8-15-44

220.2

Sgt Carl Yoneda was elected to membership on May 23, 1944 to the Howard Sperry Post. Howard Speery was one of the two Union men shot down in 1934 during the Water Front Strike and is a Post now consisting of Veterans of Foreign Wars--all labor post. Now has about 300 members with 200 members still in service.

Yoneda is the first Japanese to be elected to membership in that post and possibly the entire Veterans of Foreign Wars--that is since the present war began.

Quartermaster Ed Reite, ~~is also~~ Financial Secretary of Local 10 ~~of~~ I.L.W.U. Said of the Japanese in the Armed Forces--"These boys have ~~found~~ earned the respect of all of us."

Leane out

For further information on Yoneda's background(he is in India at present) contact his wife Leane Yoneda at Olympia 8707. She works in the Electrical Worker's Office.

By: ~~Mrs. Hahn~~ Morris Watson
Editor of ILWU Dispatch

Mrs Dickson also

Sat.

S.F. Edna
Rep Beals - Mayfield
Leane E. Yoneda

Called into Washington

220.1

8-15-1944

Taken from part of telephone interview between Mr. Gibson and Mrs. Leane Yoneda today.

Mrs. Yoneda received a V-Mail letter dated sometime last month from her husband, Carl Yoneda, last week. He is in India (Burma at present) and he states he is very happy that ~~xxxxxx~~ his application for membership to the Veteran's of Foreign Wars (Sperry Post) had been accepted. The Sperry Post is composed of Trade Unionists and Carl got his application thru being a member of the Longshoremen's Local No. 110 and Vice President of Alaska Cannery Union Local No. 5 at the time of the evacuation. He is still in good standing in those unions.

Mr. Yoneda has been a long time fighter against Fascism of any kind and Japanese Imperialism. He helped organize the Labor Committee which ~~against the~~ Boycott ~~of~~ ships carrying supplies to Japan ~~Japanese Unions~~, about 1936, when they attacked China. He was on the picket line when Chinese and Longshoremen were picketting the shipments of scrap and oil to Japan.

He celebrated his 38th birthday in India on July 15, 1944.

Teletype No. 461

Washington
7-17-45 2:51PM

L H Bennett
Rivers, Arizona

Following is Project Press Release No. 147, for publication in Project Newspapers - Secretary Clinton Anderson of the United States Department of Agriculture declares that refusal of Seattle Produce merchants to deal in Produce grown by Japanese Americans is " unjustified discrimination" which must be corrected.

The secretary, newly appointed by President Truman, sent the following telegram on July 14 to Mr. Adwin, Secretary of the Northwest Produce Association at Seattle-

"This Department is receiving numberous protests against refusal of Seattle Produce firms to handle Produce grown by Japanese Americans, in view of present food situation, we belive such discrimination cannot be justified and urge your cooperation in correcting situation."

The Department has sent copies of this wire to all its Offices on the West Coast, advising them that its action is to be regarded as a policy statement from the cabinet head.

Pending settlement of the Seattle Marketing difficulties, the War Relocation Authority is aiding Evacuee Growers who have returned to the Seattle Area to market ~~thesi~~ their Produce through other channels.

M. M. Tozier WRA WA

3:18P

Orig: Fleming
CC: Huso
Director

Mail + File

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Gila River Project
Rivers, Arizona

JUL 20 1945

Reports Office

Mr. Dillon S. Myer
Director
War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Attention: M. M. Tonier

Dear Mr. Myer:

We are sending you the enclosed news items which have been released to the following newspapers and radio stations: Arizona Daily Star, Arizona Republic, Tucson Daily Citizen, Mesa Journal Tribune, Coolidge Examiner, Coconino Sun, Stations KOY and KTAR, Associated Press, United Press Association and Cody Enterprise.

Very truly yours,

L. H. Bennett
L. H. Bennett
Project Director

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Cozzens

EAFleming:fwl

TO BE RELEASED JULY 20, 1945

News Item

Announcement was made today (July 20) by Dillon S. Myer, Director of the War Relocation Authority that Douglas M. Todd has been appointed to succeed LeRoy H. Bennett as Project Director of the Gila River War Relocation Camp at Rivers, Arizona. Mr. Todd comes from the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming where he has been a member of the War Relocation Authority staff since that center was established in 1942. He is a native of Utah, and has spent most of his life in that State in farming and in banking business. Prior to entering government service he was engaged in mining and metallurgical work in Colorado. Mr. Todd's family still is in Heart Mountain, Wyoming, but soon will join him in his new location. Two sons and three sons-in-law are with the armed forces. One of his sons has fought in the Okinawa Campaign.

Mr. Bennett who has been project director at Rivers since December 1942, is leaving to enter private business as the distributor of the Monitor Electrical Appliances in Northern and Central California.

****

Also effective July 20, Mr. James Shelly of Tempe, Arizona, in addition to his other duties as Assistant Director in charge of Community Management will assume added responsibility for general supervision of the relocation program at the Rivers Relocation Center. There now are approximately 7,000 evacuees in the center to be relocated in different parts of the United States before the closing of the center.

NEWS ITEM FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Relatives have received word that five servicemen from the Relocation Camp at Rivers, Arizona are enroute home from Italy under the War Department's program for adjustment of personnel. They are in a group of 205 enlisted men of the now famous 442nd Japanese American Combat team; 111 of them wear Purple Hearts. In addition 74 Oak Leaf Clusters to the Purple Heart have been awarded to men in these groups who have been wounded more than once in action. Their adjusted service rating scores range from 85 to 118. One of the five is Pfc. Henry I. Nakada who has six brothers in service. Pfc. Suzuto Tsukuji wears the Glider Badge. T/Sgt. William Arii wears the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart with two Oak Leaf Clusters. S/Sgt. Herbert M. Sasaki has escaped wounds although he has fought through the African, Italian, French and German campaigns, but his brother has been wounded three times. S/Sgt. Ewart S. Yasukawa wears the Purple Heart. Pfc. Ken M. Tashiro wears the Glider Badge. He was the first editor of the camp newspaper at Rivers and one of the first volunteers from Rivers for army service.

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Teletype No. 27

Washington
7-21-45 9.59A

L H Bennett Rivers, Arizona

Atten -- Reports Office

Following is project press release No. 147, for publication in project Newspapers ---

The first complete railroad train carrying evacuees back to California will leave the Rohwer Center July 26 with 425 passengers. Secreatary of the Interior Harold L. Ickles said the arrangement was conformity with Office of Defense transportation regulations.

In addition to a diner and two baggage cars, the train will include seven day coaches and one tourist sleeper, reserved for the use of the aged, infirm and sick. The all evacuee train is scheduled to reach California about July 31.

The 125 Rohwer families traveling on the train include nearly 100 children under 15 years of age. A few families planning resettlement in the Mountain states will leave the train at Pueblo for Denver, Colo., and at Ogden and Salt Lake, Utah. Others in the group plan to get off at Lodi, Sacramento, Stockton, and Fresno and Los Angeles.

May former Rohwerites disembarking at the main California stops will disperse to their homes in nearby towns and ruarl communities. From Fresno onward, only two coaches, the sleeper and one baggage car will make the trip to Los Angeles.

1225P

Arnold M. Serwer WRA

Orig; Fleming
CC:Huso Shelly Directr

N E W S I T E M

July 30, 1945

Gila River Project
Rivers, Arizona

Meiko Mae Kurakusu, aged 22, who formerly lived at 1230½ S. Hobart, Los Angeles, was instantly killed at the Rivers, Arizona Relocation Camp on July 27 when the hospital bus in which she was riding overturned. Miss Kurakusu, who was employed as a medical stenographer, was riding on the regular project bus which brings workers to the hospital when the shift changes at midnight.

She was a graduate of Los Angeles High School in 1941 and had completed one year at the Los Angeles City College at the time of evacuation. In addition to her college work she worked part-time as a sales girl at the Kakihara's florist shop in Hollywood.

Her parents and sister, Teruko are living in the relocation center. Her brother Hideo has relocated and is now living in Austin, Texas. Before evacuation, her father was employed as a gardener in Los Angeles.

* * * * * *

DAY LETTER

~~109~~ 216

Rivers, Arizona
8-2-45

Multiple Messages to:

United Press
Heard Bldg.
Phoenix, Arizona

Associated Press
Heard Bldg.
Phoenix, Arizona

KOY, Radio Station
Phoenix, Arizona

Wallace Yamamura, 24, resident of the Relocation Camp at Rivers, Arizona, has been taken into custody and is facing a federal charge of driving without due caution. He was the driver of the hospital bus which overturned on Friday night, July 27th, causing the death of one girl and the injury of several other passengers.

Yamamura was transferred from Florence to Phoenix on Thursday where he was released to the U. S. Marshal. He will be prosecuted by the Federal Court in Phoenix.

Yamamura was a resident of Fresno, California, before evacuation.

EAF:KK

Ethel A. Fleming
Reports Officer

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
GILA RIVER PROJECT
RIVERS, ARIZONA

Reports

TELETYPE MESSAGE

216

8/6/45

MULTIPLE MESSAGE TO:

UNITED PRESS
HEARD BUILDING
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

ASSOCIATED PRESS
HEARD BUILDING
PHOENIX, ARIZONA

TELETYPE MESSAGE NO._____

HAJIME NISHIMOTO, 48, a resident of the Relocation Center at Rivers who was injured when the hospital buss overturned on July 27, died early Saturday morning, August 4, in the camp hospital. His is the second death as a result of the accident. Meiko Kurakusu, 22, formerly of Los Angeles, a medical stenographer at the Hospital, was killed instantly. Six other passengers were hospitalized. Two seriously injured are still in the camp hospital.

MR. NISHIMOTO, employed as an orderly, was enroute to the hospital where the shifts change at midnight when the accident occurred. Before evacuation he was engaged in gardening and lived at 2002 Purdue Avenue in West Los Angeles. He is survived by his wife, Nasa, who at present is a patient in the camp hospital.

WALLACE YAMANURA, driver, formerly of Fresno, California plead guilty to a charge of reckless driving and has been sentenced by the Project Director to 90 days in county jail. It is probable that he will face a State charge of manslaughter.

DMT

Douglas M. Todd
Project Director

EFleming:mim

REPORTS OFFICE

216

T E L E T Y P E

AUGUST 14, 1945

UNITED PRESS, HEARD BLDG., PHOENIX
ASSOCIATED PRESS, HEARD BLDG., PHOENIX
EDITOR, ARIZONA DAILY STAR, TUCSON,
KOY, PHOENIX, ARIZONA

TELETYPE MESSAGE NO._____

EIGHTEEN OVERSEAS VETERANS CAME BACK THIS WEEK TO THE RELOCATION CAMP AT RIVERS. IN THIS GROUP ARE THE EARLY VOLUNTEERS WHO ACTIVATED THE 442ND INFANTRY, THE JAPANESE-AMERICAN ARMY UNIT, WHICH BECAME THE MOST DECORATED OF THE AMERICAN FIGHTING FORCES IN EUROPE. IN ADDITION TO EUROPEAN CAMPAIGN RIBBONS, AMERICAN DEFENSE RIBBONS, AND PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATIONS, MANY OF THEM WEAR BRONZE STARS AND GLIDER BADGES. SOME OF THESE MEN HELPED RESCUE THE "LOST BATTALION"; OTHERS LANDED BY GLIDER BEHIND ENEMY LINES IN FRANCE AND HELD THAT STRATEGIC POSITION UNTIL GROUND FORCES COULD ADVANCE TO RELIEVE THEM. ALMOST EVERY ONE WEARS A PURPLE HEART AND SEVERAL HAVE OAK LEAF CLUSTERS SHOWING THEY HAVE BEEN WOUNDED NOT ONCE BUT TWICE OR THREE TIMES. THEY WILL NOT TALK ABOUT THEIR OWN ACCOMPLISHMENTS BUT GIVE PRAISE TO THEIR COMRADES WHO DID NOT COME BACK, THE ONES WHO LOST THEIR EYES IN COMBAT, BUT BY ADVANCING AGAINST ALL ODDS MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR THEIR UNIT TO ESTABLISH A RECORD OF HAVING CAPTURED EVERY OBJECTIVE TO WHICH IT WAS ASSIGNED.

ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE MORE THAN ENOUGH POINTS FOR DISCHARGE, THE MAJORITY OF THIS GROUP HAVE SIGNED UP FOR ADDITIONAL WORK IN CARRYING THE WAR TO THE PACIFIC. WITH THE PROSPECT OF PEACE, THEY ARE HOPING THAT THEY MAY BE RELEASED TO HELP THEIR FAMILIES RESUME NORMAL LIVING WHICH THEY WERE FORCED TO GIVE UP AT THE TIME OF EVACUATION.

DOUGLAS M. TODD
PROJECT DIRECTOR

EAFleming/mf

DMTodd

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
GILA RIVER PROJECT
RIVERS, ARIZONA

216

8-15

TELETYPE MESSAGE

ASSOCIATED PRESS
HEARD BLDG
PHOENIX ARIZONA

KOY RADIO STATION
PHOENIX ARIZONA

ARIZONA DAILY STAR
TUCSON ARIZONA

News that the end of the war had come was received joyfully at the Relocation Camp in Rivers, Arizona. It was especially a day of rejoicing for the families of 991 servicemen ~~of~~ from that community. With irony a death message came in the midst of rejoicing to one family whose soldier son had been killed in the Pacific. And a memorial service is being planned today for another servicemen from Rivers who lost his life in the battle. But for many the news meant that family members in army service might be discharged soon. Japanese and Caucasian members of the appointed staff met together in the evening for Christian services. One little Japanese-American boy was seen running toward the hospital with a portable radio. According to him it was saying good things and he wanted his father who was hospitalized to hear them. As many of the staff as could be spared have left camp for the two day holiday.

D M Todd
Douglas M. Todd
Project Director

EFleming:MHN

TELETYPE September 27, 1945

FROM: Reports Div.

MISS EMILY BROWN
% REPORTS OFFICE
GILA RELOCATION CENTER
RIVERS, ARIZ.

FRIDAY NIGHT SEPTEMBER 28 THE TRAIN LEAVING PARKER WILL CARRY A FAMILY OF THREE TO CALIFORNIA WHICH WILL COMPLETE THE RELOCATION PROGRAM IN CAMP II. A TOTAL OF 78 PEOPLE HAVE ALREADY BEEN TRANSFERRED TO CAMP I, OF WHICH 55 ARE DEPENDENCY CASES, 13 ARE FAMILIES INVOLVED BY PREGNANCY AND 10 ARE TWO FAMILIES THE HEAD OF WHICH ARE THE UNIT II ADMINISTRATOR WHO IS LEAVING SHORTLY AND A VITAL WORKER CONNECTED WITH COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE. THE POPULATION IN CAMP II ON AUGUST 18, SIX WEEKS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED CLOSING WAS 1598. PEAK POPULATION FOR THAT UNIT WAS APPROXIMATELY 4050.

THE NIGHT OF SEPTEMBER 29 WILL SEE THE LAST OF THE EVACUEE RESIDENTS IN CAMP III. FOUR FAMILIES LEAVING FROM THE SANTA FE STATION IN PARKER THAT NIGHT WILL COMPLETE RELOCATION IN CAMP III. TRANSFERS TO CAMP I FROM CAMP III TOTAL 131 PEOPLE. OF THIS FIGURE 93 INDIVIDUALS ARE IN DEPENDENT FAMILIES. THE BALANCE OF 38 INDIVIDUALS ARE COMPOSED OF 7 FAMILIES OF PAROLEES WAITING FOR PERMITS, 3 FAMILIES OF PREGNANT WOMEN, 3 WOMEN RENUNCEES AND 4 FAMILIES OF WORKERS NEEDED IN COMMUNITY ENTERPRISE AND RELOCATION WORK. ON AUGUST 18 THE POPULATION IN CAMP III WAS 1795. PEAK POPULATION ESTIMATE FOR CAMP III IS 4400. THESE FIGURES INDICATE A TOTAL OF 3393 RESIDENTS IN CAMPS II AND III RELOCATED OR TRANSFERRED DURING THE SIX WEEKS PRIOR TO DATE SET FOR CLOSING.

IN CAMP II NO SINGLE INCIDENT MARRED RELOCATION PLANS ACCORDING TO ROBERT C. WELLS ASSISTANT RELOCATION PROGRAM OFFICER IN CHARGE THERE. LOU BUTLER, ASSISTANT RELOCATION PROGRAM OFFICER AT CAMP III REPORTS NO SERIOUS INCIDENT THERE. THE ABSENCE OF DIFFICULTY INCIDENT TO CLOSING AND THE FACT THAT POSTON BEAT THE DEADLINE BY ONE DAY ARE NEWSWORTHY.

I SHALL BE GLAD TO ANSWER ANY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS. WILL YOU COVER TELETYPED NEWS STORY TO OTHER CENTERS OR SHALL I?

FANNY R. CONNOLLY
REPORTS OFFICER

APPROVED _____
Duncan Mills
Project Director

REPORTS OFFICE

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T E L E T Y P E

SEPTEMBER 28, 1945

UNITED PRESS, PHOENIX, ARIZ.
ASSOCIATED PRESS, PHOENIX, ARIZ.
ARIZONA DAILY STAR, TUCSCON, ARIZ.
ARIZONA REPUBLIC, PHOENIX, ARIZ.
KOY, PHOENIX, ARIZ.
KTAR, PHOENIX, ARIZ.

TELETYPE MESSAGE NO._____

AT RIVERS, ARIZONA, DOUGLAS M. TODD, PROJECT DIRECTOR OF THE GILA RIVER WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY CAMP, ANNOUNCED THAT THE CANAL CAMP CLOSED TONIGHT, TWO DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED CLOSING DATE OF OCTOBER 1, 1945. THE FORTY-SEVEN EVACUEES WHO DEPARTED TODAY WERE THE LAST ~~5097xRESIDENTS~~ TO LEAVE THE CANAL UNIT, THE SMALLER OF THE TWO CAMPS. THIS CAMP AT ONE TIME HAD 5097 RESIDENTS. 87 PERSONS FOR WHOM HOUSING WAS NOT AVAILABLE AT THEIR RELOCATION DESTINATION HAVE BEEN MOVED TEMPORARILY TO THE BUTTE CAMP.

THE WRA CAMP AT RIVERS WAS ESTABLISHED WHEN THE WAR DEPARTMENT EVACUATED PEOPLE OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY FROM THE WEST COAST AS AN EMERGENCY WAR TIME MEASURE.

REPORTS OFFICE

TELETYPE MESSAGE NO._____ SEPTEMBER 28, 1945

THE FIRST EVACUEES REACHED RIVERS ON AUGUST 3, 1942. PEAK POPULATION IN THE TWO CAMPS, CANAL AND BUTTE, ON DECEMBER 31, 1942, WAS 13,328. 2830 PEOPLE REMAIN IN THE BUTTE CAMP WHICH IS SCHEDULED TO BE CLOSED ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 15TH.

DOUGLAS M. TODD
PROJECT DIRECTOR

TELETYPE

Reports Div.

September 28, 1945

MULTIPLE MESSAGE:

ARIZONA REPUBLIC, PHOENIX
PHOENIX GAZETTE, PHOENIX
YUMA SUN, YUMA
ASSOCIATED PRESS, PHOENIX
UNITED PRESS, PHOENIX
RADIO STATION KOY, PHOENIX
RADIO STATION KPHO, PHOENIX
RADIO STATION KTAR, PHOENIX

TWO DAYS BEFORE THE SCHEDULED CLOSING FOR UNIT II AND III OF THE COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER AT POSTON, ARIZONA, THE LAST FAMILY OF JAPANESE AMERICANS IN UNIT II LEFT THE SANTA FE STATION IN PARKER ON THE EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 28 TO ESTABLISH ITS FIRST REAL HOME AFTER MORE THAN THREE YEARS OF CENTER LIFE. UNIT III WILL RELOCATE IS LAST FAMILY THE FOLLOWING NIGHT, LEAVING BOTH UNITS EMPTY WITH THE EXCEPTION OF PERSONNEL AND THE 16 FAMILIES OF HOPI INDIANS WHO ARRIVED AT UNIT II THE FIRST OF SEPTEMBER. MORE THAN 4000 EVACUEES WERE ORIGINALLY HOUSED IN EACH UNIT. SIX WEEKS BEFORE THE TIME SCHEDULED BY DILLON S. MYER, DIRECTOR, FOR THE CLOSING OF THESE UNITS THERE WERE 3393 RESIDENTS IN BOTH CAMPS. THE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF THE RELOCATION PROGRAM WAS WITHOUT INCIDENT. NOR IS IT EXPECTED THAT THE PROCESS OF RESETTLING THE 2500 REMAINING RESIDENTS AT UNIT I WILL PRESENT ANY DIFFICULTIES. SINCE THE 18TH OF AUGUST EVACUEES HAVE LEFT POSTON AT THE RATE OF 900 EACH WEEK, 69% OF THEM GOING TO CALIFORNIA. THE CENTER, WHICH HAS BEEN UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DUNCAN MILLS, WILL BE ENTIRELY CLOSED TO JAPANESE AMERICANS NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 1. MORE THAN 14,000 EVACUEES HAVE BEEN RELOCATED FROM POSTON SINCE ITS INCEPTION. EACH FAMILY HAS BEEN GIVEN INDIVIDUAL ATTENTION BY THE RELOCATION ADVISERS. THE POLICY ESTABLISHED BY WRA IN ITS RELOCATION PROGRAM IS TO PLAN FOR AND GIVE AID TO EACH OF THE RESIDENTS, FIRST AT THE CENTERS AND THEN AT THE DISTRICT OFFICES SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY. LOCAL WELFARE AGENCIES, CHURCHES AND INDEPENDENT ASSOCIATIONS HAVE ACCOMPLISHED A GREAT DEAL IN ASSISTING THE NEWCOMERS TO REESTABLISH THEMSELVES.

FANNY R. CONNOLLY
REPORTS OFFICER

APPROVED _____
Duncan Mills
Project Director

216

orig; fleming
cc; huso
shelly
director

NO. 10 TELETYPE

GRANADA, COLO.
XXXXXXX
10-4-45 900A

D M TODD WRA RIVERS,

TO ALL PROJECT DIRECTOR

ATTN REPORTS OFFICER.

FOLLOWING IS FIRST OF SERIES OF SPECIAL PROJECT PRESS RELEASE COVERING FRIST CENTER CLOSINGM ON OCTOBER 15, OF GRANADA CENTER,

AMACHE, COLORADO --- THE SECOND AND LARGEST ALL-GRANADA RAILROAD TRAIN TOOK 578 AMACHE RESIDENTS BACK TO THEIR CALIFORNIA HOMES OCTOBER 2. SCHEDULED TO CLOSE OCTOBER 15, THIS FIRST CENTER TO BE EMPTIES OF RESIDENTS HAD ONLY 844 EVACUEES STILL LIVING ON THE PROJECT AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF THE 14-CAR TRAIN. THE LARGEWT GROUPS HEADED FOR A SINGLE LOCALITY WRE - 149 TO LOS ANGELES, 87 TO SACRAMENTO AND 63 TO SEBASTOPOL. OTHER DESTINATIONS FOR GROUPS LARGER THAN 15 RETURNEES WERE COLUSA,

Orig: Director
cc Huso
Shelly
Terry
Reports
Graham

Teletype 131

Washington, D. C.
10-18-45 9:50 A.M.

216

D. M. Todd
WRA Rivers, Arizona

Following press release is being issued by Department of Interior from Washington for afternoon papers, Thursday, Oct. 18--Quote

The War Relocation Authority Program for people of Japanese descent at the Tule Lake Center in Northern California will be terminated by Feb. 1, 1946, Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes announced today. With this step, the WRA will complete its schedule for liquidating its operations.

The last of the ten centers which were established in 1942 to accomodate the people of Japanese ancestry evacuated by military order from the Pacific coast. Two of the centers - Jerome in Arkansas and Granada in Colorado - have already been closed. All the others except Tule Lake will be closed by Dec. 15 in accordance with plans previously announced.

During the few months of operations still ahead at the Tule Lake Center, the WRA will continue to assist in the relocation of those residents who are eligible to leave. Those who are not eligible to leave because they are under detention orders issued by the Department of Justice will remain in the custody of that department pending final disposition of their cases. Unquote. In addition following statement is being released at Tule Lake to the residents of the center. Quote.

In line with the liquidation schedule of the War Relocation Authority, plans have now been completed for an intensive relocation program at the Tule Lake Center. This program and all other WRA services to evacuees at

Continuation -

the center will be terminated on or before Feb. 1, 1946.

All residents of the center who are not on the Department of Justice detention lists are eligible for the same types of relocation assistance as the residents of other WRA centers. Those who wish to relocate with WRA assistance should formulate their plans by Dec. 15 at the latest in order to allow adequate time for the final scheduling of transportation facilities and the orderly movement of personal property.

Persons on the detention lists will remain in the custody of the Department of Justice pending final decision regarding deportation or continued internment. Any questions regarding the future status of the detainees--or of family members who may wish to remain with them--should be addressed to the War Division, Department of Justice, Washington, D.C.

The War Relocation Authority will begin at once to prepare for the final liquidation of its activities at the Tule Lake Center. All farm operations will be discontinued immediately and all livestock on hand will be disposed of at the earliest practicable date. Center schools will be closed by Dec. 21. The business enterprises association should begin immediately to liquidate its operations and should plan to be out of business entirely before Feb. 1. Unquote.

D. S. Myer
WRA

Telype 184

Washinton DC
10-25-45

216

Douglas M Todd
Project Director
Rivers Ariz

Following is material for project press release for use in center Bulletins . Quote. Hunt, Idaho The departure of the last resident from Hunt-s Evacuee community on Oct 23 left the Minidoka Relpcation Center a Gost town Nine days ahead of the scheduled closing date Nov 1, Willbem ERawlings, Project Director , announced . All terminal departures have been on.,orderly and withput incident.

Minidoka had 2,258 residents remaining on Sept 15; When scheduled departures began. About three fourths of them have returned to former homesin in Washington and Oregon.

More than 7,000 of a toal of 13,048 persons inducted into Minidoka came from the Puyallup assembly center in Washington, the first group arriveing in August 1942. A amaller number were from the north

Telype 184

Portland assembly Center in Oregon. The only minidokans who were originally from California came by way of Transfers from Tule Lake andX Jerome.

all but 1,22 (1,200) acres on which center Buildings abd ~~facilities~~x facilities are located have been turned back to the U.S. Reclamation service , the agency from which WRA secured the 33,000 Acre Tract. The 1,166 Acres of farm land first culivated by evacuees have been leased to private farm operators. Unqote.

Dillon S Myer
W.R.A

Orig; Fleming
cc Huso
Director

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington, D. C.

GILA

K 3.17

Project Relocation Bulletin Release

Gila River announced the relocation of one of its most prominent residents last week, that of Dr. George Iki, recognized as Canal's "Dean of doctors" by evacuees and appointed staff.

Although Dr. Iki lived in Sacramento before evacuation, he has relocated to Los Angeles where he will be associated with the Polyclinic. He had been chief surgeon at the center hospital since it opened, and chairman of the medical committee.

On his return to the center from a trip to investigate conditions in Los Angeles, Dr. Iki expressed the opinion that the evacuees have more friends now than before evacuation. Telling center residents that he was "enthusiastic" about his acceptance in the city, he said that people "went out of their way to be friendly and helpful."

Through a doctor friend, Dr. Iki was able to secure an apartment which he says "will do for the time being." On his own iniative he also secured a telephone.

Dr. Iki stayed with the Leo Ishikawa family during his investigation of Los Angeles, and reported that they were "beyond expectation in the success of their relocation." He also brought back word that rumors regarding injuries and losses suffered by Mr. Ishikawa were entirely without foundation.

######

P.B. Cozzens
WRA Topaz
Sun Sentinel

216

Payne

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
Topaz, Utah

FROM: E. W. Conrad
Information Officer

TO: Belmont Courier

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Topaz, Utah, Nov. 22--PFC Masazo Kariya, formerly of Belmont, Calif., was wounded in action with the 442nd Infantry Battalion in France on Oct. 29, the War Department has notified his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Yujiro Kariya of the Central Utah Relocation Center here.

His wife, Shizu, resides in Chicago. Pvt. Kariya was inducted into the army three years ago. He was trained at Camp Grant and Camp Blanding before going overseas last August.

R.B. Cozens
WRA Office
San Francisco

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
Topaz, Utah

FROM: E. W. Conrad
Information Officer

TO: Oakland Tribune

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Topaz, Utah, Nov. 22--Pvt. Teruo Tabata, formerly of San Mateo and Oakland, Calif., was killed in France on Oct. 28, the War Department has notified his family at the Central Utah Relocation Center here.

Pvt. Tabata volunteered for the 442nd Japanese Combat team and was accepted in August, 1943. He was trained at Camp Shelby, Miss. He attended Oakland Technical High School and San Francisco Junior College. While here he was a sports writer for the Topaz Times, project newspaper.

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Yataro Tabata, and two older brothers, Nobuo and Yoshio, survive.

Sent to: Post Enquirer, Oakland
Times & News Leader, San Mateo, Calif.

F.B. Cozzens
WRA Office
Dave Wilson

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL UTAH PROJECT
Topaz, Utah

FROM: E. W. Conrad
Information Officer

TO: Berkeley Gazette

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Topaz, Utah, Nov. 22--Staff Sgt. John Harano, whose home was in Berkeley, Calif., before the evacuation of persons of Japanese descent, has been killed in France, the War department has notified his father, Sataro Harano, a resident of the Central Utah Relocation Center here.

Sgt. Harano volunteered for the 442nd Japanese Combat team and was accepted in the summer of 1943. Trained at Camp Shelby, Miss., he went overseas last May.

In addition to his father, he is survived by five brothers and three sisters. They are Pvt. Roy Harano, who is stationed at Camp Blanding, Fla.; Sataro George Harano of Topaz; Frank Harano, Philadelphia; Earl Harano, North Platt, Neb.; Mosashi Harano, Chicago; Mrs. Mary Miyake, Ogden, Utah; Mrs Sue Yamasaki, Wooster, Ohio, and Mrs. Tomika Shibutani, Chicago.

Copies sent:

Berkeley Record

Copies sent:

Berkeley Record

Segregation and Internment:

1200 suspected persons of Japanese ancestry were interned our of the 3000 persons picked up immediately after Pearl Harbor.

Three transfers from Tule Lake to internment camp in December, 1944, and January and February, 1945, removed 70, 171, and 650 Japanese needing internment.

An editorial statement published in the Feb. 13th, 1945, issue of the Fresno Bee that 11,447 persons at Tule Lake had applied for expatriation, and there had been some 1400hearings--has not been officially authenticated.

EVIDENCE of Japanese-American Loyalty:

1. Some 13,000 Japanese-Americans are serving in America's armed forces. 2500 evacuees from relocation centers are in the U.S. Army.
2. 9,507 Hawaiian Japanese-Americans responded to the call to arms which needed only 1,500 volunteers when Lt.Gen.Delos C. Emmons called for army volunteers.
3. Nisei casualties(1/25/45)of which next of kin at center were notified:
   486 casualties 111 killed 359 wounded 16 missing in action
4. Nearly half of some 13,000 Japanese-Americans inducted into U.S. armed services.were volunteers.
5. Most decorated U.S. Army unit--100th Infantry Battalion of 442nd Combat Team:
   Gen. Mark Clark--War Dept. Citation for entire unit
   plus--Over 1,000 Purple Hearts 3 Legion of Merit Decorations
   11 Distinguished Service Crosses 31 Bronze Stars
   44 Silver Stars
6. Japanese-American soldiers have engaged in Italy, France, Alutian, Saipan, Guadalcanal, Borneo, Philippine campaigns, Morrill's Raiders in Burma.
7. Japanese-American soldiers training at Camp Shelby,Mississippi, spent pay checks in purchase of $100,000 war bonds in two days after hearing announcement of execution of several of Maj.Doolittle's flyers over Japan.
8. An estimated more than half of the 13,000 Japanese-Americans in U.S. Army service are from the mainland and includes those inducted through Selective Service from October, 1940, to June, 1941, when inductions of Japanese-Americans ceased but were resumed January, 1944. In April of 1943 the 100th Infantry Battalion of Japanese-Americans was authorized by the Secretary of War, with 1200 volunteering from the Relocation Centers. However, the 2500 inducted from relocation centers since January, 1944, do not include those who were inducted from points of relocation in mid-west, east and south by local draft boards.
9. Japanese-American girls are serving as nurses, nurses aids, and WACS.
10. In addition to military record, Japanese-Americans are contributing to the war effort in war factories, farming, subscription to war loans and purchase of bonds, giving blood donations and supporting Red Cross.
    a) 5,000 evacuees assisted in mid-west harvests in 1943.
    b) 10,000 evacuees volunteered to help harvest sugar beat crop which provided sugar allowance for some 10 million people.
    c) Evacuees youth in the relocation centers are active in USO and Scouting; Stanley Harris, Nat'l. Dir. Interracial Activities of Boy Scouts of America, said, "Probably the best Boy Scout work in the entire country is being done at Heart Mountain relocation center!

Defense unit

Gila 3.17

REACTIONS OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY TO ATROCITY STORIES

Gila River Evacuees Denounce Inhuman Treatment of American Prisoners by Japanese

Treatment of Americans and Filipinos captured by the Japanese at the fall of Bataan and Corregidor was denounced as inhuman on January 29 by a special meeting of the Butte community council of the Gila River Relocation Center.

The Japanese Americans on the Butte council asked "greater opportunities ..... to defeat those responsible for such deeds" and expressed pride in the approximately 300 men from the Gila River Center who are now fighting the Axis, many of whom are in the Pacific area.

A resolution, signed by Harry N. Miyake, council chairman, and Verlin Y. Yamamoto, Secretary, was passed unanimously and directed to the War Department. It said:

"Whereas, we have received the news report of atrocities committed by Japanese militarists on American prisoners of war at Bataan and Corregidor, and

"Whereas, we are highly devoted to the United States and to the cause of democracy and fair play among nations,

"Therefore be it resolved: That the community council of Butte Gila River relocation center at Rivers, Ariz., wholeheartedly denounces and condemns the cruelties and inhuman atrocities of the Japanese soldiers, and call upon America, our country, both real and adopted,to give us greater opportunity according to our various abilities to defeat utterly those responsible for such deeds, and

"Be it further resolved: That we reiterate our pride in our many sons, fathers and brothers who are fighting in the Pacific area against this cruel militarist group in Japan to maintain the principles of freedom and democracy, and

"Be it further resolved: That we reaffirm our faith in the War Department which, through selective service, again gives us the opportunity to further participate in helping to win the war."

The Canal Community Council of the Gila River Relocation Center on February 1, also passed a resolution denouncing the atrocities of the Japanese militarists on American prisoners of war at Bataan and Corregidor. This resolution was similar to the one passed the week before by the council of the Butte Camp.

Jermoe Evacuees Express Resentment

Many colonists of Japanese ancestry in the Jerome war relocation center have expressed resentment at Japanese brutality to American war prisoners in the Philippines.

Frank Arakawa, chairman of the Jerome community council, saying he was speaking for the community in general, declared that "Japan's actions are impossible to a civilized people."

"It is hard to believe that any human being could treat another like those three officers were treated on Bataan," he asserted.

"I hope the fiends responsible for it have enough common sense to realize that they will pay."

Arakawa, who fought as a member of the United States Army in World War I, added:

"I am very glad that there are Japanese Americans in the United States Army now. I know how they feel about this and I know they want to do something about it."

Arizona JACL Group Condemns Japanese Brutalities on Bataan

Four representatives of the Japanese American Citizens League called on Governor Osborn of Arizona on Janauary 29 to give him a statement denouncing "the acts of barbarism and unspeakable torture inflicted upon our gallant American forces who were captured at Corregidor and Bataan."

The delegation, headed by Tsutomu Ikeda, president of the Arizona chapter of the league, declared that American soldiers of Japanese ancestry had fought in the defense of Bataan.

"We know too vividly that tortures and agonies of a particularly fiendish brand are especially reserved for those Americans of Japanese ancestry so luckless as to fall into enemy hands," the statement added.

"We join as one with all other Americans in utterly condemning and denouncing the acts of barbarism and unspeakable torture inflicted upon our gallant American forces," the statement continued.

"In our determined and irresistible march to Tokoyo, we know that ours are the forces of decency and humanity. We know that if the world is to endure we must exterminate Jap militarism. For the speedy annihilation of that evil, we must direct our energies and our increased participation on the firing lines, the home front, and on the farm front. For the early fulfillment of these aims , we dedicate ourselves."

Bataan Atrocities (Editorial from Heart Mountain SENTINEL, the newspaper published by the evacuees at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming.)

"Our parents, despite their honest and wholehearted desire to make this country--the home of their children--their own home, still cherish pleasant and happy memories of their childhood in Japan and refuse either to believe or talk of the outrage. It is incredible to them, unbelieveable, that their mother country would breed anyone guilty of such contemptibility.

"The reports of the 'March of Death' from Mariveles to San Fernando, the government declares, have been carefully investigated and authenticiated ... One thing that our parents do not realize--cannot comprehend--as they look back that long trail to their distant childhood, is that Japan of today -- like the Germany of today -- is not the same as it was forty or fifty years ago. No, not even as then years ago when the swaggering, insolent, and cruel military began tightening the screws on the rack to torture humanity.

"The disease of militarism is no lingering cancerous growth that kills slowly and surely. It is a vicious, horrendous virus that makes mad men madder, growing in destruction and violence until it is hard to believe that such practices comes from the minds of human beings.

"But our sons, believing in the right of humanity and the common decency of mankind, are going to this war firm in the belief that such wanton practices cannot go unpunished. That this is war -- a total war--against militarism and the wanton defilers who insult and humiliate mankind."

Bataan (Editorial in Minidoka IRRIGATOR, the newspaper published by the evacuees at the Minidoka Relocation Project In Idaho.)

"As we go to press the civilized world is shocked by army and navy announcements of atrocious treatment of U.S. and Filipino soldiers captured on Bataan and Corregidor. Perhaps this report will be reflected in the attitude of some of the American public toward loyal Americans of Japanese descent. We can't help that. What we can do is back our boys in the Army and the rest of the American soldiers by buying war bonds and by contributing in every way possible to the war effort to speed the day when the cruel barbarians of the Japanese military regime will be wiped from the face of the earth. We are thankful that selective service was opened to nisei before this announcement was made so that our nisei boys not yet in the Army can now look forward to revenging the crime of Bataan and Corregidor."

Colorado Nisei Group Gives to Blood Bank

Denver, Colo.--Thirty-five Japanese Americans...answered the revelations of Japanese brutalities in the Philippines on January 29 by registering at the American Red Cross blood donor center.

Dr. Howard Suenaga, former Guadalupe, Calif., physician, said members of the group called on him early on January 29 and asked what they could do to show their horror of the bestial treatment given American war prisoners.

"All of them wanted to do something immediately," Dr. Suenaga said, "and they seized enthusiastically upon the suggestion that one way was to contribute blood to the American Red Cross blood bank."

Led by Dr. Suenaga, the group marched down to the blood bank and registered.

"And that is only the beginning," Dr. Suenaga said. "By next week many more volunteers will have offered their blood for American soldiers."

The Colorado delegation was headed by Yuji Harada of Rocky Ford, Dr. T. Mayeda and John Inouye of Denver.

Twelve Nisei Girls Donate Blood to Denver Plasma Bank

Denver, Colo-- Following in the steps of 35 Japanese American men who gave blood to the armed forces last week, twelve women of Japanese ancestry went to the American Red Cross Blood Donor Center on February 3.

A spokesman for the group, Dr. Howard Suenaga, formerly of Guadalupe, Calif., said it was one way of showing the indignation of the Japanese American group against the perpetrators of atrocities against American war prisoners in the Philippines.

One of the girls in the group, Allyce Hirabayashi, formerly of Salinas, Calif., who came to Denver, from the Poston camp, said:

"I'm delighted at the chance to do something for my country."

Ayako Yoshii, formerly of Los Angeles who came to Denver from Granada, said: "I'm glad to be able to give blood to our American soldiers."