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DEMOCRACY AND AUTHORITY

By Dorothy Thompson

*Original in Ladies Home Journal  
Given me 1/4/43  
by Sumner Kistow  
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There is an odd idea that leadership and democracy, authority and democracy are not compatible. And this idea has caused the death of many a democracy. For it is obvious that communities of millions of people cannot be directly governed without authority. When a community is not well governed it lapses into anarchy, and out of that anarchy comes despotism. The resistance to despotism is weakened by disorder, and by the failure of the democracy to offer constructive political reforms.

The founders of this republic were very well aware of the dangers that beset all republics, and particularly all democracies, and offered a great deal of excellent advice, to which we have long since ceased to pay much attention.

Our founding fathers thought of a representative system as follows: Communities would pick leaders for their intelligence and character. The business of those leaders was to take responsibility for the community in the framework of the principles of the Constitution. It was never conceived that representatives should be primarily responsible to a party, or to any organized groups, or even to the whimsical and changing wishes of a majority of their electorate. They were to govern, to lead, to take the responsibility for their acts, in the framework of the established purposes of the nation, and, by taking that responsibility, secure confidence or lack of it. George Washington, for instance, was intransigently opposed to political parties, which he called "factions", and the famous but seldom-read Farewell Address is chiefly a warning against such institutions, which were already forming themselves in America before his second term was over. The authors of the Federalist papers were perfectly clear that all good government is responsible government, depending on representative men who have the welfare of the whole at heart, and even Jefferson, the most rabid democrat among our founders, warned against "the tyranny of majorities".

Now, failing this concept of the representative man who is to lead and take responsibility for the fulfillment of the whole national objectives as expressed in the preamble to the Constitution, what has our Government degenerated into?

Our representatives have become negotiators, not governors. And we conceive of government as something that holds a balance of power between hostile groups. Whereas the Constitution provides for checks and balances against the power of government itself, we now have a society of checks and balances, in which labor, for instance, is balanced over against urban interests, and instead of a community we have a market place where government becomes a barter. Under such circumstances it is impossible to have the representative, the man who is responsible to the office, to the purpose of the office, and not an adding machine for Gallup polls or the business agent of powerful pressures. And this condition infects the Government from top to bottom. For

since no one is present in his capacity as a man and a leader, no one trusts the other, and it is not possible to create a simple and decent administrative system. Instead of being governed, in the executive branch, by responsible men, we are governed by committees and agencies. The result is that if there is a failure, no one knows who is to blame. For one cannot blame committees; every single person in the committee may be excellent, but the committee is anonymous and the committee's decisions are invariably a compromise. For what is the procedure in a committee? There are controversies and antagonisms that have to be overcome in long negotiations, and so the committee in itself is a delaying action.

We see this in connection with the enormous bureaucracy that has grown up since the war; a bureaucracy which is monstrous, and consists of hundreds of thousands of persons all checking one another, instead of a relatively few persons making decisions and exposing themselves for better or worse to the results of those decisions before public opinion. And public opinion is not a constant Gallup poll. No government can submit every decision to the judgment of the majority. The real way of democracy is the representative system which enables the people to choose men in whom they have confidence, and ratify or reject them periodically.

We have so far degenerated in our conception of democratic government that it has become almost impossible to delegate powers. A matter which one competent man could decide, if only principles and standards were laid down to guide him, is decided by scores, in different agencies, different committees and even different places. The ruling of a local board must be checked by a state board, and then, in turn, by various Federal boards, before something can be done which one person, with some standards to guide him, could settle in the first place and on the first spot.

And the argument for this is that it is "democratic". But it has nothing to do with democracy. It is not only hideously wasteful and expensive, but it contributes to a degeneration of character. For the bureaucrat who cannot make decisions loses, together with his personal responsibility, his courage and his dignity, and becomes accustomed never to think of the problem at hand, but only to think of the procedure. And that is what we are doing. Instead of solving problems, we are inventing more and more procedures.

Good government consists of the establishment of just and reasonable purposes, standards and rules for the fulfillment of those purposes, and the appointment of authorities to act in that framework. The good official needs the character of a good executive and not of a clerk, or of a member of a jury.

Our war effort will be inefficient and disappointing as long as we conceive of democracy as incompatible with authority. The reintroduction of the idea of responsible authority would cut the cost of administration drastically and--what is more important--would make us, in a very short time, the immense power that we are now only potentially.

MANZANAR RELOCATION CENTER  
Manzanar, California

January 11, 1943

Mr. Philip M. Glick, Solicitor  
War Relocation Authority  
Barr Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Phil:

Greetings from Manzanar!

This report, dictated to Mrs. Yoshiko Koyanagi of the Legal Aid Department of Manzanar, covers the period from January 3, 1943, to January 9, 1943, inclusive. As mentioned at the end of my previous report, I spent Monday and Tuesday, January 4th and 5th, in Phoenix visiting several state and federal agencies and attending conference on unemployment insurance which will probably be fully described by Mr. Terry, whose secretary took voluminous notes.

1. Unemployment Compensation

Since my name has been linked with this subject in several letters, I believe that it will be well to review briefly the steps which I took in regard to unemployment compensation.

In the early part of July, about a week after my arrival at Poston, I learned that the California Unemployment Compensation Division had discontinued paying unemployment benefits to an evacuee on the ground that upon evacuation to an assembly or relocation center he was no longer available for work. I was also informed that another resident of Poston had been refused any benefits on the same ground. I, at once, wrote Mr. Fryer, then Director of the Regional Office, calling attention to this ruling of the Employment Compensation Officials of California and indicating my dissent. I also wrote Mr. Tate, General Counsel of the Federal Security Agency. Mr. Fryer replied that the Regional Office was taking the matter up with the California authorities. I, subsequently, inquired about the status of the negotiations and was informed that thus far California officials were adamant, but that negotiations were continuing. When I received a reply from Mr. Tate expressing his views in the legal

questions involved and stating that the question was for the determination of the state authorities, I enclosed a copy of Mr. Tate's letter to Mr. Fryer. Since the capitol of California, the headquarters for the Unemployment Insurance Commission of the State, was near San Francisco and it was a matter of general interest to all the Projects, I did not take any further steps. I, however, advised all the residents in Poston, who consulted me to apply for benefits.

Although we have over two hundred residents from Arizona, the only case involving unemployment compensation brought to my attention involved two brothers who were mixed blood. I assisted them with their applications and was pleased to learn that they received unemployment compensation benefits when they left the Relocation Center toward the close of the summer. In view of the substitution of a field for a regional office, the initiation of a new relocation program, the imminent opening of the net factory at Poston, and the favorable rulings of several other states, I recently decided to reopen the question. I, therefore, wrote to one of the Regional Offices asking for the text of the decision of a State which I had heard had granted unemployment compensation to an evacuee. Before receiving a reply, our project received a letter from the official of an Unemployment Compensation Division of the State of California stating that residents of the relocation centers who were released were available for work. I showed the text of this letter to one of the editors of the Daily Chronicle, a newspaper at Poston, and a summary appeared therein. About a week later, I visited Gila and was invited by Mr. Terry to attend a conference on this problem. Poston's evacuee delegation, Mr. Kennedy and I left for Poston the day before the meeting.

2. Camouflage net Factory. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the Councils (Community) of Poston heard the report of this delegation. One report dealt with the camouflage factory, the other with general observations of Gila. The plan adopted at Gila for distribution of earnings to the camouflage workers was not agreeable to the Committee. Another proposal was advanced, and before my return I believe the mandate of the populace will have been given, after the block representatives had reported to block councils the important facts and conclusions of the Committee and the Councils.

3. Visit to Los Angeles and Manzanar. Dr. Ishimaru, chairman of the organization committee on permanent government and formerly chairman of the Community Council of Unit I, and I left Poston for Los Angeles at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday afternoon, Jan-

uary 6th, in a government automobile driven by Dr. Leighton, Chief of the Bureau of Sociological Research. We checked in at a hotel at 1:30 next morning. On January 7th and 8th, we conferred with several federal and state agencies including the Office of War Information, U. S. Attorney's Office, the Bureau of Internal Revenue, and Community Evacuee Property Division of the WRA. We also met several friends of the residents of the relocation centers of Los Angeles, and made two saddening visits to a ghost town - the business section of Los Angeles, formerly operated by evacuees. We also inspected the Southern California Japanese Children's Home formerly occupied by over thirty of the orphans now in Children's Village, Manzanar, for which Dr. Ishimaru is legal guardian.

We have been in Manzanar since Saturday evening. Dr. Ishimaru has been staying at the Children's Village and will prepare a report on his observations. In accordance with my policy, I shall not comment upon any relocation center other than Poston.

THEODORE H. HAAS

(AHL)

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Jerome, Ark.  
Written by "An Evacuee"

## PROBLEMS OF THE EVACUEES

February 16, 1943

At the time of this writing a general atmosphere of unrest pervades this center. The insecurity resulting from evacuation and assembly center living has been rekindled by recent W.R.A. announcements such as "New Policies Facilitate Resettlement"; "All Nisei Combat Team to be formed"; "Registration of all evacuees above seventeen". "We're here for the duration" thinking has been dissolved and in its place has come a "what will happen to us next" attitude. This tension is harmful to center morale; it has kindled asinine but pragmatically effective rumors; it may flare up into violence.

Whatever happens, understanding is paramount in dealing with the problems of the evacuees if adequate solutions are to be found. It is the hope of the writer that he may be able to aid in solving the problems of the evacuees (of which he numbers) by this paper, which deals with an understanding of evacuee problems.

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### Racial Hypersensitivity

Allergy is based on sensitivity--unfavorable sensitivity. One such metaphorical allergy in respect to the evacuee is that of race. This can be understood in view of the fact that evacuation was based upon race without individual exceptions. While aliens of German and Italian descent were untouched, American citizens of Japanese ancestry were evacuated. Conditions in the assembly and relocation centers did little to ameliorate this allergy of race for even within the centers a Jim Crow basis of operation was utilized. Key positions

were held by Caucasian personnel even in instances where evacuee workers could have worked as well if not, better than the Caucasian employee. Then, too, living among one's own race--confined because of one's own race; such is not conducive to minimizing racial differences.

As a result of this racial hypersensitivity certain trends are becoming defined. Identification has been fostered. Even in instances where an evacuee is in the wrong, other evacuees defend him because of racial and "positional" ("same boat") identity. This identification, in many cases, is not limited to the evacuees as a group but extends to the war. Many Issei, Kibei, and even some Nisei now identify themselves with Japan and things Japanese. Japanese victories are applauded; Japanese ideologies are favored. Japanese mores prevail, especially among the Issei and Kibei. Like spectators at a football game, such pro-Axis evacuees compensate for their basic insecurity and inferiority by modulated and occasionally loud vociferations of lipservice.

In contradistinction to the aforementioned identification is a prevalent process of dissociation. Because of the lack of interracial contacts within the relocation center and because of the fact that most of such contacts are inferior or superior situations (evacuee as inferior--worker and Caucasian as superior--administrator) the "we're different" attitude of dissociation is developed. Here again a feeling of inferiority among the evacuees promotes a consequent demeanor of deference before Caucasian administrators and defiance behind; a process commonly known as being "two-faced".

Another manifestation of racial hypersensitivity is the development of racial projection. A succinct example of this is the experience of a prominent J.A.C.L. leader who, on a trip outside, thought that Cau-

casians looked at him as a "rat" although not one out of 1,000 Caucasians can distinguish between a Japanese descent and a Chinese.

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### "Concentration Camp" Environment

The geographical restrictions delineated by barbed wire fences, watch towers, and guards are conducive to the "prisoner psychology" of and administrative policies create a feeling of helplessness, dependence, insecurity and inferiority which is compensated in strikes and riots; such being expressions of some power--"I'm not going to take it sitting down". It is evident that the bureaucratic hierarchy of the W.R.A. leaves little opportunity for evacuee initiative and enterprise. Because of this subsequent "servant mentality" is developing among some evacuees--they don't do more than they are told--they're out to get all they can out of the government--they don't follow evacuees with leadership ability in many instances because such persons haven't the "authority to lead". All such attitudes are obviously detrimental to adjustment "outside".

Still another shortcoming from the administrative viewpoint is the inconsistency of the center "democratic" policies within the larger framework of coercive practices. Evacuees "in the know" disparagingly refer to the block councilors as "blockheads" while evacuation itself gives the lie to the "Bill of Rights", the "due process of law", "innocent until found guilty" and the "Four Freedoms". Insofar as the experiences of the evacuees are more effective than euphemistic utterances, any continuance of the latter usually result in such attitudes as "what do they take me for, anyway--trying to make me swallow that baloney". Unless policies are to the point and unequivocal the evacuees show re-

sentment because they feel that their intelligence is disparaged and their trust forsaken.

Another obvious characteristic of concentration camp living is the lack of privacy. Common lavatories, shower rooms, dining halls, etc. create a social hypersensitivity which may aid in living together but at the same time create an individual hyposensitivity which may deter the process of individuation, a process requiring solitude for introspection and action. This lack of privacy extends to both thoughts and actions so that "unanimous" thoughts and actions are fostered at the expense of individual maturation. Another unfortunate effect of communal living is that it lessens the responsibilities of parents in respect to physical necessities but increase their psychological responsibilities although many parents are not prepared for such tasks. As a result, family unity is loosened.

Since the relocation center has a more or less static population the problem of sex is accentuated. In some camps, there are more women than men of marriageable age so that standards on the part of the women may lower because of the greater competition. Couples "going steady" lack the privacy in order to get to know each other well. There prevails a fear of gossip and this is another impediment. Of course, women have little opportunity to learn to cook and take care of homes so that a subsequent dislike of domestic work may grow because it's "too dull". Then, too, many men who would like to marry, postpone doing so because of the uncertainty of the future. On the other hand, premarital and extramarital relations are facilitated because of such attitudes as "I've got to get some excitement in this dull life." Finally, the constant presence of the sexes is conducive in two directions: ennui, or

taking the other sex for granted, and over-emphasis.

A further problem of the evacuees in the relocation center is that dealing with vocations. Many jobs are felt to be "made" labor and, lacking significance, sloppy work habits are formed. Easy jobs are sought by many with no thought as to the future. Then there are restrictions in vocational opportunities since former vocations are either not available or practiceable in camp. Another shortcoming relates to the lack of carry-over of vocations within the center to employment outside. Then, too, small remunerations are negatively compensated by poor work; such habits will be of no use in "outside" employment.

Because of the increased leisure time of the evacuees since their stay in the camps the problem of constructively using leisure time exists. Many evacuees use their leisure time negatively by gambling, gossiping, or overemphasizing one or a few activities such as bridge, pingpong, etc. Then, too, because of the insecurity of the future, activities having but present meaning are emphasized. Thus, seminars, book clubs, and other such educational activities are missing while talent shows, parties, sports, etc. are popular.

The activities of the majority of the evacuees make obvious the conclusion that they are emphasizing their own difficulties without considering the wider problems that confront this nation and the world. This problem restriction is based on a narrowed perspective due to the (in their estimation) unusual process of mass evacuation, and concentration camp living. Because of their problem restriction they will have a difficult time adjusting themselves to the larger problems and deeper solutions that living in a more natural environment entail, unless some educational program be instigated to counteract this tendency of problem restriction.

The above are some of the effects of evacuation and concentration camp living on the evacuees as a whole. The following will be a different classification based upon specific groups.

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#### Children

Because children feel more than they reason, they emphasize experience, parental attitudes, contrasts and similarities. The sudden transition from home to center living, thus, was sharp since among other things many objects and human relations that were available prior to evacuation were denied. This change from a familiar to a strange environment was strong and furthermore the communal instead of family living affected them more as a group because of their closer dependence on their parents as could be expected. Parental confusion and resentment affected them.

The "Japanesey" environment within the relocation center creates Japanese ways of thinking and feeling. Education counter-acts this but the greater environment homogeneity (Japanese) neutralizes this to a great extent. Sansei children who formerly knew no Japanese, speak Japanese now while the lack of interracial contacts will create a racial hypersensitivity when the children are resettled within the Caucasian group. If at that time Caucasian children take them as scapegoats, withdrawal tendencies will be formed, making further adjustment difficult. When the children grow up they will recall evacuation and notice the discrepancy between Democracy as practiced and the Democracy of the Constitution. At the present time, however, family ties are loosening because of the increased dependency on the community.

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#### Youth

Being, for the most part, nurtured in the expurgated American

History of the high school, the Nisei youth who are the most idealistically pro-American have been taken aback by evacuation. They were accepted by their Caucasian schoolmates. Then, too, they had lived sheltered lives since their parents had the "I don't want MY child to go through with what I had to" attitude. They also lacked an adequate historical or sentimental perspective nor did they understand many of the economic and political causes of evacuation.

Some of the trends among the Nisei youth are racial hypersensitivity coupled with a disparagement of other races (Jews, Nigger, Mexicans, White trash); gangs have been formed since it gives its members a sense of power, exclusiveness, and defiance motivated by an individual insecurity in the larger configuration of world events. Then, too, the uncertainty of the future is compensated by living merely in the present; thus, recreation activities are overemphasized. As could be expected ambition has been watered in many cases and a concern with the obvious and superficial (clothes, ability to dance, etc.) exists.

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#### Adult Nisei

Most adult Nisei have faced racial discrimination before evacuation but valuing citizenship they were set back when the government evacuated them in spite of citizenship (they didn't think the government would do it to them.) As a result of evacuation some Nisei feel that they have no political future; that they are now considered as second class citizens. Then, too, because of their disorientation and dependence of the government, many Nisei are just waiting for things to happen, thus displacing their own responsibility and retarding the development of initiative. One of the ironies of evacuation is the fact that those Nisei who were most accepted by their Caucasian friends, that is, those who

most fitted into the Occidental environment are the most frustrated within the centers. They are conscious of the narrow attitudes that prevail among the clannish Nisei and are cognizant of being in the minority group within the camp.

Although it is true that many Nisei are bitter about the evacuation there are others who are now working from a positive basis. "Now that evacuation is a fact, let's work and make the most of it--we're not defeated yet". Among this group are J.A.C.L. members. Many of its leaders are now unpopular because of their policy of assisting during and after evacuation; they were misinterpreted as appeasers and stooges. Because they were made into scapegoats, they were beaten and otherwise harmed. Usually over that which they had no responsibility. Finally there are those Nisei who were planning to attend college and now are seeking lesser goals because "we haven't a chance".

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#### Adult Kibei

The adult Kibei has a harder process of adjustment than the Nisei. Having as a rule a better command of Japanese than English, they keep within their own group because of common interests as well as language facility. Being reared during a later period in Japan they have misunderstanding with their parents while having a different cultural background from the Nisei, misunderstanding occur between the two groups. Many of this group are pro-Axis but this can be understood in view of their past education, poor reception in America, evacuation, and newspaper identification "Kibei are pro-Axis". This identification with Japan and things Japanese is a compensation for their feeling of inferiority and insecurity--"between the devil and the deep blue sea"--based on a desire for importance.

Being a minority within a minority they have special problems of their own which cannot be solved unless the Nisei as well as the Caucasians help them in solving the problems.

At present the Kibei as a group are fixated and some are regressing toward Japanese mores and ideals. More perplexing to them than the Nisei as a group is the problems of resettlement. Having an inadequate command of English and lacking, as a rule, special vocational training as well as common interests with Americanized Groups, their resettlement problem is complicated. Their understanding of American ways is superficial and consequent disparagement is extended to such. Education, thus, is a prerequisite but whether they will take advantage of educational opportunities will depend on the government's attitude toward the Caucasian acceptance and treatment.

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#### Adult Issei

The Issei had a difficult adjustment to make when they first emigrated here from forty-five to twenty years ago; now at the eve of their lives they had to undergo a more difficult adjustment. This is understandable in the light of their more set ways of thinking, feeling, and responding due to older age, repetition of behavior patterns, associations, etc. but that they were able to make such adjustment bespeaks for their tenacious yet relatively flexible nature. They lost a great deal of property besides losing a familiar environment. Having faced discrimination and humiliation, they projected onto their children their unfulfilled hopes. They gave their children a good education at, in many cases, extreme self sacrifice; they sheltered their offspring.

In the centers, many Issei are living a day to day existence. Hav-

ing the necessities of life provided them by the government, they are now beginning to take things for granted. The "ward of the government" attitude is thus developing among them. They are, however, worried about the future. Having little to hope for themselves, they cling to their children, not allowing them the liberty to make mistakes, to develop and unknowingly hold back their maturation. They know that the Nisei's future is in America, having heard of the poor reception given Nisei on visits to Japan. Many of them see very little future opportunities for the Nisei because of evacuation but some are wise enough to know that their hope lies in the Nisei. Being used to their particular environment in the Pacific Coast, many of them are naturally diffident about the possibilities of resettling in a Midwestern environment. Then, too, they are conscious of the movements among economic groups in Pacific Coast states that are now seeking the removal of all Japanese to Japan or not allowing them to re-enter the Pacific Coast states after the war is over.

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#### Conclusion

The problems of resettlement, as the writer sees it, is the problem of the future in a minor key; the problem of freedom AND security. Without both man cannot develop. Sans one, the other is illusion. It should, however, be borne in mind that security should not, as freedom should not, be limited to a material usage; that psychological security, that emotional security, etc. are just as necessary. The over simplification or concentration camp living lies in the lack of psychological security and the subsequent symptoms of unrest, riots, etc. "Man cannot live by bread alone". And psychological security is impossible in an atmosphere of dependence; thus freedom, too is necessary--the freedom to be self sufficient within the larger configuration of social interdependence.

The bureaucratic hierarchy in the political field and the capitalistic hierarchy in the economic field deny such freedom because both are based upon a top-down process of organization and operation; a process antithetical to Democracy and the dignity of the individual.

The concentration camp symptomized this deficiency of "rigid" security as do many other institutions in contemporary civilization. The solution to our basic problems in the economic, social, political and psychological fields lies in our ability to find the organization and operational techniques that result in a "flexible" security. This flexible security needs a bottom-up methodology; it in a word, needs democracy in the political, economic, and social fields, it has no place for classes "for their own sake"; it has no place for prejudice. It can only be built through the changes in the attitudes, assumptions and behavior patterns of individuals and from them, of groups.

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RECORD OF THE HEARING HELD

AT

COLORADO RIVER WAR RELOCATION PROJECT

BY

GEORGE W. MALONE

SPECIAL CONSULTANT

SENATE SUB-COMMITTEE OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

MARCH 7, 1943

Malone: Please state your name and occupation.

Collier: My name is James Colliers. I am originally from the city of Fresno, State of California. My address here is Camp 2, 222 7-G. I am supervisor of a shoe shop. I had a shoe repair shop in civilian life.

Malone: Mr. Collier, Senator Chandler and his Committee want to see how the Japanese people are getting along. How the situation is working out, if there is a better way to do the job, and how it can be better accomplished. The fact that you are married to a Japanese girl and seem to be happy about your life among the Japanese, I am very much interested in your point of view. First, I might just say that the thing that has been done was a hasty thing and it had to be done, naturally it has caused a great deal of hardship, materially and physically, etc. Now that it has settled down the Committee is trying to find out where we are headed for and if there is a better way to do the job. If the Army can use the boys that are eligible, should they have a chance to go in, and how that opportunity can be presented to them. We have definitely been given to understand that there are loyal and disloyal Japanese. Do you have any opinion as to how this proportion would run? If they should be segregated and closely supervised? Just what are your ideas?

Collier: I entered this camp on August 5, 1942. I live with my wife and her relations among the Japanese and during my stay until now very seldom has the occasion arisen that we would discuss how they felt about what was done. During my stay here I have never had conversation with any in regard to their feeling that they were done an injustice or whether they had an opinion of what they thought the Government should do for them. Although married to a Japanese, when it came to that delicate conversation it was not mentioned. The only Japanese I talked this over with was my father-in-law. He was a leader of Japanese Americans in Fresno. My father-in-law believes that what the Government is doing is what they think is best. During my stay in this camp the Japanese have treated me nice. I have trained the men in shoe repairing. I have completed my work and know that I am needed somewhere else now so I am leaving. My wife's opinion is that there are other Caucasian people that are going through many hardships, maybe more than she and I. When this job was offered she told me to go ahead and do all I could. I thought question No. 27 and No. 28 were a good thing. It gave the Japanese a chance to answer what they thought was best. I don't know of anything else that I can add, except that I was always considered a Caucasian when the delicate question arose concerning loyalty, etc.

Malone: Do you have any definite ideas of your own as to what opportunity the eligible Japanese should be given and how the opportunity should be offered? You know our own people can volunteer. Do you think the same opportunity should be granted them through the draft?

Collier: I think whatever the Government sees fit to do with the Japanese is all right by me.

Malone: Do you find that attitude prevailing among the Japanese people?

Collier: I have never had any conversation with what they feel about the draft. Many times I have asked questions but was always considered a Caucasian. I was never asked by them about my views.

Malone: Do you think we should call on them for whatever help we need?

Collier: Yes. Secretary of War Stimson said he was going to have the service open to these people. There are a lot who want to volunteer.

Malone: It might be the best opportunity to show their loyalty and get their citizenship, which they could get no other way.

Collier: My father-in-law and his children feel the Government is doing all it can for them.

Malone: I appreciate your statement, Mr. Collier. I understand you are a friend of Mr. Gearhardt, Congressman from Fresno.

Collier: Yes I am. I am sorry I couldn't help you any more than I have. I just was a Caucasian among them. I have never been able to find out their feelings.

Malone: I appreciate your coming in, Mr. Collier.

Collier: It has been a pleasure to meet you.

Malone: Before we go any further Senator Chandler regrets very much that he couldn't be here, of course. He went to Gila Relocation Center and from there will go to Tucson and he asked me to come out here and get as good a picture of the situation as I could for the record. Also the Sub-Committee members were not able to be here. That Committee consists of:

Albert B. Chandler, Kentucky  
Mon C. Wallgreen, Washington  
Jas. E. Murray, Montana  
Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., Mass.  
Joseph C. O'Mahoney, Wyoming  
Chan Gurney, South Dakota  
Rufus C. Holman, Oregon  
George W. Malone, Special Consultant.

Senator Wallgreen will examine the Tule Lake Relocation Center early in April, Senator Murray, of Montana, will meet us in Arkansas, then the work of Chandler and members of the Sub-Committee when consolidated, in Washington, should give the entire Committee a good picture of the situation.

(At this point, Mr. Harris, Principal of the Poston High School enters)

Malone: Please state your name and occupation?

Harris: My name is Arthur Lee Harris, Principal of the Poston High School.

Malone: What was your occupation before you came here, Mr. Harris?

Harris: Two years prior to this I was doing graduate work at Yale and thirteen years prior to that I was doing work in Hawaii, which extended among the Japanese.

Malone: I wish you would give us the benefit of your experiences or reaction to this entire situation. Of course, you are entirely familiar with the WRA policy in going about this matter. You know it was created in an emergency. Congress has never taken any action about it but it is now put before them by Senator Wallgren of Washington and Senator Holman of Oregon. The Bill was introduced to bring the matter to a head to find out what to do with the Japanese. They are trying to get the facts and take some action on the Bill, and with that in mind and for the benefit of the record, will you make your statements in your own way?

Harris: I do not know how broad a statement you will want. I was interested in the Project because of my contact with the Japanese people and since I couldn't return to Hawaii with my family last January I was interested in working in one of the Projects. I was impressed by the difference of the Japanese in relocation centers and the Japanese of Hawaii, largely because of the inter-racial relationship which they had experienced before coming to the relocation center. The Japanese people here do not give sufficient consideration, I think, to the way in which other members of their own race have been treated in Hawaii. As an example, there is no general racial discrimination under the American flag to their particular group. I feel that circumstances here should encourage the people here to feel that relocation was not aimed at them as a racial group. They should realize there was a justification of this as an emergency move. I do feel, definitely, that circumstances of relocation camps is unfortunate in that their associations are so limited to the members of their own race and while the citizen group is in the majority the distribution is such that it makes the influence of the alien Japanese dominant.

Malone: Pardon me, do ask Colonel Scobey to come in. Colonel, you are free to ask any question you wish at any time.

Harris: I feel that while many of the alien group, under normal circumstances, would be loyal supporters of the American and Allied cause, that the experiences of relocation have made them susceptible to the propaganda of the Japanese Military Government. While they have opposed the full participation of the citizen group in activities which openly support the war effort it is my opinion that if the scope of those activities is widened through the operation of the draft and placement of trained workers in war industries that their attitude will undergo a change. Although the alien Japanese group is not permitted to participate in the same ways in which their children may participate, they take pride in the recognition which is given their children by this country. I would stress the importance of the operation of the draft to as full an extent as it has operated in any American community. As to the problem of the possible segregation of what may be termed the citizens and loyal Issei group from the non-citizen and disloyal group such segregation would be much more effective if it were accomplished by re-relocation of the former rather than through placement in a separate relocation Project.

Malone: Do I understand that you would relocate the ones who were definitely determined to be loyal but not eligible for the Army?

Harris: Outside of WRA centers and in a normal community. I also recognize that this is difficult because of the attitude of many individuals. They need a sympathetic awareness of their presence in a community on the part of community organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, Service groups, YMCA, YWCA, church groups, particularly in the case of Japanese belonging to established Christian churches.

Malone: For the safety of the community to which they might be moved, and perhaps for their own, in case there were a few disloyal would you have them checked at intervals and see if they were there or know if any had left? In other words, know where they were at all times.

Harris: Personally, I don't see that that is necessary. The original clearance from the Project would be sufficient and they should be on the same status as a citizen of the nation.

Malone: Aliens or citizens?

Harris: Primarily to citizens. It would probably be different with regard to the alien group.

Scobey: We do not let any aliens go around unless we know where they are. Do you make exceptions here?

Harris: No.

Malone: Except, perhaps, you may still keep them away from the zone that has been set aside. Would you let them go back to that zone, too?

Harris: I would say there should be exceptions.

Malone: What would you do with the ones who were disloyal or who were doubtful?

Harris: I see no other disposition except keep them in relocation centers; those in which there is a possibility they can be made self-supporting and sufficient supervision so you can know exactly where they are to a pretty large extent what they are doing. The remainder of the citizen group should be segregated from the alien group, which have expressed sympathy for the Axis cause. The suggestion that is made in the Bill that the Projects should be turned back over to the Army for Army supervision, I do not know what particular value the Army would derive through the centers. I can't see that Army administration would improve the condition of the administration of such camps and unless there should be some particular value to be gained by the administration through the Army I can see no justification for the change.

MALONE: That is a very clear statement, Mr. Harris. I want to call your attention to a note we received from J. R. Farrington, delegate from Hawaii, addressed to Senator Chandler, as chairman of the Committee. Mr. Farrington sent this, together with a statement which was signed by five persons, of which your name headed the list.

It looks very interesting and I know Senator Chandler will be interested.

Scobey: One lead I want to open up is your impression of the Japanese citizen in Hawaii.

Harris: He is probably more Americanized than the citizen in California, in this way, he has taken on more directly the American culture pattern.

Scobey: When did you leave Hawaii?

Harris: In 1940.

Scobey: Can you give an answer as to why 400 or 500, who were evacuated to America and were placed in Arkansas, are more disloyal by expression than the American Japanese? Why should that be true?

Harris: I don't know. Is that a non-citizen group?

Scobey: I think a non-citizen group.

Harris: Was that any factor of their evacuation?

Scobey: I can't answer that. The fact remains that these Japanese have had a bad influence on the American Japanese.

Harris: I would surmise that the very fact that they were consumers is the key to the explanation. They were probably shop owners whose contacts had been with Japanese importers and the Japanese nation itself.

Scobey: Thank you.

Malone: Thank you very much, Mr. Harris. I think your statement was very clear and to the point.

(At this point Miss Nell Findley enters)

Malone: Please state your name and address, also occupation.

Findley: Nell Findley, Chief, Community Service, Poston, Arizona.

Malone: Miss Findley, no doubt you are somewhat familiar with the work of the Congressional Committee. The Committee is approaching this matter with an open mind but they do have to make a decision and my purpose in calling you was based on the communication from Mr. Farrington to Senator Chandler, which included a statement signed by you along with four others. It is a very interesting statement. The Senator has not read it but he would be interested in any statement you would care to make. What is your reaction to the fact that the Army takes the eligible men into the Army and whether or not it can be improved upon and whether there should be further segregation of disloyal persons. I know it would be very interesting to the Committee. Just in your own words.

Findley: First, I say I am very happy that the Army has seen fit to take the

people into the service. I hope that the Army will come in with the draft as they do on the outside. It will be a great thing for the parents who are the alien Japanese. At first I couldn't see it. That would give the opportunity to those who are extremely loyal to America to make their stand in the face of parental displeasure. It is a case of loyalty to family or loyalty to country.

Malone: You think it would please the older people as well as the younger people if we just announced in the order of their age group, just the same as the remainder of the people, they will be called, then the Army could make special examinations if they saw fit and if they were determined to be disloyal that they could cut back just the same as anyone else?

FINDLEY: The reason I emphasize that, I am also making a study of the parents and children who are now making application to go into the internment camps. They say "What will happen to my children's citizenship if we go into the internment camp?" Will my boy be taken by the Army? I want him to still be taken." That is the thought of the parents. I am speaking for the loyal in both citizen and non-citizen groups. When we scoop up a group as we did we are bound to get some disloyal ones as we did crooks, gamblers, etc.

Malone: Do you think that the Japanese people as a whole thoroughly understand what the Army is trying to do and its full import as to the responsibility they take when they say they are disloyal, do they understand what the implication might be?

Findley: I would like to have them have time to think it over. When they came here they did not know what would become of them. They thought "We gave up everything. We were proud of America. The only thing we can do now is to stand by Japan when we aren't allowed to be Americans." The children are placed in a difficult position. I hope the youngsters will have time to think this over. Their fear of loss of face, etc., is standing in the way of their long-view.

Malone: Do you think they understand what the U.S. Government would do to us if we said we were disloyal? What would happen to the Colonel if he said he was disloyal? Do they understand that an Army officer would be put in prison or court-martialed for making a statement that he was disloyal? It is an important thing that this country knows who her friends are. These people are not singled out more than any one else.

Findley: I doubt if they do see it as we see it. They have had forty years of America and we have had generations. We had a chance to prove ourselves over a number of years and they have not had that chance. We have had difficult times back of us.

Malone: Still as far back as you can remember none of our people ever said they were disloyal. I have lived in the west, in Nevada, for many years, but never knew anything about the Japanese people. This is all new to me, but in trying to think this thing through while we are here, you who are in responsible position could make that point clear to them. I am wondering if their teachers could put that before them, that they are not singled out, that it is just merely hard to tell who is loyal

and who is not.

Findley: In Hawaii they were accepted almost on an equal basis in the business world and becoming accepted socially. I think we, as Americans, must take some of the blame for those "No's".

Malone: If you believe as you do, that they should have the opportunity to go into the Army, what would we do with the remainder?

Findley: I was going to say that had the Government seen fit to do what it is doing now last September the disloyalty would have been less. When I came here I have never seen a more bewildered people. This was America, a democracy. I was grateful that I had spent years in Hawaii to understand these people. In regards to the disloyal I believe they should be segregated from the loyal. It is a difficult thing for the two to live together.

Malone: Have you ever lived in California?

Findley: I was born there.

Malone: I live in Nevada and naturally we know a lot about California and the differences in opinion. In justice to California they do have a social and economic problem but I wouldn't attempt to analyze that problem. The Committee wants to be as right as they can and your statement has been very interesting to me. Do you have anything else to say?

Findley: Just keep the loyal and disloyal separated. Send the loyal out into the main stream of American life and let them take their chances with the rest of us.

Malone: And have no supervision?

Findley: No, for their own good.

Malone: What would you do with the disloyal?

Findley: I would put them in a camp of their own, definitely guarded. There is a group I would like to speak about, that is, our friendly enemies, through no fault of their own. They should be given a place in our country. Some aliens are as loyal as you and I and circumstances have not given them a chance to become citizens of our country. They are technically classified as enemy aliens but really are loyal. There are any number of these people. I know of one woman of this group who has volunteered her services to the National Language School. I have broken the situation down into four categories; first, liberty loving Americans of Japanese ancestry and Japanese such as knew in Hawaii who stood by us side by side on December 7 and fought through. I was there; I went through that. One alien, when a dangerous fire broke out, went down and saved important material for us. He had been relieved of his job when the war started as he was an alien. Immediately he was taken back on the job and given an editorial. Such people as that belong to us and we must care for them. We couldn't get

along without them; second, peioneers who are ready to go out and take their place again in the stream of American living, citizens of Japanese ancestry; third, old people, laborers, infirm, etc., who cannot go back into the stream of life because of age and chronic illness. America must be kind; fourth, the good-for-nothing loafers. We must work with the apparently disloyal and save a certain percentage for ourselves.

Scobey: You use the term "apparently disloyal". My conception of being loyal or disloyal is that you are either one or the other. I don't get the point of what you mean.

Findley: Pressure is being placed upon them. By that, I mean family pressure. Things have been said to them. When that pressure is removed we can train them and have loyalty. It is just like a convert. I am thinking of the 16, 17, and 18 years olds.

Malone: Thank you very much, Miss Findley.

(At this point, Dr. Kasuga Kazumi, graduate of the University of California Medical School enters)

Malone: Senator Chandler, U.S. Senator from Kentucky, regrets very much he was unable to come here and as no other member of this committee could be here he asked me as Special Consultant to see as many as I could and get any ideas you may have that will help the Committee. I know something of your record and that you have volunteered for the Army. I did that same thing 25 years ago. We understand how you feel. You know your people. We understand how you feel. You know your people. The Committee is trying to get at the facts. They are trying to work it out. I personally feel, in trying to speak for the Committee, that perhaps the whole future of the Japanese in this country depends upon them. I am speaking to you as one American to another. I would like for you in your own words to give us your ideas. What do you think the Committee might recommend be done with the Japanese determined definitely to be loyal to this country? Also, what could we do with the ones who are disloyal?

Dr. Kazumi: First, about the Army induction, personally I think that all the eligible young men should be inducted by the same method they have outside. That is, Selective Service. There is no question but there are certain family ties that makes these 18, 19, and 20 year old men slightly hesitant to volunteer, so personally I think that they should have the Selective Service Board to take them in. About the future policy, more or less, I say that quite a few of them, especially the first generation group, are taking the attitude, more or less, of not caring very much any more. They are independent here, getting lax, losing ambition. I think if they could be taken back to what they were doing, that is, I think their problem would be solved and they would be loyal to this country.

Malone: Under some minimum supervision in case there was some disloyal? It might be for their own welfare as well as protection for the public.

Dr. Kazumi: That could be considered.

Malone: What would you do with those whose loyalty was doubtful?

Dr. Kazumi: I would keep an eye on them.

Malone: I am glad to hear you say that. You are exactly right.

Scobey: Are you a block manager, Doctor?

Dr. Kazumi: No.

Scobey: Do you think, Doctor, that some of these Nisei, in answering that question of loyalty have said "yes" when actually they are disloyal for reason of sabotage? We accept this statement but we feel that we may get hold of one that may do us damage. Do you feel we can trust everyone who answered they would be loyal to this country?

Dr. Kazumi: Yes I do, because I have seen the boys discuss this matter and some are definitely pro-Axis. The type who have been raised in Japan do not mingle with the American people because their attitude is different, the type of things they do are different, more or less, so they they are more or less a separate group but still they do come out with their ideas and thoughts.

Scobey: You have no doubt studied psychiatry and psychology. Do the Japanese born or educated in Japan have entirely different viewpoints than the American Japanese who have never gone back?

Dr. Kazumi: Yes.

Scobey: Do you speak Japanese, read and write it?

Dr. Kazumi: Yes, I do both.

Scobey: Thank you Doctor for your consideration.

(Captain Holm is then called in)

Malone: Please state your name and position.

Holm: I am Captain H. R. Holm, Company Commander of the 323 Military Police Escort Company. We control traffic in and out of camp and are here in case of trouble.

Malone: What would be the purpose of calling you in?

Holm: In case of riot, or disorder, which the local police and WRA could not handle. We take full charge when we step in. We also check passes of people who enter and leave the camp.

Malone: You have an outside guard at all times?

Holm: Yes, we also have patrol duty around the edge of the area to observe the Japanese.

Malone: What would be the occasion for their going out?

Holm: During the day time, the situation of the camp permits the Japanese to roam around these hills. There are 70,000 acres and they are not supposed to get out of this area. There is no fence around the area and they can't go outside the area without a pass.

Malone: Are you responsible for keeping them in the area?

Holm: We patrol the area. If any go outside our duty is to turn them back. We are just here to check in case of leaving. If they leave it is up to us to notify the FBI to take charge.

Malone: How close a patrol do you maintain?

Holm: There is nothing defined. We try to patrol part of the area each day. I imagine it is about 40 miles around the area. We send two men on patrol.

Malone: How many cars do you use in patrol work?

Holm: We have four for this type of work but send one at a time. We have 108 men at the present time. They are a good type of men. 71 out of 108 are physically fit. 3 or 4 are not. These are in limited service. Limited service means a man who has a physical deficiency and can't pass the entrance examination into the Army.

Malone: Do you consider that you have enough guards to patrol the area properly?

Holm: I have enough men at the present time; however, I do not have my full complement of 135 men.

Malone: Do you feel that you have the right number to take care of any difficulties that may come up?

Holm: In case of difficulty we probably have enough to take care of this. Here is the number of arms, etc., that we have: 21 rifles, Anfield type; 88 shot guns, part Wright type, part sporting type; 4 machine guns, light; Gas grenades; smoke grenades; 14 pistols; 21 Tommy guns; 1 military police club for each man.

Malone: If you were able to set up, through your own recommendation, the number of men for your company and type of men, would you change?

Holm: If I were to make a recommendation for this particular type of duty I would consider 135 men would be adequate provided we were fitted as we are. In an organization 50 or 75 limited service men can be used. For one thing, if you have 100% limited service men there is one draw-back, they depend upon vehicles. Many of them have defective vision.

Scobey: There are a great many limited for flat feet, defective hearing, etc.

Holm: You can work them in very well.

Scobey: What security do you have if your arms were seized, in case of an uprising?

Holm: These arms are kept locked in racks. The excess weapons and ammunition are also under lock and key.

Malone: Capt. Holm, I want to visit your set-up as we go out. At Manzanar they had towers, and you do not have them here!

Holm: The tower proposition was brought up at one time. My opinion was asked for in regard to this and I vetoed it. It would take a minimum of two men on the tower at a time and would take considerable man-power. If you put in an installation like that you would have to put three companies in to accomplish this. My suggestion in place of the towers was that rather than do that we would swamp a road around the camp to make regular trips around the perimeter of these camps.

Scobey: Have you run on Japanese on patrol duty?

Holm: Yes, getting wood and rocks.

Head: These were within the area.

Holm: Yes, they were merely occupying themselves.

Malone: Would you care to put the number of your company down for the record? Thank you very much. Do you feel that you could hold this camp?

Holm: In case of serious trouble I would call the 9th Service Command at Salt Lake City, Utah.

The following is the list submitted by Captain Holm:

<u>General Service</u>		<u>Limited Service (Full)</u>	
S/Sgt.	1	1st Sgt	1
Sgt.	4	S/Sgt	1
Tec 4	1	Sgt	1
CPL	11	Cpl	1
Tec 5	3	Tec 5	2
Pfc	12	Pfc	23
Pvt	5	Pvt	42
Total GS	37	Total	71
" L S	71		
	108		

Limited Service Partial - 13

Kahlan	Duncan J.
Araza	Duncan M.
McCleary	Forston
Baglin	Hamlin
Hall	Jones R.
Bennett	Vinson
Bates	

Let to be Discharged - 7

Duncan M.	Woodville
Duncan J.	Foston
Fedinco	Jones R.
Wagner	

Malone: Thank you very much, Captain Holm. We will see you when we get through.

Malone: Please state your name and position.

Mr. Gelvin: My name is Ralph M. Gelvin. My position is that of Associate Project Director.

Mr. Malone: As such you are in charge under Mr. Head?

Mr. Gelvin: That is correct.

Mr. Malone: Principally, I would like to get from you just what the Project is doing, and what you think it is capable of doing for agricultural purposes, your arrangements for water supply, the amount of tillable land in the area, what you now have under cultivation, the status of your ditch construction, and, in general, see what you consider would be your chief production. Just give me your own story.

Mr. Gelvin: How would it be if I gave you approximate figures now and then submitted verified figures later on?

Mr. Malone: That is perfectly all right. I also want a map of the area, and a record of crop production and what you do with the crop.

Mr. Gelvin: The project itself covers about 72,000 acres. Of that 72,000 acres, 40,000 acres would be tillable with proper development, etc. The main canal, which is in the process of construction, is designed to carry 1100 second feet of water which will irrigate 30,000 acres exclusive of that land farmed by the Indians. Dirt work on the canal is about seventy-five percent complete. There are several large structures on the canal which are in the process of construction, such as large turn-outs, drops, bridge construction, etc. The land elevation is such that these drops must be put in to prevent excessive scouring and erosion. We have about 1500 acres cleared at the present time. This figure will be increased daily due to the fact that we have very efficient clearing crews at work. Our water supply is obtained from the Colorado River, from the diversion dam known as Headgate Rock Dam.

The following is a table showing our production records on crops to date:

CROPS	ANTICIPATED 1944 PRODUCTION		NEEDS OF PROJECT FOR VEGETABLES PRODUCTION	
	Acres	Pounds	Acres	Pounds
Beans, String	20	60,000	64	192,000
Beets	6	96,000	13	200,000
Broccoli	21	126,000	21	126,000
Carrots	26	364,000	51	720,000
Cabbage	16	256,000	38	612,000
Cauliflower	7	98,000	13	186,200
Cantaloupes	21	336,000	21	336,000
Casaba	10	160,000	10	160,000
Corn on the Cob	84	336,000	94	374,400
Cucumbers	19	152,000	26	210,000
Daikon	13	208,000	36	568,000
Egg Plant	9	72,000	19	151,200
Green Peppers	9	54,000	17	103,000
Honey Dew Melons	10	160,000	13	200,000
Lettuce	19	266,000	44	612,000
Mustard Green	6	60,000	6	60,000
Nappa	18	216,000	36	432,000
Onions, Dry	66	792,000	66	792,000
Onions, Green	10	40,000	10	40,000
Parsley	1	4,000	1	4,000
Potatoes, Sweet	16	160,000	48	480,000
Potatoes, Irish	18	216,000	108	1,296,000
Pumpkins	2	30,000	2	30,000
Radishes	5	20,000	8	330,000
Spinach	11	176,000	19	310,400
Squash, Banana	18	144,000	36	288,000
Swiss Chard	10	120,000	10	120,000
Squash, Italian, Crook- neck	12	96,000	13	100,500
Tomatoes	94	564,000	103	618,000
Turnips	14	168,000	16	196,000
Watermelons	28	560,000	29	576,000
	619	6,110,000	991	10,223,700

Truck Farming.....619 Acres  
 Hogs.....120 Acres  
 Dairy.....80 Acres  
 Fish Farm.....80 Acres  
 Nursery.....40 Acres  
 Berries.....100 Acres

Fruit.....200 Acres  
 Grain.....3,800 Acres  
 Pasture.....1,500 Acres  
 Alfalfa.....1,000 Acres  
 Rice.....300 Acres  
 Total 6,919 Acres

Mr. Malone: The charge for the water is included in the rental for the land?

Mr. Gelvin: That is approximately correct. This Project pays a portion of the salary of two ditch riders which is our share of the cost of the water. Does that seem to cover pretty well?

Mr. Malone: Yes.

Mr. Gelvin: We do have about 600 acres which is leveled and ready for crop at the present time.

Mr. Malone: What acreage did you have last summer?

Mr. Gelvin: About 150 acres. This figured the firebreaks, recreation areas, and various small plots which were used for vegetable production. Practically all of the acreage developed at the present time will be devoted to vegetable crops as listed in the preceding table.

Mr. Malone: Do you have refrigeration storage?

Mr. Gelvin: Yes. We have two refrigerators at Unit I, one at Unit II, and one at Unit III.

Mr. Malone: Are their capacities sufficient for your camps?

Mr. Gelvin: It seems to be for the winter months but is not nearly enough refrigeration capacity for the summer months. Frequently, even in the winter months our deliveries of meat, etc. are delayed which means that maybe two or three deliveries reach us at one time which swamps our refrigerated reefers.

Mr. Malone: How long do you think it would take to get sufficient land under cultivation to produce all of the food for this project?

Mr. Gelvin: Yes. We have 600 heads of hogs and 4,000 chickens. As we increase our land development, we plan to put in beef herd and dairy herd for meat and milk production.

Mr. Malone: Where do you get your power?

Mr. Gelvin: The power is now coming from the Parker Dam and Boulder Dam.

Mr. Malone: Is that unlimited?

Mr. Gelvin: The limit is regulated by the size of the transformers in our sub-station.

Mr. Malone: Just for the record, could you give me the power cost?

Mr. Gelvin: The power cost is .95¢ per K.W. demand plus 1.9 mills per K.W.H. energy consumed.

Mr. Malone: What is your domestic water supply?

Mr. Gelvin: The domestic water supply in all three units is from deep wells. There are four wells in Unit I at around 160 to 175 feet deep. Two of the wells are in operation and two have not been completed equipped as yet. There are two wells in each of the other two units approximately 260 feet deep. There are traces of organic matter in the water, however, which makes it necessary for us to chlorinate.

Mr. Malone: The Committee is very much interested in the plans of the WRA. What do you think should be done? What should be done with the loyal Japanese and disloyal Japanese, and where is the WRA headed for?

Mr. Gelvin: I think all of the loyal people should be given an opportunity, in fact, encouraged to relocate outside of the centers as quickly as possible. There are probably three classes of people: The loyal who want to leave; the loyal who would prefer to stay here, and I am thinking of the older people who cannot be relocated due to one cause or another; and those who are disloyal. I think the disloyal should be definitely segregated from the loyal people.

Mr. Malone: Under some kind of checking system for their protection, and for their own?

Mr. Gelvin: The checking system that is in force at the present time is probably sufficient. If it is not sufficient, it could be adjusted.

Mr. Malone: What do you think of the Army registration?

Mr. Gelvin: I think the opportunity to serve in the Armed Forces is a wonderful thing for the American citizens of Japanese ancestry. It is an opportunity that they have been asking for some time. I believe the morale of the people is the highest since evacuation. It is a big step in making the people realize that they are being given consideration, and not just live here and forgotten about.

Mr. Malone: Would you go further than that and use an induction system that is used on all Americans.

Mr. Gelvin: I would like to see the regular Selective Service induction system used. If any were rejected due to disloyalty, they should go into camps with those determined disloyal.

Mr. Malone: Would you put them in a separate camp, or keep them in WRA camps?

Mr. Gelvin: I would put them in a separate camp and not allow them to mingle with loyal people. As to the management of the camp, I do not see what different it would make whether WRA or the Department of Justice or who manages the camp.

Mr. Malone: If the loyal were allowed to go outside, and the disloyal put in separate camps, what would that leave for the centers as they now are?

Mr. Gelvin: The old people, people who did not have the nerve to go and buck outside competition, and any others who did not wish to leave the center.

Mr. Malone: Suppose you had the camps down to the physically disabled and aged, all loyal, would there be any reason why they could not handle them like all disabled?

Mr. Gelvin: They could be handled that way. They could take care of almost all of their own work within the center.

Mr. Malone: You would need no guards. In other words, you would have an entirely set up. Thank you very much, Mr. Gelvin. I am sure the Committee will appreciate your testimony.

(The following Council members (Japanese) entered)

T. G. Ishimaru; John Maeno, Chairman of Unit II Community Council; James Takashima, Chairman of Unit III Community Council; Harvey Iwata, former Chairman of Unit III Council; Franklyn Sugiyama; Frank Takanga; Ernest Kozuma; Masao Kawashima; Gerald Wumino; Thomas Masuda and Seiichi Nomura.

- Maeno: The council of each unit is represented from each block; each unit governs itself through the council; that is self-government as far as we can utilize it. Each camp has a council but we have no over-all council.
- Scobey: In that connection, Mr. Maeno, I received a statement of the council and they proposed a constitution and by-laws. Was that adopted?
- Ishimaru: It is in the final stages and is being incorporated by the Japanese.
- Malone: What does your council do?
- Maeno: The council mostly takes care of law and order problems of internal management.
- Malone: You know something about the Committee I am representing. Circumstances arose which made it impossible for Senator Chandler to come and he asked me, as Special Consultant to make a record of this. I know the Sub-Committee will be very much interested in any statement you would give for the record. One would be the recent action by the U. S. Army of getting the boys in service and if you think it should go further in using the majority like they do on the outside, of course, they would definitely be persons who are without a doubt just as loyal to this Government as anybody else. We know there are some who are disloyal. What are your ideas as to how the situation should be handled, how you could treat the loyal ones better by allowing them more freedom, and what would you do with the ones who definitely say they are disloyal. I could see very easily that if I were in Japan I would be loyal to the United States. I know you boys appreciate the situation and will appreciate any general or specific statement you wish to make as to how to solve a question which has been made rather difficult.
- Maeno: I would like to get the expression from Unit I and III.
- Sugiyama: May I ask a question? In studying over the reports that have been published about SB 44, I do not see the connection about what you are asking, and your Committee.
- Malone: I should have gone into more detail. This bill was introduced by Senator Wallgreen, of Washington, and Senator Holman of Oregon. They are very frank to say that the bill was introduced to bring the matter to a head. They are not positive the camp should be turned over to the Army but they want the situation discussed and we were directed to come here and get all the information we could that would throw light on what could be done to point to an ultimate solution.

Sugiyama: I would like to have it included in the record that we believed these gentlemen are doing this in a public spirited way and we feel that is no malice, also I agree with Colonel Scobey that this is a Civilian problem and the Army is not quite prepared to take care of problems involving children, minors and women. Of course, going back to your original question, I haven't had an opportunity to study the figures so I couldn't say definitely but in my observation there has been a considerable number of volunteers, but due to the fact that Lt. Bolton intimated there would be a draft, that statement, I believed, influenced a great many of us who might have volunteered. We are aware it will make a manpower shortage in this country. We feel that we have only a few more months of civilian life and the draft will get us so we decided to take these few months of freedom, but as far as taking our place in the war effort, we are ready.

Malone: What percentage of your boys within the draft age would have the attitude you have just now expressed?

Sugiyama: I would say 100%.

Malone: There were quite a number of your boys in the last war and they made a good showing. While we are on that subject, I can see how your mind works on that and many of our own boys take the same attitude. I am from Nevada but I know your problems in California, and the war coming along didn't solve that problem. The President of the United States did the best he knew how. He did something and didn't hurt anyone any more than he had to. I would say this, speaking for myself alone and not for the Committee, that in war times we are all on trial. I have registered for the draft and am 52 years old and was also in the other war. Whatever they want to do with me is alright with me. What applies to me and the Colonel applies to you boys, that if we made the statement that we were disloyal the Government could do anything with us. If the Colonel made such a statement, in that uniform, they would probably hang him. You people are being asked these things because we must know. One of the greatest things you can do, those of you who are loyal, is to let the people know they are on trial and when the war is over and you people have cooperated with the Government on every hand I can't see any trouble in store for you, but if you people give the Government a lot of trouble then you lose whatever you do from now on; your future is in your hands.

Sugiyama: A statement that I have in mind was that, we have been separated from our homes by the President. We don't see why we should be here and other aliens of pro-axis blood should be permitted to be free.

Malone: I won't attempt to answer that question. They are seriously divulging a military secret to tell us how many of our brothers are in the United States Army?

Scobey: No, there are between 4,000 and 4,500 Japanese in the Army.

Sugiyama: The Japanese have done their share.

Dr. Ishimaru: First of all, going back to this registration, I received a letter

from the Colonel yesterday. He quoted the number of "No's" on the loyalty question. It disturbed me. I presume that if there was an educational program we could show these people why we should volunteer. I am sure you would have gotten a better turn-out. I work in the hospital and I am sure most of the boys said "Yes" to No. 27 and 28. If we could only train our people there would not be so many "No's". When I was told by Mr. Head, Mr. Gelvin, and Mr. Evans that restrictions had been raised in Arizona and the Japanese could go back to Phoenix, I realized they had sold everything and there was nothing to go back to. There are only about three families out of 260 people living in our block who are willing to go back and do farming. I fear that the post-war problem is a very important one. I would like to see the people who have property in California go back. I am sure the parents who have this property have bought this property for their children. As far as morale is concerned, I am sure you have come here at a very good time. Manzanar can't compare with Poston. I believe Poston is far ahead. Maybe it is a good thing we had that blow-off. People have found out those things won't get them any place.

Iwata:

Our unit, more or less, started after 1 and 2. I think our unit has had the least trouble of the camps. We had the largest number of volunteers and our morale is good. I think Mr. Malone mentioned the fact that there are some people who are not loyal. After we had gone through the hot summer naturally there was some resentment. They were cooped up in these camps and dissatisfied, but their morale is good now. I think we started the 7th of December, 1941, with a determination to put all of our faith in the United States and then as we tried to work the pressure group on the west coast made it impossible. It might have been a military necessity. When we were moved here the housing was bad, the food bad and were placed in blocks with the wrong people. Another blow came when we were placed in 4-C classification. I don't think any American likes to be a neutral alien. Should the Army take over and should the system be changed to military it is placing the loyal American more in a position of prisoner of war. I have been to Los Angeles twice and with my contact with Federal Judges have built myself up to where they couldn't break my morale. I certainly would oppose any military restriction and I think the Japanese people will show that they are worthy of trust.

Malone:

In other words, you should be subjected to the draft the same as any other American, and if you were you would go practically 100%? You have not expressed to us what should be done to segregate the definite disloyal from the definite loyal.

Maeno:

I think the segregation should be done alright. I believe the administration here could tell who is loyal and who is disloyal. Problems have come up which would indicate which side we were on. Some, I feel, could go back to the restricted zones. If you couldn't go that far I think we should have the opportunity to win back our citizen rights.

Malone:

Suppose a method was installed that at least a great percent of loyal could be picked out, would you check them for their protect-

ion as well as everyone else?

Maeno: Yes, I would, but I don't think any discrimination should be made on account of race. I would be willing to take 64 hour examination to show I am a loyal American.

Scobey: I see you wear a Phi Beta Kappa pin, what college did you go to?

Maeno: Occidental College.

Scobey: Do you feel the measures which have been taken so far have accomplished anything? I am referring to the Army plan of putting the Japanese into the Army?

Maeno: I believe it is one big step; however, it is coming at a right time.

Scobey: You mentioned the 4-C classification. Do these citizens who have received the 4-C classification understand it was an administrative measure to keep the Japanese American from being inducted. Has that been explained to them?

Maeno: That has not been understood.

Scobey: I wish you would let it be known.

Malone: I am sorry our time is limited. If I could accomplish anything further I would stay over another day. I am sure the information you have given me will help the Committee.

Malone: Dr. Pressman, will you give the rate of Tuberculosis, venereal diseases and diseases generally of this camp also what would your recommendations be?

Dr. Pressman: Venereal diseases are not a serious problem because the circumstances and environment make it rather difficult for this type of disease to spread. To date, we have found 114 latent cases, but not a single primary case. The incident of gonorrhea is very low and we have seen only three cases in the past ten months. Tuberculosis is rather a serious problem. As you probably know, the Japanese as a race are rather susceptible to tuberculosis, and since camp life forces everyone to live and work in such close proximity, the chances of contact are very great. So far, we have found 180 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis of which 67 are active and 113 are arrested. Thirty-five cases are hospitalized at present.

As to other disease incidence, they are not remarkable. Heart disease, gastro-enteritis, and appendicitis are the more frequent diseases encountered, but they are not particularly high in incidence. There are no particular diseases which seem peculiar to this locality.

Our hospital records show that a total of 1428 patients were admitted from May 17, 1942, to February 28, 1943. There were 210 births and 74 deaths during that time, all of which were hospital cases except

17 of the deaths. In the mortality incidence, heart failure is the main cause of death with tuberculosis closely following.

It would be very helpful if a cooperative plan could be established between the relocation centers by which surpluses might be exchanged and a better equalization of supplies be obtained in that way.

Mr. Malone: We have had the testimony of nearly all the boys and it has been very gratifying to me, but after all, Mr. Head, you are the Project Director in charge of the camp. I know the committee will be especially interested in hearing your viewpoint, and for the benefit of the record I would like to have you sum up the situation and give your views as to what the objective of the relocation centers should be; whether or not you think a good start has been made by the Army in the volunteering, and if you think induction would be a good thing; how the loyal and disloyal should be segregated, and what should be done with them.

Mr. Head: First, I think the opening of this enlistment policy by the Army has been very fine. It gives the Nisei new assurance that their status as citizens is being fully recognized and they are being permitted to make a definite and direct contribution to winning the war. Now, the next step in my opinion, should be to take the loyal ones into the Army through the Selective Service System upon the same basis as all other Americans; the procedure for taking them into the Army under the Selective Service System should be re-instituted immediately.

Some of the loyal Japanese Americans probably cannot be used for Army service. Those who are absolutely loyal and who cannot be used for Army Service should be taken back into the mainstream of American life as soon as possible. Some supervision by the War Relocation Authority, in cooperation with the law enforcement agencies, may be necessary to assist them in making adjustments to their new communities.

I think the loyal Issei should also be given the right to go out of the centers but I think we will have to check on them more carefully. The Issei who are loyal should be given the same rights as we give other aliens whom do not intend to harm the country.

If the program for relocating these people is handled in the right way with the assistance and guidance of Congress, and with the cooperation of other governmental agencies, I believe we should be able to have almost all able-bodied loyal people in the Army or in outside jobs within a year.

Many of the older people and those who are physically unable to work may be left at the centers for the time being; most of them have sons and daughters who will send for them as soon as the sons and daughters are earning enough to support them. We will have some who are 50 to 60 years of age or older with no family connections who will have a hard time getting outside jobs. We may have to take care of these people for the time being, but many of them will be able to do enough work to produce their own food and clothing.

I wish to stress that the War Relocation Authority, from the outset has actively urged that Selective Service for loyal Japanese Americans be reinstituted. Another basic policy of the WRA program has been to get the loyal people out of the centers so they could contribute to the war effort. And these people can help a great deal now that a serious manpower shortage is facing the country. Those who are loyal want to get out to produce for this country and we should make it our business to see that they do get out. We would feel that we had done a good job if this project could be closed within six months, assuming that the public interests has been fully protected.

In closing, I wish to state that although we no doubt have some disloyal people here, a very large majority of them are definitely loyal to this country and are anxious to do everything possible to aid in our war effort.

Mr. Malone: I think the committee will be very much interested, Mr. Head. Now, for a few more questions and I think the record will be fairly complete. I see a chart here with the group age broken down; do you wish to submit it for the record.

Mr. Head: Yes, you may have it for the record.

Mr. Malone: In your cost of feeding the Japanese here, what is the actual cost per head?

Mr. Head: The cost is about 39¢ per meal per day per capita. Caucasian employees teachers, administrative officials, etc., pay 35¢ per meal, or \$1.05 per day.

Mr. Malone: What do employees pay for quarters?

Mr. Head: The so-called barrack rooms are \$5.00 per month, with 20 people to a barrack and one shower per barrack. The family quarters rent for \$22.50.

Mr. Malone: Do the teachers in the schools make any effort to clarify the attitude of the general public toward the Japanese, that there are certain things expected of them as a citizen group which are no more than are expected of all outside groups, that they are demanding of all citizens now, and that volunteering of these groups is merely a part of that setup?

Mr. Head: All the employees do that, and the teachers especially.

Mr. Malone: How many people do you have out on indefinite leave now?

Mr. Head: We have 189 out to date.

Mr. Malone: What kind of a check do you have on these men and women with their indefinite leave?

Mr. Head: We know where they go and the law enforcement agencies in that area

are notified; WRA also keeps a check on their location.

Mr. Malone: What organizations have to be satisfied before they can leave the center?

Mr. Head: The F.B.I., the C.N.I., and P.M.G.O.

May 16, 1943

Dear Nariko:

Holy Catfish! I travel half way across the continent to get away from cactus and what happens. Everybody and their grandparents take special delight in raising them, and now you send me a picture of them.

Don't mind me. It's just that the darn things make me a little homesick. Gosh! I look over the days I spent there, and I have to admit I had loads of fun, and I certainly miss everyone.

The Ohio River runs in back of the house, and if you think Poston's swimming pools are muddy you should see this river. When I asked if anyone swam in it, they looked so shocked I decided nobody did. Gad! What sissies.

Believe it or not I do all the cooking around here, and I'm having a grand time making up everything I missed out on at camp. Well, I was having a grand time until I found out I couldn't get into any of my clothes any more; so just for economies sake I'll have to go on a starvation diet. Why can't I get thin enough just once so I have to gain weight? Gee whillikens! Some people have all the luck.

The Chinese food here is really stinko. We walked into a chop suey joint the other day, and the proprietor (Chinese) says "Chinese?" That really floored me. Guess if a real Chinese can't tell the difference, I'm doing all right. The sun has only been out twice and my sun-kissed Arizona skin is looking slightly anemic these days. Probably that accounts for his error. When I recovered sufficiently from the shock, I mumbled something about Eskimo, and he walked away with a puzzled look on his face.

Haven't met very many people as yet because we live in the neck of the woods, and it's rather hard getting out. There isn't anything but domestic work open here; so the only Japanese here are girls. They're all very nice and lots of fun.

I hope to be in college by this fall, but I'm wondering if I should save up a little then go, or work on as part time help and go to school part-time.

Hear practically all the Bear boys have left. My! My! what will Poston do without the charming, gracious, Golden Bears.

I really enjoyed your letter and write real soon 'cause I'll be waiting. Give me all the lowdown on the local gossip. It shore is interesting. Well, behave yourself and be good.

Love and kisses

(We ain't quarantined..just mumps!)

Kiyo

July 11, 1943

Whoa there Nell (alias Nori)

You've been eating too much hay and oats. Take it easy and jeepers, give me time to find out a few tings for myself.

To drop your blook pressure to normal, he's nothing to get excited about. Looks--oh, average bespectacled black-head. Yep a Standford man--what does that mean? Seems like a conscientious fellow. Has a pretty good sense of humor. But I bet he's a good dancer--looks it. No haven't gone yet. Such places are absolutely hard to find. Guess, don't know our way around yet. Detroit for her size absolutely lacks such places in comparison to Ellay. Why they don't even show signs of having good music. People in general are money mad and have no time for recreation and relaxation. Nothing but bars, galore. Maybe that's a Detroiter's way of relaxation, eh?

Spent the Fourth at home quietly. In fact being a Sunday it rained as it has been every Sunday we've been here. Short sudden showers. Yep we had some today too. On the eve of the 4th went out to dinner and took in a show--heard Horace Heidt. Rather disappointing. Then on the 5th went to a Quaker picnic at Saline Valley Farms which is a good 40-50 miles southwest of Detroit. It's a self sustaining project--private--has poultry, dairy, orchards, truck gardening, canning factory, etc. Was refreshing to go to the country. Met an interesting lot of Caucasians. Most Quakers are C.O.'s, you know. One in particular was awaiting the F.B.I. to pick him up to serve a prison term for refusing induction. Seems unfair doesn't it? Just because he believes such, he's sent to prison. Also among the lot was the world's one and only harpsicord builder. Said he went to England to study. Sort of east going slouchy fellow with a pretty good sense of humor. Oh yes, lots of nisei from Ann Arbor were there. Remember reading about a Dr. Takahashi having married a Blue Book girl from New York in the Pacific Citizen? Well, met his wife--he was there too. Slim, tall, rather attractive person with a definite New Yawk accent.

Yes, I understand Marian has arrived and is at the Y. Called but haven't been able to reach her. Lily has been my roommate since arriving here but is leaving me possibly next week when her friend Patsy Sakon comes. Think I'll like living alone again. Mr. Doi has suggested I might ask Marian to stay with me. As yet I haven't given it much thought tho. I might consider it if I get too lonesome.

Oh Sam, I heard he left for Chicago. He evidently didn't stay in Detroit very long because I didn't even hear or see him. The Johnson job must--well, I guess he didn't even go out to see about it. The fellows having worked there probably gave off steam as to their impressions and discouraged the fellow before he even started. The least he could have done was to find out for himself. But that's his business.

Yes, I eat out all my meals except when I go to Doi's or

eat at French's where I stay. Yes, I ride the streetcar--takes me 25-30 minutes to get to work. I'm sure I must have told you about work.

Had sukiyaki last Friday and went out to Detroit's Belle Isle. Beautiful island with fountains, lakes, all kind of recreation. O<sup>h</sup> yest, got a glimpse of the Yacht Club too. And across this isle lies Canada-Windsor 10¢ bus ride but no can go. Immigration you know. Canada is south of Detroit. Hard to visulize isn't it.

So long...

Yoshiko

June 26, 1943

Hello Norie:

My major battle, I feel, is almost won. Then knowing my way about better helps. Almost a month now, Nikki. Getting around a little now. Spent Sunday at Dois. Had lunch and supper and topped it off with a show--first time. Keeper of the Flame. Not too good tho'. They had a fellow over, a dental technician from Heart Mt. and formerly of San Francisco. Played cards P.M. and the fellows cooked supper for us.

Then Friday nite Marie asked me over to meet a fellow who wants to go dancing! Wouldn't be surprised if he was disappointed but he says he had seen me before where I used to breakfast in town. Yes, saw him but not knowing him I never paid attention. Is fun. Ribbed me all evening. Is from Heart Mt. and formerly a Palo Alto-an. Only first impression so can't tell you too much.

Nikke, heaven forbid. Laugh the recent riot. You surely must have read about it? Well, the conductor mistook me for a kuronbo--from the back. You see that particular day they were all asked to squat down in the aisles so they wouldn't be visible to the mobs. I, of course--sniff--adamantly told him I wasn't colored. Sorry. And only a few days ago I was being Chinese. My nationality changes to keep in pace with Detroit weather. Yes as bad as that.

To h--- with the Dies Committee. Lots of whites think they're nasty blackmailing people too. So, we got a match. Kilsoo Hahn is in town blasting his mouth--Japs are Japs etc., so you may see not too pleasant things in the papers. We'll experience it out here I'm sure. He ought to be plastered, his mouth, I mean. I could think of more pleasant thingsto do with him. Almost went to hear him tonight with hakujins, but too late. Perhaps better that I didn't.

Yes I heard Kaz Oka is here but I don't know him. Maybe will run into him some day. Yes heard Bessie is working and combating lonesomeness. Would like meeting the 17 year old who had enough courage to come out alone and battle the outside world.

Got my May check from the Gov't. Tried to spend it today but couldn't find anything to drape on my constitution. Lucky me hunk?

Gads, how dry. I'll go to bed now. 'o long. Write again.

Yoshiko

P.S. Think won't have to revert to domestic. Financially I think I can make it if I spend wisely which means no clothes buying for sometime. But I can stand that. Yeah tough on the flexible will power.

June 10, 1943

Hot Nikki?

Gee, don't tell me our bunch hasn't moved yet! Tell Mr. Schmitt I'm disappointed but then if the employment does get a move on, he can't. And I do miss Mr. Schmitt and the bunch... Betty Masa and your friend Momita-san. In fact I miss Poston and home very much. Today spirits were so low I almost cried! And I poured my blues to one of my bosses--he's wonderful. Told me to keep a stiff upper lip (goodness I need a lift at that)!!

Yesterday I met up with Poston boys--Mickey Sakuda and Tom Nishimoto who are here to work for Johnson's Milk Company. Accidentally ran into them by the streetcar "get-on." Boy was I tickled to see someone I knew! That perked me up yesterday. Today, now (7 p.m.) I feel okay having been met with good fortune--the lady I live with picked me up so I wouldn't have to walk, shopped around the Food Mkt. and all--enough to boost my blues, no foolin' I was low today having heard from my brother and folks. If I only had someone living with me. Then I wouldn't be so lonesome! Doi's lives quite far out and I don't see her very often, tho' I can call her anytime. But you know can't forever be calling her on company time. Work is so piled up I'm sunk neck deep. It seems I came during the busy or busiest time--summer. Mr. Walker hasn't had a secretary for quite sometime, so you can imagine the mess! If I can learn everything that is expected of me, I shall be efficient--no lie! Notice I said IF! Today the boss and assoicate gave me about 10 letters I swear. Pretty fast dictation but mostly along the same lines so no difficulty today. Lucky huh.

Last Saturday nite, went to a gathering at Adams(quackers) which sole purpose was to get us acquainted with all the yaboes here in Detroit. Goodness, didn't know there were so many here. Also met some European refugees. One especially, a Lucy Glazen from Vienna was most interesting. A German-Jewess meeting up with quite a bit of prejudice. Wanted to be a M.D. but unsuccessful because of her race, so she's taking the next best--lab technician. So you see, it's not only we uns. And the Negro problem here is most terrifying in the sense that everywhere you turn a dark face greets you. The whites wonder what is to become of the colored when the duration is over. What to do??? Something like our folkes in camp huh?

If I get to know my way around, I'll tell you more about Detroit. It's so huge it's rather frightening in a sense.

Love,

Yoshiko

254 Connecticut  
Highland Park, (3) Michigan

August 4, 1943

Well Sassy,

Didn't your mother ever tell or teach you about respecting your elders. When a person gets as old as I, they have a right to get fat and be comfortable, see? In fact, I'm becoming so settled and conservative I applied for admission to a very religious school and this is what I got back under the heading:

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Emmanuel Missionary College emphasizes not only sound standards of scholarship, but also Christian standards of character and conduct. As part of this latter program the college expects the dress of the students to be modest, conservative, and appropriate to the occasion. Skirt length should be such that whether the wearer is standing or seated the entire knee should be covered. Any article of clothing duly emphasizing either the lower or upper torso is also discouraged. (Subtle ain't they? Why don't they come right out and say sweaters.) That's just a little bit too much for me.

Pioneer Camp consists of two tents with one counselor and three girls in each tent. "Cuppy" the campcraft director had tent one which had all the real outdoor girls in it, and my tent had the slightly more glamorized gals in it. I used to wake everybody up about 7:00, and then snuggle back into bed. They go wise right away to my yelling and the next morning when I got up, they threw a couple of pillows at me and then practically drowned me with a panful of water. We lived a very rugged outdoor life, cooking over campfires and sleeping outside when conditions permitted and sometimes when they didn't. All this is in the past tense because all the girls have gone home and now, I am a cabin counselor in the general camp.

There are some more girls in Pioneer Camp, but they aren't real pioneers, and they'd just as soon cut off their legs as go on a forth mile hike or canal down the Muskeyeon River. The former Pioneers could eat anything and smile after it too, but these girls get sick and go to bed. Sissies!

I sit writing and at various intervals, I yell and scream at all the girls draped over the cabin roof in their bare necessities. I never saw a bunch of rowdies who could think up such gosh awful things to do. Some of the antics they indulge in make even me blush. The girls are only 14 and 15, but their thoughts dwell often and amorously on the male sex. One night I walked in a little late and ran smack into a kissing party. The gals were having a lovely time practising various ways and the most romantic poses in kissing.

Well, I packed up for home

( Aug. 7 )

Well, I packed up last Friday and left for Kalamazoo to look for a job and landed one in the Y.W.C.A., and I hope to be able to go to school on Nov. 1 when Western Michigan starts their fall semester.

I left Kalamazoo on Saturday morning and got a weeks release from Camp Newaygo to come to the youth conference up here in Boyne Falls. We got here Saturday afternoon and now it's Monday afternoon, and we're supposed to be having rest period. As soon as I got into camp I was stuck in the younger girls' group (15-14) as Cabin Counselor. They're grand kids though, and they go right to sleep too. I'm suppose to tuck them into bed, give them a short sermon, then a prayer and taps. Can't you just imagine me delivering a short sermon and a prayer. I am also assistant instructor in a course called Religious Living. I am supposed to or at least I think I'm supposed to talk on my perosnal life in camp, and about all I could say about my religious life would be that I went to church almost every Sunday and argued with whoever took me to church about things entirely besides church. What a hypocrite! I'm going back to Newaygo on the 14th, and I'M supposed to go to Kalamazoo on the 30th of August or the beginning of September.

Here's hoping I hear from you before I leave Newaygo. I'll look up my address in Kalamazoo in the meantime.

Love,

Kiyo

Camp Newaygo  
Newaygo, Michigan

May 26, 1943

Dear Noriko:

Just finished reading your letter, and I enjoyed immensely. Egads! Don't tell me you're still dodging Cupid's arrows. Well you can't keep that up long in the romantic surroundings and atmosphere of Poston. Okay, okay, so I ain't funny.

I'm staying with the Arbuckle family which consists of Mama, Papa, Shelley, the little girl, and Janie the little boy. Mrs. Arbuckle used to be a Y.W.C.A. worker (like Maki) and Mr. Arbuckle is an industrial engineer. They're both swell people and do everything they can to make me feel at home.

Last Saturday we went to Mr. Arbuckle's father's farm in Sunbury, Ohio and had lots of fun. Shelley is 8 years old and treats me as though I were the same age. At the farm, I had a hard time trying to keep up with her tree climbing, fence vaulting, haystack sliding, and sheep herding. Guess I'll have to face the facts and admit I'm getting old. When we're home I have to play tag with her and hide go and seek practically every day. Mrs. Arbuckle always teases me about looking like a tomboy because my knees and legs are always bruised and banged up.

We live right in the middle of the woods and every time we play hide n' seek you have to climb through all kinds of foliage. It's beautiful out here but I guess it wasn't meant to be crawled through.

Janie, the little boy, is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  yrs. old, and I've never seen anyone who could do such unnecessary and unwanted things. He gets into everything and his antics are enough to make anyone's hair get gray.

Last week I had my first date since I've been here. A fellow who had graduated from University of Ohio in Athens asked me out, and I really learned a thing or two. Now don't get me wrong. He was a very nice fellow. A four point man (no notation points) a varsity debater, and he'd won a scholarship to University of Chicago, 4 pts. out here is a straight A record. He was pretty brilliant, but he didn't show it. There were two other couples, three of whom were pre-med. majors and one philosophy major. We scoured the town first to see if there were some night slubs with a reasonable amount of room, but not finding any, we went to the Mandarin Cocktail bar where we sat down and had a cozy time. After a glass of wine, a gin fizz and Martin the philosopher got kind of talkative and began to expound on the faults of Spinoza, Kaut, Emerson and Schopenhauer.

After my eighth coke, I got a little tired and suggested we move on. Barbara Bexley (one of the girls) wanted to go into the Victory Grill which is like a Main Street dive. We pushed our way through the drunken mob, and I must have knocked down a couple on the way. Once in a while, a sodden bum would leer

into my face and say "Chinese?" He almost keeled over at my "Sho nuff, suh," in a genuine Southern drawl.

Spring is really hitting hard in Poston isn't it? There aren't very many young men left there by now I suppose. I'd advise you to pick while the picking's good, or isn't it good anymore?

Good ole camouflage has finally closed down, huh? There must have been a rush for jobs again.

There's lots of opportunity for people who can do short-hand out here. If you possibly can, you should try coming out here because with all your talent you could probably land a good job easily.

The college I planned to go to will be about \$400 a semester, so I have given up the idea for a while. Hope to find some school soon, though. Well enuffs, enuff--so bye now.

Love,

Kiyo

4895 Orentangy Blvd.  
Columbus, Ohio

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6-27-43

E. H. S. - AHL

f. W. H.

Mr Chairman and Members of the Committee,

The problem of the Japanese in America has several aspects that are important to the whole nation. Your committee has dealt rather exclusively with one of these, namely, un-American and anti-American activities. I should like to take a few minutes and bring to your attention some of the other aspects that are of vital concern to the United States.

First there is the need of maintaining and further developing American attitudes and behavior. There are 110,000 relocated Japanese in our country, which is a larger number <sup>of people</sup> than any nation can afford to antagonize, wall off, and retain as a foreign body within itself. Furthermore, the Japanese raised in the United States have shown ~~great~~ capacities for being valuable citizens. All persons learn most rapidly by example, and true Americanism can best be maintained and developed by our demonstrating it in our dealings with these people. Among other things, absolute justice, lack of hysteria and an ability to stick by one's word and one's principles are American.

Secondly, there is the need to prevent the useless immobilization of manpower. The Japanese in America have shown themselves to be some of the best farmers in the world and, as soldiers in the United States Army, have been accorded high praise. Every one of these is needed by our nation at a time when it is suffering from food shortage and is on the brink of drafting fathers.

Thirdly, there is the American principle of safe-guarding the rights of all loyal citizens without regard to race or color. This is at the core of Americanism and it is especially important to preserve it at this time when we are making sacrifices in war to preserve the American way of life. We cannot afford to lose the battle for freedom on the home front while our army and navy are giving their lives overseas.

This principle, like all sound principles, has its practical side. In the first place, if blanket destruction of citizenship of any group of Americans becomes a precedent, then no group in this nation will be safe and the seeds of ~~intense~~ serious internal unrest are sown. America is composed of an enormous number of minority groups and she cannot afford to take <sup>the</sup> ~~such~~ chance <sup>of setting a dangerous precedent</sup>. In the second place, we must bear in mind what we hope to accomplish in war and peace in the Far East. The only argument for the blanket discrimination against Americans of Japanese ancestry and the correlated proposal to deport them after the war is that they are unassimilable. Such an attitude not only flies in the face of fact, but it carries implications that must apply to all oriental people. How can we do this when we are fighting side by side with the Chinese? How can we do this when we hope to have leadership in a just and lasting peace in which the people of India, Burma, the <sup>F</sup>Philippines, Malaya, and the Dutch East Indies will participate?

Gentlemen, do not suppose that what we do with the Japanese in America is going unobserved by other oriental people.

In bringing these other aspects of the Japanese problem to your attention, I do not in the least wish to minimize the seriousness of possible subversive and anti-American activity, but I should like to emphasize that for proper handling, all aspects of the question must be considered and weighed together.

The national welfare in matters of sabotage and espionage has not been neglected. After the war began, the various ~~federal~~ intelligence agencies, of the army, navy, and department of justice continued their investigations and incarceration of dangerous aliens and others. Pearl Harbor accelerated their activities among the Japanese-American population. The Federal Bureau of Investigation along with the other agencies worked hard and intensively rounding up all persons even remotely suspected of un-American activities. The people who were <sup>later</sup> evacuated from the Pacific Coast were American citizens and friendly aliens against whom there was no charge. ~~evacuated~~. Many were known to be extremely loyal.

It was therefore decided to deal with these people in a manner consistent with American principles. They were evacuated not to prison camps, but to relocation centers which were new communities where American life could be developed and which could serve as bases from which the Japanese could, after due process of sifting, go out and take their places again in those parts of the nation where their manpower was needed.

Despite the loss of their homes, savings, jobs, farms, and contacts with their Caucasian friends they cooperated loyally during evacuation with their government. Considering the mass nature of the

evacuation, the numbers of people of every description involved, and the physical hardships, the smoothness of the whole movement was extraordinary. The Japanese made this sacrifice for the war effort, and I doubt if they have received anything like the recognition they deserve. It was in these evacuation days when the United States was not nearly so well prepared as she is now and felt that at least a token invasion of the Pacific Coast was imminent, that resistance and sabotage would have caused <sup>real</sup> ~~untold~~ harm.

More than a year has passed since evacuation, and if a committee for investigating American activities were to visit the relocation centers they would find far more to point to than anyone in quest of un-American activities. Furthermore, such a committee could find many reliable witnesses including their own eyes and ears and would not be so easily misled by people who have more imagination than they have courage, veracity, or good sense. As an example of Americanism I might mention the young men who have volunteered for the army, even though sent to desert camps and frequently subjected to the most unfair accusations and threats by the popular press. It is far easier to volunteer from your own home before the admiring <sup>eyes</sup> of the neighborhood and with flags and music and popular approval in the press. It is a hundred times harder to volunteer to fight, not for a real home and place in a community, but for the principle, the ideal, of liberty.

I should also like to draw to your attention the doctors, nurses, firemen, police, office workers, teachers, gardeners, farmers, and scores of others who have stuck to their jobs for long hard hours in order to make the relocation centers a success and who have received little pay and no recognition from the American public. In any community as large as Poston, there will be numbers of people who by constitutional nature

are trouble-makers, and after a shock such as evacuation, it is to be expected that there will be numbers more who will be uncooperative because of resentment. However, it is a mistake to let the behavior of these obscure the faithful work that has been done. It is not in the American tradition of fair play to attach the black label ~~to~~ <sup>of</sup> a few to the entire community.

The weeding out of un-American persons has been going on and will continue. Contrary to popular opinion, it is a task that is not too difficult, but one must be careful not to mistake just grievances for anti-Americanism. Those who are considered anti-American are sent to concentration camps. Those who remain <sup>in relocation centers</sup> must not be treated as if they were in concentration camps. If they are so treated, then our whole program ceases to make sense, is more Axis than American in principle, and we run the risk of <sup>u</sup>suffering losses in manpower, losses in soldiers and good citizens, losses in post-war ambassadors of good will in the Far East, and loss of reputation in inter-racial dealings.

In working with the Japanese in America, we must realize that we are not dealing with fixed attitudes. The vast<sup>+</sup> majority of the people, like any other section of the public, are growing and changing in their attitudes all the time. That change can move in a destructive, anti-American direction, or it can move toward loyalty and cooperativeness. Which way it goes will largely depend on what we do to the people. The Japanese in America are neither super-villains nor super-heroes, they are just ordinary people, ordinary family people with all the human reactions, good and bad. Consequently they have potentialities for developing high morale and being a national asset, or they can deter-

iorate and become a never-ending source of expense and trouble. It is our responsibility to influence the <sup>2</sup>development in a constructive direction and the accomplishment will depend on our skill as administrators, on consistency in our policies, and on understanding on the part of the American public.

Loyalty is not a thing to be commanded. Any officer of the Army or the Navy knows that. Texts on military command will tell you that the rules of obedience and the punishment of the court martial are not the things which make <sup>the soldier</sup> ~~him~~ stick by his leader when all seems lost. Discipline consists in rules, ~~and~~ punishments, rewards and recognition, <sup>four</sup> all ~~three~~ balanced with each <sup>other</sup> and administered without caprice.

What is true of the soldier and the sailor is true of the civilian. What is true of the German-American, the Anglo-American, and the Chinese-American, is true of the Japanese-American. They are and will be loyal, <sup>if we</sup> but ~~we~~ must give them something to be loyal to.

70  
THE CAUSES OF THE MASS EVACUATION

Behind the decision of army authorities to move all Japanese out of coastal areas along the Pacific Coast were a number of important factors. Alegations of critics of the policy that it was actuated by economic and patriotic pressure groups, self-seeking politicians, scare mongers of the radio and press, and war hysteria on the part of the people generally, all contain a measure of truth, yet they fail to give us a comprehensive picture of the situation as a whole.

The available evidence shows that not all pressure groups were in favor of mass evacuation. While some farmers' organizations, business, and labor groups favored it, others did not. The State Chamber of Commerce at its meeting on February 14th in San Francisco went on record as opposing precipitate action in removing the Japanese. Church group and religious leaders were practically unanimous against indiscriminate evacuation. Labor representatives stated before the Tolan Committee at the San Francisco hearings that they were opposed to evacuation of all Japanese, viewing it as a move by business interests to secure a form of forced labor. Even the newspapers, while not opposing wholesale evacuation, nevertheless, for the most part, did not agitate for it.

Assertions of Professor Bellquist of the University of California and Carey McWilliams to the effect that the entire movement to force mass evacuation of the Japanese was the work of anti-Japanese pressure groups and agitators of the radio and press greatly oversimplifies the psychology of the situation as well. The Japanese have never been popular on the Pacific Coast. The many attempts over a period of more than half a century to discourage their migration to this country and to exclude them if possible gives evidence of this feeling. Nor can this prejudice be said to be the sole possession of a few hostile groups. The overwhelming popular vote in favor of the alien land law of 1920 demonstrates all too clearly the widespread character of the anti-Japanese attitude.

The treacherous attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor brought home to the people here the wholly alien moral standards of the Japanese-in-Asia and confirmed many of them in their belief that the Japanese-in-America are unassimilable. In addition, the success of the foray evidenced the possibility of attacks by sea and air on our coastal cities, a possibility made probable by the extensive losses suffered by our military and naval forces in Hawaii, and the all too obvious inadequacy of our preparations for defense.

Hitler's amazing success in Europe through the use of Fifth Columns made perfectly clear the incipient danger from enemy aliens, especially Japanese, in the event of a Japanese armed invasion of the West Coast. A large proportion of Japanese were concentrated in our industrial areas, close to many installations of military importance.

Activities of the F.B.I. resulted in the arrest of a large number of hostile aliens, the majority of whom were Japanese. Out of 853 violators of military regulations seized by the F.B.I., 498 were Japanese. Many of them were illegally in possession of firearms and ammunition, dynamite, short wave radios, and other articles use-

ful to fifth columnists.

Evidence in the case of Williams and Ryder, two San Francisco publicity men hired as propagandists by the Japanese, indicated that there was a widespread Japanese propaganda network spread over the coast. K. Takahashi, San Francisco manager of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and others were implicated in this Japanese propaganda machine. They acted through the Japan Committee on Trade and Information, operating in coastal cities, which, the evidence indicates, spent over \$200,000.00 between 1938-1940.

Current assertions by some writers quoting official statements from Hawaii to the effect that there was little evidence of sabotage in the Islands by Japanese and that this is conclusive proof that such fears are groundless, are entirely too sweeping. Lack of evidence of overt acts of sabotage does not establish that no espionage or fifth column activities have been going on in the Islands. On the contrary indications are all too obvious of the existence of such subversive tendencies.

At any rate, in the popular belief of the time, the Hawaiian-Japanese had much to do with the success of the Pearl Harbor attack, and by analogy, in their view, West Coast Japanese would act the same in similar circumstances. That this belief is not too far-fetched is shown by behavior of the Japanese settlers of Davao in Mindanao when the Japanese army invaded that island.

The theory advanced by some that the people of the coast were entirely passive under these circumstances until their fears were worked on by agitators is an exaggeration. On the contrary, existing popular hostility to the Japanese on the coast was aroused by the threat to their security and, in view of the imminent danger, the bulk of the people here supported extreme measures even at the cost of injustice to some.

#### DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE JAPANESE

The two most trenchant criticisms of wholesale evacuation of the Japanese from coastal areas are that (1) only the Japanese were singled out for this treatment, while other enemy aliens were allowed to remain in all but the most critical areas; and (2) that forced removal and detention of American citizens is an unconstitutional invasion of the rights of citizens, a policy wrong in itself and one which sets a most dangerous precedent.

That mass evacuation of the Japanese was discriminatory and, to a degree, based on racial prejudice, is incontrovertible. Reasons advanced in favor of it are that it is harder to check on Japanese activities because they "look so much alike" and "stick together so closely"; that they were threatened with mob violence and needed protection; that many native-born Japanese have been educated either in Japan or in Japanese language schools and are supporters of Imperial Japan; and that national safety required their removal because of the danger of their cooperation with Japanese forces in event of an invasion.

In rebuttal, it is contended that most of these arguments are merely excuses on the part of various hostile groups to get rid of the Japanese if possible. Critics of the policy assert that the FBI is perfectly capable of handling subversive activities among the Ja -

panese as well as other enemy aliens, that the local police can handle cases of assault on Japanese, and that the great majority of Japanese-Americans are loyal to the United States.

Dissenters point out that if it was not necessary to stage mass evacuations of Japanese in Hawaii, which is in a much more exposed position, why should it be necessary to do so on the Coast? Reports from Hawaii seem to indicate that wholesale evacuation in Hawaii was opposed by business interests because of its crippling effect on economic pursuits on the Islands, forty per cent of whose inhabitants are Japanese. Others maintain that the Army's present policy there is weak; that the Japanese in Hawaii, a large proportion of whom are loyal to the Mikado, should also be completely evacuated from that military outpost.

In any case, the present provisions in regard to the two areas are obviously inconsistent and seem to justify the criticism that racial prejudice has played too large a part in the relocation of Japanese on the Coast. Yet here, too, the psychology of the situation plays a part in that the whites are in the minority in the Islands and intermarriage among the racial stocks is a commonplace there, while in the Pacific Coast states the white population is overwhelmingly dominant, and racial inter-mixture -- especially between Caucasians and Orientals -- is tabu.

The second charge that compulsory removal and detention of American citizens is illegal is now being tested in the federal courts in the case of Mitsuye Endo, an American-born Japanese and former state civil service employee. The contention of the defense in this case is that the power to exclude doesn't include the power to detain; that is, though the government may force a citizen to leave a zone declared to be of military significance, this does not give it authority to set up camps where citizens may be confined against their wills without a legal hearing. If this contention were upheld by the courts, all native-born Japanese would have to be released from the camps.

The legal issue is a complicated one involving the question of martial law; under what conditions it may be applied, and how extensive the territory it may cover; whether in fact the powers now being used are justified by military necessity, and if so, to what extent civil rights may be suspended. Critics of the army's policy cite the case of ex parte Milligan decided shortly after the Civil War. If a recent case involving a Japanese in Seattle who sought release from the curfew law is to be taken as a precedent, however, the courts will uphold the war powers of the President even if civil rights are to some degree suspended.

As for the question of expediency, the current opinion among observers is quite overwhelming that it was a mistake to evacuate American-born Japanese. Here again, however, the question is more complicated than at first appears evident. Many native-born Japanese have been educated in Japan (Kibei) and are loyal to that country. Others in America have shown pro-Japanese sentiments. Loyalty to the United States cannot be determined wholly by reason of birth in this country. Some Japanese aliens, also, are loyal. To separate the sheep from the goats, the recommendations of the Tolan Committee that all Japanese be given the same opportunity as other enemy aliens to prove their loyalty before hearing boards, would

seem to be the best and most just procedure. Detention of loyal Americans whose talents are now being wasted in the comparative idleness of relocation centers is a stupid and futile policy.

During the height of the movement to evacuate the Japanese, a number of acts of petty persecution were perpetrated which on sober second thought, no doubt, will be rectified as contrary to American ideals of fair play. Among these may be mentioned the suspension of 235 Japanese State Civil Service employees and their later removal from the rolls on the grounds that, because they were in detention camps, they were not performing their duties. This action, according to newspaper accounts, was taken over the objection of attorneys for the state employees. According to reports, suits are now being instituted to determine the rights of this group under the Civil Service Law.

The State Board of Equalization is said to have issued orders to file complaints against all Japanese controlled corporations holding liquor licenses in the state.

U.S. Webb, former attorney general of the state, reported to have proposed before the sixty-fifth annual grandparol of the Native Sons of the Golden West that the federal Constitution should be interpreted or amended so as to deny citizenship to all Japanese, regardless of place of birth. Webb is said to have stated that our policy of conciliation, appeasement, and apology towards the Japanese is responsible for the present situation. Following this statement, a favorable resolution was passed, and a suit instituted in the federal courts by J. T. Regan, grand secretary of the Native Sons of the Golden West, to force registrars of voters to eliminate the names of persons of Japanese blood from the voting lists. The suit was dismissed by Judge St. Sure on the grounds that the Supreme Court had already definitely decided on the issue.

The Japanese question was thrown into the gubernatorial campaign when Governor Olsen's action approving proposals to use Japanese evacuees for work in the harvest fields in the unrestricted areas of the state, if approved by local authorities, was condemned by Republican newspapers as endangering the safety of the state. This agitation has died down now that federal authorities have begun to use the system of "furloughs" on a wide scale.

Rumors that Japanese evacuees were compelled to sell their property at sacrifice prices may have had some basis in fact but more careful procedures have now been instituted by federal authorities to protect property rights of the Japanese. Much complaint has been made about the hardships suffered by evacuees in the camps. Though, no doubt, conditions are far from perfect, it is possible to sentimentalize too much over this matter. When we think of what our drafted men in the camps have had to endure and the agonies they went through on Bataan and at Midway, the temporary inconveniences of the detention camps become of minor importance.

#### THE OUTCOME

One of the important reasons why compulsory evacuation was necessitated was the universal refusal of other state authorities to receive Japanese emigrants who left the Coast voluntarily. Consent of the governors of western states to importation of Japanese into their territory was obtained only after the Federal authorities had pledged that the Japanese would be under federal supervision and

and would be returned to Pacific Coast states after the war. Proposals to allow Japanese college students to enroll in universities and colleges in other states were, with a few exceptions, met with refusals by the authorities of these institutions. Fears were expressed that California was trying to shift an unpleasant problem to other states.

The general hostility displayed towards the Japanese does not augur well for the future. Probably the best that can be hoped for the evacuated Japanese is that they will be restored to their homes and properties in California at the close of the war without too great injury to themselves.

Perhaps, if the war goes well for the United Nations in the Pacific, the tension will die down enough to permit release of the Nisei from the camps. Court action may compel release of Japanese-Americans soon. It seems too much to expect, however, that there will be greater friendliness toward the Japanese and their culture for some time after the war. The Pearl Harbor episode and the capture of the Philippines by the Japanese Army has raised antagonism toward the Nipponese to the boiling point and it cannot be assumed that this will all be forgotten after the war.

That this sentiment is discriminatory and racial in character is true enough but it exists just as truly as racial prejudice against the Negroes has existed for hundred years. The ideal solution would be tolerance for the Japanese group and its culture and complete fair play for its representatives on our shores. Practically, however, the problems may solve itself through the fact that our immigration laws have stopped immigration from Japan entirely, the older generation of Japanese here (Issei) are dying out, and the native-born Japanese (a small element in the West Coast population) will eventually be absorbed.

In the meantime the schools, the churches, and other cultural groups may do much to promote mutual understanding, appreciation, and tolerance for Asiatics whose racial characteristics differ from ours but whose thoughts and ideals are all American.

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

February 5, 1943

"Two weeks ago we had some weather that I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy. The wind, it blew and the rain, it poured like cats and dogs and we didn't have enough pots and pans to go around to all the leaks in the roof. The biggest leak was right over our bed and what a mess. This camp is being relocated at such a fast rate that pretty soon the only ones left will be old people the very young and people who are just too tired to think about anything but go to bed for the duration."

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

November 10, 1942

"Believe it or not but they even have a U. S. O. for soldiers on furlough.

Winter has actually come for us here in Wyoming. Snow and more snow. You should see the kids having fun making snow man, sleighs and having snow fights. Why even grandmothers join in the fun. The Army has allowed boys and girls to go sliding down the hills around here. Gee, if only we could have pictures taken of this winter life in camp.

We, who had one member of our family working 15 days in September have received our clothing WRA allotment checks. Majority of the workers have received navy sea jackets--boys and girls alike--and uniforms for nurses' aids and kakki pants and jackets for policemen, carpenters, stewards and plumbers.

The food is pretty good but we seem to be living mostly on starchy food. I guess we must expect for worst next month for about three months as then we'll probably be snow-bound.

Did your camp have a Halloween Party? The Administration Dept. gave this whole camp a party at various mess halls. It turned out to be a great success.

One thing wrong with this camp is one seldom knows what is going on. There isn't a large gathering hall like the Grandstand at Santa Anita. I guess we'll have to wait until they build the high school gym and auditorium combination."

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

November 10, 1942

"Our mess hall opened. What slop we get. There should be a ration on turnips if I am say so. The 1st 2 weeks we were here-- the food was good--quite good to be true. Now it is terrible. I had written to everyone that it was good and now they change. Some people are smart, eh?...We are always getting hungry. Those wood choppers certainly get hungry. Here I am doing nothing and I get hungry. The boys can't get second helpings. Heard that some wood checkers just quit work and sat down cuz they were hungry. Isn't that awful?

The Buddhist are the majority by far but we have a nice crowd any way."

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

November 9, 1942

"As we came into Manzanar we could see the tower lights and through our fatigued eyes everything looked dirty and dismal. The denizens looked and dressed like denizens from some God forsaken outpost in Alaska.

The second day we were here the wind blew as a welcome and we have had three supposedly mild dust storms since.

The mess system is more peaceful but the food is just as bad.

We sleep luxuriously on spring beds with straw mattresses.

The beds looks as if someone was sleeping on it without anyone being there. Each unit has a Coleman oil burner.

-----ever caught in a dust storm and couldn't make heads or tails of where you were going. It creeps in through closed window ledges, creveses, gets into your food and leaves a fine coating of dust over everything."

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

November 6, 1942

"It's (Rohwer) much, much better than we've predicted. This was formerly timberland, I presume, for we are surrounded on 3 sides by trees (beautiful in its autumn or winter glory, at present) and on the 4th side by a railroad track. The camp is fairly level, around each block consisting of 12 barracks are wide ditches, probably to drain off the rain water. Gee, but the one near ours isn't dried yet--in fact it's still full from the down pour we had last week. Of course it's been raining since yesterday so that added some.

Those that came in towards the last have been put into the blocks "in the jungle". They're suppose to clear the trees but the lumber jacks haven't gotten around to it yet.

Yes--there are mosquitoes here in the summer time; in fact, those that carry the malaria fever! When we first arrived, to counteract or prevent us from catching it, we were given guinine tablets 4 nights out of a week for about 2 weeks. No more such fears now though. The weather is grand though it gets cold off and on so that we burn our stoves; and then it rains. They say it gets freezingly cold in February and March here and just pours cats and dogs around May and June. Funny!"

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

November 3, 1942

"All the teachers have to have at least 3 years of college completed so this time it means that just anyone can teach. They have to pay \$3 for a license to teach. In the center of camp, there are 3 blocks reserved for church, school and business district, while the camp is located in a desolate corner, so far away that it's not even funny. There are rooms where the nurses stay.

We've had all types of weather now from hot, sultry day to a rain storm. We can never tell what next day will be like for even if the day is warm, it might rain at night. The soil is so muddy and sticky.

No heaters as yet. House quite nice except for cracks in the wall. It's still covered with black tar paper. Our mess hall and laundry are not finished yet so we go to the next block to eat and take a bath. 4 bathtubs to a block."

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

November 2, 1942

"At present we're amidst a terrible dust storm.....dust, dust and more dust in my eyes, ears and throat. The wind whistles past, raising its screams almost to a shriek, and eddies of dust are kicked up in its wake. But I'm sure you must realize what I mean.

Last week, we were granted a preview of our winter----we experienced our first snowfall. It was a most delightful sensation--the snow flakes drift so gently--reminds me of blossom petals in springtime in our lovely California orchards. However, I've never been so cold in all my life---I wake up in the middle of the night and my face is frozen (sure wish there was a method of unscrewing our nose and ears nd putting it'n our pockets, or something)--so I curl beneath the blankets, and almost suffocate. What a life--it certainly will make pioneers out of us softies.

We received some government clothing--which are given to us on a loan basis--and what a sight!! The smallest macknaw is size 38, and breeches 29, --insists I look like a cross between a penguin and a manchurian soldier--but she's being very polite. But it's awfully warm so I guess I'll wear it."

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

October 27, 1942

"The camp here as is all camps built on the same order the facilities to each block. We have hot water and true and beautiful bath tubs. The camp is really big and widely scattered mere so than in Santa Anita. All the big buildings such as hospitals, post office, Administration, church is at the opposite corner from where we live and terribly far. The hospital is not complete. As many of our mess and laundry rooms too in fact. Sorry to say the whole camp is still in its first stages and unorganized, but we are making the best of it.

Sign up for permanent jobs starts not! I do hope we here in this center will get along with our fellow workers namely the Fresnoans because already we are booked down upon as a bunch of toughies,--said, at least we won't rot in camp (physically) because we get good food but mentally that's another question. Nothing exciting yet except one evening early a bunch of us went persimon hunting also nuts but ended up hunting two dead horses--boy did it smell undesirable. Got almost lost and M. P. told us we were lucky we didn't get bit by the snakes."

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

October 22, 1942

"Finally in Jerome. Conditions at present very inconvenient due to construction still under way.

Reached at 11 p.m. Barracks are swell. When completed will hold 8,000. 3,000 from Santa Anita, 5,000 from Fresno.

Not very friendly people--very snobbish."

101 OTHER RELOCATION CENTERS  
EXCERPT FROM LETTER-mf  
GILA RELOCATION CENTER

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

October 22, 1942

"At last in Arizona--smelling the same dust--breathing the same dust--sleeping in the same dust, etc.

Facilities are better however and perhaps things will be better when the construction is finished."

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

October 20, 1942

"Greetings from we'un Arkies! How are you getting along in that oven over there? Swell placehere--good food--but plenty of snakes--those that crawl and the two two legged ones, too. We pulled in here at 3:30 in the morning but still we had to get off. Boy did that first bath in 6 months feel good--we even had to take a rinsing. Not any cotton left to pick. Not many mosquitoes as I thought there was. School hasn't started yet.

The Negroes are plenty around these few states--the shacks they live in aren't even suited for a pig. No kidding--it makes me so thankful that we have such nice houses here. Some are tipped over on an angle when just a little breeze comes--maybe that's exaggerating it a bit but the houses are so tiny with so many people living in it.

These negroes are so ignorant. We talked to them from train--they said, "How's the war down your way? Is yo' all captured?" We said, "We're evacuated." "What does evaporation mean?" (He replies)"

July 6, 1943  
(Typed)

October 14, 1942

"I am finally here at Utah--and I'm quite sure it must be similar to Poston. There is dust everywhere, and trees, grass and flowers are non-existent. The land is flat and barren and except for the rolling hills which appear miles away, there is nothing in view but desert land. The only aesthetic experience one can undergo here are the sunrise and sunsets, which deepen the sky to brilliant hue. The evenings are also beautiful. When the stars light the sky--the milky way is clearly perceivable. But outside of that, everything is ugly.

Our barracks are probably similar to yours and our block plan is patterned after the other relocations centers. As yet our barracks aren't finished, and for a time, we really had to rough it. It poured the night we reached, and since there were so many holes in our roofs, we had to get up in the middle of the night to move our beds, etc. Other people had it worse--their rooms were flooded, and all their beddings were soaked. However, they're working on it now so it's okay.

At first when we reached here, we felt so gloomy and depressed, but after meeting my friends, I find it bearable.

The food here isn't as good as S. A.--about the only thing that compare is the facilities. The mornings and nights are freezing (30° at times), and afternoons are warm. I keep thinking of you all in Toasten, etc.--basking in the warmth, while brrrrr-----."

May 15, 1943

"Although the weather here gets pretty sultry at times, tonight a good cool breeze is blowing so it isn't so bad. Tomorrow I'm going fishing west of the Camp about five miles into the woods."

"Every Sunday we get ice-cream, strawberries three times already --not bad, eh?

From now on we'll be getting plenty of vegetable; gee but the vegetable sure grows good around here. The farm is located east of our Camp about a mile--640 acres of farm land all plowed."

"Three theater (Co-op) Blocks #10, #15, #33; show every night; Saturday matinee and night. The Matinee is for small kiddies. No show on Sunday. One picture stays at one theater for a week. A new picture every three weeks."

"Many groups are having picnics here lately. Our group had one two Sundays ago and went about seven miles out of Camp by a lake; really a beautiful place. That same Sunday our Block also had a picnic."

May 31, 1943

Letter Received -- ja  
Amache, Colorado

"The school here is all complete except the plumbing and the plumbers went on a strike after quarreling with a Japanese. It should have been completed last month but the strike is still on. The building is a beauty and is very modern. The Gym is very big with hardwood floor, a stage, projection room, etc."

"We are putting on a school annual at our High School. It's going to be pretty good even though I do say so. We sold 475 copies of it. I do hope though that it will be finished before the school ends."

"Everybody in camp is taking pictures although films are hard to get. I'm using a teacher's camera. I've taken about one hundred snaps."

101 OTHER RELOCATION CENTERS  
✓ Letter Received -- js  
Denson, Arkansas

May 19, 1943

"Hot? No but plenty sultry already down here. We sit outside under our new porches every evening and cool off. The youngsters go for the fire-flies. The green light looks very refreshing and a merry chase goes on all the time."

OUTGROUP RELATIONS 101  
OTHER RELOCATION CENTERS  
EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS

December 22, 1942

K  
Jerome W.R.A.

Lately the weather has been pretty good so we're busy going out into the woods for firewood. Each block is responsible for its own wood so all the available workers have to go out and work. We have lots of fun chopping and sawing the trees down. Everyone stands back and hollers "Tember" and all the kids working have to run like wild men for shelter.

Recreation-- Just went to a football game and was it rough! There isn't any football equipment here as yet so the kids play in ordinary clothes. It's pretty dangerous, but so far there hasn't been any serious injuries. Today's game was played between Harbor City and the Engineers, The Harbor City kids winning 6-2. It was an exciting game but it was too cold, we almost froze to death watching it.

January 24, 1943

As far as the mud out here goes it's not half as bad as it used to be. We now have walk ways to all the apartments, mess halls, etc. The only trouble is we can't visit other sections of the camp. If we walk on the roads the trucks come by and splash mud all over us.

About four days ago we had our coldest day as yet. It got down to almost zero degree. We could hardly stand it. The wind blew and it felt like pins sticking us in the face. My sister (a teacher) said that some of her little first grade students began to cry because their faces were so cold. It was O.K. after they sat by the stove a while though. The weather up to date has been rainless so they've started a few outside activities, mostly volleyball and some football.

February 28, 1943

Within the last few weeks the swing band has played about ten times averaging from two to three times a week. Our biggest appearance was a night club sponsored by the recreation department. Our band furnished all the musical background. All those who attended acclaimed it as a huge success. Twelve of the "most beautiful" girls in the center formed the Chorus. It was something different. They had soft drinks, sandwiches, souvenirs and they even had two cigarette girls selling tobacco, etc. The affair was held two nights, the first night was most caucasians, while the second night was mostly Japanese. The first night was the best because the Americans seemed to be more free with their money. I think they cleared some \$80. There is a possibility that the band might go out again because some caucasians from a couple of near by towns were present to look over the affair.

OUTGROUP RELATIONS  
EXCERPTS FROM LETTERS

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The band has a very good chance to go to Rowher to play for them a couple of nights. It seems they don't have a dance band so they want us to come over for a couple of nights stands. All of us are "tickled to death" because of the possibiltiy. At present the band has some 70 pieces including the first ten on the Hit Parade.

End  
Part II: Section 5

COLORADO RIVER  
POSTON, ARIZONA