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Kanai, Lincoln

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San Francisco, California February 16, 1942

One of the many dark hours is here and rumors are rampant, but in this emergency we must have unity but victory or defeat, survival or destruction we Americans must carry the torch that the principles of "justice, equality and humanity" shall prevail.

"That all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" is the challenge that exists at the present time as it did many years when the Pilgrims left Europe, or with the war of '76, or the Civil War, or the 1914 World War, and NOW WE MUST RISE AGAIN TO ACT.

In the words of President Roosevelt, it is to "win the war and the peace". Attorney General Biddle follows with the declaration of the statement of policy even with the aliens.

This is WAR! And so must every coordination be made. Those aliens who are here legally will continue their loyalty to America, if we the citizens, permit them to be according to Mr. Biddle.

This is good sense? They are now panicky! They need assurance from Civilian, City, and State officials to produce basic materials to maximum for our defense. Mr. Biddle, U.S. Attorney General, assures them every protection from "discrimination or abuse if they conduct themselves" lawfully. Our plans should fall in line with this. No positive plans for encouragement has yet been advised the large producers of food, and they must have the "go" sign immediately. They must be given the proper instructions to continue their production rather than being harrassed and placed on the deadweight list. We can not please those who desire to use this selfishly for exploitation. On the other hand, our government through the Department of Justice is "qualified by law and experience to handle any situation threatening the interest of the nation". We shall have faith in this department and be watchful.

But more important than this is the impending disastrous effect of Civilian, City, and State officials who are discriminating jobs with Americans of Japanese, Italian, German, and Finnish ancestry. We play right into the hands of enemies as well as bring distrust of aliens in America against America, and even more tragic, of loyal Americans against America. This would certainly defeat what we are defending as a nation at War. The American Trust in American principles would be lost and other undesirable consequences follow.

Youth on the one hand is being put through a test of courage and loyalty while the Y.M.C.A. through its well-adapted program is trying to meet the challenges of activities of the times; first aid, armed morale, Civilian Defense, Civilian morale, inter-racial fellowship, informal education, physical and social recreation, religious education. Together with this is the effects of the emergency now unfortunately forced upon the many alien families with children who reluctantly refuse assistance in social welfare. God grant that we may keep such admirable characteristic; but more so that we may not mar and definitely scar the youth who are innocent victims for it is they who are to help settle the "peace that follows".

In the congregate of American forces on the mainland and Hawaii are some 20,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry fighting with unity, and we have visited the family of some who have made the supreme sacrifice in this duration. For youth like these, we shall not deter from making the sacrifices that will make the world a better place. Yes, we must "win the war, and win the peace". And God forbid the plan that we should win the war and lose the peace.

There are many of us who are prone to judge the whole group by the acts of a few and judgement like this is the fault of many of us. I do hope that we shall not fall prey to this sentiment.

Our American rights are challenged. Our path is straight, our duty clear! We will do our part to uphold common goals of decency, humanity, and liberty as sacred principles.

In these days of dislocations of homes, impending loss of life, racial animosities, rising delinquency, abnormal conditions, shifting employment or unemployment, let us objectively hold to Christian values and perspective. Let us not have hatred, prejudice, and selfishness embitter and disunite our youth.

This war, like many others will be fought with unity, coordination, sacrifice and obedience and we have been given courage in knowing that plans are such to build the peace that follows. But should there be need of hurting the innocent, may it be "God forgive them for they know not what they do".

Sincerely,
Lincoln Kanai

copy

March 6, 1942

Lt. General John L. De Witt, Commander
Western Command Headquarters,
Presidio, California.

Sir:

The following recommendations are submitted for your consideration in the problems of evacuating nationality groups - aliens and citizens - from certain areas along the Pacific coast:

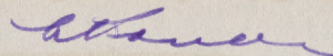
1. The order of dangerousness as announced by the Western Command Headquarters should be changed to read the following:
 - (1) All persons who are suspected of espionage, sabotage, fifth column or other subversive activity,
 - (2) Japanese aliens,
 - (3) German Aliens,
 - (4) Italian aliens,
 - (5) American born persons of enemy parentage,
 - (6) All Americans.

The order of having Americans of Japanese lineage in among the aliens is diametrically opposed to the constitution and the objectives of the war.

The announced classification is developing a fatalistic attitude for those who have lived in this country and are reared through its institutions. This discrimination and permanent disaster can be remedied before a second order is issued.

2. The necessity of a Hearing Board for aliens and citizens because even apprehended persons are given a fair trial. This should be done by a competent Federal agency.
3. The handicapped, old age, bed-ridden needy cases to remain, as well as adequate plans for those evacuated.
4. Families with sons and husbands in service of armed service be given consideration to all alien families on equal basis to remain as this has been announced to apply only to Italians and Germans.
5. Evacuation plans to consider European experiences so that tragic mistakes are avoided. Evacuation should be done with the objective of establishing ideal American communities.
6. Professional students should be permitted to finish their training.
 - a. Descendants of aliens should be used to advantage realizing their abilities and training both during and after evacuation.
7. Over all unity in alien problems are needed so that news may be directed for the best interest of unity in human welfare. All information and news releases pertaining to aliens to be issued through a centralized command.
8. The Federal Government to assume the total responsibility of cost of movement, resettlement, and rehabilitation of evacuees.
9. Custodianship of property so that citizens will not lose their capital assets through evacuation or selective service draft.

Respectfully submitted,



Lincoln Kanai
Young Men's Christian Association
1530 Buchanan Street, San Francisco

[May 1942]

Dear Dr. Fisher:

Enclosing some more letters (copies) from persons in the Assembly Centers and a few of personal interest that may help you in your thoughts. I have also a set of letters bound in a folder which will soon reach you thru Mr. Perkins. I sent the folder to K. Rexroth of 124 Moreland, Juniper 4-5839 S.F. and have asked him to first show the folder to Richard Perkins and he in turn send them over to you. And of course I am keeping the originals with me as I make a few contacts around the country. Should you think that I ought to meet some personnel that I ought to in this trip, I wish you would forward some names to me and address the letter to 3757 University Avenue, C/o Abraham Akaka, Chicago, Illinois. If there is a possibility of reaching New York and Washington D.C., I shall try to do so, but I am afraid that my meager finances will not be able to hold out. Of course, I shall try eventually to get some information to M.S. Eisenhower, now in Washington, D.C. and Edward Ennis, director of the Alien Enemy Control, Attorney General Biddle, and Vice President Wallace. In the meantime I am not able to know how far I shall get to, but here's hoping. It would be easy for me to just go to camp but I can't have my conscience bother me the time I am in there for accepting that the decision has been the wisest thing. Thus whatever the consequences, I am aiming to have as many farsighted persons think thru the various patterns and processes of most effectively working on peacetime procedures so that the interpretation of what we are fighting for will meet the conditions that we most nearly hope for and are willing to sacrifice our very lives for.

In the meantime, I shall try to give you my impressions in its timeliness.

Sincerely,

Lincoln
Lincoln

Fuyallup Assembly Center, Washington, D.C.

April 30, 1942

Dear Sir:

The sloppy streets and alleys from today's heavy rains certainly added to the confusion of the arrival of the second group of evacuees from Seattle. There must be about 1500 people here now, all in Area A, in the parking lot adjoining the Fair grounds proper. We are extremely busy getting our quarters in order and helping the late arrivals get settled down. Each family must put in its own shelves, and make its own table, chairs, etc., although contrary to statements in the newspapers that each room had these things already built in.

The beds are very comfortable - new army spring cots with new cotton-filled mattresses. The tinestoves manage to keep the individual rooms well heated. After the first couple of meals, Japanese cooks replaced the WPA (?) mess crews, and now we are getting tasty, well-balanced meals. Most of the girls in the group evacuated on Tuesday are working as waitresses in the three mess halls now open. A few have put to work as stenogs in the administration office, located in the Fair grounds. The men are working as cooks, dishwashers, and in various utility roles.

Practically everyone is in quite a run-down condition when he gets to camp, yet everyone bustles around putting up shelves, coat hooks, etc. in his anxiety to get the family quarters in a livable condition. Then, the long waiting in line for a second medical exam plus the exposure in the cold wind and rain have brought on almost a small epidemic of colds here.

Keeping up individual morale won't be a serious problem for at least a week yet. Everyone is too busy. Furthermore, the good food and the sympathetic help from the administration staff help immensely. The 9 o'clock curfew and the 10 o'clock "lights out" help overcome in part the lack of privacy.

This camp life will be a very interesting experiment, if nothing else. Although one cannot very well exonerate the public feeling that brought on the hardships of this forced removal of Japanese from their homes, no one can say that this is either good or bad for the Japanese. That will depend entirely on what the evacuees themselves make of the situation. Of course outside help, even if it's only moral support, will make things much easier.

Dick

LETTER OF FRASER VALLEY,
near Portersville, California

May 2, 1942

Dear F

Spent the night with the Frazier Valley folks and rode down to Strathmore, on the Highway with Seiji Onishi. It was a beautiful morning - in as perfect spot as you wish. About two sections of perfectly flat "hay land" now turning to truck stuff -- part of it, that is -- surrounded by hills some of them barren like Wyoming and others with button like trees -- like the Russian River Country -- and rocks covered with bright orange and yellow and mouse-grey fungi -- white spotted cattle spotting the sides of the hills. It was a perfect morning and all camp was happily getting ready for a days work after several days rain-out and/or mud-out.

The Frazier Valley group is about 27 families, 140 people, living cooperatively about $8\frac{1}{2}$ miles east of Strathmore, California. Their company is the San Pedro Vegetable Growers Cooperative Association. They have grown and marketted vegetables cooperatively for 30 years. Before coming here, they had been so close to some defense work as they say (within signaling distance of an actual submarine attack) that they anticipated evacuation and went out scouting for a resettlement spot in January. Their advance guard moved to the Valley in February. At that time, no areas or zones had been designated and of course they were relieved to find later that they were out of "B" zone even if only by 8 miles.

When they first moved, five of the kids went to the school in Strathmore. The papers and other reports made it seem "A whole slough of them at school". Now, however, I believe there are 45 in school. The psychological situation at school is said to be OK.

The dinner was being cooked in the open behind the cook house-dining hall last night, but as the stove smoked badly, it had to be rebuilt. The women (mostly first-generation women doing the cooking) had the huge bowl shaped iron pans (you've seen them in Chinese restaurants) setting on tops of sawed off oil drums with fires burning in the drums, and draft holes have been cut in same. Brick stove was built in kitchen with several holes on top shaped to seat the big pans - the pans themselves having been used to shapen it: Meal of fried fish and some fried vegetables and some pickled green vegetables and plenty of rice and tea. Chop sticks. Some of the Issei mammas kneed Japanese style on the bench while they eat at the table. Many of them wear trousers tucked into shoes or tied to the bottoms, as you see on any Japanese truck garden. Breakfast was a rather well done soft-boiled egg with some fried spuds. An unlimited helping of fried rice with a little chopped up ham in it. Plenty of healthy coffee. Bread Jelly. Egg because it was Saturday. The fish because it was Friday. They bill each 25 ¢ per day for meals, which probably doesn't cover it. Will prorate the balance whatever it will be.

Three cases of measles in camp. No doctor. We can take care of them OK, they say.

They pay \$25 per acre for what land they use. Landlord furnishes the water and they furnish the fuel for the pumps. The water must be pumped from the wells. Strike water at 50 feet, but drill to 200 to get good supply. Landlord furnishes the wells and the pumps. Also built an impressive reservoir with an ordinary Fresno scraper and a tractor. Says it cost him \$800 to build. Don't know the capacity but it looks like quite a help. It catches water from the mountains and the same is directed across the fields via a sheet metal pipe about 10 inches diameter. The property is 640 acres - a square mile.

They will garden 100 acres for the first crop and another 100 for the second crop. Just 2 crops per year. They will rent just what they can garden. The balance will be sowed to grain or hay by the owner. Now planting about 3 acres to use for kitchen vegetables for their own use.

The operation will not entirely support the community. Some will have to work out in

in any event. About five are working out now and turning their entire wages into the common fund.

Community divided into two geographic groups. What I mean to say the physical living plant is in two groups about a mile apart, separated by the fields they cultivate. One center includes a large house with about 12 apartments in it or is it 10? Each consisting of an inside room and a porch or rather a section of the long porch. It was so designed to conserve lumber or rather to get along with little. An outside toilet building with a department for each gender. Early American style. Immaculate screens over each ventilating vents, lath lattice work screen around the doors, seat covers (of wood, silly), no catalogues. A Japanese style bath-house. Most of you know about this. Build a fire under the two to six passenger tub. Take buckets of hot water from the tub and wash yourself outside the tub. Scrub with good suds and then rinse all the suds off. Climb into the tub CLEAN and soak good and hot. Then out and a cold rinse or towel yourself and off for a visit. Too bad they said, that it wasn't a working day so I couldn't see this inspired system in operation. Too bad, I said, that it wasn't a working day so I could have operated with it. Several smaller houses and tent houses. The one I was guest in was made of new lumber, built up the sides and then just rafters with clean white canvas stretched for roof and same for shutters. The canvas was from wrestling mats or was intended for that. The tent house was a little less than the length of two single car garages end to end and about half again as wide. Partitioned across the short dimension and a door at each end. Three young men quartered in each end, each with an adequate 3/4 size bed. Other village plant about the same.

Ryoko Miki (pronounced Diyoko) chatted with me at dinner and later asked me if I'd care to walk to the other village or will I want to visit it. I had but would care to anyhow so we had a walk and Ryoko likes especially the mountain flowers there and being out in the sun and working in the fields. She misses the ocean but loves the valley. Never cared much for classrooms. Helps some with the kids. Is 23. Has 2 sisters and a brother and a mother but no father. She helps in the kitchen and dining hall. She and all the others helped clear the land of millions of rocks and stones. Or rather started to clear it of same. Probably will be going on for years. I wish I had a book of flowers of that area to send to Ryoko. I wonder if she'd use it.

Brushed my teeth in the wash house this morning along side a boy eight or ten and two girls in their teens.

Forgot to mention a second reservoir for pump-water and a elevated tank in the field.

George Ishibashi and George Takenaga are the two we were referred to in Pasadena. Both nice and both in spots of responsibility in the set-up. Van Leer is an auto-mechanic and minister at Strathmore. Friend of George Burcham, who has the ranch and Youth Hostel at Three Rivers and has been active in some work or another among the migrants for some time. Few minutes talk at Strathmore. Kiyoshi Kawashiri is ten and bright as a chromium spot. He and Kiyoko, a little girl of eight, were playing the cradle game with string -- with many variations. Wish we had a copy of "Fun With Strings" for these two.

Suzy, whom I did not meet and whose other name I do not know, is engaged to a boy in Santa Anita Assembly Center. She wants a permit to travel from her free home to be interned at Santa Anita where she will get married. Who will take care of this? Pasadena or San Francisco? Should not be difficult. Write to George Ishibashi P.O. Box K, Strathmore, California for details, names, etc. Please let me know what you do as soon as you start work on it.

Bernard Schuler is the owner. Has two boys in the service I believe. Likes his tenants, finds them industrious, decent, thoroughly likable and desirable as tenants, partners and neighbors. Likes the kids. Has had to face his hostile community. The first George I talked to said the community had received them well. It comes out later, however, that there are two kinds of reports on this. There are some political and economic considera-

3 Frazier Valley

tions -- private ones, I mean. The Gills, I get it, have some 55,000 acres in California and more in Arizona and Texas. That isn't enough it seems. They own the beautiful cow-spotted hills on three sides of the Frazier Valley and had their eyes on the Valley floor when it looked like Schuler was going to lose it.

The County Health (or health, if you prefer) Commissioner is greatly concerned for the health of these Japanese and is determined to do something about it - something at least drastic enough to be an incentive to migrate. Assures the owner that he's wasting money on the pumping system, etc. case -- "We'll get 'em out of here even if we have to clear to the President". Schuler has letters from the Army and the WCCA approving the project and encouraging it. Localities have likelihood to use the Japanese for a political football or a pretext for this or for that.

What can be done to better the communities here? An approving write-up in L.A. paper or a national magazine? An expression of interest and approval or praise for the hospitable community - from a big name in Washington? Have an idea if someone high up went "over the heads" of local tin horn politicians and directly to the people and the community, sentiment could be swung and stabilized at least to an open minded attitude. (Figure that out)

A deputy sheriff called recently to "find out if there were any "Americans" (meaning Caucasians) living with the Japanese.

Detachments of soldiers surrounded the place recently when a nearby lookout reported that the valleyites were "signalling to airplanes with their tractor lights". Night plowing.

A ping pong game in the open air. Mouthharps going in the mess hall last night after supper, out of my pocket. One boy working on a model airplane. The string games I mentioned, Fun with hotfoots. Horseplay. No library, no recreational equipment. no organized games or arts and crafts, etc. Stuff needed and initiative needed in these lines, I think.

Directors are about 12 of the oldest of the Nisei. Before times tightened up, the Co-op was directed by Issei. Formerly co-oped only on farming and marketing, not on consuming, etc. Problems of course. But feel they have a vast start on groups who have not cooperated on any phase of living before.

Small flock of chickens. Gnagy is a minister at Lindsay -- sympathetic. One team of horses. Corral full of mules belonging to Schuler's hay crew. Last year Schuler rented to some Japanese, they planted potatoes; didn't make the grade. This group has about \$7000 invested so far. Have enough fuel for awhile, burning of orange trees. Perhaps fuel problem? The boys wear fancy sparklet studded motorcyclist belts for tractoring to stabilize tummies. There is everpresent the thought "Will they have to evacuate again".

My opinions regarding work camp at Frazier Valley: many things can be done. Pre-school nursery, games, arts and crafts for kids, building or collecting recreational equipment, working in the fields, building buildings, chicken houses, etc. Interpreting to community? Careful consideration needed by choice personnel as a large group may make a flare-up in the community. Must interpret so that Community wants to have them. A job benefitting the landlord might not be out of policy, since in this case, he is the underprivileged.

I feel very keenly that we all should make every expression of appreciation to those who are doing their best in bringing good judgement and humaneness amidst a hotbed of hate and impending violence.

Sincerely,
RS

From Puyallup Assembly Center, Washington

May 11, 1942

Dear HMB

You can't imagine how appreciative those thirty or forty evacuees were who so far have benefitted from your generous contributions, and especially, from your good will. Already my parents show encouraging signs of a new faith in what I'd like to call a Brotherhood of Mankind, a change from a feeling of resentment against what they believed to be a persecution on the yellow man by the whites to the rather childish joy at discovering that some, at least, of these "arrogant whites" are not limited inside a particular color line in their compassion towards the needs and sufferings of human beings.

Last night we had a very enthusiastic group of almost twenty niseis (about 2/3 of them were girls) and one issei lady to listen to the symphonic records. We had someone announce at the young people's worship in the afternoon that there would be a program of recorded symphonic music in Mess Hall No. 2 at 7:00 pm. By 6:30 Mess Hall No. 2 had a jam session going on at one end and most of the tables occupied by card players. And all the other mess halls were locked up. Apparently the cooks have begun the practice of keeping people out of their mess halls in the evenings unless a particular group like ours or the chorus (which is to have its first session tonight) or the folk dance group puts in a reservation. We finally found a fellow who willingly invited us to use his room since both he and his mother (the two lived together alone in one room) had to be elsewhere for other meetings that night. The room was warm and comfortable, but after an hour most of the listeners had still backs from sitting on the edge of the cots. The real problem, however, was the competition from outside noise. The family next door had a radio program on, and a group of kids were playing cops-and-robbers or cowboys-and-indians right around the corner. At any rate our group decided that they wanted to get together at least every Sunday evening probably in the last mess hall up the Brown Road. We should be able to get at least fifty out of the 3000 residents in Area A together next Sunday. Smaller groups will listen to the music during the week. The listeners last night were amazed and highly gratified when I explained that there was an outsider who was considerate enough to loan us records from his own collection and to ship them all the way out to us.

My mother was very glad that you contributed the Japanese records to the camp. She believes that a great many issei would go for this dramatic narrative, particularly because so many of them haven't much to do here in camp. We'll put a notice in the camp paper about it - if the editors can get enough micrograph to put together another issue. I think that the difficulty is that the administrative staff is too busy right now taking care of the hundreds of new arrivals every day to take care of the immediate needs of the news staff.

As you doubtless realize all too well, you've spent a large sum for our sakes. It would ease my mind as well as your always thin pocketbook if you could reduce the cash outlay to the minimum. The box of oranges is going fast and the people to whom we are able to pass them out appreciate them all the more when we tell them where they came from. However, it might be a good idea not to send any more food out unless there is an actual shortage. Not only does the food cost you a lot of money but there is also the problem of a fair distribution of them in camp. There has been a scarcity of milk, butter and eggs. I don't know nor do any of the chefs know just what is holding up the mess supplies. Many of the fellows who are doing heavy work, like hauling the baggage of the new arrivals, eat the same meal in two separate mess halls in order to get enough. Many of the cooks are getting disgusted. Complaints against unbalanced (sometimes insufficient) meals come to them, and it isn't their fault at all.

Despite all the difficulties due to sheer physical limitations there are no problems which a group of people of average intelligence cannot meet, if they want to face them (one at a time, of course. A bigger problem may arise out of trying to solve too many little ones all at once) I'll be glad when this is all over and people can return to a more normal living; yet I can fully understand why all of you would almost give an eye to get permission to do volunteer work here. The opportunities for friendly self-less service are unlimited here. But isn't the same also true anywhere, even within your small circle of personal friends.

Please give my regards to F, J, C, M and everyone around the Friends Center.

One of your group, as always

LETTERS FROM RECEPTION CENTER to Service Groups May 13, 1942

From a post card from Manzanar, California dated April 3, 1942:

"We arrived safely and in good condition. The weather is fine although quite warm. The scenery is nice because we are in the valley. We travelled in pullman and had a nice trip. The soldiers were very nice to us and we are sorry that they were not able to stay here to guard us. In fact everybody was nice to us, both in Bainbridge and on the trip".

A letter from Manzanar, April 7, 1942, signed by four of the Bainbridge Islanders:

"On behalf of the evacuees from Bainbridge Island, we wish to express our appreciation for your ~~kindness~~ friendship. Your support and encouragement and efforts to help us meant much to us. The trip to the Reception Center was thoroughly enjoyable - the Army being most considerate. The Center itself was quite a shock, everything being in a make-shift stage. We lack many conveniences and there are no recreational or educational facilities. The climate, of course, is quite different here, hot during the day and cold at night, with terrible wind storms that drive the dust and sand into everything and especially in through the cracks in the floors. We are all cooperating to the best of our ability here and will endeavor as in the past to make the best of our situation. Many of us are employed now, this in spite of the fact that a few hundred Islanders represent a very small minority in a group of thousands of Californians who virtually run the camp. Again we thank you for your continued efforts to help us despite odds. We shall endeavor to maintain a wholesome attitude toward our situation and shall not fail your friendship or confidence."

From a 20 year old girl, of a family of four, April 9, 1942

"Thanks a lot for the letter you wrote to me. It was the first one I received after I reached Owens Valley and it certainly was grand to hear from someone from my home state. I'm awfully homesick for Bainbridge Island and the fir trees and the beautiful sound. I hope we get some kind of work to do soon. I'm getting to be a spoiled girl now. Will you please thank Ruiko Takano for coming over. I'd like to thank you also. It's grand to know that I have friends like both of you."

NOTE: Ten days later found this girl working in a camp library, seemingly interested and relatively happy.

From a postcard of April 3 and a co-writer of April 7:

"Thanks very much for your very kind visit. I was very glad to see you and you can be sure that I will never forget the trouble you must have gone thru to come here. It's friends like you who make living in camp bearable. After all, if we thought that we had no friends left you can be sure that many of us would find it hard to keep going. You have said many times that you were sorry that you could not have collected more materials for us but let me assure you that even a man with a million dollars could not have done more for us. What you did for us can never be measured by any other standards than by something that I can not seem to put in words. Life for us is gradually becoming more stable and now that we are used to things here we are finding life here not too unbearable, although it could be a lot better. Of course, we all realize the momentous task facing the government and we think they are doing a very good job considering the conditions. As you must have realized, the Caucasians in charge are very capable and nice to us. We had another group come in not long ago. There were 3,000 in that group so now our population will be about 10,000 counting the 1,000 expected tomorrow and Saturday. As I am one of the foremen in the Lodging Department we were quite busy during and after the induction. In fact, we were busy with the last group until now. Our department handles everything in the lodging end of this camp from locating the people in rooms to issuing of brooms, mops, etc. and even soap."

From a young family at the International Livestock Exposition Ground, Portland, Ore.

"We had trouble taking care of Mira (age 3 months) in the confusion after getting here. It's a little better adjusted now. The rest of us are holding together after a fashion".

TANFORAN ASSEMBLY CENTER
SAN BRUNO, CALIFORNIA

INFORMATION BULLETIN No. 8

William R. Lawson
Center Manager

May 18, 1942

WAGES, HOURS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT

I. GENERAL The following regulations with reference to hours of work, wages and conditions of employment have been established to be applicable to evacuees assigned to perform work at Assembly Centers.

II HOURS OF WORK A monthly working schedule consisting of forty-four hours per week has been established for the payment of wages.

III MONTHLY WAGES The following schedule of wage classes and monthly wages shall be applicable to evacuees properly assigned to perform work at the Center:

<u>Wage Class</u>	<u>Monthly Wage</u>
Unskilled (U)	\$ 8.00
Skilled (S)	12.00
Professional and Technical (P)	16.00

IV PAYMENT Payment for work performed shall be made monthly from the date of assignment. The first payrolls at this Center will be prepared for the month ending April 30.

V CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT Hereafter, no assignment documents shall be written for evacuees under the age of 16 years. There shall be no maximum age limitation. Employability shall be determined by the ability of an evacuee to perform work for which he is qualified in a satisfactory manner. Any assigned person who wilfully refuses to perform the work to which he is assigned, or whose physical conditions prevents him from satisfactorily performing his assigned work, shall be separated from the payroll and the reasons for separation shall become part of the permanent records of the evacuee.

VI WAGE CLASSES Assignment to the wage classes enumerated in Paragraph III above shall be in accordance with the allocation of occupational titles set forth in the attachment to this bulletin.

VII EFFECTIVE DATE The above regulations shall become effective immediately. Payment shall be made to all properly assigned persons from the first date of assignment.

WILLIAM R. LAWSON
CENTER MANAGER

ATTACHMENT

OCCUPATIONAL TITLES BY WAGE CLASSIFICATION APPROVED FOR
USE IN ASSIGNING EVACUEES TO PERFORM WORK IN WUCA
RECEPTION AND ASSEMBLY CENTERS

ESTABLISHED OCCUPATIONS FOR UNSKILLED CLASS (U) - \$ 8.00 PER MONTH

Attendant (Health Service)	Junior Typist
Book Cleaner	Laboratory Helper
Canner	Laborer
Charwoman	Laundry Worker
Cloth Cutter (Hand)	Maid
Driver	Messenger
Fireman	Nursery Helper
Form Setter	Nursery School Attendant
Gardener	Recreation Attendant
Garment Presser (Hand Iron)	School Attendant
Helper, Construction (Various)	Semistress
Housekeeping Aide	Watchman
Janitor	Woodcutter
Junior Clerk	

ESTABLISHED OCCUPATIONS FOR SKILLED CLASS (S) - \$12.00 PER MONTH

Accounting Clerk	Electrician
Acetylene Cutter	Engineering Recorder
Assembler	Equipment Inspector
Assistant Teacher (Adult Education)	Foreman, Grade B
Assistant Teacher (Nursery Education)	Garment Inspector
Automotive Mechanic	Garment Presser (Machine)
Baker	Glazier
Barber	Graduate nurse
Beautician	Instrument Man
Blacksmith	Junior Accountant
Bricklayer	Laboratory Assistant
Bulldozer operator	Machinist
Butcher	Library Assistant
Cabinet Maker	Mechanic
Carpenter	Motion Picture Operator
Cement Finisher	Music Copyist
Cement Gun Operator	Music Teacher
Clerk (Supervising)	Musician
Cloth Cutter	Painter
Cloth Marker	Paper Hanger
Community Leader	Pattern Maker (Garment)
Concrete Finishing Machine Operator	Plasterer
Cook	Recreation Leader
Cost and Material Clerk	Reporter
Designer (Garment)	Research Assistant
Draftsman	Room-Chairman
	Material Inspector
Roofer	Stock Clerk
Saw Filer	Store keeper
Senior Clerk	Telephone operator
Senior Typist	Teletype operator
Sewing-machine Repairman	Timekeeper
Shoe Repairer	Tool Repairman
Sign writer	Tree surgeon

SKILLED WORKERS

Sign Writ(continned)

Stenographer
Steward

Truck Driver
Welder

ESTABLISHED OCCUPATIONS FOR PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL CLASS (P) - \$15.00 PER MONTH

Accountant
Architect
Artist
Chief of Party
Councilman
Dentist
Draftsman (Supervising)
Editor

Engineer
Foreman, Grade A
House Manager
Librarian
Music Arranger

Music Director
Nutritionist
Pharmacist
Physician
Registered Nurse
Secretary
Senior Music Teacher
Senior Recreation Leader or
Recreation Director
Senior Timekeeper
Teacher (Adult Education)
Teacher (Nursery School Education)
Translator
Writer

Tanforan

May 21, 1942

Dear L:

I feel awfully guilty about everything - I meant to write to you much sooner but I kept letting it go on and on until now. Ever since arriving here, I thought of writing to you giving you the assurance that we are all happy and well and doing the best under the circumstances. Yoshie, David and I are in the best of health and spirit and and frankly haven't one thing to kick about. And yet probably you have heard where condition is terrible and people are complaining and demanding for conditions that they have been accustomed to in SF, Oakland, Berkeley. But you must know human nature, Uncle - you just can't satisfy everyone and wherever there's a group of people - this society, you'll come across the same strata of human groups demanding more and more and more. They make me sick but that's where endurance, patience and our training that we have undergone comes to the foreground. Thanks to your leadership and advice, Uncle, I've learned to take things not merely as they come, not in stride, but to weigh things and appreciate and be thankful for what is being provided for us under the circumstances. After all, this setup is purely a temporary one and we can't demand too much. No doubt you have received letters from this camp right along. What are your reactions and conclusions from the various letters that you have received. Of course, I grant you that things change and improve from day to day - one day makes a big difference and one must take that into consideration. For instance, today, meal tickets for all the 11 Mess Halls in the camp for 8,000 people were issued which facilitates matters to the nth degree. Because of this controlling and airtight introduction, people are able to eat in peace, on time and calls for second helpings. People are happier as far as their stomachs are concerned and that's how things are moving along. No doubt, you know the setup of the camp so I'll not delve into that again. You can be assured that most of the Y kids are doing a nice piece of work and when it comes to leadership and service, all your boys are in there pitching in - compensation is not worth mentioning as this doesn't amount to a thing. What I value more is the service being rendered toward the people and campers; and at the same time, it's wonderful training and good experience and contact with human problems. Although at first when I volunteered as a House Manager of my respective barrack, I did not know how long it would last and what standing it would come under. Today, I'm still at it and now it's classified as one of the machinery of the camp, first because of its direct contact with the entire camp. In other words, through the 44 House Managers, they can contact and disseminate message to 8,000 people. And you'll find several of the Y members in the listing: K, T, EE, T.O., V.A., T.S., Recreation Department is well represented is well represented by the Y and the office staff, ME Accountant; Min and Bill and others in Time keeping staff so we're all occupied and doing our small part in this great program. There's so much to relate, so ask me any part of the setup that you would like to know and I'll be happy to answer back. On the election for the permanent Council, what election procedure would you recommend, Uncle? Everybody vote Issei and Nisei alike or still keep the voting privilege to citizens only? Do you know how this election was conducted in the other camps? It seems to be a serious thing as lots of people are concerned who should conduct the machinery. I'm interested because of the protem Council, of which I'm one of the temporary Councilman and we've got the dirty job to set up the machinery so that the new bunch can take things easy and represent the people the way they should. Anyway, Uncle, I'm having a great time and here's hoping that I don't weaken. Lots of luck to you, Uncle, wherever you are and God bless you in your work and in your new location. I'll keep in touch with you if and when we move out to our new relocation area.

Until again, T

Just got word that the Y equip came in yesterday. Thanks for the hangers that Tsune sent. Y came in yesterday. He signed up as House Manager in his new area. HF became Kitchen Manager in his area. Press finished their first paper last week. Heard from E last week.

T

NOTICE

ALL MEN ADULTS (45 AND OVER) INTERESTED IN THE
FOLLOWING RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES: (SOFTBALL,
HORSE SHOES, JAPANESE CHESS, JAPANESE CHECKERS GAME)
KINDLY ASSEMBLE AT THE RECREATIONAL CENTER
HEADQUARTERS (BARACK 99-5) AND GET IN TOUCH
WITH YOUR ADULTS' RECREATIONAL DIRECTOR —

C. NUMAJIRI FOR ORGANIZING THESE ACTIVITIES.
THANK YOU

四十五才以上の男子で軟球野球、馬蹄
投げ、将棋、圍碁等の運動遊戯に
参加希望の方 バラック九十九にある
運動遊戯事務所の沼尻迄申込
~~ん申込~~ んでください、



コノ立退所 = 居ル大人部ノタメ = 圓基
 将棋ノ会所が出来マシタ シロートモ
 テングサマ モ セヒオイデ" クダサイ (食堂第五号)

TANFORAN RECREATION PROGRAM

Sign-Up Sheet For _____

Closing Date for Entries _____ 1942

Please State Address

- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 26. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 27. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 28. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 29. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 30. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 31. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 32. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 33. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 34. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 35. _____ |
| 11. _____ | 36. _____ |
| 12. _____ | 37. _____ |
| 13. _____ | 38. _____ |
| 14. _____ | 39. _____ |
| 15. _____ | 40. _____ |
| 16. _____ | 41. _____ |
| 17. _____ | 42. _____ |
| 18. _____ | 43. _____ |
| 19. _____ | 44. _____ |
| 20. _____ | 45. _____ |
| 21. _____ | 46. _____ |
| 22. _____ | 47. _____ |
| 23. _____ | 48. _____ |
| 24. _____ | 49. _____ |
| 25. _____ | 50. _____ |

Lincoln Kanai



Mr. Galen Fisher,
11 El Sueno,
Orinda, Calif.

June 9, 1942

Dear Dr. Fisher,
Hastening to reply with the receipt
of your letter and regret very much
that I had left Denver as I did.
However I do appreciate your
timely results of the Durham
Conference. Mr. Hutchins of the
Christian Century informs of your
stopover in Chicago too. I am having
a session with them in a few days
after the completion of a trip to
the Association of Secretaries meeting
at Lake Geneva and the Association
of Church Federation secretaries at
Conference Point. I do hope you
received copies of my coverage to
16 colleges also.

Sincerely
Lincoln Kanao

*Copy sent to Bureau Service Council
To the National Student Relocation Comm.*

EN ROUTE TO CHICAGO

Good day will find time to write Richards!

June 28, 1942

Dear Sir:

A coverage of 13 mid-western colleges and their presidents, Board of Regents individuals and social agencies, and the faculties, convinces me to make the following recommendations to you at this time before we find ourselves stymied and too close to the school term in handling the problems attendant with the relocation of college students from the Assembly Centers or Relocation Centers.

- I. The Committee on Student Relocation must include the geographical administrators of the colleges and therefore the 7th Corps Area as well as the Eastern educators must have some representations.
- II. A general direction of student relocation ideologies and purposeful objectives outlined so that the Presidents of the colleges and their committees can receive some general knowledge in the settlement of their thinking on the matter. This release must be sent to the Presidents and interested parties immediately.

(The two above are necessary in order that all state universities including the Tri-State Colleges of Iowa, Missouri, and Minnesota, et al will enter the fold of cooperation. According to President Friley of Ames, they are now in a position of being willing to cooperate, but that an equitable student distribution according to the kind of courses the students have been pursuing as well as the type of courses available in the colleges. This will make it possible to have a recommended number of students to be taken in at the colleges based on the total number of students in the camps.)

- III. I do recommend that you apply to the W.R.A. for an allocation of funds for the college students in allaying the cost of their education at least commensurate to their keep in the camps. This will be a big help and must be done. This is recommended on the basis of a statement issued from the Executive offices of the President of the United States written to me on June 13th.

"On June 9, 1942, there was transmitted to the Congress, by the President, an estimate for appropriation for the War Relocation Authority, for the fiscal year 1943, in the amount of \$70,000,000, for the performance of the functions placed upon the Authority by Executive Order No. 9102, dated March 18, 1942. This amount represents a very full and complete estimate of all known items and contingencies which will require financing during the period for the health, welfare and education of evacuees.

We are confident that all interested persons should have no anxiety as to the processes or the outcome of this great task of caring for such a multitude of human needs."

The release of students with their placements in the colleges as that pictured by the Army with the following two questions can be eliminated if there is a sponsoring agency, or person, or family in the college town where the student will be placed rather than the permits of the Sheriff of the town and the Governor of the State. All student problems will be answerable with or without apprehension as I see the problem of placement as they are handled as per the best experience of those that have relocated in the college towns during the past month. In most mid-west towns, the sheriffs express their opinion that they should not have any part with the student problem.

Although this is but a sampling of college presidents and their committees which in many places are still unaware of all the problems, it has been a real pleasure to enlighten those that I have met.

Hoping that the above will be of some help to you,

Yours cordially,

Lincoln Kansai

40 Francis Callan
Milwaukee County Jail

July 21, 1942

Dear Dr. Fishes: — Out of the mud
and mire emerges the bloom of the
lotus, out thru the iron bars
streams the sustaining life
rays of the sun — It's been two
weeks and a day that I have
been here in this county jail.
It is more than lost time. It
gives me a chance for meditation
and philosophy. And it sharpens
much of my convictions. Next
Thursday morning, my case will
go to court again — The third in
as many weeks — a writ of habeas
corpus for a stay in the removal
from the Marshall's office. On
the other hand, the bond has been
lowered from 5 to \$1,000 but it does
not make any difference to me as
I could not raise the amount.
The sum of a hundred is needed

and this is beyond my dwindling funds. Mr. Perry J. Stearns has been appointed by the Civil Liberties Committee to be my lawyer but because he will be away next week, Mr. Fein will continue my case. I heard from Mr. Stearns that a few individuals have been trying to post bond for me but I guess money has been scarce. The case thus far affords me an opportunity to concern at the ignorance and misguided opinions of the prosecuting attorney and the court. However, this is a clear cut case of an American seeking his civil rights while civil authority prevails in the country. Somehow the anxiousness of people desiring to tie this to foreign entanglement irks me.

But somehow I hope I can
continue to be purposeful and
objective in spite of these
circumstances. In the meantime
I shall be patient and wait -
but feel encouraged to see you
doing your share in bringing
humaneness and sanity in
these troublous times. They
regret in having missed you
both in Denver and Chicago
But my thoughts are generous
with best wishes. Your
accomplishments give me
strength and courage.

With sincere wishes
Yours cordially
Lincoln

No. 1 Dunbar Lane
San Francisco
August 2, 1942

Dear Dr. Fisher: -

Here I am in San Francisco, a guest of
The City & County and feeling rather regretful
that I am not actively doing what I can
to assist the humanitarian causes no
matter where it may be. There is a statement
which I should like to see published complete
or perhaps you can correct it for further
effectiveness: -

I, Lincoln Kanai, make this confession
willingly and without duress: That our
democratic aims as based by our constitution
and proclaimed by our President of why we are
at war, must be preserved, and that whenever
discriminatory measures without equality of
opportunity before law because of race, creed or
religion, and without due process of law for all
citizens alike are made by a numbered few, that
I shall oppose such action, if expedient, by wilful
violation whenever it is detrimental to our
country's welfare and injurious to our basic
democratic aims.

In as much as loyalty is individual and environmental and non-racial; and that our American environment has assimilated our lives to defend our civil liberties and shoulder our responsibilities, that when such action by executive and military order conflicts with the democratic aims of fair play to "life, liberty, and justice" for our country's welfare, it shall be my duty and trust as a citizen to bring about an awareness and correction.

Knowingly, I pledge my life to God and my country not only in mere existence, but to useful tasks serving my country and continuing to fulfill its objectives of justice, equality, and humanity to the best of my ability. Understanding also that when emergencies such as war etc. bring stress, these are the most important times for the want of these aims for unity and common practice and fair play to all citizens. An educated citizenry with simplified democratic aims is more basic than one with discrimination and prejudice.

I am a native American citizen, born and reared in a cosmopolitan society and our democratic institutions, and whatever ancestral blood I may have is the least of my concern, but my pride, loyalty and honor is basic in my being an American.

= It is with regrets to know that I ^{himself} ^{Kawai} missed you in Chicago at The Christian Century

offices and in Denver.

I do appreciate your strategic views and social perspectives nonetheless.

Being unable to correspond with many letters, I do hope however this will express my position.

I meant to contact Perkins but his letter failed to reach me thru Mr. Pioreman of Milwaukee.

The Civil Rights Lawyers: Mr. Fein, Stearns, & Richter were excellent but it seems that Judge Duffy did not want to take the responsibility of his decision. I hope hope however to be able

To present the complete
case as fair as possible.

Although this intolerance
may be exasperating, I
am inclined to have a
lot of Hawaiian patience.
Wonder too if my bond can
be lowered from 5 to \$1000
as it was in Milwaukee.

The experience in
being caged is socially
unique and interesting!

With kindest regards

Sincerely,
Lincoln

#1 Dunbar Lane
San Francisco, Calif.
August 26, 1942

Dear Mr. Fisher:-

Thanks you for your many past favors. I have been most appreciative in your many efforts. With my case, instead of a long drawn out court case, which would require much time and effort, I have forced the trial to a conclusion, changing my plea from *nolle contendere* and pleaded guilty as charged. With a choice for probation or six months sentence, I chose the latter. In the meantime in about two to four and a half months, there is a possibility for probation to any part of the country if proper request is made to the Prison Board and a job assured. Would it be possible to do so in Denver, Chicago or the East perhaps as a swimming coach, a social worker or anything. My address will be Federal Penitentiary #5, Dept of Washington.

Here is part of the testimony that I presented at the court:-

"It has been my privilege to have a cosmopolitan rearing of many races. And this has developed in me to believe in the American tradition of our founding fathers of the rights of individuals regardless of race. It is the way that I have always lived.

I have also pledged my loyalty to my country all my life. My pledges and oaths have been to support and defend the constitution of the United States against all enemies both foreign and domestic. The case of internements and restrictions of citizens by race is a domestic problem. It is my conviction that environment plays a greater part in the development of loyalties and character

than ancestry, but I shall reaffirm my conviction here that the important basis is that my pride, loyalty and honor in being thoroughly American.

This is my native land and in violating that restriction, I had to choose either to support the constitution and my convictions or to temporarily suspend them.

I have acted in consistency to the pledges and oaths that I have always taken.

My aim during this trip has been to make relocation and evacuation (East or West Coast) a pattern for future emergencies with the possibility of having the people of the central and midwest states aware of their responsibilities and the need of their cooperation. I would not have made this attempt if there was an equitable policy and that the course of procedures were not subject to politics.

I have also expressed that my case and problems would eventually have been presented to the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C.

Congressman King informs me that the case is in the Dept of Justice and that the WRA had recommended dropping the prosecution. However, the next step may be commutation or probation.

I shall leave tomorrow for Dupont, Washington.

Appreciating your continuous interests

Yours sincerely,

Lincoln Kana'i.

P.S. Kindly inform the 4 officials both in the city and area.

The Norris Foundation,
Mukwonago, Wisconsin

September 30, 1943

Ans. Oct. 19-

Dear Mr. Fisher: -

Thank you for your letter. I have often wondered how you were progressing in the presentation of many positive angles of human understanding during the present turmoil when the shadowy impress over the country has resulted in hatreds or guiltful echoes brought about by many unscrupulous people. And very little have been done to squash the dangerous thoughts. Your genuine interest and consistent humanitarian views have certainly brought about an understanding. I do believe that this is an opportune time for positive plans both for an understanding of precepts and for the actual practice of solving the problems of family resettlements. That is the acid test of relocation. The WRA has not even dented the field of family relocation. Heretofore, those who have resettled are those who are most adaptable. But a hasty glance in a trip thru Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Ohio also confirms your viewpoint on settlement in rural areas. I do believe that this thought had been expressed before but have not been pushed enough to a point of direct action. In every office of the WRA, I get the idea of them being so involved in their own problems so much that new or more elementary methods are being overlooked. Of course I can say a lot of the present methods of segregation and the catalogueing of those in Tulelake as being dangerous. I think that it is a shameful situation and signifies the failure of our own country in invoking justice. On the other hand, I have appreciated the viewpoint of the personnel of the WRA.

My trip the other week thru Ann Arbor, Detroit, Cleveland, and Chicago was for the purpose of recruiting experienced guidance men for our foundation. In the meantime, my responsibilities of handling summer activities being over, I am once again Boys' Advisor with another added job of teaching a high school class in Biology. It seems too that the results of the Boys' Camp have been successful enough to institute a definite guidance program as a follow through.

Of course, the travel also made me rather unsettled and upset as to my smugness and not being to give a helping hand. Perhaps I should be nearer to areas of population where I can voluntarily involve myself in the common good.

I do regret being tied 24 hours a day and confronted with an activity program that I am unable to meet you in Chicago on the 30th. The work does however give me one week-end off in three weeks.

On the other hand, planning educational, recreational, vocational activities for all the boys during their entire stay here challenges the best of us. This is true more so because the boys are of high school age and from underprivileged homes.

And certainly the offers that I received from other cities tempt me a lot. On the other hand, I feel that definite results are being done here and feel the responsibility of being here for a few months longer. However, I do have the idea that while I am here, they shall have my best in every thing that I do.

I see by your information that Gen. Emmons is now in command ~~of~~ of the Western Defense. The other day, in a message in Chicago, President Roosevelt gave his opinion and answer to the racial question. I think that the time of consistent clarification and justice will come to an issue that is bitterly misunderstood, and more and more I feel the need of hammering of positive angles and basic principles.

Within the complications, your services and contributions have been an inspiration.

Sincerely, *Lincoln Kanai*