naha in Okinawa in his early years. He was reared in Naha, completed middle school, and then returned to Los Angeles. He graduated from high school in Los Angeles and shortly after Pearl Harbor he enlisted in the United States Army. Higashi was sent to Okinawa because of his knowledge of the Okinawa dialect. Upon reaching the town of Naha, he accidentally ran into his father that he had not seen for eight years.

Like all troops in the combat zone, some of these Nisei language specialists will never return to the country they fought for. Many have given their lives in the service of their country. Ten were killed in an airplane accident in Okinawa a day before VJ-Day. Others have been killed by enemy action.

Technician 3d Grade Frank T. Hachiya was born in Hood River, Oregon, the place where the local American Legion Post erased the names of 16 Americans of Japanese ancestry from the country memorial honor roll. After basic training at Camp Roberts in California, Frank was assigned to the Military Intelligence Service Language School at Camp Savage. At the time of his death, he was a veteran of the Kwajalein and Eniwetok campaigns. He had been sent out as a special replacement to the language team working with the Sixth Army headquarters on Leyte. He was scheduled to fly back to Honolulu the following day. His father was in a Relocation Camp, but his mother was in Japan.

Hachiya volunteered to cross an enemy infested valley to question a prisoner of war who had been captured by friendly units on an adjacent ridge. Lieutenant Howard M. Moss, his commanding officer, said, "It was essential to get the information from the prisoner of war immediately as some of our units were in a bad spot.....When they reached the bottom of the valley a Jap sniper let them have it at close range when he started hollering to the Japs in the valley in Japanese. Frank emptied his gun into the sniper. Then he walked back up the hill where he was given plasma....At the hospital he was given every possible care, but the bullet had gone through his liver."

Others like Sergeant Omura in New Guinea, Staff Sergeant Shoichi Nakahara, Technician 3d Grade Eddie Fukui, Technician 4th Grade Mitsuru Shibata, Technician 4th Grade Ben Satashi Kurokawa, and Technician 4th Grade Sunichi Bill Imoto on Okinawa also have lost their lives in service of their country. However, the circumstances surrounding the death of Sergeant George I. Nakamura, who was killed in action in the Philippines deserve special mention.

George was the son of a Japanese alien who was seized shortly after Pearl Harbor in Watsonville, California, for possessing "rockets and other signal equipment." His father was taken into custody, but was exonerated and is living in Rockford, Illinois today. His son did not hesitate to give his life for the United States in which he was born. Lieutenant James Hoyt, his commanding officer, describing the circumstances of his death wrote: "Nakamura was on temporary duty with the 63rd Infantry Regiment of the 6th Infantry Division and participated in an engagement near Payawan. With heroic intrepidity, he exposed himself to enemy fire in order to issue an oral ultimatum of surrender to several isolated enemy units."

There also was Technical Sergeant Yukita Mizutari who was killed in New Guinea and who received the Silver Star posthumously. This non-commissioned officer language team leader went to the rescue of his subordinates who had been fired upon by enemy infiltrating into their positions. Colonel Mashbir, Chief of the Allied Translator and Interpreter Section of General MacArthur's Headquarters wrote: "The loss of Technical Sergeant Mizutari is considered with the deepest regret since this soldier was a soldier in every sense of the word, and while serving with various language units in the field as well as at the Allied Translator and Interpreter Section, his contribution in fidelity and devotion to duty was outstanding. His record serves to exemplify the great work of the Nisei for their country to which cause he has given his life."

By their invaluable language work in the field, thousands of American lives have been saved. The job of the Nisei was primarily that of language technicians, but they have demonstrated that they could be soldiers as well. As one First Sergeant at Fort McClellan, where a large group of the men from the Military Intelligence Service Language School went for basic training,

wrote to one of the graduates who has seen service in the Philippines: "If all Americans-Japanese or I might say 'democratic Japanese' feel like you fellows did, things are 'on the ball' and this old 'democratic way of life' is worth fighting for."

These Nisei eyes and ears of the Allied Forces that greatly assisted in bringing Japan to her knees in unprecedented defeat have vindicated in their way the faith which President Roosevelt, our great wartime president and commander-in-chief, placed in them when he said, "Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry.....Every loyal American citizen should be given the opportunity to serve this country wherever his skills will make the greatest contribution....." In military Japanese language work, the Nisei language specialists have done just that.

ARMY JAPANESE LINGUISTS IN TRAINING

For most army organizations, VJ-Day meant the beginning of curtailment of activities and a slackening to a peace time tempo. For the Military Intelligence Service Language School, it spelled just the opposite--heavier loads and a faster gait. The Military Intelligence Service Language School under the direct jurisdiction of the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department, better known in military circles as "MISLS" is located at Fort Snelling, Minnesota. The MISLS has been the only "language factory" which has turned out Japanese language specialists on mass production basis for the various allied military, air, marine, and naval units engaged in fighting the Japs. Practically every army officer or army non-commissioned officer engaged in Japanese language work today has been at one time or another a student at the MISLS.

During the Japanese war, the graduates of the MISLS were vital cogs in the combat intelligence and psychological warfare work. Today, they are in Japan serving as equally important links in communication between General MacArthur's occupation army and the Japanese people. Most of these linguists are Japanese-Americans holding non-commissioned officer status. Most of them have been overseas long enough to be eligible for return home under the army point and age system. Initially these linguists were declared "critical" and hence deburred from release under the point system. Now they are being discharged on the same basis as any other GI.

The occupation of Japan from the linguistic standpoint presents many problems. With many of the NCO linguists being returned to the United States, the problem of their replacements is a very serious one for the Army. That is why the MISLS is operating today under a peak load with around 3,000 students under instruction and hundreds of others still to be trained to replace veterans who will be returned.

While the Commandant and administrative staff of the school is composed largely of Caucasian personnel, both the language training staff and the student body are predominantly Nisei. The school originally was housed in temporary barracks at Camp Savage, Minnesota, but for the last year has been located at Fort Snelling, Minnesota.

The Army Japanese Language neophyte comes from varying backgrounds. Most are Nisei whose homes are in Hawaii or the Pacific Coast. However, there are enrolled at MISLS a few Nisei born in Connecticut, or Texas, or Michigan and elsewhere. Some of the officer students were Reserve Officers called up to active duty who had studied the Japanese language at some one of our very few universities--California, Washington, Columbia, or Harvard--that taught the Japanese language before Pearl Harbor. Others are AUS officers who had lived in Japan and who possessed varying degrees of ability in the Japanese language. Still others are Caucasian officer candidates who are graduates of the preparatory course of one year given at the Army Intensive Japanese Language School, University of Michigan, which also is under the direct supervision of the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department General Staff.

Upon arriving at the MISLS, the new student is assigned to one of the student companies which make up the "School Regiment" of 10 companies. He is attached to a company merely for housing, messing, administration, and minimum basic military training. All language training is done under the jurisdiction of the Academic and Military Training Sections.

The typical daily routine for students at the MISLS starts at 6:00 with School Call at 7:30. Except for a lunch period from 11:45 to 1:30 the student is engaged in language instruction from 7:30 to 4:20 in the afternoon. There is a period for exercise and dinner, after which "Joe Language Student" marches back for supervised evening study from 7:00 until 9:00 P.M. Voluntary study is permitted only until 10:30. Most of the students must prepare intensively for the recitations and quizzes of the day school sessions. At 11:00, all lights are out, and "Joe Language Student" has well earned a good night's rest. He has put in a long, hard day's work. Necessity forces a heavy work load and a fast tempo. The student may not have been able to complete all of his preparations for the next day. He may not have had time to write to his family or his girl friend at home. Like all GI Joes he complains that his instructors and officers are most inhumane.....but he is tired and he dozes off dreaming of weird distortions of the 50 to 200 new "Kanji" (Chinese characters employed in Japanese) he has tried to learn that day.

This with the usual inspections and fatigue is the routine, except for Wednesdays and Saturdays when school work terminates at 11:45. On Wednesday

afternoons "Joe Language Student" is not at liberty. He is given "military training"--quite often a good long stiff cross-country march of from five to ten miles.

Practically all of the classroom hours are spent in Japanese language or Japanese intelligence training involving the usage of Japanese language such as prisoner of war interrogation, the translation of captured documents, Japanese radio and wireless messages clear text interception and monitoring. Two hours of the week are scheduled for theoretical military science and tactics courses.

On the language training side, the student is given an examination of four hours' length upon arrival at school to determine his proficiency in Japanese. This is necessary for grouping the students into sections of equal ability.

Many of the Nisei at Fort Snelling have had to teach or study with anxious hearts. Many had relatives in Relocation Camps in the Western States. After the Japanese were permitted to return from the Relocation Camps to the West Coast, incidents that caused much anxiety occurred. The following article from the Minneapolis Morning Tribune reports one of these incidents:

"Three Japanese-American soldiers stationed at Fort Snelling, Wednesday, expressed dismay at treatment their parents, recently returned to their homes in California, are receiving.

"At Livingston, California, Sunday, Mr. and Mrs. Shozo Kishi, parents of Cpl. Sherman Kishi and Pfc. Fred Kishi, members of the school battalion at Fort Snelling, were shot at despite the fact a service flag representing their two sons was displayed in the front window of their farm home.

"Late Tuesday at Auburn, California, a jury acquitted three men charged with attempted dynamiting of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Sumio Doi. Their son, Pvt. Karl Doi, also is a member of the school battalion. Another son, Cpl. Shigeyuki Doi, fought with American forces who rescued the trapped American battalion at Bastogne during the German's last large scale counter-attack."

The training staff and study body composed of Japanese-Americans are grateful to the citizens of the Twin Cities. Nisei both at the school and in the combat theaters are unanimous in praising the friendly treatment which the people of the Twin Cities accorded them during the troublous war years. The

authorities and people of the Twin Cities greeted and treated them as American citizens. They furnished entertainment that made their load lighter and their life more comfortable. Some of the principal organizations are the Minneapolis and St. Paul USO's, the Minneapolis YMCA and YWCA, the Minneapolis Defense Council, the Red Cross Camp and Hospital Council Service Committees of Hennepin and Ramsey Counties, the St. Paul Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, and the Council of Jewish Women. The Bar Associations of Hennepin and Ramsey Counties donated prizes to honor outstanding students at graduation exercises as did the city newspapers. Many churches and numerous citizens took many of the Nisei servicemen into their homes as guests on weekends and on holidays. Nowhere has the press been so solidly behind the Nisei, and nowhere has greater fairness and understanding been encountered than in the Twin Cities area.

In appreciation of the attitude of the people of the Twin Cities the students at the MISLS also have shouldered their civic responsibilities. In every War Bond Drive, they have gone over the top. The school has always stood near the top of the units in the Seventh Service Command. Harris L. Romerein, Field Director of the Red Cross War Fund Drive during 1944, wrote:

"In the tabulation of the final results in the recent Red Cross War Fund Drive, we find that on a per capita basis the voluntary contributions of the men and officers at Camp Savage (MISLS) exceeded that of all other stations in our jurisdiction.

"These results, are in fact, so outstanding that we are at a loss as to how to adequately express ourselves concerning the matter."

In their Red Cross Blood Donations, the students of MISLS have set an enviable record over several years. On May 8, 1945, Mrs. William Quist, Special Assistant in Charge of Mobile Unit, wrote Colonel Rasmussen, the Commandant:

"The Red Cross Blood Donor Service, and in particular the Minneapolis Center and its Mobile Unit, are deeply appreciative of the contribution you and the men and officers under your command have made to the Blood Donor Service. Every visit to your group, both at Camp Savage and at Fort Snelling, have resulted in whatever quota we requested, and several emergency visits arranged on short notice to fill in cancellations maintained our quota."

Earlier in January 1945, she had written: "For each of the visits to your group, the production has been limited by our office, and we have only the highest praise for the manner in which your men respond to this service."

When Mayor McDonough of St. Paul appealed for help to Colonel Harry J. Keeley, post commander of Fort Snelling, for aid to the hard-pressed Twin Cities Coal and Coke Companies which were unable to make adequate deliveries to Twin Cities homes because of a cold wave and lack of manpower, many of the Japanese-Americans went to work driving trucks and delivering coal in sub-zero weather. Many of these volunteers had only shortly arrived from the balmy climate of the Hawaiian Islands.

Despite the rigorousness of their training, the students of the MISLS have distinguished themselves as soldiers. Their rate of AWOLs and venereal disease is very much lower than that of the average military garrison. In recognition of their outstanding record, the Chief of the Military Intelligence Division of the War Department, awarded the school cadre the "Meritorious Service Unit Plaque". This award is based on achievement and maintenance of a high standard of discipline, superior military courtesy, superior appearance of personnel, installations, and equipment, and enthusiastic execution of orders. Other factors also considered in making the award are the number of AWOLs, venereal disease rates, court martials and other punishments.

This is the sketchy pen picture of the army Japanese linguist as he underwent training before being shipped out to join the combat forces in the Pacific. Necessary changes have been made in the schedules and courses for his successors who are now undergoing training for Japanese language duties with the American Army of Occupation in Japan. The demands for qualified Japanese language personnel are greater than ever and the work load and tempo of instruction remain essentially unchanged. The student must be a good soldier and a good linguist. He is driven hard to prepare him for the heavy tasks ahead in the minimum time allowed. He gripes like all GIs, but he still takes his work in stride, does his duty well, and never fails in his mission.

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HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE LANGUAGE SCHOOL
Office of the Commandant

Fort Snelling 11, Minnesota
5 September 1944

Relocation Officer
Room 634, Circle Tower Building
Indianapolis 4, Indiana

Dear Sir:

On behalf of Colonel Rasmussen and his Staff, I wish to express our thanks for the excellent co-operation that your office has given to our procurement program in securing linguistically qualified American men of Japanese ancestry for the Military Intelligence Service Language School. During this year, we have met the quotas so far put up to us by the War Department, and no small part of our success has been due to the fine liaison maintained with the War Relocation Authority agencies and this headquarters.

I am sure you have been informed that we have moved the School to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, and that Camp Savage has been closed. Ample facilities now available to us have already been reflected in the heightened efficiency and improved welfare of our trainees.

As for American men of Japanese ancestry we are seeking one more class of linguistically qualified candidates for arrival by 1 December to begin their basic training (8 weeks) and their academic work 1 February 1945. This will undoubtedly complete our quota of men. It will be appreciated if you will advise interested young men to write direct to the undersigned for further information.

Confidentially, the opportunity to select and induct a group of qualified young women of Japanese ancestry is now being explored. The plan, in general, is to (1) determine their qualifications for further training at the Military Intelligence Service Language School as Japanese linguists, (2) have them cleared and inducted into the W.A.C.'s and sent to basic training at the W.A.C. training center, and (3) assign them to this school for the course. They would, upon graduation, be used for translation units, censorship, etc., and would, of course, enable us to release men for Combat Intelligence Duty.

We are, presently, exploring the qualifications of American women of Japanese ancestry already in the Army, but it will also be necessary to secure a good many from civil life. It would be of great help to us if you would bring this matter to the attention of such leaders on your staff concerned, and indicate as soon as possible the possibility of

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War Relocation Authority, 5 September 1944, continued

securing qualified young women known, or registered, in your office, for this purpose. I am inclosing 10 copies of a Personal History Statement for such young women you contact who may desire consideration for this assignment. Upon receipt of these completed forms we will explore their Japanese language qualifications further. Women are inducted into the W.A.C.'s on the same basis, pay and allowances as men in the Army.

Your cooperation in the location of qualified young women to train as Japanese linguists will be appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Rusch

PAUL RUSCH
Major, AUS
Director of Personnel

Inclosure
Personal History Statement (10)

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Duplicate under memos to all residents

F2-045

Army Lang
School

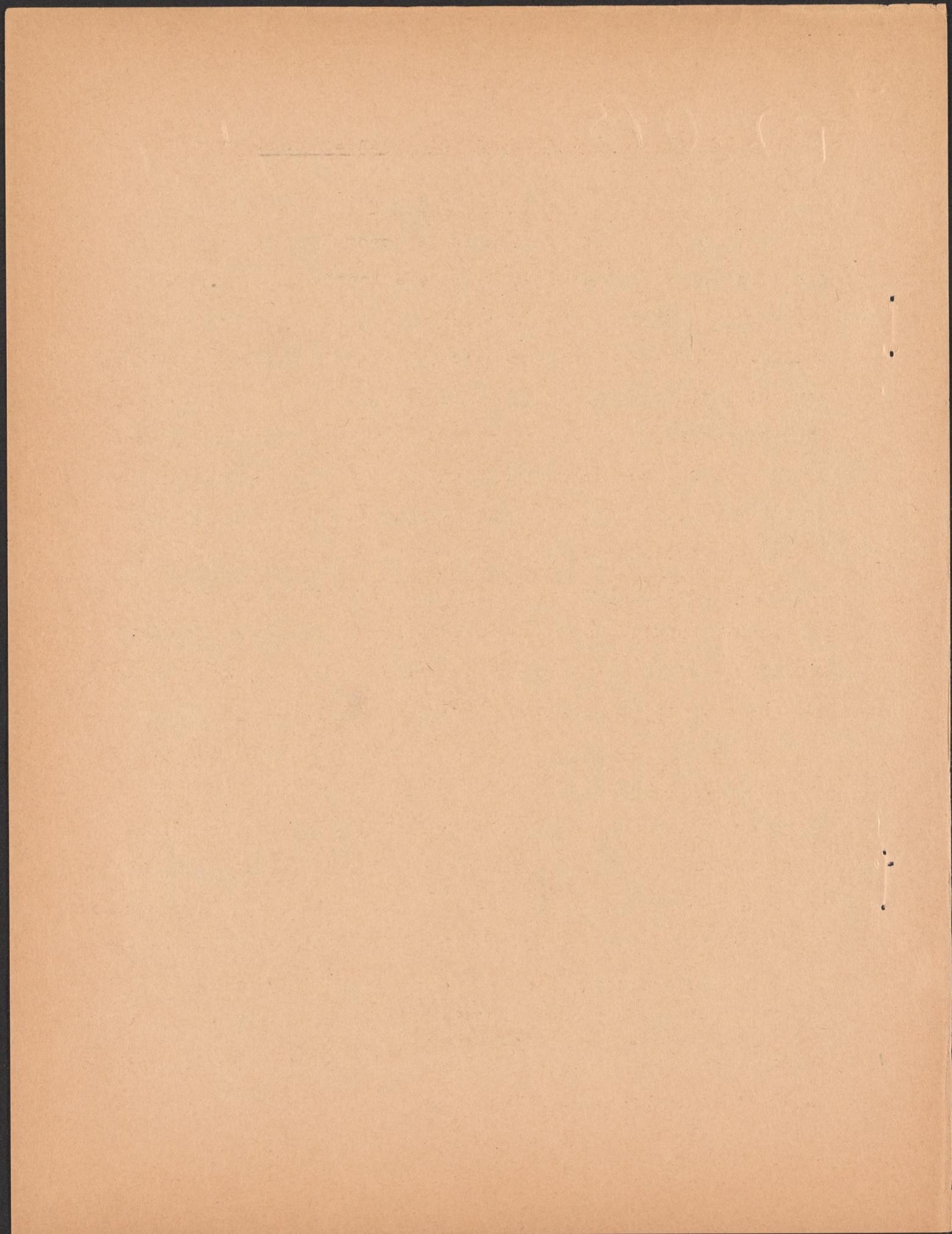
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AN APPEAL

TO

ALL AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY AND THEIR PARENTS

23 June 1943



An Appeal to Americans of Japanese Ancestry

Introductory Remarks

From every point of view it is impossible for anyone to question the fact that this will be a long war. The Japanese military are steeling their people for a "Hundred Years War", while the United Nations are firmly determined to wage all-out war until the unconditional surrender of the Axis is attained. Thus the Japanese in the relocation centers, citizen and non-citizen alike, are deceiving themselves if they expect the war to be over within the year and hope to go back to Japan to enjoy the spoils of newly conquered territories. Instead of living uselessly from day to day beguiled by these self-delusions, should they not now be opening their minds to the realities and be making sound decisions regarding their futures and those of the second and third generations?

As the war prolongs American strengthening herself day by day mobilizes herself for total war. Before long every man, woman and child will be taking active part in the war effort. Up to now the question of nisei participation in this war effort has been an issue in doubt. Even today we have the loud clamorings of anti-Japanese sentiment in certain portions of the country. But this latter is nothing more than the prejudices of portions of the country whipped up by war hysteria, and is by no means representative of American opinion as a whole. The authorities in Washington, the Army authorities in particular,

have come to recognize the loyalty of the nisei in spite of the objections of a certain small portion of the people and have fully realized the valuable service the nisei are ready to render. The result has been the definite policy that the nisei will be allowed to take active part on the fighting front.

Joseph C. Grew, the former United States Ambassador to Japan, stated recently in a public address:

"The existence of American citizens of Japanese ancestry is useful and valuable. I am most proud to have them as part of the American people."

This, in brief, may be regarded as a reflection of the attitude of the United States government today.

The government thus expects the nisei gladly to do their part for their homeland--America. The nisei themselves as draftees and as volunteers, have responded already in great numbers. Some have participated in actual combat in Europe, in Africa, in the Pacific, in India and in Burma, and have shown in action those qualities of loyalty and devotion worthy of the finest traditions the Japanese in America have long upheld. They have won genuine praise from every sphere.

In this world divided into two camps and locked in a bitter life and death struggle, Japanese Americans should not cling to delusory hopes nor shrink back into sulky or self-pitying attitudes harmful only to their own cause. Their future lies nowhere but in this land of America. How you conduct yourself during this war will decide your fortunes after the war.

God helps him who helps himself. Take sound stock of your position and bend your efforts now toward the working out of your own destiny. The alternatives may be the spending of most of your lives uselessly in the interment camp or a miserable return penniless and with your children ignorant of the Japanese language to Japan, a nation completely prostrate in defeat.

The Nature and Objectives of This School

Then what type of school is this Army Language School in Savage, wrongly called a "spy school" among you? Hitherto, due to the necessity of preserving military secrecy, details about the school have not been revealed, and hence may have led to various misunderstandings. This school is by no means a training school for spies. In time of war it is of vital importance to know the language, culture and customs of your foe. For this purpose this school was established at Savage shortly after the present war began and has been functioning in high gear since. The main object of the training here is to prepare men to be skilled language specialists. After an intensive course of six months, men are sent out into the field.

Since the students here, differing from ordinary enlisted men in other branches of service, will be performing special duties requiring technical skill, their promotions are faster than in any other branch. At the front they perform such duties as language specialists.

The Performance of Graduates at the Front

Since the establishment of the school, the number of those who have left for the front is considerable. In the far-flung areas of the Pacific theater, they are doing spectacular work, and their faithfulness and skill have received the commendation of Army commanders and staffs in the various areas. In the letters received from those at the front, we hear gratifying news that the graduates of this school are receiving excellent treatment and are highly valued.

The excellent results produced by these Japanese American soldiers have impressed upon the Army authorities the great importance of the roles these men will play in the future. This school will be further expanded as a direct result of this performance. To meet this expansion, this pamphlet has been prepared with a view to obtain more applicants from among Japanese Americans.

At the recent commencement exercises, the graduating class was addressed by a certain Major General from the War Department in Washington, who in an inspiring speech wished the citizens of Japanese ancestry great success. This school was also visited by His Excellency Ambassador Grew who stated that the fate of all Americans of Japanese ancestry is in your hands, and that no matter how certain groups of Americans may discriminate against the Japanese in America, the future of all Americans of Japanese descent will be secured by a record of unflinching service to the country during this war.

The nisei soldiers who leave the school for the front, all depart with an iron determination to fight not only for their country but with the future of all Americans of Japanese ancestry at heart. Such sentiments cannot help but bring tears to our eyes.

The Recruiting of Students

Enrollment in this school calls for no difficult prerequisites. Any male who can understand Japanese is qualified, and a profound knowledge of Japanese is not necessarily required. For the purposes of the Army, all who complete the six months' course of study will be useful.

In the near future recruiting personnel from this school will visit each relocation center and volunteers will be individually interviewed. You will find details published in your center newspapers. So when the recruiting officers arrive, you will have an opportunity to respond heartily and do your part for the sake of the future of all nisei.

In conclusion, a point should be stressed in connection with the attitude of the people in the Eastern and Central United States with regard to the Japanese. Quite contrary to the sentiments found in certain newspapers, which are daily attacking Japanese Americans, here in Minnesota and in adjacent regions the newspapers and public opinion in general view the Japanese Americans with sympathetic and understanding attitudes. The courtesy extended the soldiers by the people of nearby

Minneapolis is almost unbelievable unless personally experienced. This is a manifestation of the just attitude of people without racial prejudices and with genuine respect for the spirit of those who are giving themselves to the service of their country.

Kai E. Rasmussen.

KAI E. RASMUSSEN,
Colonel, CAC,
Commandant.

NISEI AMERICANS WIN RECOGNITION FOR LOYAL SERVICE

The Army has announced a plan in line with the total war effort whereby the Nisei will be given an opportunity to participate actively in the National Defense effort by utilizing most effectively the special abilities possessed by them. This plan embraces the expansion of the School at Savage by recruiting patriotic Nisei from the various centers for training and was instituted by the authorities with the object of aiding the Nisei to find their place in American society. The loyalty of Nisei which had become a burning question with Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, finally resulted in their evacuation from the Pacific Coast states, a situation undreamed of by the Nisei but which was necessitated by the exigencies of the Military situation. However, the unquestionable loyalty of the Nisei was recognized by the authorities in due time and in rapid succession many plans endorsing this recognition of their loyalty and invaluableness in the war effort were activated, such as the formation of the Nisei Combat team and, presently, their employment in war industries. Thus at this time, the School at Savage, Minnesota, which trains Japanese Language personnel will expand in order to enroll all Nisei who have any knowledge of Japanese and give them the opportunity to serve their country.

With the spread of war to the Pacific, the Nisei graduates of the School are fulfilling an indispensable position as specialist personnel in the Army in every sector of the

(Nisei Americans Win Recognition For Loyal Service - cont'd)

Pacific war front, from the hot, humid jungles of the tropics to the cold, bleak isles of the north. With the prolongation of the war, the demand for Nisei technicians on every front has greatly increased due to the conspicuous contribution they have made wherever they have gone, and as an inevitable result, this demand has called for a rapid expansion of the school.

Naturally, due to the nature of their work, the efforts of the Nisei technicians on the front have not been publicized. Nevertheless their splendid efforts to pave the way for the American citizens of Japanese ancestry have been such as to warrant reports of a Nisei private being recommended for a commission as officer in the U.S. Army. The Nisei soldiers on the front have not only made an enviable record of achievements and built a solid foundation for the future, but also at the same time they are laying the ground work for generations to come. Furthermore, they are demonstrating by action that they are an essential element of American society.

The U.S.A. is at the present engaged in a Total War, at this time of unprecedented crisis, fighting for her very life. And for this purpose she has mobilized all available manpower and material resources at her command. The time is now here when all men who claim birth in America, regardless of race, color, or creed, must arise to defend her either on the battle front or the production front. The Nisei are charged with the mission of playing their part at this time of national

(Nisei Americans Win Recognition For Loyal Service - cont'd)
peril by effectively and wholeheartedly utilizing their
peculiar and special talent in the Japanese tongue.

In achieving this end the Nisei are serving their nation
most effectively as specialist personnel on graduation from
the School. The Nisei's course of action in this present
crisis will decide the future of the American citizen of
Japanese ancestry. It is ardently hoped that not only the
Nisei themselves, but their parents will give this their most
careful consideration.

の實績極めて顯著なる現状と睨み合せて、益々増大化し、之が當然の結果として陸軍學校の強化擴充と云ふ飛躍的段階に到達したのである。

前線出征の日系兵士の活躍は仕事具のものゝ性質に鑑み、華々しく宣傳されなかつたのであるが、實際に於ては全日系市民の名譽の爲めに捲土重來の活躍を成し遂げ、一兵卒より將校に任官されんとする者もあると云ふ事實さへ傳へられてゐる程であり、前線にある日系兵士は第二世の爲め確固たる地盤を築きつゝあるのみならず來るべき第三世、第四世の時代への地均し、延いては米國社會構成の必須要素たる學を身を以つて立證しつゝあるものである。今や米國は人的、物的資源を總動員して未曾有の難局切り抜けに渾身の努力を續けてゐるのであり、米國に生を享けたる者は人種、皮膚の色の如何を問はず欣然立つて國難打開に當るべきの秋であり、日系市民に課せられた使命こそは、その特色を生かして行くにあると云へよう。

此の意味に於て日系市市が語學々校に入學し、學成つて前線に立つのは適材適所主義の妙を得たものと云ふべきで、同時に戰時に於ける日系市民の動向こそは米國に於ける日系人の將來を決定的ならしむるものと斷定し得べく、此の點第二世は勿論兩親たる第一世の熟慮が要望されてゐる。

日 系 兵 士 の 眞 價 認 め ら れ
語 學 特 科 兵 の 大 量 募 集

日系市民の特色を本國の戦争工作に活用し、愛國の熱情に燃える第二世をして所を得さしめようと云ふ尊い決心を如實に示す陸軍學校大擴張が陸軍當局より發表された。十、眞珠灣事件を契機として俄然論議の中心と化し、軍事的必要性は遂に第二世が夢想だにしなかつた轉任所收容と云ふ暗蒼たる事態まで進展したのであつたが思良なる第二世の至誠はやがて當局の認むる所となり日系市民戰鬪部隊編成、戰時陸軍學校と順次第二世の重要性を裏書する諸計劃が實行に移され、日系市民の黎明期來るの感深き折柄、語學特科兵を養成するミソソ州ワベージ陸軍學校では今回、同校を擴張し、いささかでも日本語の素養ある者はどしどし入學を許可し、戰時に於ける日系市民活躍の機會を與へる事になつた。既に同校卒業の日系兵士は南に赤道直下の炎熱を冒し、北に零下の酷寒と闘いつゝ太平洋戰線全域に亘つて、米國陸軍に取つて無くてはならぬ一智能の役割を勤めつゝ、今日に及んだのであるが、戦争漸く長期化の形態を帯びるに至り前線に於ける語學特科兵の需要は、そ

當校入學の資格については何ら六ヶしい條件はありません。たゞ日本語の分る男子ならば誰でもよろしい。語学の知識は敢て深きを要せず、誰でも六ヶ月の教習期間を了へたら、充分軍のお役に立つのです。募集の方法としては近く當校より募兵係り官が各轉任所へ出張、志願者を個別に試問することになつてゐますが、手續の詳細は各ロンドン新聞に發表されますから係り官の來着を待つて拙つて應募し、日系人の將來のため奮闘の第一歩を雄々しく踏み出して下さい。

終りに臨み一言したいのは東部中部の一般住民の日系人に對する態度についてです。或る地方の新聞が連日囂物入りで日系人排斥を呼號してゐるのに引かへ、こゝ、ミソツ州を始め東部中部に於ては一般民衆も新聞もひとしく同情あり理解ある態度を以て日系人を遇して居ります。特に當學校の近隣たるミソツ州の住民達が日系兵士に對して親切な事は、直接目撃する迄は到底信じられない程でありまして、これも國家のため身命を捧げた人々に對しては人種の別なくその誠意を尊敬するといふ公正なる態度の表はれだと思はれるのであります。

陸軍省當局に於てもこれら日系兵士の成績優秀なるに鑑み將來益々その必要となることを痛感して、今回當校の施設を更に擴張し、從來計劃せるよりも更に多數の兵士を養成することゝなつたのであります。このパンフレットは當校擴張のために日系市民諸君の間から更に多數の志願者を得べく起草されたものであります。

前學期學生の卒業式が數日前舉行されましたがその日首府ワシントンより陸軍省の某少將が態々來校され、日系市民の將來を祝福する意味の激勵の言葉を賜はりました。又ダルト大使閣下も過日本校を參觀せられ、「全日系人の運命はかゝつて諸君の双肩にある。一部國民が如何に排斥しやうとしても、この戰爭期間中に諸君が國家のために偉大なる貢獻をなす限り全日系人の將來は安全である」と言明されました。又校門を出て第一線に回はんとする二世兵士は一人一人「國家のために戦ふばかりでなく、親兄弟を始めとし全日系人の將來のために働くのだ」と涙と共に悲壯な決心を語りながら出て行くのです。その決意の程を見てはまことに涙なきを得ないではありませんか。

四、生徒募集の實施

これは決してスパイ養成所ではありません。戦争遂行のため相手國の言語、文化、風俗を研究することはこれ當然の必要であります。陸軍當局はこの目的の下に戦争勃發後當ツベシに本役を設置して今日に至つたのであります。當校に於ては日本語に精通せる語學特科兵を養成するを以てその主眼となし六ヶ月間猛烈なる講習訓練を興へた後第一線へ送り出してゐるのであります。當校入學生は他の兵科に屬する一般兵士と異り特殊の技能を以て軍務に服する關係上、昇進も他の兵科より遙かに早く、戰場に於ても語學特科兵としての特殊任務に服するのであります。

三、卒業生の活躍ぶり

開校以來訓練を了へて前線に出陣した者は既に相當の數に上つて居り、彼等は太平洋戰線の南北各戰場に於て目覺しき活躍をなし、その職務に忠實なる事、技能優秀なる事は各方面の軍司令官及び參謀部のひとしく認むる所となつて居るのであります。卒業生が出征後當校に寄せて來る手紙の中にも「豫想外の良き待遇を受け、重寶がられるので大いに感激して働いてゐる」といふ喜びの言葉がいつも見受けられる有様です。

して各方面の賞讃を博しつゝあります。

世界が二大陣營に分れて乾坤一擲、百年戦ふもなほ戈を收めざるの大戦争を行ひつゝある時、日人たるもの従りに空虚なる期待を未來に托して自ら墓穴を掘るが如き態度を固執すべきではありません。諸君の將來は一にかゝつてこの米國にあるのです。この戦争繼續期間中に諸君が如何なる行動を取るかといふ事が戦後に於ける諸君の辛不幸を決定するのです。神は自ら助くるものを助けるのであります、今にして諸君がその立場を認識し自己の運命開拓の爲め自ら努力しないならば、一生涯を空しく收容所の中に浪費するか或は敗戦のため疲弊その儘に送れる日本に無一文で送り還され、日本語も分らぬ子供をかかへて路頭に迷はなければならぬといふ悲惨な状態に陥るであります。

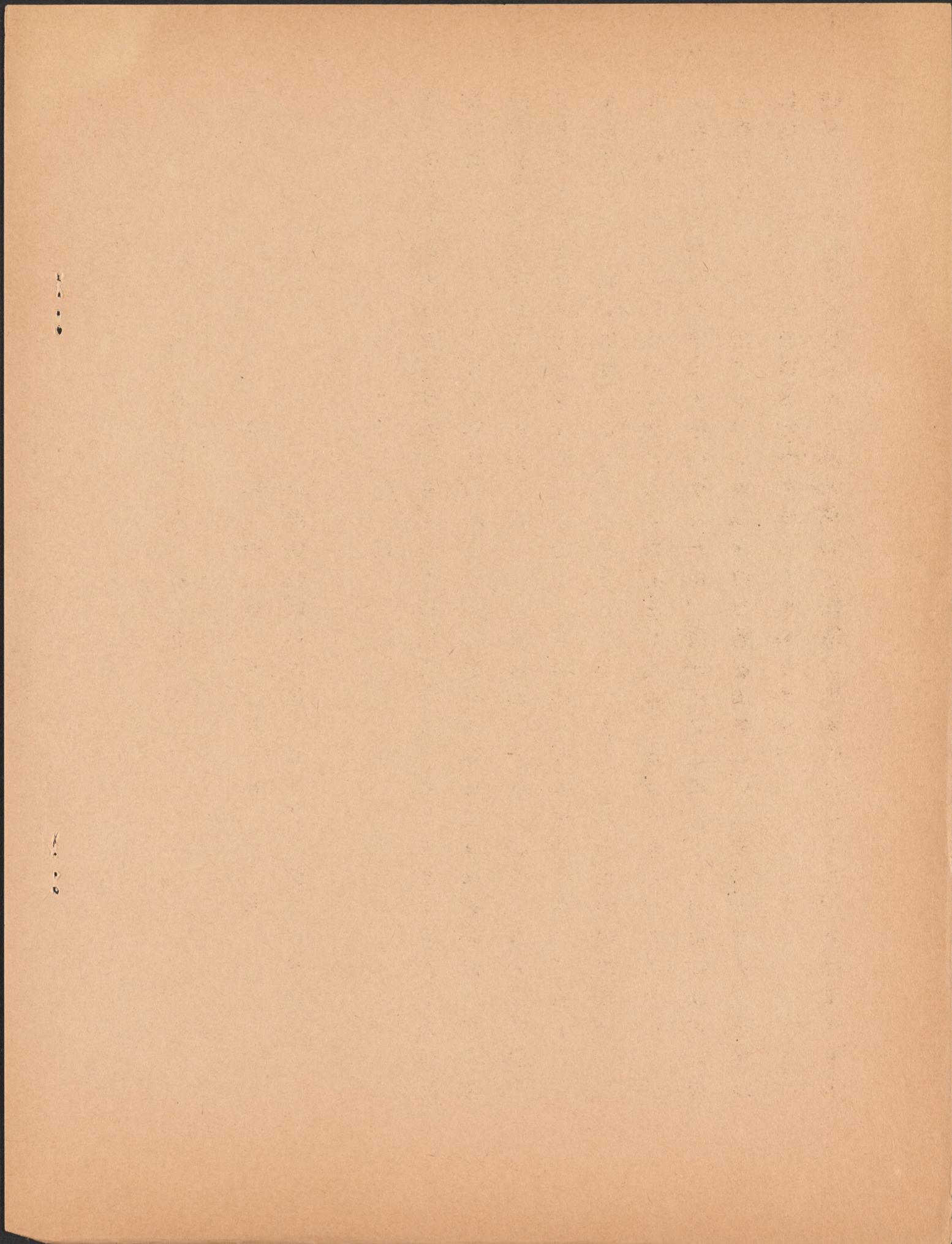
二、學校の内容目的

諸君の間でスパイ學校と誤解されてゐるミネソタ州ソベージの陸軍語學學校とは果してどんな學校であるか？その内容については戦時下軍事機密保持のため從來公表を許されなかつたので色々の誤解を招いた嫌ひがありますが、

有する壯丁は悉く銃を執つて戦線に起つ日が来るのも遠くないと考へられるのであります。

日系市民の戦争参加といふ問題については、今迄色々の議論がありました。が國內の一部に於て喧しく論ぜられてゐる日系人排斥問題は戦時特有の偏見の爆發であつて全米の輿論を代表するものに非ず、政府當局特に陸軍當局としては一部國民の反對を無視して日系市民の忠誠を認め、その戦争目的遂行に對する價値を充分認識して居り、日系市民を戦争の各局面に重用すべく確固たる方針を持つてゐるのであります。クルツ前駐日大使がさきに公開の席上に於て「日系市民は米國にとつて最も有用且つ貴重なる存在である。余は彼等が米國民の間に介在する事を無上の喜びとし誇りとするものである」と高唱されたことは、端的に見て、政府の日系市民に對する態度を明示したものと云つて差支へありません。かくの如く政府は日系市民諸君が欣然起つて母國アメリカの爲にその分を盡さんことを期待してゐるのであります。

一方日系市民に於ても開戦以來卒先して或は義勇志願兵となり、或は應召兵として陸軍に参加し、その一部は既に太平洋、歐洲、アフリカ、印度、ビルマの各戦線に於て實戦に参加し、日系人の誇りとする義勇奉公の精神を發揮



語學特科兵募集に就き
全日系人に懇ふ

ミネソタ州ワベージ

陸軍語學々校司令官

陸軍大佐 K. E. ラスムソン

NISEI AMERICANS WIN RECOGNITION FOR LOYAL SERVICE

The Army has announced a plan in line with the total war effort whereby the Nisei will be given an opportunity to participate actively in the National Defense effort by utilizing most effectively the special abilities possessed by them. This plan embraces the expansion of the School at Savage by recruiting patriotic Nisei from the various centers for training and was instituted by the authorities with the object of aiding the Nisei to find their place in American society. The loyalty of Nisei which had become a burning question with Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor, finally resulted in their evacuation from the Pacific Coast states, a situation undreamed of by the Nisei but which was necessitated by the exigencies of the Military situation. However, the unquestionable loyalty of the Nisei was recognized by the authorities in due time and in rapid succession many plans endorsing this recognition of their loyalty and invaluableness in the war effort were activated, such as the formation of the Nisei Combat team and, presently, their employment in war industries. Thus at this time, the School at Savage, Minnesota, which trains Japanese Language personnel will expand in order to enroll all Nisei who have any knowledge of Japanese and give them the opportunity to serve their country.

With the spread of war to the Pacific, the Nisei graduates of the School are fulfilling an indispensable position as specialist personnel in the Army in every sector of the

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Pacific war front, from the hot, humid jungles of the tropics to the cold, bleak isles of the north. With the prolongation of the war, the demand for Nisei technicians on every front has greatly increased due to the conspicuous contribution they have made wherever they have gone, and as an inevitable result, this demand has called for a rapid expansion of the school.

Naturally, due to the nature of their work, the efforts of the Nisei technicians on the front have not been publicized. Nevertheless their splendid efforts to pave the way for the American citizens of Japanese ancestry have been such as to warrant reports of a Nisei private being recommended for a commission as officer in the U.S. Army. The Nisei soldiers on the front have not only made an enviable record of achievement and built a solid foundation for the future, but also at the same time they are laying the ground work for generations to come. Furthermore, they are demonstrating by action that they are an essential element of American society.

The U.S.A. is at the present engaged in a Total War, at this time of unprecedented crisis, fighting for her very life. And for this purpose she has mobilized all available manpower and material resources at her command. The time is now here when all men who claim birth in America, regardless of race, color, or creed, must arise to defend her either on the battle front or the production front. The Nisei are charged with the mission of playing their part at this time of national

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の實績極めて顯著なる現状と睨み合せて、益々増大化し、之が當然の結果として陸軍學校の強化擴充と云ふ飛躍的段階に到達したのである。

前線出征の日系兵士の活躍は仕事其のもの、性質に鑑み、華々しく宣傳されなかつたのであるか、實際に於ては全日系市民の名譽の爲めに捲土重來の活躍を成し遂げ、一兵卒より將校に任官されんとする者もあると云ふ事實さへ傳へられてゐる程であり、前線にある日系兵士は第二世の爲め確固たる地盤を築きつゝあるのみならず來るべき第三世、第四世の時代への地均し、延いては米國社會構成の必須要素たる事を身を以つて立證しつゝあるものである。今や米國は人的、物的資源を總動員して未曾有の難局切り抜けに渾身の努力を續けてゐるのであり、米國に生を享けたる者は人種、皮膚の色の如何を問はず欣然立つて國難打開に當るべきの秋であり、日系市民に課せられた使命こそは、その特色を生かして行くにあると云へよう。

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P. 203

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Registration
MIA

THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
Washington

June 8, 1943

Dear Mr. Myer:

Herewith are two confidential reports made to the Commanding Officer of the Military Intelligence Service Language School of the situation in the Relocation Centers. I think Davis's report is particularly good. Will you send them back to me as soon as you have read them.

Sincerely,

s/ John J. McCloy

Mr. Dillon S. Myer, Director
War Relocation Authority
Barr Building, Room 822
Washington, D. C.

Encs.

HEADQUARTERS
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE LANGUAGE SCHOOL
Office of the Commandant

Savage, Minnesota

May 17, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel Kai E. Rasmussen
Commandant, MIS Language School
Camp Savage, Minnesota

Pertaining to the conditions now prevailing in the WRA Relocation Centers recently visited by myself for the purpose of recruiting Americans of Japanese ancestry for duty as students at MISLS, Savage, Minnesota.

The following conclusions are based upon observations made on two trips through the camps at Manzanar, Poston, Rivers, Jerome and Rohwer. The elapsed time between these trips was about four months and the most recent was concluded May 16, 1943. Conclusions are as follows:

1. Active pro-Japanese groups in the above named Relocation Centers have grown in numbers, strength and influence.
 - a. During my first trip to the camps, applicants came to me for interview openly and in large groups. The second trip very few came to me for interview and those who did came at odd hours when their visit would not be noted by members of the camps.
 - b. Applicants who appeared almost without exception requested that their visit be kept secret. When questioned as to the reason the reply was always in substance that pro-Japanese or Axis groups would exert pressure and or make threats of violence against the family and intimate friends of the applicant.
 - c. At Jerome some twenty men had appeared before the representative of the project director and requested information of my arrival and application blanks for the MISLS at Savage. These twenty men when they appeared before me sat silently while their spokesman, a member of the anti-American group disclaimed any knowledge of why they were being interviewed and any interest in the MISLS. The attitude of the speaker was one of characteristic insolence where upon he was excused from the conference immediately. The remainder of the group still maintained silence and all were subsequently excused.
2. While the active pro-Japanese elements are still minority groups they have been allowed to organize themselves and extend their influence to the extent that pro-American groups now do not dare oppose them.

a. Threats accompanied by actual physical violence and beatings have served to so intimidate members of the loyal or pro-American groups that because of fear for their families they do not dare declare themselves openly. This was in substance told to me by loyal Nisei on many occasions.

b. Due to the fact of the excessive period of time which had elapsed between the time of acceptance for the Army combat team and the time of actual induction of the volunteers their families had been subjected to such pressure that very few new volunteers could be induced to repeat the experience of their friends.

c. During my first trip to Poston, strikes were in progress, inflammatory speeches were being made, and one Uchida, whose first name I do not know, was the admitted leader of the group. The cause of the strikes was the attempted removal by federal authorities of Uchida from the Camp. Four months later I was informed by Mr. James, an official at Poston, that Uchida still remained in Poston and that the camp officials had not dared remove him. The reason given was that should such steps be taken a great number of other recalcitrants would have to be moved along with him.

3. That anything like successful relocation or further recruiting for the armed services from the camps are impossible as long as prevailing conditions exist.

a. The poor results obtained on the trip which ended May 16 indicates further recruiting under present conditions now prevailing in the camps useless.

b. I have been told by many loyal Nisei that they are afraid to volunteer for armed services because of the subversive elements inside, that they have become confused and made sick at heart by the inflammatory articles published in such widely circulated newspapers as the Denver Post and the Los Angeles Times. Based on these articles they have an actual fear to try relocation outside of the camps. They believe that in the camps they are at least safe from an irate public.

Recommendations for the alleviation of the above mentioned conditions are:

1. Immediate segregation into three groups of all Japanese and Americans of Japanese ancestry now in the relocation centers as follows:

a. Loyal Americans of military age to be inducted into the Armed Forces based upon existing induction laws.

b. Relocation of all other loyal Nisei as rapidly as possible on the principle of "work or starve".

c. The pro-Axis elements to be interned as enemy aliens in true internment camps under strict supervision to be deported or exchanged at the first available opportunity.

Complete abolition of Camps as they are now constituted.

s/

Karl T. Gould
Lt. Colonel, Cavalry
Director of Personnel

CONFIDENTIAL

Headquarters
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE LANGUAGE SCHOOL
Office of the Commandant

Savage, Minnesota

May 24, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel Kai E. Rasmussen
Commandant, MIS Language School
Camp Savage, Minnesota

There should no longer be any question that evacuation of all people of Japanese descent from the Pacific Area of the United States was necessary, because pro-Japanese whispering campaigns and acts of violence against loyal elements in the Relocation Centers have proven beyond doubt that there were dangerous subversive elements within this oriental minority group. It is now necessary, however, that prompt and drastic measures be taken to segregate members of the group loyal to the United States in order to utilize this immobilized manpower, reduce government expense, and forestall the growth of pro-Japanism in the Centers. The problem can only become more difficult as time goes on.

It is human that there should be resentment among the internees at the treatment accorded them. Their liberties have been curtailed, their properties and businesses removed from their control; an industrious group of people has been frozen to a life of idleness, at government expense, which has undermined its morale. American citizens, through no fault of their own, have been deprived of their constitutional rights. Loyal factions are incarcerated in constant association with disloyal ones. Inactivity, discontent, and the apparent hopelessness of the situation have weakened the minds of many to subversive propaganda. Loss of contact with the outside world has made others credulous of wild rumours which circulate through the camp like wind in a tunnel. News of the shooting of an internee near the boundary of one Relocation Center was subject to the wildest interpretation in the others. Restriction placed on Nisei soldiers for their own protection when the execution of the American aviators by Japan was announced coincided unfortunately with the visit of President Roosevelt to a certain military establishment in the South; false reports that soldiers of Japanese ancestry in the post had been sent to the guardhouse, had been covered of machine guns as the President passed by gained credence in the Relocation Centers. Gradually, as opportunities are offered, through enlistment in the Army, through relocation to outside civilian jobs, the leaders of pro-American groups, those who have had the energy and the temerity to combat pro-Japanism in the camps, are leaving the centers, abandoning their weaker colleagues to the subversive influence of the disloyal factions. Thus grow the numbers of conscientious objectors who prefer peace at any price or repatriation to Japan to indefinite "Protective custody".

Voluntary relocation of the loyal elements is being retarded not only by the aggressive propaganda of the pro-Japanese factions but also by the passive defeatism which confinement and inactivity have fostered. Many of the older people who are approaching the normal age of retirement from active life cannot muster the will to begin life anew; consciously or unconsciously they influence their younger relatives to remain with them in the Relocation Centers, lest families be permanently separated. Others, shocked by anti-Jap publicity, threats of deportation, and loss of citizenship are afraid to take a step which would remove them from the apparent safety of internment. Others still are plainly lazy and willing to live a life of dull ease "on the dole".

The Japanese in this country may be divided categorically into three groups:

1. The "Issei", or those born in Japan.

Many of these took up permanent residence in the United States prior to the Exclusion Act of 1924, have never returned to Japan or have returned only for infrequent short visits; they emigrated at an early age, during the most liberal years of modern Japanese government, when Japan was riding the crest of her post-world-war industrial wave, before Japan began open military preparation for the present conflict; they have not been indoctrinated with militant nationalism through conscription in the Japanese army; their vested interests are all in this country. Others are Japanese citizens by pure accident of birth during a parental visit to Japan, have spent no more than a few months of infancy in their native land. Still others, despite a longer residence in Japan, are wholeheartedly pro-American and eager to take active part in the war effort, military or otherwise. Nevertheless, by virtue of nationality and the Exclusion Act these people are largely temporary residents of the United States, here for purposes of study, trade, etc.; they are closely bound to Japan by family connections, education, property holdings, etc. Extreme care must be taken to prove their harmlessness before they can be returned to normal life.

2. The "Kibei", or those born in the United States but educated in Japan

These people have spent the formative years of their youth in Japan - during the formative years of Japanese militarism. They may or may not have been indoctrinated with pro-Japanese sentiments, but they are the most dangerous of all three groups and must be handled with the greatest care.

3. The "Nisei", or true "second-generation", born and bred in America

Many of these speak little or no Japanese and have little or no interest in things Japanese, as we have found to our

sorrow in enlisting volunteers for Camp Savage. They are the least dangerous of the groups.

The effort to prove the loyalty of the loyal elements has been hindered by misunderstanding, bewilderment and sheer lack of cooperation on the part of many of the Japanese. Three men who were obviously eager to volunteer for induction to Camp Savage answered "no" to the question, "Will you volunteer for foreign service?" because they interpreted the question to mean "Would you volunteer for the service of a foreign country?" Others, at the time of registration some months ago, could not decide how to answer certain questions to their best interests, have since professed changes of heart. Still others have refused point-blank to register their credos in any way, in the belief that whatever they do will be held against them, by Japan if they answer one way and are forcibly repatriated, by the United States if they answer another way and remain in this country. It is difficult to help those who will not help themselves. Nevertheless, I believe that after a year of surveillance and confinement the authorities should be in a position to judge the statements of a large majority of the internees true or false, that if the loyal and harmless will not relocate voluntarily they should be forced to do so, in scattered groups, as fast as jobs can be found for them, that the disloyal and those who cannot or will not prove their loyalty must, for the good of the loyal, be segregated into one civilian internment camp until they can be deported to Japan. Injustices will be done and mistakes will be made, but it will be far less unjust to force the issue and retain the doubtful than to continue as at present, far less dangerous, if caution be exercised, to put the loyal to work than to leave them idle in hotbeds of discontent.

Before my recent trip to the Relocation Centers I did not favor subjecting the Nisei to the draft because I believed that conscription against their will, atop a year of confinement and discontent, might make them a dangerous element in the armed forces. I have changed my mind because so many of them are eager to be drafted in order to evade parental objection to voluntary enlistment, because conscription is the quickest way to put them to work, and because on the basis of my experience at Camp Savage I consider the army the best and safest school in which to confirm them in good citizenship. Let the conscientious objectors be treated as such.

s/

Thomas P. Davis
First Lieutenant, AUS