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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Stafford
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JOINT PRESS RELEASE
Release to A.M. Papers
Friday, May 15, 1942

OREGON REQUESTS RECRUITMENT
OF JAPANESE EVACUEES
ON SUGAR BEET FARMS

The San Francisco Regional Office of the War Relocation Authority today released the text of statement signed by Governor Charles A. Sprague of Oregon, the Amalgamated Sugar Company, and several officials of Malheur County, Oregon, which the War Relocation Authority and the Wartime Civil Control Administration will consider as a basis for granting furloughs from the WRA Work Corps to approximately 400 Japanese evacuees to work on sugar beet farms in the eastern part of that state.

The statement is in the form of a pledge to Colonel Karl R. Bendetsen, Assistant Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Division of the Western Defense Command and the Fourth Army, and M. S. Eisenhower, Director of the War Relocation Authority, under which Governor Sprague, the county officials and the employer declare, among other things, that they "will guarantee the preservation of peace and order and the protection of evacuees against direct action from whatever source."

Among other things the Oregon appeal for Japanese labor provides that workers will be recruited on a voluntary basis with selection made by the United States Employment Service, the employer will pay the round-trip cost of transportation between assembly centers and the place of employment, will also pay prevailing wages, and provide adequate housing and health facilities.

The text of the agreement, signed at Nyssa, Oregon, on May 8, follows:

"The undersigned, being respectively the Governor of the State of Oregon, the District Attorney of Malheur County, Oregon, the County Sheriff of Malheur County, Oregon, the County Judge of Malheur County, Oregon (chairman of the County Court and County Commission) recognizing the critical and immediate necessity for additional field labor in the sugar beet fields in Malheur County, Oregon, in conjunction with the statement of The Amalgamated Sugar Company hereinafter set forth and in conjunction with applications of individual employers to recruit evacuee Japanese labor through the U. S. Employment Service, severally and jointly represent:

"That they recognize their responsibility to maintain order and prevent direct action upon or in connection with such evacuees in the performance of their labor and during their stay in Malheur County in connection with such labor;

"That they will guarantee preservation of peace and order and the protection of evacuees against direct action from whatever source;

"That they understand that no Federal troops will be available for the protection of evacuees or their supervision and that the resources of State and County will be available for such protection;

"That they understand the number of evacuees desired for such labor to be about 400; that they understand the place or places at which such labor

will be performed and the circumstances of such employment;

"That they understand that no evacuee labor will be recruited other than on a voluntary basis through the U. S. Employment Service; that they understand that such labor is not being imported into Malheur County to compete with any labor already available there.

"The undersigned, The Amalgamated Sugar Company, represents that it is a corporation engaged in Malheur County in the manufacture of beet sugar; that sugar beets are grown for it by approximately 800 individual farmers in Malheur County, Oregon; that in order to save beets now growing on many farms from loss it is necessary that approximately 400 laborers be recruited through the U. S. Employment Service for work upon individual farms.

"The Amalgamated Sugar Company further represents that it will cause each individual grower requiring such labor to file his application with the U. S. Employment Service setting forth the number of evacuees required by him, the place of employment upon which they will be employed, the circumstances of employment, including a statement that he will pay prevailing wages not less than those fixed by the Secretary of Agriculture as being fair and reasonable; that the laborer is not being imported to compete with any available local labor; that he will provide suitable shelter and housing for such labor in accordance with standards of health and sanitation.

"The Amalgamated Sugar Company further represents that as to all labor recruited for seasonal work in beet fields, it will pay the cost of transportation between induction centers and the place of employment and return.

"The Amalgamated Sugar Company further represents that it is familiar with the total number of evacuees required in Malheur County for beet field labor; that it is familiar with the several farms upon which such labor is required, and the circumstances surrounding such employment.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Charles A. Sprague
Governor

/s/ Max S. Taggart
District Attorney, Malheur
County, Oregon

/s/ C. W. Glenn
County Sheriff, Malheur County,
Oregon

/s/ David F. Graham
County Judge, Malheur County,
Oregon

THE AMALGAMATED SUGAR COMPANY

By /s/ H. A. Benning

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

9-42
Release to A.M. Papers
Friday, May 15, 1942

: Full text of press re- :
: lease issued today in :
: Washington, D. C. by :
: War Relocation Authority. :

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY ANNOUNCES
PROGRAM FOR RECRUITMENT OF JAP-
ANESE EVACUEES IN WORK CORPS.

Washington, May 14-- Beginning within a few days, more than 75,000 Japanese workers--both men and women--who have been evacuated by the Army from Pacific Coast military areas, will be given an opportunity to enlist in the War Relocation Work Corps for work useful to their new communities and to the National production effort.

This announcement was made today by M. S. Eisenhower, Director of War Relocation Authority, the agency recently established by Executive Order, to supervise the employment of and to operate relocation centers for Japanese evacuated from the West Coast.

Official enlistment forms for the work program are now being distributed by the Authority in assembly centers throughout the West Coast military area where evacuees are being housed pending transfer to other areas for the duration of the war. All employable evacuees over 16 years of age may apply for enlistment in the corps for the duration of the war. This enlistment is voluntary.

"Military necessity has demanded that persons of Japanese ancestry--nearly two-thirds of them American born--leave their homes on the Pacific Coast military frontier," said Eisenhower. "The Federal Government has undertaken the job of relocating these people on large Federal projects. Altogether, when evacuation from the military areas is completed, these new communities will house more than 125,000 persons.

"In order to make the most effective use of the skills and work abilities of the evacuees, the Work Corps was established to provide a means for organizing and apportioning opportunities for work and income on Relocation Projects. The Corps will undertake all essential work on the projects, including development of natural resources, production of food, manufacture of needed articles, and operation of community services."

The Director pointed out that one of the first jobs for enlistees at Relocation communities will be to start agricultural production. All enlistees with agricultural experience will be employed in constructing irrigation canals, preparing land for farming, and planting, cultivating, and harvesting crops.

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The Bureau of Reclamation will supervise the installation of major irrigation works.

"It is hoped that relocated communities will become self-sufficient in production of foodstuffs within the turn of a season, and will be producing additional crops for the food for Freedom program shortly thereafter."

When an evacuee enlists in the Work Corps, he or she swears or affirms loyalty to the United States, agrees to serve for the duration of the war and 14 days thereafter, agrees to perform such tasks as may be assigned, and agrees to accept in payment such cash and other allowances as may be provided by the Authority.

As its part of the bargain, the Authority agrees to furnish the enlistee and his unemployable dependents with basic housing, food, health service, and educational facilities at a relocation center.

The income that enlistees may earn will depend, very largely, on the success the relocated communities have in organizing and managing their various agricultural and manufacturing enterprises. There will be no wages, as such, but enlistees will receive small cash advances, which will be charged against their enterprises. In no event will maximum cash advances exceed the minimum base pay of the American soldier, and will be scaled according to work classifications. The precise methods of keeping project costs, making cash allowances, and computing income are now being developed and will be announced in detail at a later date by the Authority.

Enlistees may obtain furloughs for specific periods to accept private employment outside relocation areas, under conditions determined to be suitable by the War Department and the War Relocation Authority.

Five relocation areas, with a combined capacity of 60,000 evacuees, have been approved by the Authority, and selection of 10 or more additional areas to take care of 50,000 to 60,000 is under way. Included in the approved projects are the Manzanar Center in the Owens Valley, California, the population of which is now nearing 10,000, the Parker area in southwestern Arizona, where housing for 20,000 settlers is nearing completion, the Tule Lake area in northern California, where housing is half completed for 10,000, the Gila area in southern Arizona, where housing is under way for 10,000, and the Minidoka area in southern Idaho, where ground has been broken for a community of 10,000.

WAR RELOCATION DIRECTOR ANNOUNCES
AGREEMENT WITH OREGON AUTHORITIES
FOR EMPLOYMENT OF 400 EVACUEES

M. S. Eisenhower, National Director of the War Relocation Authority today issued the following statement through WRA's regional office in San Francisco:

"Four hundred Japanese aliens and American-citizen Japanese are being recruited at the Portland Assembly Center of the Wartime Civil Control Administration, Portland, Ore., on a voluntary basis by the U. S. Employment Service for seasonal farm work in Malheur County, Oregon.

"This departure from the normal procedure of the evacuation program, which is on a Federally protected and Federally managed basis, requires explanation.

"The War Relocation Authority, a civilian agency, was created under executive order of March 18, 1942. Soon thereafter the Authority announced that its relocation program contemplated the movement of evacuees from Military Area Number One to Relocation Centers which would be directly under its administration and supervision. For its part the Army agreed to protect the relocation centers externally.

"These relocation communities, under requirements specified by the Western Defense Command and the Fourth Army, must have not less than 5,000 population. This because the necessary military manpower to provide external protection for smaller numbers of evacuees would impair the primary war effort.

"However, since the Army cannot provide protective services for groups and communities of less than 5,000, the movement of evacuees in relatively small groups--only for purposes of private employment, and without military protection--is made only under these conditions:

"(a) In lieu of military protection, the Governor of the State and local law enforcement officials in the county involved, must provide assurance that they can protect evacuees and communities and that they will accept full responsibility for such protection.

"(b) Employers of evacuees must pay not less than prevailing wages without displacing other labor, must provide suitable housing, medical care, and food, and must supply transportation both ways (from assembly centers to the place of employment and return) without expense to the Federal Government.

"(c) All recruitment of Japanese aliens and American citizens alike will be handled on a voluntary basis by the U. S.

employment Service which also will investigate, in behalf of War Relocation Authority, the actual situation in any area where the conditions just outlined appear to have been met.

"The Governor of Oregon, the officials of Malheur County, Ore., the Amalgamated Sugar Co., as employer, and the U. S. Employment Service have now met all the prescribed conditions. Consequently, 400 evacuees are being recruited at the Portland Assembly Center and are temporarily moving to Malheur County where they are needed--because of a recognized labor shortage--to help save that county's sugar beet crop.

"Under Civilian Restrictive Order No. 2, issued May 20, 1942, by Lieutenant General J. L. DeWitt, commanding the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, the 400 evacuees may go only to Malheur County. They will return to an Assembly Center or to a Relocation Center as directed by the War Relocation Authority.

"In a letter to the Governor of Oregon today the War Relocation Authority announced that it would require the return of evacuees from Malheur County under the following contingencies:

- "(a) If the basic agreement prerequisite to the movement of evacuees to Malheur County is in any way infringed;
- "(b) If at the close of the farming season, or sooner, employment conditions in Malheur County are such that the evacuees can no longer be provided full-time work opportunities;
- "(c) If for any reason, it appears to be in the best interest of the Nation, the community, or the evacuees to require their return".

There is also attached a copy of Civilian Restrictive Order No. 2, which is controlling with respect to this temporary relocation of 400 Japanese aliens and American-citizen Japanese. Also, a copy of the letter from the War Relocation Authority to the Governor of Oregon.

COPY OF LETTER TO GOVERNOR SPRAGUE

May 20, 1942

Hon. Charles A. Sprague
Governor of Oregon
Salem, Oregon

Dear Governor Sprague:

Today, as you know, the United States Employment Service began the voluntary recruitment of a number of persons of Japanese ancestry who are permitted, under prescribed conditions, to leave an assembly center within Military Area

Number One to engage in private employment in Malheur County, Oregon. This recruitment and this movement of evacuees to Malheur County were approved by the War Relocation Authority and the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command because:

- (a) You, as Governor of the State, and appropriate officials of Malheur County have accepted full responsibility for the maintenance of law and order;
- (b) You, and other officials and the employers involved, have earnestly represented that additional workers were needed to save the sugar beet crop of Malheur County;
- (c) Employers and appropriate officials have given assurance that evacuees would not displace other labor, that evacuees would receive not less than prevailing wages or not less than wages proscribed by law, that suitable health, housing and food would be provided for such evacuees in Malheur County, and that transportation both ways would be provided at no cost to the Federal Government.

Thus the public responsibility which is borne under most circumstances by the military establishment and by the War Relocation Authority for protecting communities and evacuees and for providing evacuees an opportunity to earn a livelihood under wartime conditions, is in this instance borne by the State of Oregon and by one of its counties.

The permit to persons of Japanese descent to leave Military Area Number One is a conditional one. By Civilian Restrictive Order Number 2, dated today, May 20, 1942, the Military Commander of the Western Defense Command and Fourth Army has declared that evacuees may move only to Malheur County and that they shall return to a designated Assembly Center or Relocation Center as may be required by the Director of the War Relocation Authority.

It is clear, of course, that the action of the Commanding General in limiting the movement of evacuees to a single county, in requiring them to return, and in invoking penalties for infringement of the order, in no way reduces the responsibility of the State of Oregon, of local law enforcement officials, and of the employers, as previously stated in this letter.

I, as Director of the War Relocation Authority, shall require the evacuees affected by Civilian Restrictive Order Number 2 to return at any time to an Assembly Center or Relocation Center under any of the following conditions:

- (a) If the agreement basic to the movement of evacuees to Malheur County is in any respect infringed;
- (b) If at the close of the farming season, or sooner, employment conditions are such in Malheur County that the evacuees can no longer be provided full-time work opportunities;
- (c) If for any reason it appears to be in the best interest of the Nation, the community, or the evacuees to require their return.

I am sure that all persons in Oregon directly concerned with this matter understand that some of the evacuees now moving to Malheur County are aliens; many are American citizens. It is the policy of the War Relocation Authority, and I am sure it will be yours, to demonstrate to the world--to our enemies and our friends alike--that this wartime human problem can be handled by a great democratic nation with kindness, tolerance, and deep understanding of all that is involved.

I hope you and officials responsible to you will notify me of any incident or situation which you feel requires the attention of the War Relocation Authority. I recognize that you have assumed a heavy responsibility only because of your deep concern about the production of a crop vitally needed in the country's production program. We share that concern. If there is any way we can be of assistance to you, do not hesitate to call on us. Since I am usually at my office in Washington, your office will no doubt find it most convenient to call Mr. E. R. Fryer, Regional Director of the War Relocation Authority, Whitecomb Hotel, San Francisco, California.

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Eisenhower
Director

(COPY)

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
Office of the Commanding General
Presidio of San Francisco, California

20 May 1942

Civilian Restrictive Order No. 2:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as the designated Military Commander of Western Defense Command and Fourth Army to carry out the duties and responsibilities imposed upon me by Executive Order No. 9066, dated March 18, 1942, I do hereby approve of the evacuation by the War Relocation Authority of two hundred persons of Japanese ancestry on or about May 20, 1942, and two hundred persons of Japanese ancestry on or about May 22, 1942, from the Portland, Oregon Assembly Center for private employment outside of Military Area No. 1, heretofore designated by me, under such terms and conditions and limitations as shall be specified by the Director of the War Relocation Authority.

The foregoing approval is given upon the express condition that all such persons of Japanese ancestry shall proceed only to Malheur County, Oregon, and return to an Assembly Center or Relocation Center designated by the War Relocation Authority. Failure of such persons of Japanese ancestry to conform to this condition shall subject such persons to the penalties provided by Public Law No. 503, 77th Congress, approved March 29, 1942, entitled "To Provide a Penalty for Violation of Restrictions or Orders with Respect to Persons Entering, Remaining, Leaving, or Committing Any Act in Military Areas or Zone."

/s/ J. L. DeWITT

J. L. DeWITT
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
SAN FRANCISCO REGIONAL OFFICE
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

F1015
COLORADO RIVER
WAR RELOCATION PROJECT
AUG 11 1942
PARKER, ARIZONA

(NOTE TO EDITORS: The following press release was prepared in response to requests by newspaper publishers and many others for information concerning the program of the War Relocation Authority. It is not being released to press associations, nor is it duplicated outside the State of Arizona).

Release: Wednesday, August 12, 1942

Arizona is playing an important role in one of the most historic migrations of mankind--the evacuation of some 100,000 persons of Japanese lineage from strategic military areas of the Pacific Coast to inland wartime relocation centers--which now is entering its final phase.

Within a few weeks, all of these people will have been moved, under supervision of the United States Army, from the temporary assembly centers in California, Oregon and Washington to ten relocation centers in seven states, where they will live and work until peace is restored to a war-weary world.

Two of the relocation centers are situated in Arizona--one on the Colorado River Indian Reservation near Parker and the other on the Gila River Indian Reservation fifty miles southeast of Phoenix. On these fertile desert acres, which await only the introduction of water and the toiling hand of man to turn them into garden spots, are being created unique communities where the people will produce things needed for their own subsistence and for the Democracies engaged in a vast, world-wide, life-or death struggle. And at the close of the conflict, here, as elsewhere, they will have made a broad contribution to the development of the land resources of the semi-arid West.

California likewise has two of these wartime centers located at Manzanar and Tule Lake and having a present population of approximately 25,000. Two others will be situated in the Mississippi Delta region of southeastern Arkansas and one each in Utah, Idaho, Wyoming and Colorado, all of which are now under construction and probably will be ready for occupancy on or before October 1.

Never before in the annals of mankind has there been anything to compare with the present evacuation of the Pacific Coast Japanese. It writes a brand new chapter in history. Decreed by the United States Army, upon authorization of the President of the United States, to be a matter of military necessity, the evacuation is being carried out by the Wartime Civil

Control Administration. The relocation centers, such as those near Parker and on the Gila River, will be administered by the War Relocation Authority, a special agency set up by an executive order of the President.

This program is not to be confused with the activities of the Department of Justice in rounding up several hundred potentially dangerous aliens and placing them in internment camps. Of the 100,000 Japanese who will populate the relocation centers, about two thirds are American born citizens. A considerable proportion of them are of the third generation of residence in the United States. Their loyalty is not questioned by reason of their evacuation.

The decision to place the Japanese in relocation centers followed rather unhappy experiences which grew out of a brief period of voluntary evacuation during which many Japanese, individually or in small groups, left the coast military areas to try to establish new homes in the interior wherever and however they could. It soon became apparent the Japanese were unwanted as settlers; in some instances their safety was threatened. It was then determined to establish new communities for them in comparatively isolated areas where ample work opportunities were present, the soil and climate favorable for subsistence, projects of a public nature were available for development and where protection could be provided.

Areas in Arizona particularly lent themselves to these specifications. On 70,000 acres flanking the Colorado River will eventually reside 20,000 persons in three separate communities, one of 10,000 population and two others of 5,000 each. Each of the three "cities" is located within a radius of six miles of the other. The Gila River project embraces nearly 17,000 acres of rich land and, in the near future, will have a population of 15,000.

Just what manner of communities are these relocation centers? Speaking in general terms, they will be, so far as it is possible to make them, self-contained, self-sufficient, self-governed entities, with the overall internal administration being provided by the War Relocation Authority and the external protective services by the United States Army. At all relocation centers will be maintained constantly an exterior guard of military police and strict control is exercised at all times over ingress and egress. There will be work for all to do; schools will be maintained for children and adults; there will be recreational facilities. Freedom of religion will prevail. In a broad sense, the Japanese will be able to pursue reasonably normal lives, rear their children and engage in useful, productive pursuits.

The work that they will do can be divided into six principal classifications: Community services, construction, agriculture, industries, public works, and off-project employment under conditions prescribed by the WRA and the Army. Since about 45 per cent of the employed Pacific Coast Japanese were engaged in agriculture prior to the outbreak of the war, it follows quite naturally that agriculture should be the "backbone" of employment in these wartime communities.

The first objective of agricultural production is to provide as much as possible of the food required for an adequate diet for the evacuees in the relocation centers. Very likely, considerable produce grown at the Arizona projects will be shipped to other relocation centers, such as Manzanar in California and Heart Mountain in Wyoming, where the agricultural opportunities are less favorable. The second objective is to grow such products as are most urgently needed for supplying the armed forces and for sale to or through the Office of Lend Lease Administration.

Of the 70,000 acres in the Colorado River Relocation Center, an estimated 40,000 are expected to be placed ultimately under cultivation. Of the 16,467 acres of the Gila River Relocation Center, 6,977 previously has been irrigated and planted in alfalfa and are now ready for cropping. Eventually an additional 8,000 acres will be developed.

In all instances, the most advanced agricultural techniques and soil-conservation practices will be applied. Land for both of the Arizona projects has been leased from the Office of Indian Affairs and will be returned to that agency after the present emergency is ended in a state of much higher development and usefulness than it was prior to the war.

With the opening of the Colorado River Center, the 70,000 acre area was in a wholly undeveloped state. Of the permanent project works, only the diversion dam and three miles of main canal had been completed. To bring water to the WRA lease area will require construction of approximately twenty miles of main canals and necessary laterals and appurtenances. To protect the land from flooding, forty miles of levees are required. Intensive cultivation will necessitate drainage which will be provided by thirty miles of open drain ditches. A road system to serve the area will consist of seven miles of main oiled highway, plus a considerable mileage of secondary roads. All of this work will be done by the evacuees.

At Gila, the remaining 8,000 acres of undeveloped land will have to be cleared of desert vegetation, leveled and prepared for planting. Water is available in the main canal and provisions will be made for a concrete pipe distribution system.

Occupations necessary for the operation of these compact communities are pretty much the same as would be found in any city of comparable size. For instance, there will be barbers, doctors, nurses, school teachers, stenographers, clerks, librarians, firemen, policemen, messengers, and 101 other types of workers. In addition, evacuee labor will be employed so far as possible in the construction of administrative buildings, schools, factories and other structures.

So far as is possible and desirable, all project work below the administrative level will be performed by the Japanese. This means, as a matter of economy, that Caucasian personnel will be kept to a minimum consistent with prudent operation.

In all of the relocation areas will be established simple factories employing a large percentage of hand labor. Under consideration for the Arizona projects are food processing and dehydrating plants. Manzanar already has in operation a factory making camouflage nets for the United States Army. Tule Lake soon will have a furniture factory making articles for the evacuees.

There will be plenty of work for everyone. At present, unskilled labor is compensated at the rate of \$12 per month, in addition to food, shelter and medical care. Skilled workers receive \$16 per month and professional and technical workers \$19 per month--the highest wage paid in the relocation centers. In the centers are consumer enterprise stores at which may be purchased clothing, fruit, soft drinks and special food articles not ordinarily served in connection with the community mess halls.

Under conditions specified by the War Relocation Authority, furloughs may be granted to groups of evacuees for work in private farm employment outside the projects. For the time being, at least, such private employment will not be permitted in Military Area No. 1 which includes the southerly portions of Arizona.

The maintenance of the relocation centers in Arizona and other states, it is envisioned, will be a mutually beneficial arrangement. In accepting this responsibility in national defense, Arizona will be making a vital contribution to America's war effort. In return, the relocation centers shall make an important and lasting contribution to the development of the land resources of the state of Arizona.

James

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

April 13, 1942

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
OUTLINES RESETTLEMENT
PLANS FOR EVACUEES

M.S.Eisenhower, director of the War Relocation Authority, today issued the following statement through the Authority's regional office in San Francisco:

"The War Relocation Authority in cooperation with the Wartime Civil Control Administration, is concentrating all its energies right now on selection of sites for reception centers to which the Japanese evacuated from military zones in California, Oregon and Washington, can be transferred from temporary assembly centers.

"Scores of sites are being studied by officials intimately familiar with resources and other conditions in the West. Each potential site must meet such military, physical and economic requirements, as:

1. All reception centers must be located on public land so that improvements at public expense become public, not private, assets. Any land required for this purpose will remain in public ownership.
2. Because of manpower needs in the armed services and because the minimum guard unit can guard 5000 persons as easily as smaller groups, first attention will be given to sites adequate for large projects.
3. Each center must provide work opportunities throughout the year for the available workers to be located there. Work within each area will be of three types --public work, such as land subjugation; food production, and the production of war goods.
4. All centers must be located at a safe distance from strategic works.

April 13, 1942

5. Transportation and power facilities, water supply, soil, climate and similar factors must be satisfactory.

"Unless sites for reception centers approach these requirements, we can not give them consideration. The site for each reception center will be announced as soon as finally approved.

"Two reception centers are now under construction. These are the Manzanar Center in Owens Valley, Calif., designed to house 10,000 evacuees, and for the present under W.C.C.A. management. The Parker Center on the Colorado River Indian Reservation, Arizona, where housing is now being built for 20,000 will be managed by W.R.A. from it's inception.

"Agricultural development will be started at each reception center looking, if possible, toward making the center's population self-sufficient in foodstuffs, and also, if practical, for the production of a surplus of crops needed in the food for freedom program. At the Parker Center water and raw land are available to develop 90,000 acres of new production.

"The authority is exploring the possibilities to manufacture, at the centers, articles requiring a great deal of hand labor which are needed by the Army or Navy or which otherwise contribute to war needs. The possibilities range from cartridge bolts to camouflage nets. Several manufacturers, some of whom have long employed Japanese, and others whose plants are now closed down have indicated great interest in relocating their plants adjacent to reception centers.

"Each reception center will be a Military Area, under Military police protection."

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

6-42
Release to A.M. Papers
Friday, April 17, 1942

FRYER NAMED REGIONAL DIRECTOR
OF WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY TO
HANDLE JAPANESE RESETTLEMENT

The War Relocation Authority, charged with responsibility for resettlement of Japanese evacuated from Pacific Coast military zones, today announced the appointment of E.R.Fryer, general superintendent of the Navajo Indian Reservation, as regional director of its San Francisco office which will cover the eleven far western states. The appointment was announced by M.S.Eisenhower, national WRA director.

As general superintendent of the Navajo reservation during the past six years, Fryer has had charge of an area of more than 25,000 square miles in New Mexico, Arizona and Utah with a population of approximately 50,000 Navajos, the largest aboriginal group in the United States.

Management of the reservation when Fryer was placed in charge was regarded as the most difficult conservation problem in the nation due to overpopulation in an area where natural resources had been seriously depleted.

A native of Arizona, Fryer served in the Army in the first world war and later attended the University of Washington. In 1934 he joined the staff of the Soil Conservation Service at Albuquerque where he became assistant to the regional director of that agency.

As regional WRA director Fryer will have charge of the Authority's program in the far west which will be pointed toward an orderly and planned resettlement of evacuees on relocation projects where under necessary protection they can make their largest contribution toward the nation's war effort.

Instances of such resettlement include a project on the Colorado River Indian Reservation near Parker, Ariz., where 80,000 acres of land can be irrigated and homes created for 20,000 evacuees, and another on the Gila River Indian Reservation, about 50 miles southeast of Phoenix, where 10,000 evacuees can be relocated.

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

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RELEASE P.M. PAPERS
THURSDAY, APRIL 16, 42

ARIZONA PROJECT WILL PROVIDE
HOMES FOR 10,000 JAPANESE
EVACUATED FROM COAST AREAS

Resettlement of more than 10,000 Japanese evacuated from Pacific Coast military zones at a relocation center on the Gila River Indian Reservation in Arizona was contained in plans announced today by the San Francisco regional office of the War Relocation Authority.

Construction of the relocation center, located near Sacaton, about 50 miles southeast of Phoenix, will start immediately under direction of the U.A. Army Engineers, E.R. Fryer, regional WRA director, announced.

"Under lease agreement with the Indian Service the War Relocation Authority will operate more than 7000 acres of irrigated land in the reservation on which Japanese farmers will produce large quantities of vegetables for the government's food for freedom program," Fryer said.

"Families assigned to food production will be drawn so far as possible from those who have a farming background while professional people and skilled workers among the evacuees will be fitted into jobs in the new community where their particular talents can be best utilized."

In addition to 7000 acres of rich vegetable lands the relocation project also contemplates the further improvement of about 8000 acres of partially subjugated land. Improvement work, it was explained, will be carried out as funds and personnel are available and can be scheduled for seasons when such work will help round out a program of employment for evacuees throughout the year.

Two communities of Japanese will be established on the reservation, located at points most accessible to vegetable farming and land improvement.

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From War Relocation Authority
Office For Emergency Management
San Francisco Regional Office
Whitcomb Hotel

(For Immediate Release)

JAPANESE RELOCATION PROBLEMS
TO BE DISCUSSED AT SALT LAKE CITY

San Francisco, April 2--The program for relocation of more than 100,000 Japanese now being evacuated from the West Coast military areas will be discussed with State and Federal officials from 10 western states at an executive conference at Salt Lake City on Tuesday, April 7, the War Relocation Authority announced today.

M. S. Eisenhower, Director of the Authority, has invited to the meeting the Governors, Attorneys General, Chairmen of State Agricultural War Boards, State Extension Directors, and State Farm Security Administration Directors from Montana, Idaho, Colorado, Utah, Arizona, Nevada, New Mexico, Washington, Oregon, and Wyoming.

Colonel Karl R. Bendetsen, Assistant Chief of Staff, Western Defense Command, will attend the meeting as a representative of Lt. General J. L. DeWitt.

In calling the meeting, Mr. Eisenhower made the following statement

"The relocation of the more than 100,000 Japanese-Americans and Japanese aliens is a task so tremendous that it can be successful only if it is handled on a planned, orderly, protected basis. It is important that as rapidly as possible, opportunities are made available for evacuees to contribute the maximum to needed production. Yet, at the same time it is obvious that a program of this scope cannot be handled satisfactorily on the basis of hundreds of individual requests for small relocation projects without consuming precious time that must be devoted to the larger problem.

"Therefore, we are seeking to get large-scale plans together for projects that will take care of the immediate problem, and have asked certain Federal and State officials to meet with us on these tentative plans. Although this is the first meeting of its kind to be called by the War Relocation Authority, Tom C. Clark, Chief of the Civilian Staff

(More)

working with the Wartime Civil Control Administration, has conferred with Governors and other officials during the period in which voluntary evacuation was under way. He reports a general willingness on the part of most states to cooperate fully in the relocation program, provided they understand how it is going to be handled. The purpose of this meeting is to arrive at a common understanding of the problems and policies involved."

An orderly evacuation is now under way on the West Coast, with evacuees entering assembly centers, and moving from there to large reception centers under the supervision of the Army's Wartime Civilian Control Administration of the Western Defense Command. The War Relocation Authority enters the picture at the Reception Centers, and will have charge of production at such centers or of the planned movement of evacuees from the centers into other useful productive effort.

The Authority is considering five different types of work opportunities for evacuees: (1) Public work contributing to the war effort, such as development of land for irrigation; (2) production of needed agricultural commodities for subsistence of evacuees and for sale; (3) manufacturing of articles such as camouflage nets, cartridge belts, wood products, etc., that are required by the military establishment and (4) private employment, when and where possible.

However, Director Eisenhower emphasizes that the immediate relocation and work opportunities will be on large supervised public projects, and evacuees will not take part in private pursuits for several months to come, at least not until after the evacuation from military areas has been completed, and definite policies and procedures have been made regarding the opportunities for and the conditions of private employment.

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

Central Utah
DRAFT PRESS RELEASE
NOVEMBER 6, 1942.

CLOTHING ALLOWANCES TO BE PAID IN CASH,
REGIONAL WRA OFFICE ANNOUNCES.

Monthly clothing allowances will be paid in cash rather than script, according to an announcement from E. R. Fryer, regional WRA director, received by Project Director _____ today.

These allowances have been made effective as of last July 1 and the first payments will cover July, August and September, Mr. Fryer said. Accounting procedure will be set up at each project to compute the amounts due.

Each evacuee who is employed, or who is eligible for unemployment compensation, will receive the cash allowance for himself and for each dependent who is not employed or not receiving unemployment compensation. If someone in the family, in addition to the family head, is also employed, the cash allowance is made direct to the worker and not to the family head.

The monthly allowance at the *Central Utah* Project will be \$ 3.75 for each person 16 years of age or over, \$ 3.25 for persons from 8 to 16 years of age, and \$ 2.25 for persons under 8 years of age.

Mr. Fryer also announced that no deduction will be made from these cash allowances for any surplus army clothing issued either to workers or non-workers previous to October 21.

There will also be no deduction in those instances in which workers received cash grants in place of surplus clothing, he added.

PLANT PRESS RELEASE
NOVEMBER 6, 1942

ALL ASSOCIATION AUTHORITY
WITCOMB BOSTON BUILDING
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

CLOTHING ALLOWANCES TO BE PAID IN CASH
REGIONAL WRA OFFICE ANNOUNCES

Monthly clothing allowances will be paid in cash rather than script, according to an announcement from E. R. Fryer, regional WRA director, received by Project Director _____ today. These allowances have been made effective as of last July 1 and the first payments will cover July, August and September, Mr. Fryer said. Accounting procedures will be set up at each project to compute the amounts due.

Each employee who is employed, or who is eligible for unemployment compensation, will receive the cash allowance for himself and for each dependent who is not employed or not receiving unemployment compensation. If someone in the family, in addition to the family head, is also employed, the cash allowance is made direct to the worker and not to the family head.

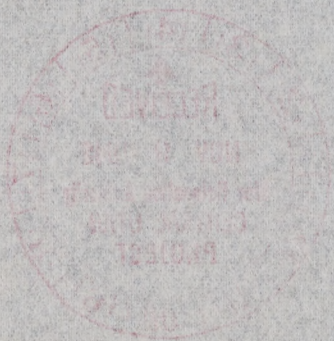
The monthly allowance at the _____ Project will be \$5.00 for each person 16 years of age or over, \$3.00 for persons from 8 to 16 years of age, and \$2.00 for persons under 8 years of age.

Mr. Fryer also announced that no deduction will be made from these cash allowances for any surplus any clothing issued either to workers or non-workers previous to October 31. He also has no deduction in those instances in which workers received cash grants in place of surplus clothing, he added.



At some projects, Mr. Fryer said, script or orders on the community store have already been made to employed persons to cover the monthly clothing allowance as announced several weeks ago. In such cases, he said, deductions will be made from the amount payable under the above schedule. He explained that this, of course, does not apply to relief cases in which either cash or an order on the community store has been made to meet urgent family needs. Such cases are covered by the public assistance grants procedure.

Information with reference to the number of dependents in each worker's family and their respective ages will be compiled at each project on a Basic Family Card which will be prepared by the Welfare Division and used in computing monthly clothing allowances.



At some projects, Mr. Fryer said, direct orders on the community store have already been made to employ persons to cover the monthly clothing allowance as announced several weeks ago. In such cases, he said, deductions will be made from the amount payable under the above schedule. He explained that this, of course, does not apply to relief cases in which either cash or an order on the community store has been made to meet urgent family needs. Such cases are covered by the public assistance grants procedure. Information with reference to the number of dependents in each worker's family and their respective ages will be compiled at each project on a Basic Family Card which will be prepared by the Welfare Division and used in computing monthly clothing allowances.



Press Release . A. M. . October 28, 1943

Japanese recently moved from other Centers and segregated at Tule Lake Center refused to harvest crops intended for the consumption of loyal Japanese in other Centers. "Passively refusing to work on the farm or to talk with WRA officials, the strikers feel they are prisoners of war," said R. B. Cozzens, Field Assistant Director of WRA. Between 300 and 350 loyal Japanese from other WRA Centers have volunteered to harvest the hundreds of acres of potatoes, cabbage, carrots, parsnips, beets, turnips, and other root crops. The loyal Japanese volunteer~~ed~~ farm workers are being transported to the Tule Lake Center, and the crops they harvest will be shipped to the other 9 Centers housing loyal Japanese. Officials at Tule Lake Center recognize the strike as being the work of experts. According to a WRA spokesman, agitation began soon after the segregees arrived at the Tule Lake Center. A truck accident which resulted in the injury of several and the death of one Japanese farm worker was seized upon as an excuse for the strike. Officials of WRA said there is no official leader or spokesman for the group who are passively resisting the demands to do farm work. There is evidence, however, that intimidation and a display of power is being made. WRA officials on the Project are dealing with the situation firmly. A strong Army guard and a double barbed-wire enclosure surrounds the Center. No sign of violence has appeared and none is expected. "The spirit of morale and cooperation in the other 9 WRA Centers has improved greatly," said Cozzens, "since segregees were removed to Tule Lake."

SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Editorial Page

Friday, Nov. 5, 1943

TULE LAKE

There has been trouble with the Japanese at Tule Lake. How serious it has been or is, we have still to learn fully. What we do know for sure is that the WRA has been trying to cover it up.

There is the clue to the trouble. When officials in a bureaucracy try to cover things up, when the facts are bursting out all around them, we know they are phonies. When phonies are put in charge of a group of sullen and resentful people, there is bound to be trouble. It doesn't take the Japanese five seconds to find out that the officials supposed to rule them have nothing behind their facades. A mule can find that out about a man in six seconds. And just as the mule does, these Japanese act accordingly, in contempt of the phonies.

These WRA officials have convicted themselves by denying what could not be denied. We probably owe these Japanese a reward for bringing it to light. It is now made obvious that these are bad public servants, and from this showing it must be apparent that they have been serving the public badly all along. They do not belong in a job like this. They are examples of two-bit men pitchforked by bureaucracy into four-dollar jobs.

However, these WRA hands have only followed a line all too prevalent in bureaucracy, which is to cover up wherever possible. But even in bureaucracies there are some individuals who know when things can be concealed and when they cannot. These didn't.

We have no hope for WRA. So long as it has charge, we may expect trouble with the disloyal Japanese who want to raise hell. Very early, WRA showed its phony quality by conceiving its job to be "welfare" and "uplift" work in the camps, instead of confining itself to its proper function of keeping these Japanese fed, clothed, sanitarily housed and in order. These "workers" were a joke to the amiably disposed internees, but to the vicious ones WRA became only an object of contempt, an invitation to trouble. Now that the bad Japanese have been concentrated at Tule Lake, they have lost little time in showing up WRA.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Whitecomb Hotel Building

For Immediate Release

December 15, 1943

Major responsibility for jeopardizing the lives and welfare of thousands of American men, women and children in custody of the Japanese was placed today on the shoulders of "agitators of race hatred" by R. B. Cozens, Assistant Director of the War Relocation Authority in San Francisco. Cozens' charge was made in a statement to the press after revelation by the State Department that the Japanese Government has broken off negotiations for the exchange nationals until an investigation can be made of conditions under which Japanese nationals are cared for by the United States Government. Such an investigation is now being made by representatives of the Spanish Government which acts as protocol for the Japanese in negotiations with the United States.

"There can be no doubt," Mr. Cozens said, "that the interruption of negotiations for the return of American soldiers and civilians, including women and children now in the hands of the Japanese was caused by the malicious campaign which has been carried on by agitators of race hatred including public as well as private organizations and individuals.

Early in November there was a disturbance at the Tule Lake Center in Northern California where WRA has placed Japanese who are not loyal to the United States. Troops were called in to restore order. The facts of the disturbance were made known to the public. But the witch hunters were

not content with the facts. Distortions, half-truths and exaggerations were more in keeping with their desires. Official investigation and public office were used to dignify the most fantastic stories thus giving them the semblance of truth. The product of the campaign was a wave of hysterical demand for severely repressive measures to be taken against the Japanese at the Tule Lake Center and in the relocation centers administered by WRA. Most of the measures demanded would have been in violation of the Geneva Convention.

The Tule Lake incident itself caused no particular reaction on the part of the Japanese Government as revealed by official Japanese broadcasts. But as the agitation continued there was increasing evidence of concern on the part of the Japanese Government. On November 24 after nearly three weeks of agitation in the United States centering around the Tule Lake incident, the Tokyo radio announced that the Japanese Government might reconsider its treatment of Americans because of the manner in which Japanese in the United States were being treated. This was followed by word that negotiations for an exchange of Americans and Japanese had been broken off.

The ruthless race-baiters have hit at every American family which has a loved one in the hands of the Japanese. The thought of American women and children and American soldiers in the hands of the enemy anxiously awaiting the day when their exchange can be brought about should have a sobering effect on the fanatical super-patriots who have been agitating for a more restrictive policy on the part of the War Relocation Authority.

This Agency always has conducted its program with full consideration

- 3 -

of the security of the Nation and of the delicate international situation which is involved. It must and will continue to do so.

January 10, 1944

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WRA WHITCOMB HOTEL BUILDING, San Francisco

Two Japanese American soldiers are among those recently decorated by the War Department for service in combat duty with U. S. forces in the Southwest Pacific and over Europe. Staff Sgt. Ben Kuroki of the Army Air Forces has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross and Sgt. Kasuo Komoto has been decorated with the Purple Heart.

Inducted prior to Pearl Harbor, Sgt. Komoto is a veteran of both the Guadalcanal and New Georgia campaigns against the Japanese in the Southwest Pacific. He received the Purple Heart after taking part in an engagement in which he and several other men in his detachment were wounded by an enemy sniper who opened fire on them with a machine-gun mounted in a tree. Now convalescing at a military hospital in California, Sgt. Komoto recently visited his parents at the Gila River Relocation Center near Phoenix, Arizona.

In announcing the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross to Sgt. Ben Kuroki, the War Department revealed that he had been a turret-gunner on one of the Liberator bombers which delivered the crippling blow to Nazi oil supplies in the attack on the Ploesti oil fields in Rumania last August. The Flying Cross is awarded "for heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight."

Sgt. Kuroki has previously been awarded the air medal for "participation in 100 hours of operational flight against the enemy in the Middle East Theatre", and three oak leaf clusters for taking part in "bomber combat missions over enemy-occupied Continental Europe." The citation to Kuroki and other members of the crew stated that "the courage, coolness and skill displayed by these officers and enlisted men upon these occasions were of the highest order and reflect great credit upon themselves and the armed forces of the United States."

Kuroki was among a group of American air fighters recently presented to the King and Queen of England when the royal couple visited the base at which they are stationed in England. The parents of this Nisei airman live on a farm near Hershey, Nebraska, and they have three other sons serving in the United States Army.

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JAPANESE AMERICAN SOLDIERS DECORATED BY WAR DEPARTMENT

Staff Sgt. BEN KUROKI, Army Air Forces gunner. Native of Hershey, Nebraska, Home Address: RFD #2. Received Distinguished Flying Cross with one oak leaf cluster for outstanding performance as turret gunner on one of Liberator bombers which raided the Floesti oil fields in Rumania. Air Medal awarded in recognition of participation in 100 hours of operational flight in Middle East Theatre. Three oak leaf clusters later added for taking part in bomber combat missions over enemy-occupied Europe. He was among the American flyers presented to the King and Queen of England when they visited an 8th Air Force bomber station.

Staff Sgt. Kazuo Komoto, veteran of Guadalcanal and New Georgia campaigns. Former resident of Parlier, California. Awarded Order of the Purple Heart for wounds received in action. He was inducted before Pearl Harbor and has been serving ever since. (During his last furlough before going overseas, he was unable to visit his parents at Gila because the WDC ruling then in force made it difficult for him to enter the evacuated area.) Pacific Citizen story dated Aug. 21, 1943, stated Komoto was first Nisei casualty in southwest Pacific, although other Japanese Americans are believed to be in action in that area. Komoto was shipped back to this country to recuperate from wounds in a Modesto, California, Army hospital. Father and mother are Yoshikazu and Hisano Komoto, now living at 9-8-A, Gila River.

Corp. YUKIO YOKOTA, Pfc. TADAO HODAI, and Pfc. TANEYOSHI NAKANO, all former residents of Hawaii were awarded the Legion of Merit on April 9. They volunteered for "important services, the nature of which have not been made public." The War Department citation reads, "for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding services between the dates of

December 20, 1942, and February 28, 1943, at a southern training center."

All these boys are now overseas.

The following soldiers, all members of the 100th Infantry Battalion then in training at Camp Shelby, were awarded Soldier's Medals "for heroism beyond the call of duty in saving Cpl. Toru Orikasa from drowning on March 12, 1943: Sgt. SAKASHI HIGASHI, Sgt. YOJI YASUI, Cpl. CHARLES K. MIZOGUCHI, Cpl. Sumio ITO, and Pvt. NOBUYOSHI FURUKAWA. All are natives of Hawaii. These soldiers are also overseas.

February 9, 1945

Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Room 202, Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

To: All Project Papers
For: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

In an effort to combat prejudice and discrimination against returning evacuees of Japanese ancestry, the Congregational Committee for Christian Democracy, Los Angeles, and a group of "friends supporting the program of social evangelism of the Santa Maria Methodist Church" recently placed two three-column, page-length advertisements in the Santa Maria Free Advertiser.

Under a heading "TRUTH" in type nearly two inches high, the first group quoted Dr. Paul S. Taylor, professor of economics at the University of California who, before a San Francisco audience on January 11, presented facts to controvert popular fallacies and rumors given lip-service by those opposing return of the evacuees.

Included in the paid advertisement was a statement made by the president of the Filipino Inter-Community, Antonio A. Gonzales, to the San Francisco Call-Bulletin: "We are 100 per cent for the Christian way of life. We don't want any quarrels with the Japanese." Mr. Gonzales was further quoted as saying in a private interview "We have been used as pawns once and we don't propose to be so used again."

Also included were a statement on racial discrimination taken from an opinion handed down by U. S. Supreme Court Justice Frank Murphy, and an account of action taken by the executive committee of the University of California warmly welcoming returning students of Japanese ancestry.

In the advertisement sponsored by the other group at Santa Maria, Governor Earl Warren's request that the order of the War Department "be respected and carefully complied with by the Government and people of this State" was quoted at length under a heading of "Good Americanism Is Issue."

Quoted, too, were excerpts from the U. S. Supreme Court's decisions in the Mitsuyo Endo and Fred Korematsu cases, and the California Department of the American Legion which said: "If there be any among you who would bring shame on the American Legion by violating the principles of the Legion by denying to a citizen the rights which are his, then you forfeit your right to be considered a good Legionnaire."

The condemnation of racism and discrimination by Post No. 8 (Los Angeles) and the offer of Santa Ana Post to use its 600 members for law-enforcement purposes were recounted under a subhead of "American Legion for Americanism."

Included in the paid advertisement were briefed accounts of action taken by Labor groups. These included the statements by the AFL Oregon Labor Press of Portland ("We have laws to take care of any citizens who are disloyal to our country, and we should not violate our Constitution by denying privileges given by it to any group, regardless of race, creed or color."); the Oregon State CIO Council, ("It would be well for those people who advocate these anti-Christian and un-American ideas to show some of the patriotism exhibited by the Japanese Americans fighting for the democracy these people are ignorantly trying to destroy."); the San Diego CIO Council; the National Maritime Union; and the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen ("Our brother Americans of Japanese descent have shown their patriotism the hard way as evidenced by our members on the battlefronts.")

Action of the Santa Maria Ministerial Association, which vigorously opposed the evacuation as unnecessary, was recalled as part of the fight made by many churchmen to see that the evacuees were not deprived of their rights.

February 10, 1945

Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Room 202, Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

To: All Project Papers
For: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NISEI EQUALITY GUARANTEED

Equality of opportunity in the eyes of the University to all students of Japanese ancestry was guaranteed last week by President Robert Gordon Sproul in a statement to the California Bruin at the Los Angeles campus.

President Sproul's statement said:

"The University makes no distinction among students because of their race, religion, or nationality. Therefore, persons of Japanese ancestry who have been cleared by the War Department and other federal authorities and who return to California either to begin or to resume their studies at the University will not be treated differently from other former students or applicants for admission.

"Moreover, such persons will be received by the University and by the faculty and student body as well, I am sure, in a friendly and cooperative manner, for they will have been certified, in effect, to have proved themselves free from any blemish or disloyalty even under the stress of most discriminatory treatment."

Taken from THE DAILY CALIFORNIAN, Monday,
January 29, 1945.

War Relocation Authority
Whitcomb Hotel Bldg., San Francisco

For Thursday release
October 21

200 Japanese High School Girls Serve California

Japanese-American girls from California, exiled to the War Relocation Authority Center at Rivers, Arizona, have just completed an outstanding contribution to their home State of California and to the national War effort, according to R. B. Cozzens, San Francisco Field Assistant Director of the War Relocation Authority who is in charge of WRA operations in the five Western States bordering the West Coast.

"Three million California war ration book application cards were sorted and filed by these 200 high school girls," said Cozzens, "A task that involved exceedingly painstaking and tedious work."

"The accomplishment of the Japanese-American high school girls gave to their home State of California the most complete and comprehensive index of its residents in its history," said Paul Nederman, district rationing executive in the Office of Price Administration. "Officials of OPA are warm in their praise for the outstanding contribution of the 200 girls who efficiently completed the task."

The application cards were delivered to the War Relocation Center at Rivers, Arizona, in large bundles from some 1,700 towns and cities in California. They had to be filed alphabetically according to name, post office, and county. During the filing, the girls checked carefully for duplications and found many. OPA officials warned holders of ration books that if they hold more than one book the fact will be revealed as a result of the check just completed; and unless the duplicate book is immediately surrendered, the holder will be subject to heavy penalties.

EWJ 216

"Plans have been completed for the reinstitution of general selective service procedures for American citizens of Japanese descent," the War Department announced today.

Under the War Department plan, Japanese-Americans considered acceptable for military service will be reclassified by their selective service board on the same basis as other citizens and called for induction if physically qualified and not deferred.

Last February the 442nd Combat Team, composed of Japanese-American volunteers, was born. In a letter to the Secretary Of War commenting on the formation of this unit, the President said, "No loyal citizen of the United States should be denied the right to exercise the responsibilities of his citizenship regardless of his ancestry. The principle upon which this country was founded and by which it has always been governed is that Americanism is a matter of the mind and heart. Americanism is not and never was a matter of race or ancestry."

The excellent showing which the combat team has made in training and the outstanding record achieved by the 100th Battalion, a former Hawaiian National Guard unit, now fighting in Italy, were major factors in the present plan.

Eight million people in California, or an average of 2.58 people to each application, were benefited by the difficult work involved in filing the ration applications and perfecting the index, according to the OPA spokesman, who said the girls worked a minimum of 8 hours a day and frequently overtime so the cards would be completed by the October 20 deadline established by OPA. The regular relocation center pay of \$16.00 a month was received by each girl.

More than 50,000 people whose names began with the letter "E" appeared in the index, and the cards under that heading had to be handled 1,300,000 times to complete the index correctly. The segregation, checking, and filing of all the applications required more than 10 million operations. 22,104 man hours of labor were performed by the girls, or the equivalent of one full 8-hour day for 2,763 people. Monotony of the work was pleasantly broken when the Japanese-American girls were thrilled with the names and autographs of world-famed screen luminaries found among the applicants from Hollywood, Beverly Hills, and other cities in which screen stars and celebrities reside.

Tule Lake WRA Center

TL-4

For Immediate Release

NEWELL, Cal. --- Alfred L. Cardinaux, delegate of the International committee of the Red Cross, Geneva Switzerland, delegation in the United States, has just visited to the Tule Lake center here. He came in connection with the arrangements for the distribution of foodstuffs provided by Japan for the Japanese nationals who are here. A total of 74 barrels of foodstuffs have been received at the Tule Lake center and it is expected that a much larger shipment will soon arrive.

Commenting on the work, Mr. Cardinaux said that the International Committee of the Red Cross would make a full report to the Japanese Red Cross on the distribution of food. He added that he hoped this report would have a beneficial effect on the treatment and care of interned Americans in the Far East and specifically facilitate distribution of food and medicine among Allied internees in Japanese hands.

The shipment of foodstuffs received here is being turned over to a committee of Japanese nationals which will have charge of the distribution. This committee will acknowledge the shipment.

2-10

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P.W.



TULE LAKE JAPS STRIKE.

~~SECRET~~

Immediate Release

500 Japanese evacuated from the Hawaiian Islands last year and recently segregated at the Tule Lake War Relocation Camp for the disloyal are on strike.

These Japanese, according to a WRA spokesman, began to agitate against working conditions as soon as they were transferred from other WRA centers, on October 15. ~~in~~ A truck accident/which injured several and killed one Japanese farm worker was used as an excuse to launch the strike.

Hundreds of acres of potatoes, cabbage, carrots, parsnips, beets, turnips and other root crops are ready for harvest.

The striking Japanese have stated they will harvest no crops intended for the consumption of loyal Japanese in other centers.

Officials of WRA are bringing between 300 and 350 ~~Japan~~ loyal Japanese from other WRA centers to Tule Lake to handle the harvest.

None of the crops to be harvested will be fed to the disloyal Japs at Tule Lake but will be sent to other centers where loyal Japanese are cooperating fully with authorities.

Strikers at Tule Lake state they are prisoners of war and for that reason do not have to work. Officials at the Center recognize the strike and the agitation leading to it as being the work of experts who through intimidation and a display power have succeeded in preventing anyone from reporting for work. *on the farm* No official spokesman or leader has been identified by the authorities. The Striking Japs refuse to *do farm* work or talk.

A strong Army guard and a double barbed wire enclosure surrounds the Tule Lake Center. The strike is passive with no display or threat of violence.

The spirit of morale and cooperation at the nine other WRA. centers has improved greatly since the disloyal Japanese were removed, said WRA officials in San Francisco.

Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

Report
*Lesh: If you
don't need this
Ives: please let
me have it right
back for
Relo news*

Used

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The War Relocation Authority will open a District Relocation Office in rooms 3, 4 and 5 at 117 N. Church Street, Visalia, *Today* on May 15 it was announced in San Francisco ~~today~~ by Charles F. Miller, Relocation Supervisor for the Northern California Area of WRA.

Paul J. Fischer, Relocation Officer, will be in charge of the new office which is in the Seligman Larkins Building.

Mr. Fischer, who formerly was in charge of the WRA Relocation Office in Fresno, will handle relocation for persons of Japanese ancestry in the counties of Alpine, Mono, Inyo, Tulare, Kings and Kern.

Other WRA Relocation Offices in the Northern California Area are located at Fresno, Watsonville, Stockton, Santa Rosa, San Francisco, Sacramento, Oakland and San Jose.

oOo



Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
202 Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Lake Breezes Whisper:

MINN. EDITOR WRITES ABOUT EXPERIENCE
WITH NISEI GI'S

("The Lake Breezes Whisper" is a column by Claude Swanson, editor of the Fairmont Daily Sentinel, Minnesota. It was reprinted in the Minneapolis Morning Tribune recently. Because of its simple story of friendliness toward a couple of nisei privates, we are reprinting it in its entirety.)

We boarded the northward bound bus Friday for a couple of days off, hoping to offset a few off days.

In Minneapolis we couldn't help but be impressed by the number of Japanese American soldiers we saw on the streets.

Always they traveled in twos, threes, and fours. Never with others save their own race. Our Curiosity was aroused. We wondered why. With the heroic example United States soldiers of their race set in Italy, we thought "our boys" would be glad to associate with them. We were anxious to find out.

The opportunity came in a manner we hadn't planned. We were browsing on a dish of beef chop suey at John's place, which was crammed with Japanese American soldiers, their wives and girl friends. At every table there was lively conversation--in English. Evidently it was an occasion. We were impressed by the happy, carefree manner in which they were enjoying themselves.

Then we had an inspiration. At the table next to us sat two Japanese American privates. We asked the waitress the amount of their check. It was less than \$2, and first because we wanted to do something

for a race that had so distinguished itself in Italy against the Nazis, and second because we wanted an opportunity to talk to them, we asked the waitress for their check.

The boys beamed with surprise and gratitude. Both arose, bowed and thanked us, invited us to sit with them while they finished their meal. It was the first time in our life we had so much as spoken to a person of Japanese descent. We asked them about their being always together, never, apparently, with our boys.

"That is very easy to explain," said Pvt. Jungi Ozaki. "You see we are all together out there at Savage. We are all acquainted with each other. We are not stationed at Fort Snelling and have no contact with the other soldiers. It is only natural we are together." (Since then, the Camp Savage soldiers have been transferred to Ft. Snelling.--Ed. Note)

Pvt. Ozaki (pronounced "Oh-zah-kee"), in civilian life, was a pharmacist in Detroit. He was born on the West Coast, as was his companion. Neither had ever been in Japan. Both were at Savage where they are studying to be interpreters for the United States Army.

"You see, because of our ancestry, the army feels we are better qualified to learn the Japanese language," said Pvt. Ozaki. "It is very difficult for Caucasians to get the correct pronunciation of many of our words, and the proper inflection."

The boys wanted to know what prompted us to pay for their supper.

"It is because of the magnificent and heroic achievement of United States soldiers of your race in Italy," we told them. "It is the first chance we have had, in a small way, to show we appreciate the

loyalty of your race."

Both boys were visibly affected. "We have Japanese American soldiers at Savage, who came back from Italy," they said. "Some with only one leg. One with only one leg and one eye. All of them are very happy. One told us: "I have proof so long as I live, of my loyalty to the United States. No one can take that away. I'm proud and I am glad." That was the boy who lost one eye and his leg below the knee."

"But how do you folks feel about this government interning your parents and brothers and sisters, while you are in the uniform of our country," we asked.

Both fell silent for a moment. They exchanged glances, and we knew we'd hit on a touchy subject. Pvt. Ozaki finally spoke. "I suppose our government thought it was necessary," he said.

"...Maybe now that the war has given us an opportunity to show our loyalty and devotion to this country, there will be a better understanding. It is the first time we have had a real opportunity to show our love and appreciation of this country. Before the war, there was no such opportunity. We did our work and received our pay. We paid taxes. But every citizen does that. Now we have a chance to show we will fight for this country, to sacrifice our lives, if necessary, in order that we may live here."

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Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
201 Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

N. Y. Herald Tribune Editorializes:

"WHAT MORE CONCLUSIVE TEST
OF PATRIOTISM IS THERE?

"Recently 11 wounded men from Bushnell General Hospital were feted in Salt Lake City. All were Japanese Americans who had seen service in the Italian campaign. Most of them lost an arm or a leg and were sent to Bushnell for the fitting of artificial limbs.

"It may have been something of a surprise to many Utahns to read about these Americans of Japanese ancestry and their fighting record in Uncle Sam's army. But these 11 are only a few of the hundreds of Japanese Americans who have fought bravely for their country--America--been killed, wounded, and taken prisoner, praised for performing 'brilliantly' in action and decorated for gallantry. And there are thousands more Japanese Americans now going into action or preparing to do so. The first Japanese American combat unit, the 100th Infantry Battalion, was activated in May, 1942. It first went into action about a year ago in Italy. Since then up to last May members of this one battalion, fighting in many engagements and singled out for high praise in a Fifth Army citation, have received 1,000 Purple Hearts, three Distinguished Service Crosses, 36 Silver Stars, and 21 Bronze Stars.

"News dispatches from Italy the last few days reveal the 100th Battalion has been expanding into the 442nd Regimental Combat Team. All of the enlisted men and more than half of the officers of this regimental unit are Japanese Americans. Eleanor Packard, U. P. correspondent with

U.S. troops in Italy, said in a dispatch they were 'rated equally with their American comrades on either flank and were winning the confidence of other troops for their fighting qualities.' A few days ago, another news item reveals, they led an attack which threatened to outflank enemy strongholds blocking the way to Livorno and captured two villages in fierce fighting.

"Japanese Americans have seen plenty of action in this war on many fronts. Japanese Americans in the Hawaiian territorial guard fought at Pearl Harbor, reportedly shooting down a raiding Japanese plane and capturing the first Japanese prisoner, one-half of the crew of a Japanese midget submarine which was wrecked on a Hawaiian reef. A Japanese technical sergeant in the Air Forces has won two Distinguished Flying Crosses and an Air Medal with five Oak Leaf clusters for his gunnery work on more than 25 European theater bombing missions. Japanese Americans are serving as interpreters, radio intelligence men and in other capacities all over the Pacific war theater. They have seen action on Bataan, at Tarawa, Kwajalein, New Guinea, Guadalcanal, New Britain and in the China-Burma-India Theater.

"In addition to the thousands of Japanese Americans who are already on the fighting fronts, thousands more are training. There are today approximately 13,000 soldiers of Japanese ancestry in the Army, more than half of whom are now outside the continental United States. There are Japanese American girls in the WAC and in the Nurses' Corps and more than 200 seamen in the U. S. Merchant Marine.

"No one can say, after the record of volunteering for service, of gallantry in action and of blood sacrifice, that the second generation of Japanese in America have not in large numbers proved their loyalty

to their country by their readiness to serve in its armed forces, to fight for it, and to die for it. What more conclusive test of patriotism is there?" -- SALT LAKE CITY TELEGRAM, UTAH.

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War Relocation Authority
2nd Fl. Sheldon Bldg.
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

D.S.C. AWARDED TO TWO GALLANT NISEI FIGHTERS IN ITALY

Private Shizuya Hayashi of Oahu, Hawaii, killed 18 Germans in a "one-man attack" on enemy positions, according to a recent Stars and Stripes, official U.S. Army Newspaper published in the North African Theatre of Operations.

In addition to killing the 18 Germans, Pvt. Hayashi forced 4 others to surrender and drove the remainder off a strategic hill.

"Among the men who have fought in Italy, the bravery and fighting skill of the Japanese-American battalion of infantry has never been questioned", the Stars and Stripes said. "And nowhere is there a better example of this skill and courage than the act which won Shizuya Hayashi the Distinguished Service Cross."

Allen Ohata, one of a squad of Japanese-Americans who killed 47 Germans near Cerasulo, Italy, was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross on July 7th and was promoted to a lieutenant, according to the Associated Press.

His citation said he rescued a companion whose rifle had been damaged, killing 10 of the enemy. Then he and another rifleman stood off repeated enemy attacks for hours and finally charged and captured the remaining Germans.

These Japanese American doughboys with the 100th Battalion in Italy, have each been awarded a Distinguished Service Cross.

Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Room 202 Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

(Copies of the C.B.I. Roundup, Army newspaper of the China-Burma-India Theater, containing the story of Nisei in Merrill's Marauders recently were received in the United States. Principal portions of the story follow):

oOo

By S/Sgt. Edgar Laytha

CBI now has its own Sergeant York. He is S/Sgt. Kenny Yasui. Kenny is about five feet two and weighs scarcely more than 120 pounds. And this Baby York of CBI is a Nisei.

Nisei means second generation. It is a Japanese word, but Niseis are Americans. Ten thousand (the number is now 15,000---Editor) of these American-born children of Japanese immigrants fight now in the United States Army and some in this theater.

Their presence in CBI was for a long time a military secret. For their own protection, they were not publicized. Some still have relatives in Japan who had to be considered, and then there always was and still always will be the possibility of capture by the enemy, which for a Nisei would mean no picnic.

Under the veil of protective secrecy, however, the stubborn, sturdy fighting Niseis grew to the stature of heroes. They became exceedingly popular, earned the admiration and personal friendship of every private and general with whom they came in contact. The secrecy was officially lifted a few days ago. Now we can tell their story.

The case of Sergeant Yasui, who captured 16 Japanese at the Irrawaddy River, is only one of the many bright spots the Nisei are writing into modern American military history.

They fight for Uncle Sam in the Aleutians, in Italy, all over the Southwest Pacific and all over the CBI.

The most publicized Nisei soldiers are the men of the terrific 100th Infantry Battalion in Italy. One thousand of the 1,300 men of the battalion have been wounded in combat and wear the Purple Heart.

The unit earned 44 Silver Stars, 33 Bronze Stars, three Legion of Merit medals and many battlefield promotions. Since the birth of the battalion, there has not been a single case of desertion, not even a slight AWOL. The men of the 100th fought in Sicily. (They are now fighting in Franco-----Editor).

Near Cassino, they spearheaded the crossing of the Rapido River; at Bolvedere, they outflanked the toughest German position and flabbergasted the Nazis they captured. In Rome, they went sightseeing, but soon after helped the Engineers to rebuild the port of Leghorn.

To this Theater, they came more recently.

(more)

2-Story by S/Sgt. Edgar Laytha

Our Sergeant Yasui, who crossed the Pacific some six months ago, was preceded by a tough and audacious bunch of his fellow Nisei who joined Merrill's Marauders. I met the Nisei Marauders just a few days ago when they were mounting a truck for a rest camp.

Some were distinctly tall; all were well built. All looked gay, worryless, selfsure, happy-go-lucky. Very American.

This, of course, is no accident. Nisei grow about two inches taller and are far better built than their relatives in Japan. This is a scientifically-proven fact. The Jap is the son of an undernourished nation and looks it. The uncanny discipline and self-negation to which he is subjected from the cradle to the grave make him tight, crampy; more of a human automaton than a human being. But all this vanishes under the American sun.

The Nisei feels, thinks, acts and moves about like his fellow Americans. And this alone is a great slap in the face of the Robber Empire and a sublime compliment to America.

The Japs spent many a thousand yen before Pearl Harbor to "Japanize" their second generation in America.

With money, scholarships, free vacations, they coaxed thousands of Nisei in the past 15 years to return to the Land of the Rising Sun for a little re-education in the Japanese spirit. These Nisei they called Kibei---the returned ones. And they gave them a hell of a good time. But they spent their money in vain.

It was not so easy for a Nisei Marauder to kill his first Jap.

"I had a terrible feeling", said a sergeant who doesn't want to be named, "when the first Jap I have shot collapsed and expired with a heartbreaking 'Banzai' on his lips, but my second shot came easy, the third even easier. I can't tell you exactly how many I have shot. It is very difficult to know in the jungle where everything melts into the background."

Once these boys were in the fight you couldn't get them out of it.

When a Nisei Marauder was wounded or when he fell ill, he would hide his ailment until he collapsed on the spot. T/Sgt. Tommy K. Tsubota, from Honolulu, suffered from a bad hernia during a forced march through the jungle. With small bamboo splints, he trussed his rupture, marched on through the thicket until he collapsed and had to be evacuated by air.

Sgt. Henry Gosho, from Seattle, was very ill with malaria, but hung on to the tail of a mule and was able to drag himself through the campaign.

Brig. Gen. Frank Merrill's Marauders proudly wear the sky blue citation ribbon of their unit, though three of them--S/Sgt. Russell K. Kono, from Hilo, Hawaii, S/Sgt. Roy Matsumoto from Los Angeles, and Gosho--were cited individually.

Other Nisei units in other parts of the Theater were men of the same mettle. Sgt. Eddie Sakaue, who was loaned to the British, saved the life of an English captain under fire.

Then, of course, we have Baby York.

(more)

3-Story by S/Sgt. Edgar Laytha

It happened on the Irrawaddy River, during our mopping up operations after the collapse of organized resistance.

A group of about 17 Japanese were isolated on an island. There was a call for volunteers to capture the Japs. Kenny Yasui and three non-Nisei Americans stepped out, stripped and swam over. Little Kenny took charge.

The Jap hid in the underbrush. None was seen.

Then California-born Kenny Yasui yelled into the bush in the Japanese he learned while a student of Waseda University, Tokyo. He ordered the enemy to come out and surrender.

The hidden men in the bush must have been stupefied to hear their native tongue. Instantly, a Nip sergeant appeared, looked amazed at the little naked man who said he was a Japanese colonel working with the Americans and ordered him to show the hiding place of his comrades.

The Jap was impressed and bewildered, terribly so. He took Kenny around on an inspection tour and out of many foxholes jumped many a Nip, fully armed, 20 rounds of ammunition in each man's belt.

Kenny Yasui asked for their arms, ordered them to line up. In that second, a Jap officer sprang from the thicket, threw a hand grenade to blow up Yasui and himself. Yasui jumped into a foxhole and the Japanese officer into the other world. Then Kenny took his sword.

While all this happened, a couple of recalcitrant Japanese soldiers were killed by the other Americans, but 13 prisoners waited shamefacedly for the orders of the little olive-skinned "colonel". Kenny remembered the close order drills he had to take while he was a Kibei in Tokyo. And he gave them the words:

"Kio tsuko! Hidari muke hidari! Mae susumo."

The drill over, Yasui solved the problem of getting the party across the Irrawaddy by having the prisoners swim, pushing a raft against the swift current.

And on the raft sat Kenny with the sword in his hand and two of the weaker prisoners at his side.

My life among the Nisei was an exceedingly happy one. They surely will remain my intimate friends until distant times when this war will be but a memory.

But I must confess: When I was detached from the unit for other duties it was in some ways a relief. It was a relief from a little too much discipline and from too good behavior.

The average Nisei is a model soldier. He is aware of the burden of an unpopular ancestry, but he knows that he is a good American and wants to prove it.

Our team leader made our unit the best disciplined group at all staging camps we had to pass. We often had to march in formation when it wasn't absolutely necessary. Our carbines were the cleanest, our uniforms the neatest. We appeared on the minute everywhere we were told.

(more)

4-Story by S/Sgt. Edgar Laytha

To sum it up: They were too good for me. Still my happiest moments in CBI are the days when I come across them from time to time at places often distant and remote. And I remember the long way we went together.

I remember the midnight lunches in our barracks, when they cooked rice and spiced it with Japanese radish. Their faces were dimly lit by the burning stove.

The scene could have been somewhere in Japan, but inside every shadowy figure the American flame burned and I seemed to see it all the time.

And I remember them individually. Koji, the leader, was a Hawaiian longshoreman but worked himself up to graduate with honors from the University of Georgia.

Kitsu, the dishwasher from Los Angeles, burning the midnight oil to read John Gunther's Inside Europe.

Chris, the talented artist of the Walt Disney Studios, was able to express every thought by a quick and forceful sketch. Then there was young Kenjiro, who used to work on the Nisei farms all over the Coast, and Sam, whose dream is a mechanic's job in any plant anywhere in the United States.

And there was Clarke, the man of the world and honor student at Harvard, and Kenny, the ex-gambler. And Alex, and lastly, Karl a labor leader in San Francisco.

Karl, 38, was the oldest of us. His name is a hallmark.

It is beloved by many oppressed, exploited, humble and starving farmers and workers in Japan. It is feared and hated by the Japanese police.

The longshoremen of Los Angeles and San Francisco know him, also the fishermen of Seattle and Alaska.

This man organized unions in Japan--was blacklisted by the Japanese police--suffered in Japanese dungeons.

Back in his American homeland, he became a union organizer and also ran for Assembly in San Francisco on a labor ticket. The dizzy speed of events after Pearl Harbor temporarily called Karl from the waterfront into a relocation center for Americans of Japanese ancestry.

From there Karl volunteered to fight for the U. S. Army for a better world in which his son may live a free man.

Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Room 202, Sheldon Bldg.
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

EQUAL TREATMENT

"The War Relocation Authority proposes now to redouble its efforts to accomplish the relocation into normal homes and jobs in communities throughout the United States, but outside the evacuated areas, of those Americans of Japanese ancestry whose loyalty to this country has remained unshaken through the hardships of the evacuation which military necessity made unavoidable. We shall restore to the loyal evacuees the right to return to the evacuated areas as soon as the military situation will make such restoration feasible. Americans of Japanese ancestry, like those of many other ancestries, have shown that they can, and want to, accept our institutions and work loyally with the rest of us, making their own valuable contribution to the national wealth and well-being. In vindication of the very ideals for which we are fighting this war it is important to us to maintain a high standard of fair, considerate, and equal treatment for the people of this minority as of all other minorities."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

in a Message to the U.S. Senate,

September 14, 1943.

Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

The following editorial from The Washington Post of July 13, 1944, analyzes the issues involved in singling out only those Japanese and Japanese-Americans living on the west coast for evacuation, relocation and continued exclusion from their homes.

EXCLUSION TEST

"No one, we think, will seriously contend today that the west coast of the United States is in imminent danger of invasion. Yet some 70,000 American citizens, who were evacuated from their homes in that area because they happened to be of Japanese descent, are still forbidden to return, by military decree, on the pretext that a danger of invasion exists. A case testing the validity of this continued exclusion has at last been brought in the Superior Court of the State of California. All Americans, we believe, ought to know the facts in this case and ought to ponder its implications for their own freedom.

"One of the plaintiffs, an American citizen of Japanese ancestry, is a woman named Shizuko Shiramizu. She happens to be widowed. Her husband, Koyoshi Shiramizu, also an American citizen, was awarded the Purple Heart for wounds incurred in service with the United States Army in Italy and subsequently died from these wounds. Two of her brothers are now serving in the armed forces of the United States. Mrs. Shiramizu herself has been carefully investigated by the War Relocation Authority and has been adjudged completely loyal to this country. She has been tried by no court and has committed no offense, save that her name has an odd sound and is spelled in a peculiar, foreign way.

"Mrs. Shiramizu would like to go home. Home, in her case, happens to be California, where she was born and lived all her life (until she was evacuated) and earned her living and was married. This attachment to the neighborhood of her birth and her marriage seems neither unnatural nor unAmerican. But the commanding general of the Western Defense Command says that her presence in California -- or the presence of any persons with names like hers -- would endanger the security of the United States. He has acknowledged an improvement in the military situation on the west coast by canceling all the dimout restrictive orders which were once in force. Still, he does not feel that he can safely permit Mrs. Shiramizu to return to her husband's house.

"It is one of the functions of the courts of the United States to protect Americans against arbitrary acts of this kind by military officers. We hope, therefore, that Mrs. Shiramizu will be given her day in court and that the real issues of this case will be studied and assessed. A year ago, the Supreme Court upheld an order by the commanding general of the Western Defense Command imposing a curfew on all persons of Japanese descent. In doing so, however, it made clear that it justified a racial discrimination of this sort only on the ground of an emergency situation

Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Room 202, Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

21345

Project Release No. 5

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 00. - The five members of the Nitta family, the Shokukes and the Hitoshis, are back on their farm near Santa Ana and pretty happy about the whole thing, thank you.

Things seem to be going well, Hitoshi Nitta reported in a "thank you" letter written to the WRA office here recently, several weeks after the return of ~~her~~ ^{himself} his wife, their child, his father and mother from the Colorado River Relocation Center at Poston, Arizona.

"We had a very good trip and since our return are slowly getting settled," wrote young Nitta. "So far we have had a warm welcome by everyone except some farmers, all of which I believe you know about. All of the business houses in Santa Ana have welcomed our business except one farm implement firm. Two other equipment firms have greeted me very cordially and I have already done business with them. I already contacted a blacksmith in my neighborhood and have had business with him. Therefore it looks as if my farm machinery will be cared for. So far our farm labor has been plentiful.

"There has been no difficulty in marketing our produce. A friend of mine, who is a farmer, has offered to market my produce should conditions become so difficult that they would prevent me from doing so. However, he did not think that such a condition would ever exist. I do not think that such a thing will happen either."

Nitta went on to tell of the renovating job he and his family are doing on their home, concluded: "From the looks of things it shouldn't be long before we'll have the place in fair shape."

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and an urgent national danger. 'Except under conditions of great emergency,' said Mr. Justice Murphy, 'a regulation of this kind applicable solely to citizens of a particular racial extraction would not be regarded as in accord with the requirement of due process of law contained in the fifth amendment When the danger is past, the restrictions imposed on them should be promptly removed and their freedom of action fully restored.'

"From this and from other opinions written by his colleagues in the same case, it appears patent that the Supreme Court would not countenance the continued exclusion of Japanese-Americans from the west coast in the absence of any real and present danger. If the exclusion is based on nothing more than racial hostility, then it raises an ugly threat to the fundamental principles of American life. It bears, as Mr. Justice Murphy pointed out elsewhere in his opinion on the curfew case, 'a melancholy resemblance to the treatment accorded members of the Jewish race in Germany and in other parts of Europe.' If the freedom of citizens can be restricted because of the spelling of their names, then none of us can claim more than a temporary and illusory hold upon freedom.

cap. Joyce

ARE AXIS AGENTS PLANTING PROPAGANDA HERE?

at Tule Lake?
or is it ping pong?

Phil

During the last World War the Allies employed propaganda as a weapon of war so successfully the Axis powers were in the position of being constantly hoodwinked into policy and tactical errors of major proportions.

That they had been hoodwinked did not, in the main, become known to them until long after the conclusion of the war.

Propaganda is not a new weapon of warfare. It was an ancient weapon even when Julius Caesar, becoming enamored of Cleopatra, restored her to the throne of Egypt when the enemies of Mark Anthony planted rumors among the Roman Legions which caused them to forsake his cause and join the ranks of Octavius..

Propaganda has been a potent weapon leading to, and during, all wars of history. It shaped the destinies of nations during and after those wars. German propaganda was so effective prior to the outbreak of the present war in Europe the people of France were lulled into a false sense of security, with the result that the capitulation of France was not due so much to the lack of spirit and the will to fight, but to the lack of proper fighting tools--armor, fortifications, air-craft and countless other weapons of war which the Germans had been secretly developing while their propagandists were skillfully impregnating French minds with irrelevancies, deliberately designed to keep them pre-occupied with thoughts other than the imminent prospect of defending themselves against Nazi Ruthlessness.

Propaganda takes many forms. There are the factual and unfactual news broadcasts, beamed from the capitols of the world by short wave radio. There are "canned" articles from enemy headquarters dealing with a multitude of subjects directly connected with the war...speeches of enemy propagandists designed to deliberately plant the insidious, subtle rumors in fertile fields with the idea of creating certain definite effects and reactions favorable to the enemy cause.

Are we, the American people, being lulled into a false sense of security by enemy agents in this country? Are we led to believe that the war is almost won every time our forces meet with some local successes in the individual sectors of their operations?

Are rumors deliberately planted in this country by clever enemy agents working in our midst, diverting our minds and our efforts from the real and absorbing problem of winning this war? Are there those among us who do not believe that furtive enemy agents are lurking in our midst ready at every opportunity to take advantage of any windfall to pounce upon that which will detract from the war effort and bring about a condition that will work a hardship or a cruel indignity upon some helpless American boy, prisoner in the hands of our enemies?

Is it known to the American people that subversive agents, as well as those considered potentially subversive, are being apprehended in this country almost daily? Is it known by the American people that these enemy agents gloat with arrogant pride, chuckle with fiendish satisfaction, when they read in the daily papers the blasting charges hurled at racial minorities in the United States--American citizens, if you please--men and women who deplore even as you and I the ruthless atrocities of the military monsters who control the unhappy destinies of an enslaved and suffering humanity throughout the world.

Imagine their exultant pleasure when they hear, or read, some of their inspired propaganda circulated among the unsuspecting people of this country who join in a campaign of hate and prejudice against an unfortunate minority because their skins do not happen to be the same color as their own, or their ancestry, through no fault of theirs, stems from a racial tree that did not happen to grow in their own private anthropological garden. There is reason to believe that subversive people in this country have seized upon the whole Japanese situation in this country to deliberately plant rumors that were widely circulated.

Imagine, if you can, how the propaganda mills of Japan start grinding out that misinformation to the people of India, China, Dutch East Indies, the Philippines, Korea, the Island inhabitants of the South Pacific--yes, and even to the Mongols, the peoples of eastern Russia, Iraq, Iran, Burma, and Thibet.

"Asia for the Asiatics"---that's the Japanese slogan, the theme song of Togo and his gang of assassins who would turn all Asiatics away from any and all forms of cooperation with America and her allies. It is grist for their propaganda mill which grinds exceedingly small and fine--and effectually.

It strengthens Togo's hand immeasurably to be able to point out to other people of the Orient, including our own allies;

"There is an example of American democracy, they even seek to deprive American citizens of their birthright--continued proof that this is a racial war, and that we, the Japanese, are fighting for the rights of all Asiatics--Arise, people of the Orient, join Imperial Japan, fight for the survival of Asiatics--deliver us from the enslavement the white race is trying to impose upon us!"

Let us not beguile ourselves with the thoughts that such Japanese

propaganda falls on deaf ears. There is evident proof of how receptive some Asiatics have been to Japanese propaganda. Let us not discount the effectiveness of the makers of Japanese propaganda. Let us not overlook the cruel boomerang this propaganda may work on thousands of Americans still in Japanese controlled territory.

This enemy-aiding propaganda detracts from the war area by stirring and diverting emotional energy among men and women who are bending every effort and spending long hours of toil in shipyards, air plane plants, navy yards, army camps and countless other gigantic war enterprises in a united and determined effort to bring this war to a quick and successful conclusion trying to bring our American boys safely home.

We should not be burdened with the sad spectacle of a racial campaign at home when Americans of every race are fighting for American principles and fair play abroad.

The Japanese-Americans are not the Japanese who bombed Pearl Harbor. They are the products of our American schools, our American way of life, children of the melting pot--God's Crucible--where the races of the world are melting and reforming the minds and souls of humans into the noble product we call American with all its birthright of freedom, equality, opportunity and obligation.

The bugaboo of the "Yellow Peril" has its counterpart in Salem witchcraft which long ago was outlawed from American life. The ideals of democracy and the rights of our citizens under the Constitution must not be lost in a maze of propaganda so wholly unAmerican that we can well believe much of it stems from enemy agents skilled in the insidious art of stimulating those things inimicable to the successful pursuit of the war.

Ten million men in our armed forces are fighting and dying for the

sacred principles of democracy. Among those ten million are ten thousand Japanese-Americans wearing the honorable uniform of the American soldier, sharing alike...their efforts and sacrifices...their lives...for this country the only home they ever knew or had.

Any participation in racial wars by those on the home front is a direct betrayal of every man in uniform on the fighting front and becomes a mockery of the things we profess in our claim to Americanism.

In conclusion, please accept my assurance that the enemy is the only one to benefit from race hatred or prejudice on the part of Americans, and if we are to win the war in the shortest possible time, then let our thinking be along purely American lines as patterned for us by the founding fathers, and not along lines patterned for us by the stooges of Hirohito and Hitler.

Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Room 202, Sheldon Building
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California

To: All Project Papers
For: IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Project Release No. 6

WHAT THEY REPORT

Taro and Saito Fukishama arrived in Richmond (Calif.) recently to take over their nursery which had been leased. The pair, who had been working in defense industries in Chicago and whose parents live at Topaz, stayed with a neighbor who returned from a center a month earlier. Both reported kindly treatment and that the neighbor, who lives on a farm near Richmond, moves freely in the vicinity with no comment.

* * * * *

Isao Yoshikawa left Manzanar to make an investigatory trip to Venice, Calif., and Brentwood, found people friendly at both places. A Catholic Church in Los Angeles aided him in his search for farm property by providing an automobile.

* * * * *

Shegataka Onishi, his wife and son moved back to San Jose more than a month ago to their old home. They report friends, neighbors and storekeepers as being courteous and friendly. The son, 13, was warmly received by his classmates and on Valentine's Day received 15 valentines. The Onishis, who were at Heart Mountain for a year before temporarily relocating to Denver where Mr. Onishi did gardening, said they regretted much more of their friends are not returning, or appear hesitant about doing so.

* * * * *

George Ninomiya, his wife, Mildred, and their two children, aged two years and three months, respectively, returned to San Francisco February 20 from the Colorado Relocation Center. On their way from Poston they boarded a train and found that one of their Pullman reservations had been cancelled. It would have meant that Mr. Ninomiya and one of the children would have had to sit up all night had not a service man insisted on giving his berth to them. In San Francisco they were courteously received at the Granada Hotel on Sutter Street near Hyde. Friends of the American Way made every effort to make the family comfortable, made arrangements for a girl to sit with the children while the Ninomiyas went out to shop. Mr. and Mrs. Ninomiya report they have been treated with courtesy and respect wherever they have been.

* * * * *

(more)

In Lodi, San Joaquin County, four children of returnees have been made to feel welcome by both teachers and students. The children reported that the teachers had told their Caucasian classmates that they must "treat them (the returning children) like anybody else" and that's what they're doing. A special bulletin was put out by the school to all members of the faculty, the bulletin to be read to students "in groups where understanding can be achieved." The bulletin briefly summed up the evacuation, lifting of the ban, the compulsory education laws of California, pointed out that hazing was illegal, wound up by quoting "The test of a free country is the security it gives its minorities" (Acton) and that every person who holds a California State teachers' credential had taken an oath to support the laws of California and the United States Constitution.

* * * * *

In Atwater, near Merced, where two families have returned, the children reported they liked the schools there better than in the center because "the children were nicer."

* * * * *

Robert Ozawa recently became the first Nisei to register at the San Francisco Junior College. He was cordially received by the dean of the college and every teacher he has met so far has assured him of his welcome. Robert, who comes from Topaz and is staying with Caucasian friends in his old home in Berkeley, reported one of his teachers volunteered to "stand by him" at all times.

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Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Room 202, Sheldon Bldg.
461 Market Street
San Francisco 5, California
Douglas 8173

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

One of the fictions built around Japanese-American soldiers in World War II is that they see service only in the European theater and are not fighting enemy Japanese.

However, a summary of reports from the South Pacific reveals that not only are Nisei fighting the land of their ancestors but are receiving citations for exceptional acts of bravery, according to R. B. Cozzens, Assistant Director of the War Relocation Authority.

The exact number of Americans of Japanese ancestry who are making contributions of life and limb to their native United States is a military matter, said Cozzens, as their assignments are many times of the most dangerous nature.

This news came simultaneously with the return of First Lieutenant Gary Kadani to the Gila River, Arizona, Relocation Center on a visit. Lieutenant Kadani received the Presidential Unit Badge and his commission as a direct citation for valor and meritorious services in the New Guinea area where he served 31 months. He formerly lived in Hollister.

S/Sgt. Albert Y. Tamura, formerly of Bakersfield, was sent to Australia in 1942 and participated in the Solomons, Hollandia and Biak Island beach landings as an infantryman. He won the Presidential Unit Badge. He recently visited relatives at Poston Relocation Center.

Another Japanese-American who has returned from the South Pacific is First Lieutenant Shigao Yasutake, who visited his sister in the Colorado River Center at Poston, Arizona. He has served two years in the Solomons, on Russalia Island, in the Munda campaign on New Georgia and on Guadalcanal, New Caledonia and Vella Lavella in the Bougainville sector. His three brothers are privates. The parents of the four Nisei soldiers are in the Rohwer, Arkansas, Relocation Center.

Lieutenant Yasutake is a native of Gardena, California. He was awarded a Bronze Star for meritorious service.

A few instances, however, have already been revealed in reports. Some of the individual citations that have been given follow:

Tech. Sgts. Ben Honda, Marysville, Calif.; George Matsui, Los Angeles, Calif.; Mike Sakamoto, San Jose, Calif.; Min Nakanishi, Stockton, Calif., and Howard Hiroki, Honolulu, T.H., have received Bronze Star Medals for meritorious action during the capture of Saipan.

(more)

Sgt. Jessie Miyao, Hawaii, was cited for meritorious service in the capture of Saipan.

Tech. Sgt. Jimmie N. Yamaguchi, awarded the Bronze Star Medal for "meritorious service during the north Burma campaign, is entitled to wear the Presidential Unit Citation won by Merrill's Marauders as well as the Combat Infantry Badge given him for 'exemplary conduct in battle'". Yamaguchi, who has served with the Marauders more than 18 months, also wears a Bronze Campaign Star.

T/5 Micheo Sakamoto was awarded the Bronze Star for services in the South Pacific. The accompanying citation said he was "of material assistance in the successful occupation of three islands in an atoll...at great personal risk to himself."

Tech. Sgt. Terry Mizutari, killed while commanding a group of men during a Japanese counter-attack, posthumously awarded the Silver Star, the Purple Heart and a citation from his commanding general.

Sgt. Katsushiro Kono received the Bronze Star for holding his post while being fired from all sides by enemy soldiers. Kono is a veteran of months of jungle warfare against the Japanese in the China-Burma-India theater.

Sergeant Roy Takai, serving in India with the British troops, writes:

"The enemy are all about us lurking in the hills. At night...we can hear mortar fire, machine gun fire and rifle fire just over our hill. Every day while working in bamboo huts, known to us jungle dwellers as bashas, we can hear the big guns roaring away in the very near distance...Air activities have increased lately. From our hill we can watch our dive bombers dropping their load of death on the neighboring hills, and we know, too, that death has taken its toll for after the bombing a score of vultures is seen circling on the hill just bombed."

Lieutenant Richard Hayashi, described as the first Japanese-American to get a chance to attend officers' candidate school, was interviewed in the Mediterranean theater. He declared, "The hit and run tactics the enemy is using around here are the same as those our Pacific troops are confronted with in chasing the Japs."

"They both leave lots of snipers behind. Both are masters of camouflage and both get disorganized and confused when their leaders walk out on them--which is often."

The Lieutenant saw action against the Japanese with the United States Air Force in the New Hebrides before being reassigned to Italy.

In April, 1944, three Americans of Japanese ancestry told correspondent Royal Arch Gunnison of their pledge to kill their fourth brother, Kazumaro Uno, because he was "a traitor to the American way of life under which he has enjoyed the benefits of education and freedom. We have pledged the destruction of him and all those like him." All three of the brothers were Army volunteers.

(more)

Fourteen Nisei soldiers served with Merrill's Marauders in Burma, according to a letter of Sgt. Henry Gosho of Seattle, which was printed in the Wisconsin State Journal of Madison, Wis.

A Caucasian sergeant serving with Merrill's Marauders wrote concerning Japanese-American soldiers in the outfit:

"We, of the Merrill's Marauders (or otherwise known as the Burma Raiders) wish to boast of the Japanese Americans fighting in our outfit and the swell job that they put up. Every Marauder knows these boys by name if they don't know ours -- that is due to the courage and bravery shown by them."

"One of our platoons owes their lives to Sgt. Henry G., a Japanese American of Seattle, Wash. Hank (we call him Horizontal Hank because he's been pinned down so many times by Jap machine-gun fire) guided the machine-gun fire on our side which killed every Jap on that side. The boys who fought alongside of Hank agree that they have never seen a more calm, cool and collected man under fire. He was always so eager to be where he could be of the most use and effectiveness and that was most always the hot spot. We asked Hank in the hospital, being his first time in battle, if he was scared or not. He answered, "You're darn rights I was scared." That's Horizontal Hank all over, always humorous and a smile for every guy. And yet while the other boys boast of the number of Japs they got, he doesn't talk very much about the three he has to his account. He usually changes the subject by saying, "Honorable ancestors much regret meeting Merrill's Marauders."

When his lieutenant on Leyte said someone was needed to scout enemy positions in a valley that was under heavy enemy fire, Pvt. Frank T. Hachiya of the 7th Division volunteered. That was last December 30.

Formerly a resident of Hood River, Ore., (where the American Legion Post recently removed his name and those of 15 others of Japanese origin from its Honor Roll) Hachiya was inducted at Portland in January 1942. Trained in California and Hawaii, Pvt. Hachiya fought at Kwajalein and Eniwetok while his parents lived in the WRA center at Hunt, Idaho.

Having volunteered, Pvt. Hachiya worked out ahead of his covering patrol in the Leyte invasion. Suddenly he staggered with a sniper's bullet in his body. He emptied his rifle at the enemy, crawled back to his lines, gave his scout's report. He died from his wounds January 3.

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(The foregoing release has been approved by the War Department).