

RESETTLEMENT HAND-BOOK

December 23, 1942

This is a concise guide for individuals and groups interested in the resettlement of Japanese Americans. It deals with only such regulations and procedures pertinent to the subject as desired by those who are ready to take action.

Definitions: (Terms used in this hand-book)

"Japanese Americans", more often called "Niseis" meaning the second generation, refer to American citizens of Japanese ancestry. Niseis involved in the present resettlement efforts are those who are qualified for jobs, anxious to work, loyal to the United States, and whom the Government desires to resettle. Approximately 30,000 are in this group.

"Relocation Centers" are the communities (barracks type camps) to which the evacuees have been removed after the initial military evacuation from the West Coast. These centers are under the supervision of the War Relocation Authority. The chief administrative officer of each of the ten Relocation Centers is called the Project Director.

"Resettlement" means indefinite leave from a relocation center for the purpose of accepting a job and settling in a community where a Nisei may establish himself as an integral part of American democratic life. When a Nisei has a family, his family will be resettled with him, after he has established himself in the community.

"War Relocation Authority" is an independent civil agent of the Federal Government in charge of all aspects of the life of evacuees, including Niseis' leaves. The Headquarters: The Barr Building, 910 17th Street, N.W., Washington, D. C. Officials concerned in resettlement are:

Dillon S. Myer, Director.

Thomas Holland, Chief, Employment Division.

"Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans" is sponsored by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America, and the Home Missions Council of North America, in cooperation with the Foreign Missions Conference of North America, to represent the Protestant churches in a program of permanent dispersal resettlement of Japanese Americans in cooperation with the W.R.A. The Headquarters: 297 Fourth Avenue, New York, N.Y. Telephone: Gramercy 5-3475, Extension 48.

George E. Rundquist, Executive Secretary.

Excerpts from Government Document, Title 32 - NATIONAL DEFENSE, Chapter I - War Relocation Authority, Part 5 - Issuance of Leave for Departure from a Relocation Area prescribed pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order No. 9102 of March 18, 1942, issued at Washington, D.C., September 26, 1942, by D. S. Myer, Director of WRA.

5.1 Types of leave. (c) An indefinite leave, for employment, education or indefinite residence outside the relocation area.

Comment: Destination of leave must not be in the areas evacuated (e.g. California, western Oregon and Washington, and southern Arizona,) or east of the Alleghenies.

- 5.2 Application for leave. Any person residing within a relocation center who has been evacuated from a military area or who has been specifically accepted by the WRA for residence within a center may apply for leave.

Comment: Refer to the Definition of Japanese Americans in this hand-book for the type of person for whom the Committee is working.

- 5.3 Proceedings upon application for leave. (a) The Project Director (Chief administrative officer of the camp) may interview an applicant for leave, shall secure the necessary forms for the applicant, and shall obtain such further information concerning the applicant and the proposed leave as may be available at the relocation center.

Comment: This is the first step towards resettlement. A written offer of a job, and all other information mentioned under "Comment" will prove useful to the applicant. Such advantageous preparation on the part of the applicant is possible, of course, when the applicant is known personally to the prospective employer. Directions for persons and groups that lack such personal acquaintance with applicants appear later.

The file on each application for indefinite leave, including the application, will then be forwarded by the Director of a relocation center to the WRA Director, who in turn will secure from the F.B.I. such information as may be obtainable before granting the leave. Quoted herewith from section (e) are considerations affecting the decision.

The Director, upon receipt of such file, will take such steps as may be necessary to satisfy himself concerning the applicant's means of support, his willingness to make the reports required of him under the provisions of this part, the conditions and factors affecting the applicant's opportunity for employment and residence at the proposed destination, the probable effect of the issuance of leave upon the war program and upon the public peace and security, and such other conditions and factors as may be relevant.

Comment: Important things are involved here -

1st. "the applicant's means of support".

This refers to applicants who may have sufficient funds to maintain themselves and their families outside the centers. This consideration is necessary from the standpoint of everyone interested, because all possibilities of an evacuee becoming an object of public charge must be avoided lest he be branded an undesirable "immigrant". Usually the only practical alternative for an evacuee without his own funds for support is employment.

2nd. "his willingness to make the reports".

This has misled some people. A Japanese American is as free as any other American citizen once he is resettled, except that under the terms of his leave he is required to keep the Government informed of any change of address and employment in order to keep the authorities' files up to date. This requirement is not to be considered as a

measure of surveillance over an evacuee.

3rd. "the conditions and factors affecting the applicant's opportunity for employment and residence at the proposed destination". The answer to this is essential, but simple. Your letter, addressed directly to the applicant (such applicant will be recommended to you by the Committee on Resettlement), offering a job and residence (either at your expense or at the evacuee's) is all that is necessary. What the Government is interested in is whether the applicant after accepting a job will be stranded without a place to live. Experience has shown that where there is enough good will to offer a job, there is a friend who will provide or arrange for an abode for an evacuee. But you must show such evidence in writing.

4th. "the probable effect of the issuance of the leave upon the war program and upon the public peace and security". The War Relocation Authority will investigate and make this determination.

It is suggested that you or someone who is willing to do so will act as the evacuee's sponsor. This is not a requirement, but both the Government and the evacuee believe such an arrangement may often be helpful.

Such sponsor's job will include meeting the evacuee at the station, making him at home in the new locality, introducing him to the new employer, and generally assisting him in his efforts to adjust himself to the new community in which he is relocated.

It is further suggested that an evacuee be invited to affiliate himself with the local church as soon as he is settled and start his social acquaintance with a religious group where sympathy and understanding may be found readily.

5.5 Transportation and reports during leave. (a) The Project Director shall provide transportation for the applicant to whom a leave has been issued to the most convenient railroad or bus station. All other necessary transportation shall be arranged for by the applicant.

Comment: Many of the evacuees will not have sufficient funds to transport them to the place of resettlement. If you could advance the necessary amount, it will mean that the evacuee may depart upon the issuance of leave. This is, of course, entirely an individual matter, and if you can let us know of such a possibility on your part, it will help facilitate the evacuee's departure.

(b) Every indefinite leave shall require the person to whom such a leave has been issued to report his arrival, his business and residential addresses, and every change of address, to the Director.

Comment: This regulation has been already referred to. Evacuees will be supplied with special postcards by the W.R.A. before they leave the relocation centers so that they may supply this information.

5.8 Restrictions on leave.

(b) An indefinite leave may permit travel unlimited except as to restrictions imposed by military authorities with reference

to military areas or zones, or may permit only travel within designated states, counties, or comparable areas.

Comment: This is something that you and/or the evacuee's sponsor want to keep in mind. But do not confuse it with the restrictions imposed upon aliens of enemy nationalities. An evacuee will not be permitted to return within the area which was evacuated, e.g. California, western Oregon and Washington, and southern Arizona. But after his proper resettlement he is, we repeat, as free as any other American citizen.

An indefinite leave, like all other leaves, is subject to cancellation at the discretion of the national Director. The policy of the War Relocation Authority is not to cancel indefinite leaves unless very unusual circumstances require it. An evacuee whose leave has been revoked must return to his original relocation center.

General Comments

Let us check the main points again, the points we raised in the "Community Preparation for Resettlement" as well as those in this hand-book.

Is your area outside the prohibited zones, i.e., the Pacific Slope?

Is the wage promised the prevailing wage?

Is your community ready to accept a newcomer?

Do you have a place to accommodate him (and his family)?

Is the evacuee who is coming the type that is qualified for the job?

Answer: Yes.

Has he been cleared by the Government, and his loyalty proved?

Answer: Yes.

Are we helping the Government as well as the Americans of Japanese ancestry by doing this?

Answer: Yes.

Can we discharge him if his services are not satisfactory, and can he quit his job if he wants to?

Answer: Yes.

Is the employer responsible for the evacuee's conduct outside his work?

Answer: No.

When the principal points are cleared and you have a bona fide offer of employment in a friendly community and suitable housing is available, write -

The Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans,
George E. Rundquist, Executive Secretary,
297 Fourth Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

(Telephone: The Federal Council of Churches, Gramercy 5-3475, Ext.48)

NATIONAL VOLUNTARY AGENCIES COOPERATING WITH
THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

American Association of University Women	1634 Eye St., N.W. Washington 6, D.C.
American Civil Liberties Union	170 Fifth Ave., New York 10, N.Y.
American Federation of International Institutes	11 West 42nd St., New York 18, N.Y.
American Friends Service Committee	20 South St., Philadelphia 7, Pa.
American Red Cross, Home Service Division	17th & D Sts., Washington 13, D.C.
Boy Scouts of America	2 Park Ave., New York 16, N.Y.
Camp Fire Girls	88 Lexington Ave., New York 16, N.Y.
Child Welfare League of America	130 E. 22nd St., New York 10, N.Y.
Community Chests and Councils, Inc.	155 E. 44th St., New York 17, N.Y.
Family Welfare Association of America	122 E. 22nd St., New York 10, N.Y.
Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America	297 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N.Y.
Girl Scouts of America	155 E. 44th St., New York 17, N.Y.
Home Mission Councils of North America	297 Fourth Ave., New York 10, N.Y.
Labor League for Human Rights, AFL	American Federation of Labor Bldg. Washington 1, D. C.
National Association of Legal Aid Societies	25 Exchange St., Rochester, N.Y.
National Conference of Catholic Charities	1317 F St., Washington 4, D. C.
National Congress of Parents and Teachers	600 S. Michigan Ave., Chicago 5, Illinois
National Federation of Settlements	147 Avenue B, New York 9, N.Y.
National Organization of Public Health Nursing	1790 Broadway, New York 19, N.Y.
National Travelers Aid Association	425 Fourth Ave., New York 16, N.Y.
National Urban League	1133 Broadway, New York 10, N.Y.
War Relief Committee, CIO	1776 Broadway, New York 19, N.Y.
Young Men's Christian Association	347 Madison Ave., New York 17, N.Y.
Young Women's Christian Association	600 Lexington Ave., New York 22, New York

COMMUNITY PREPARATION FOR RESETTLEMENT
of
JAPANESE AMERICANS

The Total Evacuation

For the first time in American history the Government evacuated all members of one racial group from their places of permanent settlement to designated and confined areas for reasons of military necessity. 104,000 persons, two-thirds of whom are American citizens of Japanese ancestry, have been assigned to ten relocation centers by the West Coast Military Command. The total evacuation has been accomplished. No further protest or objection will restore to these people their original homes and stores and farms, at least for the duration. There is, however, one thing that you can do. That is, you can help the Government and the evacuees by supporting the plan for dispersal resettlement.

Dispersal Resettlement

In a letter to the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans, Mr. Dillon S. Myer, Director of the War Relocation Authority, writes:

"The W.R.A. has recently adopted regulations which should enable all of the evacuees who are qualified and care to do so to leave the Relocation Centers. These regulations were discussed with the War Department and the Department of Justice and have the approval of these Departments. These new regulations and the program of outside employment are meeting with the approval and receiving the assistance of other agencies of the Federal Government."

One might ask, if Japanese Americans were put in those centers by the Government, why should the same Government want to release them? The answer to that is simple. Since all the Japanese have been cleared from the Military zone, the military necessity under which the evacuation was accomplished does not now exist. But the Government alone cannot resettle them, except in congregated or isolated groups, which is undesirable. It is, therefore, calling upon organizations and individuals to provide employment and residence outside the relocation centers for the evacuees, so that they may once again find themselves in communities where they may pursue normal patterns of life and receive the benefits of and contribute to Democracy which is a principle of our national existence and for the defense of which we are engaged in this conflict. Christians have a special responsibility in this program. Action, as well as discussion, is the order of the hour. Will you do your part?

Suggestions for Action

1. There is a shortage of labor everywhere. You or someone you know may need extra help. Japanese Americans represent a cross section of all American skills - farmers, laborers, engineers, mechanics, stenographers, typists, doctors, nurses, social workers, and all other professions. The skill of the Japanese people as farmers is especially well known. There are many college graduates among all categories. So, find a job and write to us. Ask for an employer's questionnaire and "Resettlement Hand Book."
2. The standard wage in your community must be assured. This is a protection not only for the evacuees but really for the employer and the community, because otherwise the newcomer will be accused of lowering the living standard and we shall start all over again the unfortunate situation of labor discrimination that existed on the West Coast when the anti-Japanese labor sentiment was at its height.

3. Placement. Try and fit the job to the skill of the evacuee. Although many of the evacuees indicate that they will do any kind of work to get out of the camps, it will be unwise to offer a capable secretary employment as a domestic or a physicist, whose knowledge is greatly needed these days, a position as a porter or houseman. For the happiness of the evacuee and the satisfaction of the employer, as well as the urgent need for competent man-power during the present emergency, it is essential that job offers be filled with people qualified for the particular work offered. There will be exceptions, of course, but we should be guided by the fitness of the evacuee for the job.
4. The community must be prepared. If your community is not large, you can easily discover the possible reaction of your neighbors toward taking an evacuee. The Government wants to be sure that the resettlement will not disturb the peace and security of the community to which an evacuee is going. Employment must not be offered until you are reasonably sure of this. Of course, there should be no reason for fear of any kind. The Japanese American is an American citizen just as you are. All Americans are immigrants or descendants of immigrants. We do not show discrimination toward citizens of German or Italian descent. Let us be guided by the American spirit of fair play. Besides, these Americans of Japanese descent who come out of the centers do so only after a complete investigation by the War Relocation Authority and a check with the records of the F.B.I. This step is taken for your protection as well as that of the evacuee. Your community should welcome an evacuee from this standpoint. More precise steps regarding this matter are suggested in the "Hand-Book".
5. Find a home. Housing is often a more difficult problem. When you find a job, will you also investigate where an evacuee family might live temporarily. Preliminary housing facilities for single persons may be arranged through the facilities of the Y.M.C.A. or the Y.W.C.A. where such are available. The preferred procedure is for the head of the family to come out first and prepare the place for his family. It goes without saying that a friendly home is the ideal solution, if one can be found.
6. Christian Action. The whole problem is a challenge to the church to rise above hysteria and hatred and to assume the lead in the struggle for a Christian and Democratic America, and to demonstrate Christ's teaching that all men are brothers. Every agency in the church can participate in the resettlement program. The Ladies' Aid might undertake to find suitable housing. The Business and Professional Women's Club and the Men's Club are in a position to learn of job openings and through discussion of the facts involved can do much to allay local fears and prejudices. The young people of the church should be prepared to include the evacuees in their activities and fellowship. All can help to demonstrate that Christianity transcends war and prejudice; that it is a way of life.
7. Organization. If your community is large, it will be best if a committee is organized to explore the possibilities and to make this a community project. Invite ministers, local civic leaders, social workers, Y.M. and Y.W. Secretaries to sit on the committee. There is probably one already established in your city. Consult us if you are in doubt.
8. Functions of organized efforts as well as the nature of any such organization will vary according to each community situation, but the main tasks may be stated as follows:
 1. Finding employment
 2. Placement. (Fitting the job to the skills of the evacuees.)

3. Record keeping (including correspondence with W.R.A. and national organizations-cooperating)
4. Housing
5. Follow-up for social adjustment
6. Emergency care
7. Public relations (locally)
8. Christian Fellowship

In the planning of a local committee through which the churches may assist in the resettlement program of the W.R.A. a central office or agency is desirable. The office of the council of churches will normally wish to function for the churches in rendering this service. Adequate secretarial help will be necessary to discharge those services which local organizations will be called upon to render to the evacuees, the Government and the local committee members and organizations.

Although skill is required at every point, special attention should be given to the need of a sound setup for placement and social follow-up. The Social Service Department of a city council of churches and staff members of Councils of Social Agencies represent latent resources here. The responsibility for placement and social follow-up should rest in a designated office, which should be supervised by a worker who knows good standards of placement and of following through on social adjustment.

It is desirable to avoid any widespread publicity lest, by misinformation about the doubtful loyalty of the evacuees, their dual citizenship and allegiance to the Emperor of Japan, etc., ill-advised persons cause undue difficulty before the work is under way. The job of a public relations person is to spread the idea on a personal basis among understanding individuals. Discussions in small church groups will be helpful. A large public meeting is apt to produce prejudice.

9. Talking Points. If you need informative reinforcements besides the fact that resettlement is one great Christian and Democratic challenge, we suggest the following to support the justice of our resettlement efforts:
 1. Two thirds of the evacuees of the total 104,000 in relocation centers are American citizens - fellow American citizens!
 2. Their brothers, husbands, sweethearts, are in the United States Army, Navy, and Marine Corps fighting the war. There are over 5,000 wearing American uniforms.
 3. The loyalty of Japanese Americans to the United States is unquestioned. This is not propaganda. The majority of them when the order for evacuation was announced said in a true patriotic spirit that they would take it and bear it as their duty and sacrifice for the cause of their country. We doubt if any other racial group would have taken such tremendous physical and mental discomfort as gracefully as did these citizens.
 4. The Tolson Committee's report on National Defense Migration, May 1942, states: "It has become clear that a curtailment of the rights and privileges of the American-born Japanese citizens of this country will furnish one of the gravest crises in the Nation's history, the preservation of liberties will depend upon the degree to which clear vision is applied to momentary difficulties. Realism must go hand in hand with a profound sense of responsibility for the maintenance of our way of life."

"Emergency measures must not be permitted to alter permanently those fundamental principles upon which this Nation was built.

"To many citizens of alien parentage in this country it has come as a profound shock that almost overnight thousands of persons have discovered that their citizenship no longer stands between them and the treatment accorded to any enemy alien within our borders in time of war.

5. Among the letters and affidavits quoted in the Tolson Report (Fourth Interim Report, pp. 48-58) are found the following quotations:
 - a) "The War Department has received no information of sabotage committed by Japanese during the attack on Pearl Harbor." (Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War, March 30.)
 - b) "Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, has advised me there was no sabotage committed there (in Hawaii) prior to December 7, on December 7, or subsequent to that time." (James Rowe, Jr., The Assistant to the Attorney General, written April 20.)
 - c) "...There were no acts of sabotage committed in the City and County of Honolulu December 7, nor have there been acts of sabotage reported to the Police Department since that date." (Honolulu Chief of Police Gabrielson.)
6. The criminal record of Japanese on the West Coast is the lowest of any racial group.
7. They have generously contributed to community philanthropic enterprises and to National Defense Bond sales. Public relief among Japanese has been practically nil.
8. The intellectual and educational standards of the Japanese Americans are among the highest of any racial unit in the country. Their Americanization has been more complete than most of us realize. They speak English fluently, and Japanese a little - if at all.
9. Japanese Americans who are released from the centers have generally been educated in our American schools. They have been raised according to American standards; they act and think as Americans.
10. The great concern of most of us now is that the long inactivity of these desirable people will reduce their skills, and that forced segregation from normal American life will have an un-American and un-Christian influence upon them. Moreover, if they are confined in camps for the duration of the war, their resettlement after the war - when competition and reaction will rise - will be extremely difficult, if not impossible.
11. The Government is already overtaxed with the care of the evacuees. The cooperation of our citizens will relieve the Government materially and present a humane solution of the problems of individuals who are deprived of their citizenship rights temporarily. Here is, indeed, a concrete Christian enterprise that is at the same time democratic and in the best sense of the term, American.

For other material, bibliography, "Resettlement Hand-Book", etc., write to

The Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans,
297 Fourth Avenue, New York, N.Y.

Telephone: Gramercy 5-3475, Ext. 48.

George E. Rundquist, Executive Secretary

Spokane

COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY
FOR
EVACUEE RESETTLEMENT



Japanese American evacuees may now settle anywhere in the United States. The lifting in January 1945, of the exclusion orders by the Western Defense Command marks the end of one phase in the problem of resettlement and the beginning of another. In this second phase, responsibility which has centered in the War Relocation Authority will more and more shift to local agencies and organizations.

Now that it is possible for all persons in the relocation centers to return to their former communities or settle elsewhere there no longer will be a need to continue to operate the centers. The War Relocation Authority has, therefore, announced that the centers will be closed on January 2, 1946. Between now and that date some 50,000 evacuees in the centers will need to be placed. The War Relocation Authority, through approximately 50 relocation offices in all parts of the country will continue to give service to resettlers until the spring of 1946, when these offices are scheduled to close.

The 35,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry and their families who resettled in areas outside the Western Defense zone prior to the lifting of these orders, have made a significant contribution to the war effort through both the armed services and home front activities. Up to this time, it has been chiefly the young people who have ventured to leave the relative security of the centers and establish themselves in new surroundings. Now entire families and older people must find new homes in communities where they will be accepted and have the opportunity to be self-supporting. Since schools in the centers will not reopen in the fall of 1945, many families are making plans for immediate resettlement at the end of the present school term.

Assistance from local communities is needed in two stages of the wind-up program: first, in the immediate program of relocation, with its attendant problems of housing, employment, financial assistance and travel arrangements; second, in the continuation of services now carried on by field offices of the War Relocation Authority.

The immediate necessity of relocating this large number of loyal citizens and law-abiding aliens of Japanese ancestry continues to require the active assistance to WRA, of national and local public agencies, and of voluntary social, religious, labor, civic and other organizations. In close cooperation with WRA, the six national agency members of American War-Community Services, Inc. are urging their constituent local organizations to help organize and work with special community or welfare council committees to assist the resettlers.

Opportunities Required by Resettlers

Resettlers require the same opportunities that any individual does-- a place to live, a chance to earn a living, essential health and welfare services and a friendly environment in which to take root. The cooperation of local communities throughout the United States is needed in order to provide these opportunities for evacuees.

The task is difficult. Not housing in general or jobs in general, but specific places to live and jobs suited to particular individuals and families must be found.

The War Relocation Authority gives the temporary minimum assistance needed to relocate families and re-establish their households. In addition, those who run into unforeseen difficulties after relocation, such as the need for emergency medical care, may apply to local public agencies for aid under the resettlement assistance program of the Social Security Board. Private agencies, however, can assist immediately by discussing family situations with relocated individuals and helping them to make plans for their families now in the centers.

How Communities Can Cooperate

In order to cooperate effectively with the WRA in the transition period and to carry on at the closing stages of this program, some plan for coordination of community activities on behalf of evacuees is essential. It is not necessary to establish new agencies. In many communities resettlement committees are already active and work closely with local welfare councils and their member agencies in coordinating health and welfare services for the Japanese Americans. In communities where committees are weak or non-existent, local members of national agencies can be influential in urging welfare councils, or some other responsible community group, or their own agency to assist the WRA local office in the formation of committees. Such committees should be broadly representative of all economic, social, religious and welfare interests in the community.

The function of such committees depends largely on the communities in which they operate and the special services required. Broadly speaking, these functions are:

I. SERVICE TO RESETTLERS

To assure that existing community resources are available to resettlers and to provide funds and facilities which may be necessary to supplement these services in meeting the following needs:

A. Social adjustment of individuals and families through:

1. Counseling in reestablishment of family households.
2. Referral to case work, group work, recreational, educational, health, religious, legal aid and other community agencies.

- B. Aid in location of temporary and permanent housing for families and individuals.
 - 1. Sponsoring and operation of hostels
 - 2. Operation of a central registry of available furnished accommodations.
 - 3. Organizing of a furniture pool.
- C. Stimulation of employment opportunities for resettlers.
 - 1. Special interpretation to individual employers and unions.
 - 2. Vocational counseling service where needed.
- D. Supplying of funds for personnel to carry out the special phases of this work.

II. PUBLIC RELATIONS

- A. Fostering of favorable community attitudes through individual and group contacts.
- B. Organization of a speaker's bureau with planned educational program to reach community groups with factual information.
- C. Assistance (in cooperation with WRA) in sponsoring favorable press relations which will foster friendly attitudes in the reading public.

III. SOCIAL ACTION

- A. Supporting or protesting pending legislation which may affect minority groups.
- B. Investigation of any cases of discrimination.
- C. Cooperation wherever possible with broad interracial groups and committees.

National Agency Cooperation

The War Relocation Authority will continue to carry major responsibility for the resettlement program of Japanese Americans until early in 1946. Federal agencies in the fields of housing, employment, public assistance, agriculture, justice, recreation, education and health have been working closely with WRA. Many voluntary national agencies have also been cooperating with WRA. Community committees will want to work with the local units of these agencies in developing a well-rounded resettlement program. If there is no local organization in the community offering a needed service, information may be secured from the national offices of the voluntary agencies at the address indicated on the following list supplied to us by the WRA.

MEMORANDUM FROM: National Social Case Work Council Sub-committee
on Japanese Resettlement.

TO: Member Agencies

DATE: January 6, 1943

SUBJECT: Resettlement of Japanese Americans
by the
War Relocation Authority

The National Social Case Work Council has been asked to cooperate with the War Relocation Authority in resettlement plans for persons of Japanese ancestry. This resettlement of individuals and families constitutes a third phase of the West Coast evacuation and provides for indefinite leave from the relocation centers. The War Relocation Authority has reported that all persons eligible for resettlement will have been cleared by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

WHAT IS THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY?

The War Relocation Authority was established in the Office for Emergency Management by executive order of the President on March 18, 1942. Included in its functions are:

1. The responsibility for relocation, maintenance and supervision of persons whose removal from designated areas was deemed necessary in the interests of national security.
2. The responsibility to "Provide, insofar as feasible and desirable, for the employment of such persons at useful work in industry, commerce, agriculture, or public projects; prescribe the terms and conditions of such public employment, and safeguard the public interest in the private employment of such persons." - (Executive Order #9102 - March 18, 1942)

Attached are two releases which explain the total problem and methods of procedure in detail prepared by the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans. (This is a private organization sponsored by the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, the Home Missions Council of North America, in cooperation with the Foreign Missions Conference of North America.)

WHAT ACTION HAS BEEN TAKEN TO DATE?

1. Federal Action - The President in his letter of February 6, 1942 (amended March 23, 1942) allocated \$500,000 of the appropriation "Emergency Fund for the President," to the Federal Security Agency. The administrator of the Federal Security Agency authorized the Social Security Board through its constituent agencies to provide services and assistance to enemy aliens and others who have been affected by restrictive action related to exclusion from military zones of prohibited areas. The services available under this plan include:
 - a. Informational services, or referral to proper sources for information needed by enemy aliens in order that they may conform to existing regulations;
 - b. Services related to community and personal adjustments, particularly as affected by wartime measures governing enemy aliens;
 - c. Services related particularly to economic rehabilitation, such as those involved in helping with problems of re-employment, appropriate utilization and conservation of resources, rehousing, and moving to another community;
 - d. Special services on behalf of children, including necessary placement with relatives, in foster homes, or in institutions;
 - e. Financial assistance, to cover maintenance (including foster-home or institutional care), transportation for persons and household effects, and provision of necessary medical care. To be eligible for financial assistance, individuals and families must be in need, under the definition of need established by the State agency, as the result of one of the enumerated restrictive actions. (Policies and Procedures Governing the Administration of Services and Assistance to Enemy Aliens Affected by Governmental Action - Bureau of Public Assistance, June 1942 - 410)

2. The War Relocation Authority - The War Relocation Authority is setting up an office in Chicago and two or three other mid-western cities to work on the reemployment of evacuees.

3. Local Activity - In seven cities, initial planning meetings have been held to discuss local organization. The initiation of this activity has been under varying auspices, sometimes the Council of Social Agencies and sometimes a local agency or civic group. For specific information consult the following persons:
 - Chicago, Illinois - Edwin C. Morgenroth
Advisory Committee for Evacuees
Room 1010
189 W. Madison Street

 - Minneapolis, Minnesota - Minneapolis Relocation Committee
Gertrude B. Stanley, Corr. Sec'y
Young Women's Christian Ass'n.
1130 Nicollet Ave.

St. Paul, Minnesota - Mrs. Alice Sickles
International Institute
123 West 5th Street

Madison, Wisconsin - Miss Ethel Troy
Young Women's Christian Association
122 State Street

Milwaukee, Wisconsin - Miss Elizabeth Campbell
International Institute of
Milwaukee County
787 N. VanBuren Street

Cleveland, Ohio - Henry L. Zucker
Welfare Federation of Cleveland
1001 Huron Road

St. Louis, Missouri - Rev. Truman B. Douglass
Pilgrim Congregational Church
Union Boulevard & Kensington Ave.

WHAT CAN LOCAL AGENCIES DO?

1. Read this memorandum carefully and place all material on this subject in a file ready for use.
2. Be ready to cooperate if and when representatives of the War Relocation Authority and the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans visit the community.
3. Recognize the importance for the local group to form itself into a continuing committee with a chairman and with one person from the committee to act as coordinator. This person will be responsible (1) for keeping the interested community agencies informed, (2) for discussing plans and policies with them, and (3) for referring any resettled individual of Japanese ancestry in need of social services to the proper community agency.
4. Work quietly with the other agencies on this program, recognizing the need for avoiding conspicuous or emotional efforts which would attract undue community antagonism to the resettlement plan or to individuals of Japanese ancestry coming into the community.
5. Write their own national agency, keeping it informed of participation and problems of the local agency in matters concerning the resettlement of Japanese Americans.

WHAT AGENCIES ARE RECEIVING A COPY OF THIS MEMORANDUM?

American Association of Medical Social Workers
205 West Wacker Street, Chicago, Illinois

Child Welfare League of America
130 East 22nd Street, New York City, N.Y.

Community Chests & Councils, Inc.
155 East 44th Street, New York City, N.Y.

Family Welfare Association of America
122 East 22nd Street, New York City, N.Y.

National Board, Young Women's Christian Association
600 Lexington Avenue, New York City, N.Y.

National Council Church Mission of Help
281 Fourth Avenue, New York City, N.Y.

National Council, Young Men's Christian Association
347 Madison Avenue, New York City, N.Y.

National Institute of Immigrant Welfare
2 West 45th Street, New York City, N.Y.

National Travelers Aid Association
425 Fourth Avenue, New York City, N.Y.

THIS IS AN INFORMATIVE RELEASE. FOR SUGGESTED ACTION ON THE PART OF
ANY LOCAL GROUP SEE Page 3 - WHAT CAN LOCAL AGENCIES DO?

Prepared for National Social Case Work Council
by Sub-committee, Howard Hopkirk, Chairman
Mrs. Elsa Butler Grove
Dorothy Kahn
George E. Rundquist
J. E. Sproul
Annie Clo Watson
Margaret Wead
Bent Taylor
Elisabeth D. Barton

Resettlement

MEMORANDUM ON THE RELOCATION OF PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY

(Condensed from a statement --)

By: Thomas W. Holland, Chief Employment Officer, War Relocation Authority
To: Committees and individuals working on the placement and relocation of people of Japanese ancestry evacuated from the west coast.

I have just returned from a long trip to the West during which I visited relocation centers in order to explain and develop procedures adopted by the War Relocation Authority for the placement and relocation of evacuees outside the relocation centers. Leave officers have now been assigned to each of these centers, and I am glad to report that these officers are rapidly getting organized to do their work with efficiency and dispatch.

During the past six weeks, considerable work has been done in the War Relocation Authority Washington office on speeding up the clearing process for the applicant for indefinite leave. We are now organized to take care of the Washington end of relocation work with reasonable efficiency and dispatch.

Having concentrated since the middle of November on the administrative machinery at the projects and in the Washington office to get the relocation job done, we are now ready to make up time in the areas where the jobs are to be found. It is my hope that from now on members of the War Relocation Authority staff will be in constant communication with committees and individuals who are interested in working on the relocation of the evacuees.

The War Relocation Authority will open offices shortly in Chicago, in Cleveland, and in one other mid-western city. We already have offices in Salt Lake City and in Denver. Our staff will assist in the development of new committees and will work closely with those already underway. I would like to emphasize that we are not opening offices to displace the local bodies that are interested in this relocation job. Quite the contrary, we hope to be able to cooperate more closely than heretofore and the expectation is that the local bodies will do more rather than less work.

A competent person will be in charge of each relocation office. Several assistants will work out from the offices into the surrounding states. We are going to do everything possible to simplify and expedite the placement procedure. We plan to work with you people in the various localities in order to make it all as simple and effective as possible.

Under the leave regulations of the War Relocation Authority, the applicant for indefinite leave is investigated in the relocation center by the War Relocation Authority; we check on references of the evacuee back at his former home; the file goes to Washington; and we secure a report on the individual from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. If the information from these various sources on an applicant indicates that his record is clear of any un-American connections or activities, he is given "leave clearance" which means that he is free to leave the relocation center when he obtains a job outside.

During the fall the dual task of organization has been to establish the leave officers at the projects and to get them acquainted with their jobs, and to establish the clearance section in our Washington office where the evidence on an applicant is brought together and the decision is made on whether or not we will give the individual our official approval to go out from the relocation center.

This dual task has now been accomplished and I believe that the clearance machinery will work with reasonable efficiency. It will take, I believe, on the average of about four weeks for the applicant to be granted his clearance from the time he

files his application to the time he is notified. Moreover, if all the evacuees who want to secure leave will file their applications in advance of getting a job there should be no extra delay in the actual placement process. Up to this date, much of the annoying delay for the prospective employer and the evacuee has been due to the fact the application for leave clearance has been made at the same time as the application for leave to go out to take the job offer. Such delay will be minimized as the register of those who have been given leave clearance is built up at each project.

When the evacuee who has been cleared by the War Relocation Authority secures a job, he applies for indefinite leave to depart from the relocation center. This is simply a matter of filling out a form at the project leave office and attaching evidence that the job has been secured. This application goes by airmail to Washington where it is immediately acted upon. Attention is given in our Washington office to the question of community sentiment in the place where the employer is located. The local groups cooperating with us have to date given valuable assistance in advising on community attitudes toward the evacuees. If the reports in our office indicate an absence of undue hostility toward the relocation of evacuees, the project director is instructed by wire to issue the indefinite leave. No more than five or six days should elapse between the time an application for indefinite leave is filed and the final action taken on the application is wired out to the project.

I can assure you that every rule we have adopted has developed out of the experience in relocation since last winter. If experience this spring indicates that we can drop some features of the present regulations or in any way safely expedite the placement work without the safeguards we have adopted, I can assure you that we will be most happy to do so.

We are now working out a statement for the use of the offices of the United States Employment Service. A summary of evacuees who have been cleared by the War Relocation Authority and are now available for immediate placement is being prepared and copies of this summary will be made available to local committees. In the future job offers will be made directly to the projects or to the relocation field staff which in turn will make the contacts with the projects. There are numerous ways in which a job offer can reach the evacuees. It is not our intention to set up any hard and fast procedure. The main thing is for a job offer to find a willing taker within as short a time as possible. I will write you later on price procedures. In the meantime, we will continue to handle job offers out of the Washington office.

Now just a word which will be of interest to people in the Eastern Defense Command. In the area of the Eastern Defense Command, we will not issue indefinite leave until special clearance of the individual has been given by the War Department. This requirement makes placement in this area very slow. It may be that the situation will change in the near future. Elsewhere this requirement does not prevail. Between the restricted area in the far West and the Eastern Defense Command an evacuee, citizen or alien, will be given indefinite leave as soon as (1) he gets leave clearance and (2) a job in a locality where the indication is that he will be received without undue community hostility. The American citizen of Japanese ancestry is as free as any other American citizen, and the alien Japanese is under no rule in addition to those that apply to all other enemy aliens.

Enclosed you will find copies of letters which may be useful in your work. We have in preparation a brief description of outside relocation procedures which will be sent to you shortly.

In closing permit me to thank you for your interest and your work on the problem of relocating the evacuees from the West Coast.

AMERICAN-JAPANESE EVACUEES

AVAILABLE FOR EMPLOYMENT

Resett.
E 8.00

1. Who are the Evacuees?

They are American citizens of Japanese ancestry, approximately 70,000 men, women and children. They speak English and have adopted American customs and the standards of living just as other Americans of Scotch, British, Swedish, and German extraction. In addition, there are approximately 30,000 aliens who have been denied citizenship by reason of our Naturalization Laws. These are generally older men and women. Almost without exception, however, they have lived in the United States for at least two decades, and the majority have been here for three decades or longer.

2. Is it safe to let these Americans of Japanese ancestry and Japanese aliens out of the Relocation Centers where most of them are now confined?

The War Department and the Department of Justice have examined and approved the relocation procedures of the War Relocation Authority which also includes a record check against the records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation before leave is granted from a relocation center. The War Manpower Commission also approves the relocation policy.

3. Will they stay and compete with us after the war?

The American-Japanese population evacuated from the West Coast is less than one American-Japanese for each 1,000 of our total population. They are being relocated from as far as Spokane, Washington in the west to the Atlantic seaboard in the east. The actual number is so small comparatively that there should be no reason for concern.

4. How much do we have to pay them?

They should be paid no more or no less than is paid to any other worker. That will, of course, vary with experience, ability, etc.

5. Do we have to "sign up" and send in reports on them?

No. When they are given indefinite leave at the centers, they are to be treated as other workers and you need not report on them.

Supply of these received

6. Do we have to keep them if they should not be satisfactory?

No. They can be dismissed as any other employee.

7. Must we furnish housing?

No. It is not necessary to furnish housing or meet certain standards of housing. Assistance in helping them find housing will be appreciated.

8. Will it cost us anything to get them?

No. If a job of three months or longer is offered and the worker cannot pay his own transportation, the War Relocation Authority will assist him.

9. Can these American-Japanese do anything besides vegetable gardening and domestic jobs such as maids, houseman, etc?

Yes. There are doctors, laboratory technicians, draftsmen, mechanics, stenographers, dairymen, nurses, beauty operators, poultrymen and most other professions and trades. The diversified list indicates how completely these American-Japanese have fitted into the general pattern of what we call "the American way of life".

10. Where can I get more information?

Mr. Elmer L. Shirrell, Relocation Supervisor
War Relocation Authority
226 West Jackson Boulevard
Chicago, Illinois

and

Kendall Smith, Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
Room 503E, Rockford Trust Building
Rockford, Illinois

E. E. Ketchpaw, Associate Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
Room 7083, Plankinton Building
161 West Wisconsin Avenue
Milwaukee 1, Wisconsin

John H. Putz, Associate Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
Room 315, Washington Building
Madison, Wisconsin

Clement L. White, Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
Room 842, Metropolitan Life Building
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Perry B. Hall, Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
Room 1112, Alliance Life Building
Peoria, Illinois

Elmer B. Isaksen, Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
Delendrecie Building
Fargo, North Dakota

Edmund T. Cleary, Relocation Officer
War Relocation Authority
Room 634, Circle Tower Building
Indianapolis 4, Indiana

Individual Relocation Efforts by Relocation Officers
for Specific Individuals or Families

During the past few weeks there has been a gradual but definite trend toward "on the job" placements rather than placements made indirectly through employer-employee correspondence. As the recent memorandum by Mr. Holland stated, it was necessary to adopt the latter procedure because job offers were few. There were two other reasons however:

1. The leave clearance situation had not reached the stage where persons could be so easily released as at the present time.
2. Due to the fact that the evacuees were uninformed or misinformed, they were very hesitant about accepting jobs unless they were in direct correspondence with the prospective employer.

The project residents have a general knowledge of the various relocation offices and the types of jobs offered by them. The Chicago office, for instance, has been suggesting to each correspondent specific offers or has given explanations why certain placements were difficult at the time of writing.

During April, May, and the early part of June, our office has received a great volume of job requests from the evacuees. The results of the method of indirect placements were the following:

1. Some were placed satisfactorily.
2. The majority was not placed satisfactorily because some persons purposely accepted jobs with no particular intention of giving them a fair trial; some were disgruntled because our job descriptions were inadequate; others were dissatisfied because they had assumed that certain conditions had existed. The writer is not at all certain that some of them did not read details into these job offers, details which did not exist.
3. Many arrived on the job only to discover that the job was taken; therefore, in some cases, they were forced to accept openings which were not to their liking.
4. Due to their being busy, etc., the employers left many letters of application unanswered, thereby leaving the applicants in a quandry.

When the Director's memorandum was issued in early May, giving relocation supervisors and their staff members authority to request certain placeable evacuees to come to a particular area without a job, it proved to be one of the turning points in our program. Our policy in answering evacuee correspondence changed considerably, and we began to emphasize placement through personal interviews and de-emphasize

specific job referrals through correspondence. This procedure has undoubtedly resulted in better placements and at the same time lessened job turnover or "floating".

We now have many hundreds of job offers, and we have flooded the centers with them. Of course, the great majority of them are unskilled jobs; however, many of them stipulate good beginning wages. Recently, however, we have received numerous wires from the projects stating that there were no interested applicants on many of these offers. This lack of response may be attributed to the following reasons:

1. Lethargy on the part of the project residents in regard to relocation.
2. Most of the pioneering group have already been relocated, and as a consequence families and married couples still remain.
3. Many would like to leave, but the offers do not warrant their leaving the center because they cannot support their dependents on wages which are submitted by the field offices.

This, then, brings us to the crux of the relocation program -- relocation of family groups. This does not mean that we necessarily put the individuals in a secondary group in so far as relocation is concerned.

It is extremely important to formulate a relocation policy which will effectuate good group relocation and mitigate some of the deterrents to our program, not the least of which are letters written by the relocatees to their friends in the centers telling them not to come out because of the former's unfortunate job and housing experiences. Many of these letters show only one side of the picture, thereby creating a definite distortion of the working and living conditions; however, many persons doubtless have written with good intentions, not realizing the effects of such letters to those still in the centers. Jobs received through correspondence have been a partial explanation for some of these letters.

Much of this was expected. The relocation program is no exception to the law of compensation. We have had to stress quantity placements, and as a result quality suffered. By quality, the writer means job satisfaction. Now that many of our jobs are going begging, we have one of two alternatives--submit only those jobs which we feel will draw considerable interest or bring the evacuee to a particular relocation area and then place him.

The first alternative will mean a very definite decrease in job offers submitted due to the time it will take to solicit "acceptable" jobs. However, even if such offers are sent to the projects, there is no definite assurance that better placement will result. This is

obviously due to the element of impersonality between the prospective employer and employee. Furthermore, it is only human for an applicant to up-grade his particular skills in the event attractive offers are submitted, and it is rather difficult for the project employment office to screen the applicants since the emphasis, I am quite certain, is, "let him go in case of doubt."

The other alternative is to place the individual by having him come to a particular area without a job. It seems to me that there are definite advantages over the first alternative. Even though the evacuee cannot be placed in his desired field for some time, the possibilities of placing him through his secondary skills are very feasible.

During the past few weeks we have sent an increasing number of letters and wires to the projects recommending certain individuals and families to come to Chicago. We have done this after making certain recommendations, such as the lowering of minimum wages acceptable and suggestions to utilize secondary skills.

The Central Utah project has probably submitted the most satisfactory type of relocation information regarding an individual or a family group. The project sends a family relocation card which mentions such pertinent information as the total number in the family, the number of employables, number of dependents, types of jobs desired, minimum wages expected, and the type of housing desired. The information given is brief, but it gives the relocation officer a fairly good picture of a family which requests relocation.

The writer does not feel that a statistical survey of job skills on the project, even of essential and critical ones, is particularly helpful because the survey is made on a purely numerical basis. It is more important to the relocation officer to have the project submit the name and job background or backgrounds of the individual or family who wishes to be relocated. This seems most important. A numerical survey does not differentiate between those who would like to relocate and those who do not. Some projects have possibly begun surveys of the skills of the evacuees who wish to relocate, but again, it is much more helpful for us to have a family relocation card, especially if we are to concentrate on more personalized relocation.

In the above discussion, the writer is assuming that it is more desirable to emphasize more individual attention to each evacuee. It is very desirable to witness quantity relocation with its attendant quick dispersal of the centers, but we have discovered that it is not possible. It is evidenced by the fact that, again, discouraging letters have also been written by the relocatees to the evacuees in the centers, although encouraging letters have also been written. Whether these letters are justified or not is immaterial. They have impeded relocation. It is further evidenced by the fact that so many have stated that it is difficult to support dependents if the family head is the sole breadwinner. Finally, the housing situation has prevented more people from leaving the centers. It is rather futile to state that people other than the American-Japanese are seeking housing. To the

average evacuee in the center, there is only one situation--housing is extremely difficult.

The evacuee is still thinking in terms of his life within the center. He cannot grasp the significance of the war tempo on the outside. Housing is provided for his wife and children. Why should he leave a place where he has shelter and go to an unknown place where housing is admittedly difficult at best? This is the way he thinks. Many of them sincerely wish to leave, but cannot because of family insecurity.

It is impossible to mention all phases of this problem of individualized relocation efforts by relocation officers for specific individuals and families. How shall we set up a procedure whereby we can take care of an anticipated number of families who wish to arrive in a particular area, and how shall we cope with its attendant problems--housing, jobs, arrangements to have other relocation offices handle family cases in the event emergencies arise which prevent our office from relocating them? What about the statement made by Mr. Holland in his memorandum of August 5 in which he states that relocation officers now have put in a great deal of time in developing opportunities for which there are no applicants at the centers? Should we request the projects for the names of "key" families for relocation in the hopes that their relocation will be an incentive for other families to follow? These and other questions have been avoided since it is not the purpose of this paper to legislate, but to facilitate further discussion.

E 8.00

DOMESTIC WORK AS THE FIRST STEP IN RELOCATION

We would like to present the following facts to everyone who is interested in relocation:

Domestic work offers a stepping stone for evacuees interested in relocating, no matter how they wish to shape their future. Domestic work, it must be granted, does not have much appeal to some as a lifetime occupation but when viewed with the idea as the first step towards a goal, I think it can become a truly attractive proposition.

The first weeks after leaving the center are rather difficult insofar as readjustment is concerned. Everything is different from center life. If one is located in a pleasant home with an understanding employer, it surely takes away such of the shock of leaving family and friends.

Ordinarily, it seems families are reluctant to approve their daughters' leaving the centers to accept employment alone. This can be partially overcome by friends leaving together to accept employment in the same city. It should also be considered that a girl coming to a home is going to live a more or less sheltered life. She will have contact with very few people other than her friends and employers, whereas girls leaving home to accept other types of employment make numerous contacts, some of them being advantageous while others are not.

First, let us consider the STUDENT. It may be that you wish to start or continue college work or specialized business training, but finances interfere. Anyone who is willing to render a certain amount of service can save enough as a domestic to get a start towards a higher education. In many instances, we have offers which will give a girl some of her evenings free and this means that she could attend evening business training school classes while still earning and saving as a domestic worker.

Second, MARRIED COUPLES should give some consideration to domestic work since it offers a means of living in homes where the standard of living is far above the average and also affords an opportunity to save practically every dollar that is paid to them in wages. Over a period of six months, a couple could easily save \$500. This would mean a lot if the husband wanted to then look for some particular job where he could make use of his former experience or skill. This savings would undoubtedly pave the way for a promising future.

Des Moines has many schools open to Japanese Americans in the city. There is Drake University where more than 30 Japanese American students are now enrolled. There are two modern business colleges--The American Institute of Business and the Capital City Commercial College. Japanese American students are attending both of these business schools at the present time. One girl is attending day classes and doing domestic work in the late afternoon and evenings for her room and board and a small wage. Arrangements like this can easily be worked out. The courses last somewhere from three to nine months depending upon the subjects chosen, and domestic work can be secured for that period of time. Another student works full time as a domestic and attends evening classes on certain days of the week. The Capital City Commercial College offers a course with two-hour classes two nights a week for a tuition fee of \$5.00 per month. This would give a girl an opportunity to specialize in some certain line of business training and yet the cost would be such that she would still save some of her wages for the future when she would make use of her training.

In all of the Des Moines High Schools night classes are now being held covering subjects ranging from foreign languages, home economics and business courses to crafts and skills. These courses are ten weeks in duration and cost \$1.00 per course. The classes are held in different schools on different nights, so it could be worked out that anyone could attend school almost any night in the week.

Since September 1st, there has been a Friends Hostel in Des Moines located at 2150 Grand Avenue. This Hostel offers hospitality to anyone interested in relocating in our area. Board and room can be secured there for \$1.00 per day while unemployed and for \$1.50 per day after employment is procured. This Hostel is especially helpful for anyone coming to the city without a definite job in mind, as one can stay there at little cost until a satisfactory job is found. No matter what the time of arrival, the Hostel doors are always open.

Every Sunday afternoon the Hostel has open house in the form of a tea at 4 P.M. Everyone is invited and you can be sure of meeting some of your friends or acquaintances there. The Hostel affords a friendly, comfortable, temporary home which is immediately available to the evacuee upon arrival in Des Moines. Since there are approximately

125 Japanese Americans already in this city, it definitely means that one could find friends here and could make still more friends.

The above information is sent out for the primary purpose of interesting evacuees in relocation in our city as domestics in order that they may become accustomed to our climate, accustomed to our city, our churches, etc., while they are building for themselves a financial background, acquiring a wardrobe or acquiring further training along any number of lines.

The idea of securing domestic employment for six months may be new to you, and we truly hope it will arouse your interest. We have many employers who are more than glad to employ anyone who is willing to state that he or she is going to work for them for six months, or a similar length of time, but at the end of that period intend seeking employment in other lines. A number of employers are very sympathetic with this sort of ambition and oftentimes specifically request employees who have such ambitions, as they prove to be the most satisfactory employees.

This six months' period will take you over the shaky period of insecurity, and you can then set out on your true career with poise and self confidence.

As one becomes ready to step into another field, the local W.R.A. office together with the employment agency of the Y.W.C.A. and the Friends Service Committee can be counted upon to render every possible service to assist you in securing the type of position you desire and for which you have received training.

If you should have any questions pertaining to any certain courses offered by our night school classes or business schools, please write us as we shall be very happy to give you any additional information.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
520 Liberty Building
Des Moines 8, Ia.
Nov. 5, 1943.

MRN

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

Reloc.

AIR MAIL

July 16, 1943

TO: ALL PROJECT DIRECTORS

SUBJECT: CURRENT RELOCATION PROGRAM

Now that our segregation program has been announced, it seems appropriate that we should use the next few weeks prior to September first as the time for placing special emphasis on our relocation program. After the program of segregation gets under way it will probably be necessary to give the evacuees from the center selected for segregation priority as to jobs and relocation assistance. The more relocation we can secure now the easier it will be to adjust housing conditions and other problems on the centers when segregation does get under way.

Special emphasis should be given to relocation opportunities in the small cities, cities without major war industries and in rural areas because of the exceedingly difficult housing situation in areas of major war industries. This is in accordance with my letter of July 16 to Mr. Holland, a copy of which is attached. Our Relocation Officers are giving special attention to such areas at this time and it is our belief that many families can be satisfactorily placed in friendly communities away from the more congested industrial centers. Total income per worker will be considerably less in these smaller communities but the standard of living may be more satisfactory and the net savings are likely to be as large in these less crowded communities as they are in the more congested areas. There is also greater possibility of family relocation in these situations because the housing facilities are not so limited.

I would suggest, therefore, that you take the following steps:

1. Re-examine all current job offers on file in your office and make a renewed attempt to fill as many of them as possible, also use what material you have to illustrate the type of jobs generally available in the various parts of the country. The specific jobs on file may not now be available, but they generally illustrate the types of work opportunities in a community. Probably our emphasis should begin to shift from thinking in terms of specific jobs to thinking more about the general area of relocation with actual securing and accepting of the job accomplished by direct contact between employer and employee.
2. Give special attention to persons whose names are listed on Form 258A. Housing and employment opportunities both are available in the east. Reports indicate that housing is much easier to secure in New York

City or Boston than in Cleveland, Detroit or even Chicago. Hundreds of families can be located on year-round farm jobs with housing and other items provided.

3. Agricultural workers should be encouraged to accept seasonal jobs if others are not available through the middle west where food processing, corn detasseling and vegetable harvesting operations are getting under way. In most instances evacuees can easily go into year-round jobs or develop farming opportunities of their own if they will take these jobs for the experience they will provide in adjusting to outside relocation.

4. Keep emphasizing the idea that no work that provides an honest living needs to be considered as degrading. Domestic jobs, for example, offer a splendid opportunity for evacuees to become adjusted to relocation with no great problem of housing or rationing facing the individual at the outset.

We do not, of course, want to over-play this last point and have evacuees accepting a job simply to get out of the center and immediately seek other employment. If they have this in mind we would much prefer that they report at a relocation office without accepting any job until after they arrive and have an opportunity to examine local employment opportunities.

You should continue to help the evacuees to become realists in regard to community attitudes toward relocation by pointing out that it is much easier for them to secure general acceptance by the community if they come into the area to help out by working for others than if they come in with the idea that they are immediately going to set up their own private operation which may be in competition with established concerns. We, of course, do not wish to interfere in any way with the individual's rights in the matter of free enterprise but simply wish to caution the evacuees about taking an unrealistic attitude toward community acceptance. We believe that private operation and ownership should come in due time and in an orderly manner acceptable to the individual and the community. If the community is dissatisfied the relocation will not be successful. The enclosed mimeographed statement entitled "Rural Relocation Outlook" is an attempt to evaluate relocation opportunities immediately available in rural areas.

Evacuees should be told that relocation is not easy, that the job they get may not be all that is desired but if they want to make a new start, delay only adds to the problem and does not solve it. WRA can do only a part of the job, the big task is up to the evacuees themselves who are willing to show individual courage and initiative by relocating. Their place and that of their children in America is to a large extent dependent on their own actions.

We appreciate that this problem of re-emphasizing relocation at this time involves a tremendous effort on the part of the project staff but the

effort if it results in a significant increase in relocation will be fully justified. If you have any suggestions or comments I will be pleased to have them.

Sincerely,

D. S. Meyer

Director

Enclosures

*Harry
Gop*

As of March 17, 1945

E 8.00

RESPECTIVE STANDING OF PROJECT IN RELOCATION

CENTER	TOTAL POP.	INDEFINITES	POP. REMAINING	PER. CENT
1. Minidoka	12,395	5,225	7,031	42.1%
2. Central Utah	9,412	3,737	5,619	39.7%
3. Granada	9,854	3,884	5,875	39.4%
4. Rohwer	10,178	3,691	6,428	36.2%
5. Gila River	14,133	5,049	9,021	33.7%
6. Heart Mountain	12,550	4,431	8,049	35.3%
7. Colorado River	17,032	5,983	10,786	35.1%
8. Manzanar	8,055	2,685	5,262	33.3%
9. Tule Lake	21,055	3,207	17,842	15.2%

As of March 24, 1945

W. J. H. H. H.

RESPECTIVE STANDING OF PROJECT IN RELOCATION

CENTER	TOTAL POP.	INDEFINITES	POP. REMAINING	PER CENT
1. Minidoka	12,367	5,421	6,813	43.8%
2. Central Utah	9,414	3,787	5,567	40.2%
3. Granada	9,791	3,926	5,784	40%
4. Rohwer	10,179	3,726	6,386	36.5%
5. Gila River	14,136	5,113	8,971	36.1%
6. Colorado River	16,900	6,057	10,677	35.8%
7. Heart Mountain	12,553	4,490	7,993	35.7%
8. Manzanar	8,053	2,719	5,270	33.7%
9. Tule Lake	21,064	3,209	17,850	15.2%

As of April 7, 1945 *Jagi*

RESPECTIVE STANDING OF PROJECT IN RELOCATION

CENTER	TOTAL POP.	INDEFINITE	POP. REMAINING	PER CENT
1. Minidoka	12,378	5,636	6,610	45.5%
2. Granada	9,797	4,114	5,600	41.9%
3. Central Utah	9,409	3,850	5,472	40.9%
4. Rohwer	10,192	3,892	6,217	38.1%
5. Colorado River	17,128	6,490	10,476	37.8%
6. Heart Mountain	12,584	4,688	7,817	37.2%
7. Gila River	14,160	5,256	8,833	37%
8. Manzanar	8,055	2,777	5,212	34.4%
9. Tule Lake	21,090	3,210	17,875	15.2%

As of March 24, 1948

Leave

RESPECTIVE STANDING OF PROJECT IN RELOCATION

CENTER	TOTAL POP.	INDEFINITES	POP. REMAINING	PER CENT
1. Minidoka	12,367	5,421	6,813	43.8%
2. Central Utah	9,414	3,787	5,567	40.2%
3. Granada	9,791	3,926	5,784	40%
4. Rohwer	10,179	3,726	6,386	36.5%
5. Gila River	14,136	5,113	8,971	36.1%
6. Colorado River	16,900	6,057	10,677	35.8%
7. Heart Mountain	12,553	4,490	7,993	35.7%
8. Manzanar	8,053	2,719	5,270	33.7%
9. Tule Lake	21,064	3,209	17,850	15.2%

Wells

As of February 3, 1945

[Handwritten signature]

RESPECTIVE STANDING OF PROJECT IN RELOCATION

CENTER	TOTAL POP.	INDEFINITES	POP. REMAINING	PER. CENT
1. Minidoka	12,414	4,853	7,321	39%
2. Central Utah	9,411	3,547	5,801	37.6%
3. Rowher	10,175	3,459	6,660	33.9%
4. Granada	9,717	3,279	6,009	33.7%
5. Colorado River	17,159	5,773	11,037	33.6%
6. Gila River	14,172	4,753	9,359	33.5%
7. Heart Mountain	13,079	4,188	8,741	32.2%
8. Manzanar	8,048	2,533	5,469	31.4%
9. Tule Lake	21,008	2,418	18,587	11.5%

[Handwritten signature]

As of January 27, 1945

Wells
Zila

RESPECTIVE STANDING OF PROJECT IN RELOCATION

	CENTER	TOTAL POP.	INDEFINITES	POP. REMAINING	PER. CENT
1.	Minidoka	12,410	4,809	7,340	38.7%
2.	Central Utah	9,411	3,518	5,824	37.3%
3.	Rohwer	10,173	3,438	6,670	33.7%
4.	Colorado River	17,154	5,749	11,086	33.5%
5.	Granada	9,715	3,237	6,027	33.3%
6.	Gila River	14,174	4,709	9,409	33.2%
7.	Heart Mountain	13,107	4,148	8,776	31.6%
8.	Manzanar	8,049	2,518	5,484	31.2%
9.	Tule Lake	21,015	2,406	18,588	11.4%

As of December 19, 1944

Wells

under file

RESPECTIVE STANDING OF PROJECTS IN RELOCATION

CENTER	TOTAL POP.	INDEFINITES	POP. REMAINING	PER. CENT
1. Minidoka	5,029	4,608	7,357	37%
2. Central Utah	3,543	3,406	5,849	36%
3. Rohwer	3,540	3,423	6,619	33%
4. Gila River	4,664	4,617	9,478	32.64%
5. Granada	3,623	3,165	6,081	32.61%
6. Colorado River	5,884	5,556	11,241	32.4%
7. Heart Mountain	4,271	4,056	8,785	31%
8. Manzanar	2,501	2,460	5,542	30%
9. Tule Lake	2,223	2,057	18,778	.09%

Mills *E 8.00*

November 10, 1944

To: Project Directors, Attention of Relocation Program Officers
 Relocation Supervisors
 Relocation Officers

From: H. Rex Lee, Acting Chief, Relocation Division *HR Lee*

Subject: Relocation Information Kits

The original proposal for the preparation and use of Relocation Information Kits was sent as a typewritten memorandum on August 31, 1944, from Mr. Arnold to Relocation Supervisors and to Project Directors, for the attention of Relocation Program Officers. Since then the plan has been adopted and additional mimeographed copies are now being more widely distributed for use. Relocation Officers should discuss with their Supervisor the choice of urban or rural communities for which Relocation Information Kits should be prepared. We hope that at least two or three Kits will be completed for each Area and will reach the centers by February 1.

The plan includes not only the assembling of a more complete collection of material about a community or area, but suggestions for obtaining and arranging it, sending it to the centers, utilizing it at the centers, and finally, for following through the use of the material by special service to those who decide to relocate to the community.

It is contemplated that kits will be prepared only for selected communities in new districts, newly opened communities in established districts, and communities where relocation is lagging because of inadequate publicity at the centers.

DIRECTIONS

Step I

Assembling and preparation of materials.

A Relocation Officer, desiring to feature a community or farming area in his District will

- A. Enlist the assistance of the local committee in assembling available material and information about the community. The committee, in turn, will enlist the cooperation of local groups or individuals, particularly the public librarian, the municipal reference librarian, the state librarian or the local chapter of the American Library Association, and will make a collection of items such as those in the following list:

1. Publications of the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trade or other comparable local civic groups,
2. Maps, such as
 - a. The State, section or relocation district,
 - b. Metropolitan area,
 - c. The city or town, specially prepared to show the location of the WRA office, railroad stations, hostel, and other points of special importance to newly arriving evacuees,
 - d. Maps of the community showing streets and, when necessary and possible, accompanied by a street guide. Local transportation companies sometimes distribute city maps showing streets and transportation lines and stations,
 - e. Highway maps for the state or section, such as the maps published by the oil companies,
 - f. Railroad maps for the roads serving the community or area,
 - g. Airways maps when appropriate,
 - h. Industrial maps,
 - i. Soil maps,
 - j. Maps showing products, types of farming, etc., in the area,
 - k. Maps showing climate, rainfall, or similar data,
 - l. Maps showing recreational areas, such as national or local parks, etc.,
 - m. Pictorial maps showing a combination of the foregoing by means of pictures and symbols,
3. Publications prepared by local industries, businesses, and other private enterprises, which contain information of interest to prospective residents.
4. Agricultural documents, secured from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, State departments of agriculture, agricultural colleges and experiment stations covering all matters relating directly to the agriculture of the area, such as
 - a. Types of agriculture and crops,

- b. Length of crop season,
 - c. Soils,
 - d. Markets,
 - e. Weather, rainfall, temperature, etc.,
 - f. Crop hazards and protective measures,
 - g. Farming methods employed.
5. Motion pictures showing the community or area
- Local activities,
 - Local industries,
 - Local facilities

Such motion pictures can sometimes be obtained by the committee from various private sources.

6. Photographs of all the subjects mentioned above and also of evacuees who have settled in the community or area, showing them at work, at home, at recreation (both outdoor and indoor types), participating in social activities, shopping, at school, at church, etc. These photographs should be captioned on the back, and indicate the relocation centers from which the evacuees came. Names should be given when the subjects permit their use.
- B. While the committee is assembling as many of the foregoing items as may be made available, the Relocation Officer, or the Relocation Reports Officer, should prepare a pamphlet about the community or area for the "Facts About America" series. This should be illustrated by some of the best photographs and cover the essential information about the locality in brief, simple form. Such items as the following should be considered if pertinent:
1. Brief historical and geographical data,
 2. Population: size, type, etc. Any pre-Pearl Harbor residents of Japanese ancestry.
 3. Climate,
 4. Health and medical facilities
 5. Credit facilities,

6. Recreation

Entertainment

Physical

Cultural

Social

7. Transportation

Local public: street car, bus, taxi (with fares)

Interurban

Railway and long distance bus

Waterway

Air

8. Housing: availability, types, cost, rentals, etc.,
9. Wages in typical occupations,
10. Cost of living: food, utilities, general supplies, etc.,
11. Services available to resettlers: WRA, committee, others,
12. Local publications: newspapers and others of significant interest,
13. Community acceptance,
14. School and other educational facilities, especially vocational,
15. Religious facilities, dominant religious groups,
16. Relation of unions to evacuee employment,
17. Hotels and rooming houses open to evacuees,
18. General agricultural data, such as
 - a. Length of crop growing season,
 - b. Kinds of crops grown,
 - c. Range of size of farms in area,
 - d. Cost and availability of farm land: citizens and aliens,

- e. Local practices in share-cropping, leasing and cash rent,
 - f. Availability of capital loans,
 - g. Availability and cost of water,
 - h. Wages of farm labor,
 - i. Farm housing,
 - j. Availability of and transportation to markets.
- C. In communities where evacuees have already resettled, the Relocation Officer should also prepare case histories of several who have successfully settled in the locality, emphasizing families and Issei. These case histories should give a clear idea of the problems that had to be faced, the difficulties that had to be overcome, and the means by which the solutions were ultimately found. Names should be included when permission is given and a note should be made of the centers from which the evacuees came.

These case histories should be so identified that they may be used with photographs mentioned in A. 7.

Step II

Organizing and shipping materials

Some of the material assembled or prepared, such as the pamphlet in the "Facts About America" series, for which a fixed distribution is prescribed in the Manual (Section 130.4, under Pamphlets and other Publications, for distribution at the centers), will be useful for rather wide distribution among evacuees at the centers, but most of it will be intended for reference or display. Of the latter type it may be sufficient to provide but one copy for a project, or at most a dozen or two, doubling the quantity for Gila and tripling it for Poston.

An inventory will be prepared of all material to be shipped to a relocation center, naming each item and stating the number to be shipped. A copy of this inventory should be sent to each project receiving the material, for the attention of the Relocation Program Officer, one copy to the Chief of the Relocation Division in Washington, and copies retained by the Relocation Officer and the local committee. A copy of the inventory and one copy of each item should be sent to the Relocation Supervisor of the Area in which the community is located.

The inventory sent to the project should be mailed several days in advance of the shipment of the materials and should accompany a letter stating the approximate date upon which the materials will be shipped

and the manner of shipment, including number of packages. All of the materials should be shipped at the same time, i.e. on the same date, if possible. If motion picture reels are obtained on a loan or rental basis, however, this should be specifically explained in the letter to projects, so that provision may be made for the return of the film. In case but one copy of a film can be obtained for use at all projects, it should be withheld from the original shipment and the circumstances explained in the project letter. It may then be shipped to the projects in accordance with a schedule worked out with them.

Materials should, of course, be so packed as to prevent damage, especially to display items, such as maps, posters and photographs.

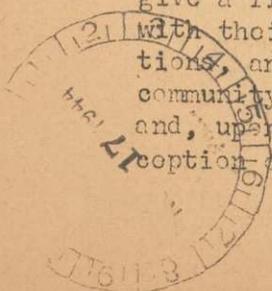
Step III

The purpose of assembling as much material as possible about a community, and shipping it at one time to a center, is to give the Relocation Program Officer, the Relocation Planning Commission and others cooperating in the undertaking, an opportunity to plan methods of featuring the information about one locality in such a way that interested evacuees may have access to sufficient information about it to answer most of their questions. Planned use can be made of the material for exhibits, discussions, conferences and individual interviews. It may be used in the schools, in the blocks, in the Relocation and other libraries, in the headquarters of the Relocation Planning Commission, and in the Relocation Division. It can be written up for the project newspaper and films can be shown at the school, in mess halls and at other places of assembly.

Except for the material especially designed for general distribution, such as the pamphlets in the "Facts About America" series, the other items should be kept together, and should finally be placed in the Relocation Library, so that they may always be available in organized form for reference by interested evacuees. It is essential to the success of this project that the complete set of exhibits and reference material be kept together as a unit.

Step IV

At some time during the period when a given community is being "featured" at a project, or soon afterwards, a planned visit to the project may be made by the Relocation Officer in whose district the community is located in order that he may talk with interested evacuees, and address large or small group meetings. In case others from the center have already settled in the community, he may interview them before visiting the center and give a first hand account of their experiences, mentioning them by name with their permission. This will give him an opportunity to answer questions, and to become acquainted with those who decide to relocate to the community. He will then be in a position to help with their original plans and, upon his return to his district, to take steps to prepare for the reception of the resettlers and for their satisfactory adjustment.



F8.00 relett

GENERAL MEDIA PROCEDURE TO DISSEMINATE INFORMATION IN YOUR COMMUNITY

I. NEWSPAPERS

- A. General - daily and weekly
- B. Labor
- C. Foreign or language

(WRA keeps a national daily news digest and other informational material including news releases and background material for articles, editorials and columns in your local newspapers.)

II. RADIO

- A. Special dramatization
- B. News Announcements
- C. Speeches

III. VISUAL AIDS - Photographs and picture layouts

- A. Libraries and other public institutions

(WRA picture display adaptable for this use: 29 mounted photographs of life in project centers, in normal communities, and in the armed forces. Each 11"x14" in size with captions and bibliography included. Display should be linked with WRA literature and local publicity.)

IV. SPEECHES AND RESOLUTIONS

- A. Church Groups
- B. Labor Groups
- C. Service Clubs
- D. Civic & Community Groups
- E. Trade and Professional Groups
- F. School Groups

(Background material for speeches and resolutions to be passed can be obtained from WRA literature, and information for special problems may be requested of WRA district offices. Speeches and resolutions should be directly tied in with radio and newspaper publicity.)

V. FILMS

- A. List under Item IV.

(The following WRA films can be furnished upon advance notice to area office of WRA: (1) Go For Broke (history of Nisei soldiers in training), (2) A Challenge To Democracy, and (3) Japanese American Soldiers in Italy. The showing of these films should be linked up with speeches.)

VI. MAIL PIECES

(See attached bibliography of WRA material. Area office is compiling a mailing list of persons interested in receiving literature periodically regarding the program. Any additional names should be submitted. If you would like to have some of the listed literature for your own use, write to the Area office of WRA.)

VII. NEWSLETTERS

- A. By Resettlement Committees
- B. By Evacuee Groups
- C. By Council of Social Agencies Organs
- D. By Church Organs

(Area office can suggest ideas and send newsletters published by other committees to be used as a model.)

VIII. COMMUNITY FAIR PLAY AND INTERRACIAL COMMITTEES

(Representatives on these committees should be supplied periodically with information on the program.)

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF PRINTED MATERIAL AVAILABLE AT AREA WRA OFFICE

1. DEMOCRACY DEMANDS 100 copies
American Baptist Home Missions Society Publication
Three-color - text and picture layout
2. "GOD AND RACE" 200 copies
Excerpts from sermon by Rev. Wm. Thomas Heath
of Buffalo, New York
3. ISSEI, NISEI, KIBEI 200 copies
Leaflet - Fortune Magazine article reprint
Text only
4. NEW NEIGHBORS AMONG US 70 copies
WRA leaflet - pictures and text
5. NISEI BRAVERY HAILED BY FAMOUS CAMERAMAN 400 copies
WRA - 1 page, 11"x17" layout
6. NISEI IN THE WAR AGAINST JAPAN 300 copies
WRA leaflet - reprint of news clippings with pictures
7. NISEI IN UNIFORM 190 copies
WRA brochure - about 442nd Infantry Regiment
8. STARS AND STRIPES 500 copies
1 page reprint concerning return of 442nd to Italy
9. THESE ARE OUR PARENTS 50 copies
Author: George Morimitsu
Reprint from Asia and the Americas, October, 1943
10. UPROOTED AMERICANS IN YOUR COMMUNITY*
WRA leaflet (for limited distribution)
11. WHAT ABOUT OUR JAPANESE-AMERICANS 80 copies
Author: Carey McWilliams
Public Affairs Committee booklet
12. WHAT WE'RE FIGHTING FOR 160 copies
WRA leaflet - text only

NOTE: Miscellaneous material in lesser quantities are available; these include reprints of news clippings, mimeograph copies of Director Dillon Myers speeches, Great Lakes Area bulletins covering jobs, schools, community services, etc. which were prepared for center distribution. The Area office of WRA at 960 Union Commerce Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio, may be contacted for any of the above mentioned material.

*For public and private agencies and committees serving evacuee resettlers. Communicate with your district WRA office or the area office for copies.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
RELOCATION CENTER
28 June 1943

OK E 8.00

Alcoe

[This paper was prepared at one of the centers by a member of the relocation committee, in consultation with his evacuee assistants. The work of the entire group has led them to devote considerable attention to problems of resettlement.]

SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE RELOCATION PROGRAM AT _____ RELOCATION CENTER

A number of elements have combined to slow down relocation drastically. To begin with, the first rush of well trained and well educated candidates who found Center life intolerable is over. Secondly, the press and political attacks against those of Japanese ancestry in this country have not abated. The Chandler investigation merged into the campaign to prevent those of Japanese ancestry from returning to the coast. The Dies Committee's activities followed closely. The press comments have been most unsettling to those who contemplated relocation. A young lady who was busy making plans for relocation a short time ago remarked yesterday that "she was going to wait a while." She admitted that the constant press criticism of those of Japanese ancestry was responsible for her change of decision. Third, now that the Project Director has come back from Washington with assurance that _____ will not be evacuated on short notice, a general feeling of relief and a "settling in" process has taken place. As one evacuee has expressed it, "There is a great revival of interest in the victory gardens and in the lawns, now that the people believe they will be here to enjoy the vegetables and to use the lawns." Said another, "You can tell by the way the Issei talk and act that they are not interested in getting out. All I hear in my block is the Issei talking about how they have built cellars and will be warm in winter and will sit in them and be cool in summer."

These factors, and many others which have previously come to the attention of the relocation committee are real and powerful, separately and cumulatively. A many-sided program is necessary in order to offset them. A meeting of the staff of my section, called for the purpose of making what recommendations we could to this end, has resulted in the following suggestions.

The entrance to the present relocation office is small and bare. At present there are a battle scarred table and two stools there. As long as it seemed that the main job in relocation was to gather data on available jobs and to present them in some way to eager candidates for relocation, the present arrangement may have sufficed. But now that we realize that our task is just as much one of interpretation, reassurance and social psychology, something more in the way of an inviting atmosphere is required. The work of the Community Analysis Section, and that of other sections and divisions as well, has indicated that there are valid reasons why the decision to relocate is often not an easy one. There are significant barriers, psychological and practical, to overcome. The person who is trying to make a decision can lose courage and enthusiasm at any point along the way - even in a relocation office. That the physical arrangements at the relocation office may not be without their influence is suggested by a well-informed young Nisei who said: "You go to see Mr. _____. He's busy. So you wait in that little hall. There's nothing to read; nothing to do. So you just hang around. You can just feel your interest go. It's depressing. The relocation office should be the busiest and most interesting place around here. But who wants to go there unless he has a specific question to ask or an appointment? There's nothing much there."

We raise the question, then, of whether the relocation office has not been too entirely concerned with the mechanics involved in relocation and whether more attention to the promotional and publicity angles will not be necessary in the future. It is our impression that so far, the best posters and display materials relating to relocation have come from Adult Education. While the attention of other departments to this problem should not be discouraged, of course, the primary responsibility for guiding this phase of the relocation program should rest with the relocation office, in our opinion.

At the relocation office there should be a waiting and reading room

comfortably furnished and of respectable size. In such a relocation waiting and reading room it would be well to have a filing cabinet with data and graphic materials pertaining to various cities or localities alphabetically arranged in folders. Some able and cooperative person should be assigned the task of keeping it in order, classifying new materials that come in, and finding the proper folders for those who wish to consult them. In this way an individual who sees a position advertized which he thinks he might be able to fill, but who is uncertain about the character of the place to which he would have to go, can quickly review the information necessary for a decision and will avoid the period of hesitation or doubt which so often ends in no action at all.

The material to be placed in the files can be obtained, in large measure, from the relocation officers stationed in the various cities throughout the land. It should be part of their work to send to each Center, and particularly to the Centers from which most of the evacuees whom they place come, whatever literature and graphic materials they can find concerning the city or region. Chamber of Commerce pamphlets, maps, guides, newspaper or magazine articles, etc. should be included. Any tables, articles or other data which give an authentic picture of living costs, transportation problems and the housing situation, should also be provided. Many evacuees are more concerned about general living conditions in a region than in the bare details of work offer and salary, for they know that the salary must be related to the general picture to be meaningful. Where there are children involved, the nature of the school system, climatic conditions and other considerations loom important. If we will simply recall all the questions which the average heads of normal households ask before making a major move in work and location and then remind ourselves that those of Japanese ancestry in this country have been less mobile than the general American population, the need for accumulating full and reassuring data of this type becomes apparent.

In this relocation reading room we would like to see, too, a number of "better" newspapers selected from various sections of the country. The Saint Louis Post-Dispatch might represent one region, the New York Times another, etc. A newspaper file such as this would serve a number of purposes. It would attract those interested in the outside world to the Relocation office. By their presence in this particular place, these papers would emphasize the relation between events of the outside world and relocation. By their content they would prove that newspapers are not printed mainly for the purpose of badgering persons of Japanese ancestry. They would give the person who is interested in going to a certain locality, some indication of what people in that locality are thinking and doing. He would learn something about the social and political atmosphere of that place and from the want ads and business section he would get an impression of the kinds of industries and work opportunities represented.

In some central place, such as an enlarged and refurbished relocation reading room, there should be a file of clippings and materials, not only about the localities to which those of Japanese ancestry might go, but particularly about what is being said in the press of that region concerning the relocatees or Americans of Japanese ancestry. The contrast between how such news is handled elsewhere than on the west coast will make a deep impression, and should stimulate interest in going to a place where those of Japanese ancestry are often given a "break" in the news. The task of locating all these press items and calling them to the attention of the relocation offices in the Center can also best be accomplished by the relocation officers in the field.

In addition, the walls of the relocation reading room might be used for the display of posters and graphic materials which call attention to various phases of the relocation program. A map of the country, showing where persons

from this Center have relocated, and in what numbers, such as the Project Director has in his office, might turn minds outward. Something of a competitive spirit might be generated if a large graph might be displayed, showing the progress of relocation from the various Centers and emphasizing this Center's relative position. Charts showing wage levels, living costs, etc. for various sections of the country would have a place too. The aid of the Art Department might be solicited in the assembling of such graphic material. By relating it to the work of the Art Department (through a poster campaign with a formal judging of the best posters on relocation and the giving of prizes, perhaps,) the idea of relocation can be spread in another direction, too.

In everything that has to do with the relocation office there is one basic fact that should be kept in mind, - pleasantness, patience and encouraging friendliness should be the rule in dealing with evacuees who are contemplating relocation. Much of the inertia relating to relocation stems from the circumstance that, psychologically, moving is still associated with evacuation. People who lived for years in a locality "moved" because they had to under traumatic conditions; they resist anything that savors of a duplication of this process. Then, too, many who seek the advice of the relocation office are defying family pressures or overcoming doubts and fears in doing so. An impatient or arbitrary attitude is enough to overcome the delicate balance that exists in favor of relocation, and can send them into the ranks of the apathetic once more.

We have recommended the liberal use of art and graphic materials in a relocation reading and waiting room. Some could be used to good advantage, doubtless, in mess halls too. An evacuee asked to see the compilation of favorable press notices which was distributed to members of the appointive staff at the end of May. His comment was: "This is something that should be posted in every mess hall. It should be distributed among the evacuees here.

Instead it goes to the A.P.'s, who take one glance at it and stick it in a file or throw it in the wastebasket. I got B's copy and showed it to a group of residents. They said, 'This isn't what we see in the coast papers. We didn't know articles like this appeared in the press.'" The suggestion here was that the common gathering place, the mess halls should be used for the display of material that would neutralize misconceptions concerning the press and political situations. There is no reason why the mess hall could not be used for the display of materials pertaining to relocation as well.

_____ has suggested another manner in which display material can be used; he suggests that a traveling exhibit on Relocation be sent to the Block Manager's offices for a week at a time. Discussion groups and groups of men playing goh often meet in these offices and such a display might well turn conversation and thought in the direction of relocation. Besides it would bring the issue to people who seldom come to the administrative center of the project.

Still another powerful medium might be moving pictures. A special effort might be made to obtain shorts and travelogs showing various parts of the United States. It would be well if these could be shown before large groups at the Friday and Saturday performances in the firebreak. These films need not be formally labeled a part of the relocation program, but they might help to stimulate interest in the outside and thus supplement a many-sided program.

The Department of Education here has shown a wholesome and avid interest in promoting relocation. It may be, however, that its program can be still further correlated with the efforts of the relocation office. During relocation week, one teacher had her typing class "write letters" to firms and notables on the outside, telling of their qualifications and asking for a position. Such an approach is most valuable, psychologically. The young person who has written a strong letter explaining why he is fit and suitably trained to take

his place in normal life on the outside, has taken an attitude concerning himself which will logically end in relocation. There is no reason why a similar relation between relocation and other subjects cannot be established. English themes, for instance, might be written on the subject: "The Reasons Why I Wish to Relocate in _____." Geography and History might emphasize knowledge concerning the regions to which relocatees are going, etc.

The libraries, too, might be logical places at which to have relocation exhibits. The young people who are finishing school and who are thinking seriously about their futures and the means of making a livelihood would see them there. The better educated and better trained persons who have responded best to relocation suggestions thus far would receive added stimulation.

Because the main doubt and worry of candidates for relocation has to do with their fears of public reaction, it is imperative that their dread of hostility directed against them and their concern over loneliness and friendlessness, be overcome. This might be accomplished to some degree, if interested people, in regions which are friendly and receptive to those of Japanese ancestry, would write friendly and encouraging letters to individuals or groups within the Center. Through the churches and the committees which Mr. Rundquist has organized in various localities, opportunities for written exchanges of this kind might be worked out. Psychologically, they would be most important, for it would mean much to evacuees to feel that someone is actually and personally interested in them in places to which they might go.

As soon as the supply of relatively independent and unattached candidates runs low, the continued success of the relocation program will depend increasingly on the ability to convince families that it is to their advantage to relocate, or that it is wise to allow some members of the family to relocate

even though, for reasons of age, health, etc. other members have decided to remain in the Center. More publicity should therefore be given to the degree to which the administration here is willing to aid with arrangement so that family affairs can be adjusted. For instance, too few know that if younger members of the household depart, the older or infirm persons who are left behind will be cared for by aides especially selected and paid for the purpose.

There is also complaint that the cost of relocating for a family is too high, that too little baggage can be sent out with a family without personal cost, and that the individual relocatee has the advantage in this respect. This is something that should be carefully checked, and, if adjustments are in order, they should be made.

Last, the growing idea that this Center is now becoming an ideal community and represents a normal way of life should be combated. Life here is now tolerable, and a great deal of discord which existed in the past has been markedly diminished. But for those who expect to re-establish themselves in ordinary American communities, it is an artificial and essentially unsound existence. For one thing, it is not desirable that the basic relations between Mongoloid and Caucasoid as is the case here, should be that of teacher and pupil or evacuee and appointive staff. The repercussions of this for those who grow up in the atmosphere and come to take it for granted are bound to be unfortunate and are likely to affect race relations on the outside in the future. Simply on the physical side, because of the density of population, the character of housing, and other inescapable features of Center life, the potential hazards of fire and epidemic are greater than in the ordinary community. We believe that a catalog of the artificialities and abnormalities which Center life necessarily imposes should be made up and that these should be frankly discussed with block managers, the Advisory Council and other responsible leaders and groups.

BACKGROUND FOR THE RELOCATION PROGRAM

(Prepared for Information of the Staff of the War Relocation Authority)
Not for Publication

Japanese Migration to the United States

As every schoolboy knows, Japan was a deliberately insulated island empire--almost completely cut off from the outside world--when Commodore Perry made his first visit there in 1853. In fact, at that time all Japanese subjects were forbidden to leave the empire, except under special permit, on penalty of death. The first Japanese to arrive in this country, therefore, were shipwrecked sailors and occasional stowaways on foreign vessels. As late as 1870 the total Japanese population in the United States was only 55.

Following a Japanese revolution in 1868, however, contacts with the outside world slowly began to develop and the stringent regulations governing emigration were gradually relaxed. The first major movement of Japanese people to a foreign land started in the 1870's when Hawaiian sugar planters, seeking a new source of cheap labor, began importing farm workers on a contract labor basis from Japan into the islands. Throughout the 1880's, as increasing numbers of Japanese farm boys responded to the lure of higher wages than they had ever known, the movement to Hawaii continued at an accelerating pace.

Meanwhile some of the Japanese began to hear of even richer work opportunities that were commencing to develop on the West Coast of the United States. Throughout the 1890's several thousands migrated from Hawaii to the mainland while others came over directly from Japan. Then in 1898 Hawaii was annexed as a territory of the United States, and importation of labor on a contract basis was automatically abolished. Free immigration, however, continued in full swing. In the first decade of the present century more than 50,000 Japanese immigrants arrived on our shores from Japan and another 37,000 came in by way of Hawaii.

The motivation for this movement was twofold. In Japan the grinding poverty of an overpopulated land served as a stimulus to outward movement. On the West Coast of the United States, on the other hand, the rapidly expanding needs for labor in agriculture, lumbering, mining, and railways provided a powerful magnet. As in the case of immigrants from European countries, many Japanese workers were drawn to our shores by the "golden stories" written by the early arrivers. More important, however, were the emigration societies formed by enterprising Japanese for the purpose of exploiting the swiftly developing movement. These companies, advertising for workers in Japan through traveling solicitors and literature, arranged the details of the voyage to America even down to the point of suggesting suitable boarding houses on this side of the water where the immigrants could learn of employment opportunities.

From 1890 to 1908 most of the immigrants were young men who either were unmarried or had left their wives behind in Japan. Taking jobs on farms and in the West Coast cities, they soon displayed a capacity for hard work and a frugality of living that seriously threatened to drive down American standards through sheer competition. As a result, agitation against the admission of Japanese immigrants grew steadily on the Coast throughout this period. Finally, in 1907 and 1908 the United States and Japan negotiated a series of diplomatic exchanges known as the Gentlemen's Agreement which limited future immigration to the non-laboring classes.

From 1908 until passage of the Exclusion Act in 1924 the bulk of the immigrants were women. Some were the wives of men who had come over during the earlier period. But a great many were so-called "picture brides" selected by the single men from photographs and brought over under a

matrimonial-bureau type of arrangement through the consular offices. The birth rate among the West Coast Japanese, which had been extremely low prior to 1910, rose sharply during the following decade. In 1920, however, after prolonged agitation in California, the Japanese government cut off the entry of the picture brides, and the birth rate among Japanese in this country has been dropping slowly but steadily ever since. For the past 18 years (i.e. since passage of the Exclusion Act), the only Japanese admitted to the United States have been ministers of religion and a few others coming in under special permit.

Thus, the immigration of Japanese had two characteristics which distinguish it from all other major influxes of foreign nationals into the United States. It was limited in time to a relatively compact period of 35 or 40 years. And it followed a somewhat peculiar pattern with respect to the development of families. These two facts help to explain the unusual age distribution which prevails among the American Japanese population today.

Because most of the immigrants married relatively late in life, there is a pronounced gap in ages between the first and second generations. And, since practically all the aliens came to this country as adults more than 18 years ago, they naturally tend to have an uncommonly high average age. The average age of the Issei is close to 60 years. The group with which WRA is concerned, then, consists mainly of older people plus young adults or children with a relative scarcity of individuals in the supposedly most productive years of middle life. This fact, obviously, must be considered in practically all plans made for community life at the relocation centers.

Economic and Social Aspects of American Japanese Life

Prior to evacuation, there were roughly 112,000 people of Japanese ancestry living in the evacuated area--California, the western half of Oregon and Washington, and the southern half of Arizona. Approximately two-thirds of them are American citizens. While the remainder are aliens, it should be remembered that nearly all of them have been in this country for 18 years or more and that, unlike most European immigrants, they have been prevented by the laws of the United States from becoming naturalized citizens. Since the average age of the second generation is only about 22, aliens probably constitute a slight majority of the adult American Japanese population. Nearly 25 per cent of the total group is under 15 years of age.

In the years since the early Japanese immigrants arrived on the West Coast, the alien group as a whole has probably climbed several rungs up the economic ladder. By dint of hard work and frugal living, many of the first-generation Japanese have risen from the ranks of common labor to highly responsible positions as farm managers and supervisors, or as owners of shops, businesses, restaurants, and similar establishments. Although very few of the alien Japanese have risen to positions of real wealth, there are many who could be classed as moderately well-to-do, and practically none who have not effected some improvement in economic status since their first arrival.

Meanwhile a whole new generation has grown up in American surroundings and under the influence of American education. This second-generation group--far more American than Japanese in speech, dress, manner, and attitude--is just beginning to exercise a really important influence on the American-Japanese community. Its members are, on the whole, well educated, ambitious, and intelligent. Although some have followed their fathers in a career of

farming, the majority have tended to gravitate toward the larger West Coast cities and toward business or professional careers. By and large, these American-born Japanese are a more distinctly urban group than their elders and more accustomed to American standards of living.

The evacuees, in short, are a highly heterogeneous body of people. They include in their numbers doctors, lawyers, and businessmen as well as farmers, fishermen, and truck drivers--learned doctors of philosophy as well as muscular young men without special skills. Despite this occupational versatility, however, only a very few of the American Japanese on the West Coast have been able to carve out lives or careers for themselves among the American community at large. Due to a variety of economic and social discriminations dating back to the period before 1924, they have tended to congregate in compact communities and to have relatively little social or economic intercourse with their Caucasian neighbors.

Why the Evacuation was Necessary

The full story behind the West Coast evacuation has never been adequately told and probably will not be until many years after the return of peace. It is a complex story with many chapters that must necessarily remain hazy in time of total war. Certain basic facts, however, are widely known and should be understood.

In the first place, there were a number of hard, practical considerations of a strictly military nature. The United States was--and, of course, still is--engaged in a total war against a powerful, ruthless, and highly resourceful foe. The Pacific Coast, teeming with vital industries and lying closer to Japan than any other part of the country, was obviously a potential

arena of combat in that war. Although the majority of American Japanese on the Coast were recognized by competent authorities as loyal, their behavior in the event of a bombing raid or an invasion attempt by Japanese forces was unpredictable. Under such circumstances, would all American Japanese cooperate loyally in the defense? Or would some of them respond to years of Caucasian discrimination suffered in this country and aid the attacking forces? It was conceivable at least that even some of those who had always considered themselves pro-American might react unfavorably when faced with such a powerful and unprecedented test of loyalty. And in time of desperate struggle for national survival, the risk was too great to run.

Then, too, there were a number of factors that might be classed under the heading of "public morale." In the weeks immediately following Pearl Harbor there was a marked heightening of popular feeling against the American Japanese all up and down the Pacific Coast. Rumors of sabotage by resident Japanese at Honolulu on the morning of December 7--later proved wholly false--were spread and exaggerated. The time-worn and fallacious credo that "all Japanese are sly and treacherous" was fortified and strengthened in the minds of many by the very nature of the Pearl Harbor attack. The presence of Chinese and Filipinos in large number near the Pacific Coast added to the general confusion and the fear of violence between racial and national groups.

By the latter part of February, it had become abundantly clear that the American Japanese people--quite apart from their individual intentions--were complicating the problems of western defense in numberless ways simply by living in vital areas. As long as they continued to reside in these areas, the military authorities could never be wholly free to concentrate on the primary job of defending our western frontier. Mass removal of the American

Japanese was admittedly a drastic step, but it was deemed the only effective way to clear up a situation that was becoming more critical and chaotic with every passing week of the war.

These are some of the outstanding reasons that made evacuation a military necessity.

Mechanics of the Evacuation

The legal foundations for the evacuation were laid down on February 19 in President Roosevelt's Executive Order 9066 which authorized the Secretary of War or any designated military commander to prescribe military areas and to exclude from such areas any or all persons whose presence was deemed contrary to national security. Acting under authority of this Order, Lieut. Gen. J. L. DeWitt, commanding general of the Western Defense Command, on March 2 issued a proclamation defining certain military areas in California, Oregon, Washington, and Arizona, from which all persons of Japanese ancestry eventually would be excluded.

With the issuance of that proclamation, the machinery of evacuation was swiftly set in motion. On March 14 the Wartime Civil Control Administration was set up by the Western Defense Command to handle the details of actual movement. Four days later, the War Relocation Authority was established by Executive Order 9102 to carry out the long-range job of resettling or re-establishing the evacuated people. And by March 23, the first contingent of evacuees--1,000 volunteers from the Los Angeles area--was on its way to the Manzanar Reception Center established by the Army in the Owens Valley section of eastern California.

Meanwhile the Western Defense Command had been urging all people of Japanese ancestry to move out voluntarily and resettle on their own initiative.

In response to this plea, approximately 8,000 moved out during February and March--some to the eastern portions of the coastal states and others to the intermountain region in Utah, Colorado, and neighboring states. The reaction was quick and unmistakable. The inland communities, ill prepared to receive large numbers of evacuees on such short notice, were soon protesting vigorously against the influx and threatening forcible action against the evacuees. By March 27 the situation had become so acute, particularly in the intermountain states, that the Western Defense Command decided to halt all further voluntary evacuation. Two days later, all people of Japanese descent in the western half of the three coastal states and the southern half of Arizona were "frozen" in their homes and made subject to curfew regulations. Since that time, the evacuation has been carried forward under a series of exclusion orders issued by the Army in accordance with an orderly and systematic plan.

In essence, the plan of evacuation was simple. Once an exclusion order was issued covering a specific area, the heads of all affected families were ordered to report at a control station established by the Wartime Civil Control Administration. At this station, a "team" of employees from Federal agencies cooperating with WCCA on the evacuation informed the evacuees regarding their removal and helped them with the manifold personal problems that inevitably resulted. Representatives of the Federal Reserve Bank provided aid and guidance in connection with the sale or leasing of business establishments and other urban properties. The Farm Security Administration lent a hand on the disposal of agricultural holdings and the negotiation of lease arrangements. The Federal Security Agency furnished needy evacuees with public assistance and general welfare services. The Public Health Service handled routine physical check-ups and inoculations. Military personnel supervised the whole process, registered the evacuees, and prepared them for actual movement.

In spite of the valuable assistance provided by these agencies, many of the evacuees suffered serious losses in disposing of their properties. In the haste and confusion of evacuation, such losses were doubtless inevitable. But the fact remains that the economic status of many American Japanese is now far lower than it was before evacuation.

To provide temporary gathering places for the evacuees inside the Military Area, the Wartime Civil Control Administration swiftly established a chain of 15 assembly centers stretching from Puyallup, Washington, to the small town of Mayer in central Arizona. The other 13 centers were located at North Portland in Oregon and at Fresno, Marysville, Merced, Pinedale, Pemona, Sacramento, San Bruno, Salinas, Arcadia, Stockton, Turlock, and Tulare in California. Manzanar in the Owens Valley section of California, originally established by the Wartime Civil Control Administration as a "reception" center, was transferred on June 1 to the War Relocation Authority and has since been operated as a relocation center.

Most of the assembly centers were set up at race tracks (like the Santa Anita establishment in Arcadia) or at fairgrounds (like the one at Stockton) where facilities such as water and electric power were readily available. Evacuee capacity of the centers ranged from Mayer with only 250, to Santa Anita with a potential capacity of almost 20,000. Although the great majority of evacuees were housed in assembly centers for a period of several weeks following their evacuation, several thousand (particularly from the eastern half of California) were transferred directly from their homes to relocation centers.

By August 7 all people of Japanese descent formerly residing in any part of California, in the western half of Oregon and Washington, and in the

southern half of Arizona, had been removed from their homes and were living either in assembly centers or in relocation communities.

The Relocation Program

Basically, the War Relocation Authority has three major functions with respect to the evacuees of Japanese ancestry: (1) To provide them with an equitable substitute for the lives and homes given up; (2) to reestablish them as a productive segment of the American population; and (3) to facilitate their re-assimilation into the normal currents of American life.

The first phase of the job is carried out principally at the relocation centers. Obviously, in the wilderness-type surroundings where most relocation centers are located and against the background of material shortages and wartime priorities, completely normal communities will not be possible. Like all Americans--but to a far greater extent than most--the evacuees inevitably will have to give up many of the comforts and conveniences which they enjoyed in time of peace. At all times, however, the ultimate aim of the WRA will be to make life at the relocation centers as close to normal as wartime exigencies will permit. In every way, the evacuees should be made to feel that it is their community and that its ultimate success or failure depends largely on their efforts. Fullest possible latitude should be accorded to the residents in the conduct of their community affairs. Cooperation, and not paternalism, should be the guiding principle of all relationships between WRA staff members and the relocated people.

Effective employment of the evacuees is one of the most urgent problems facing the War Relocation Authority. The 110,000 people making up the evacuee population constitute a sizable reservoir of manpower and skills which the Nation can ill afford to leave idle in time of total war. Mass

unemployment would be demoralizing to the evacuees and costly to the taxpayers of the Nation. Every effort should be made, therefore, to get all evacuees who are willing and able to work assigned on suitable jobs at the earliest possible date.

Of the three major functions of WRA, the third is perhaps the most important. The so-called "Japanese problem" in this country stems largely from the fact that our Japanese population has always been concentrated to a great extent along the Pacific Coast. Looking ahead to the post-war period, it seems clear that a return to these conditions will be neither wholly feasible nor satisfactory. If the American Japanese people are ever to assume their rightful place in our national life, free of discriminations and animosities, an effort must be made during the war to prevent the formation of "Little Tokyos" in the future. Under the leave regulations which became effective October 1, 1942, it is the policy of the War Relocation Authority to re-establish as many of the evacuees as possible in private life outside the relocation centers. Because of the widespread public apprehension toward all people of Japanese ancestry, individual relocation of the evacuees will obviously have to proceed slowly and without fanfare of publicity for many months to come. Wholesale discharge of the evacuees at this time would lead almost inevitably to the very type of situation that brought about curtailment of voluntary evacuation back in March. Within the limits of national security and administrative expediency, however, the Authority will work throughout the wartime period toward a gradual depopulation of the relocation centers and a dispersal of those evacuees about whom there is no question of loyalty. In the last analysis, the relocation centers should be regarded not as places of detention or confinement, but as way-stations on the road to individual relocation and reassimilation into American life.