

War Department Still Does Not Meet Jap Issue

Tentative assurances from the War Department to California Congressmen that there is no immediate intention of returning Japanese en masse to the Pacific Coast are all right as far as they go, but they do not go very far.

The States from which the Japanese were removed as a war measure are still of the opinion that it would be unwise to permit the return of any substantial number of Japanese at any time during the war. The reasons have often been explained and are still as cogent as they ever were. An additional

reason is that western cities are extremely short of housing and that there is no place to put them, nor likely to be until the war is over.

To say that there is no immediate intention of returning Japs here is not to say that there may not be such an intention tomorrow, or next week or next month. The War Department should be more specific.

Infiltration of returning Japs bears every resemblance to an intention to return "as many as the traffic will bear," and perhaps more.

Two Percent of U.S. Nisei May Ask Expatriation, Is Belief

WRA Official Affirms Loyalty of Great Majority of Japanese Americans

WASHINGTON—John Provinse, acting administrator of the War Relocation Authority, told the House Immigration Committee Wednesday that perhaps 4,000 American-born Japanese would renounce their United States citizenship, if a means were found for them to do so.

There are approximately 200,000 United States citizens of Japanese ancestry in the continental United States and Hawaii.

Provinse and Rep. Herman Eberharter, D., Pa., were the last witnesses in hearings of the House Committee designed to clarify the citizenship problem of persons of Japanese ancestry. The House group is considering various bills to provide for the denation-

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In one of the strongest indictments ever levelled at the Dies committee, one of its own members last week said it had "fostered a type of racial thinking" that might result in "an everlastingly shameful blot on our national record."

The charge came from Rep. Herman P. Eberharter (D., Pa.) in a minority report to the House on the Dies committee's investigation of the disorders at the Tule Lake Japanese segregation center last November. "It is my considered opinion," Eberharter reported, "that the 'investigation' of the War Relocation Authority program has not only been a painful parody on fairminded and constructive Congressional inquiry but a serious disservice to the American people.

Eberharter, who served as a member of the three-man subcommittee that conducted the investigation, devoted a section of his report to the "investigating techniques" em-

JAP LOYALTY LAW PLANNED

Gearhart Bill Would Require Renouncing Fealty to Nippon

WASHINGTON, Feb. 6.—(AP)—Representative Gearhart (Republican), California, said today he would introduce a bill requiring all Japanese in this country to renounce any allegiance to Japan.

The proposed bill would make failure to file such an oath with a naturalization court within 60 days punishable by loss of United States citizenship and ultimate deportation to Japan.

Gearhart said he expected that this procedure would reveal over 30,000 Japanese here who are disloyal to the United States.

"Already," he declared in a statement, "2772 Japanese have requested deportation to Japan, openly professing loyalty to that empire. Over 20,000 have refused to give any written expression of loyalty to the United States."

The oath of allegiance would require the Japanese to pledge support of the Constitution of the United States, bear arms against Japan, declare "disbelief in the divine character or deific ancestry of the Emperor of Japan, or in any divine mission acting in the role of prosecuting attorney rather than as judge or as grand jury. It seemed that every opportunity was pounced upon to ferret out minor flaws and get abundant publicity on the wildest allegations.

"Testimony of discharged or disgruntled former employes re-

Refusal To Bear Restrictions Are Is Said Under C

In what is reported to be a general petition for redress of grievances Nisei to military service is being prepared Thursday.

The petitions are expected to be National Director Dillon S. Myer, and

Take Steps to Insure Security At Tule Lake

Trouble-Making Group Segregated as Police Force Is Enlarged

SAN FRANCISCO—Steps taken to strengthen internal security at the Tule Lake segregation center and prevent a recurrence of recent disturbances there, among them the segregation of "trouble makers" and the expansion of the police force, were outlined in San Francisco on Thursday of last week by Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority.

According to the WRA, security measures taken at the Tule Lake segregation camp include:

A fence under 24-hour patrol has been put up between the evacuees' settlement and the administration area.

The internal security staff has been increased from 10 to 66 civilian policemen and later picked evacuees will be added to the force. Three patrol cars will cruise the camp.

The military police, which returned control of the camp back to the federal agency last week, has established a "perimeter guard" around the entire place and keeps a check on all persons going in and out.

Myer indicated that the isolation area at Tule Lake is intended for Japanese Americans, and any aliens who cause trouble will be turned over to the Department of Justice. At present there are 244 in segregation as recalcitrants, Myer said, with all communication under strict censorship and families and visitors barred.

The WRA at Tule Lake has also revealed plans for erection as soon as materials are available of a camp prison for internees convicted of minor infractions. At present they are being sent to near-by jails.

Myer also believed that camp security "is as adequate as possible under the circumstances.

WRA Official Says Iowa Attitude Not Altered by Events

DES MOINES, Ia.—Iowans in general have not altered their attitude of tolerance toward Japanese Americans since the publication of the recent atrocity stories, Frank Gibbs, War Relocation Authority supervisor in Des Moines, said on Sunday.

In a recent relocation report issued out of Kansas City, Mo., Gibbs is quoted as saying:

"Resettlers who have taken up farm work in this area mostly are doing the general type middlewest farming. They are adapting themselves quite readily. This is evidenced by the fact that neighboring farmers in the area having observed these evacuees at work are coming forward with more and more offers, a number of which have not yet been filled.

"General acceptance of the resettler in the area has been extraordinarily good. This applies to the larger districts as well as the rural districts."

There are approximately 275 Japanese Americans in the state of Iowa at the present time, including 34 families. About 100 of the number are students, 67 being enrolled in the universities and colleges, and 14 in war training courses at West High in Des Moines.

Reps. Sheppard, D., Calif., and Leroy Johnson, R., Calif., maintained that there is ample precedent for removing citizenship from Americans of Japanese ancestry who acknowledge loyalty to Japan. Rep. Norrell, D., Ark., declared "When Congress sets out acts which constitute unfriendliness to this country, we have a right to say those who commit the acts have forfeited their citizenship."

It was reported that the Sheppard of the Japanese people, the Emperor of Japan or any members of the Yamoto race," and to "denounce and decry all such pretensions and assertions as absurd and ridiculous, unworthy of acceptance of any save those bereft of reason and devoid of common sense."

Only a "convinced American," Gearhart said, would take such an oath because it would mean his expulsion from Japanese circles which believe in the deity of the Emperor.

Biddle Sees Amendment to Nationality Act

WASHINGTON, D. C. — An amendment to the nationality code under which Japanese Americans, who make a formal, written renunciation of nationality will lose their American citizenship has been proposed by Attorney General Biddle.

Drafts of the legislation were submitted to both the House and the Senate on Jan. 25.

Biddle's amendment would rule out previous statements of allegiance to Japan and will require formal renunciation of nationality "in any such form as may be prescribed by, and before such officer as may be designed by, the Attorney General."

The Justice Department head's recommendation was proposed as an alternative measure after Biddle criticized bills by Reps. Sheppard of Calif., Leroy Johnson of California, and Norrell of Arkansas, which he declared were "much broader than necessary" and proposed expatriation or deportation methods which have "constitutional doubts," he declared.

He declared that the registration program of the WRA was conducted under circumstances "confusing to the Japanese." Many negative answers on the question of loyalty were, he said, due to resentment against the evacuation program or living conditions in relocation camps.

None of the disloyal Japanese can be deported until after the war, the Attorney General said, and Japan has the right to refuse to accept any of them regardless of action Congress may take.

More sweeping legislation was urged by Rep. Engle, (D., Calif.), who declared: "We don't want those Japs back in California and the more we can get rid of the better."

Pearl Buck Asks Californians For Sanity on Race Attitudes

NEW YORK CITY—Pearl Buck, author and lecturer, this month appealed to Californians to keep their wits and common sense in their attitude toward Orientals, and particularly Japanese Americans, in an article published in Asia magazine.

She asked that all Americans "insist that in our country all persons, whatever their ancestry, be given their rights."

Pointing out that the colored races outnumber the white 17 to 1, Miss Buck declared:

"What are we white people going to do with this embarrassing world where God in his inscrutability made us a minority people and Satan in his malicious mischief gave us a majority complex?"

Speaking to Californians in particular, the noted author wrote: "When our tradition of human rights is broken we are all endangered.

"And how you are being watched, you people of California—not only by other Americans, but by all the peoples of Asia! If you do not treat these American citizens of Japanese descent fairly, millions of people in China and in India and Russia are going to say, 'The Americans are no better than the Japs—and besides, they are white.'"

"Once in an eon a single people is given the opportunity to shape the world's direction. That opportunity is now ours. And because you in California face the Pacific and Asia, you among us have the crux in your hands."

help to the peoples of Greece and Poland, after his colleagues had urged that President Roosevelt issue immediately a forthright declaration of his foreign policy.

The Senate debate ranged over a wide field of foreign affairs and revealed fear among some Senators that the United States is being out-manuevered in preparing for the wars' aftermath.

CONFIRMATIONS WAIT

With the Senate locked in debate on these matters, the pending question of whether to confirm six presidential appointments to the State Department remained unanswered.

Johnson, a member of the Senate foreign relations committee and a veteran of the great battle in the Senate over the League of Nations a quarter of a century ago, could hardly be heard by Senators a few feet away and by spectators in the galleries. "Democrats and Republicans," he leaned forward in pin-drop silence to catch Johnson's faltering words—a distinct contrast to other years in which his voice vibrated with strength.

HIS VOICE BREAKS

"I wish I had the strength so that I could talk to you of what is happening in Greece," Johnson said. "I wish I could tell you how men are being

West coast congressmen had demanded the reorganization of the WRA after the recent Tule Lake incident, asking military or Department of Justice control of the relocation centers.

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In one of the strongest indictments ever levelled at the Dies committee, one of its own members last week said it had "fostered a type of racial thinking" that might result in "an everlastingly shameful blot on our national record."

The charge came from Rep. Herman P. Eberharter (D., Pa.) in a minority report to the House on the Dies committee's investigation of the disorders at the Tule Lake Japanese segregation center last November. "It is my considered opinion," Eberharter reported, "that the 'investigation' of the War Relocation Authority program has not only been a painful parody on fairminded and constructive Congressional inquiry but a serious disservice to the American people."

Eberharter, who served as a member of the three-man subcommittee that conducted the investigation, devoted a section of his report to the "investigating techniques" employed. He said he did so, although he was personally friendly with the other members of the subcommittee, because "the issue is too important to permit personal consideration to intervene." He charged they had been "lured into following techniques which in my conception are contrary to democratic processes."

The other members of the subcommittee were Chairman John M. Costello (D., Calif.) and Karl E. Mundt (D., S. D.)

Eberharter said he had agreed to serve on the subcommittee because he felt Congressional investigations, properly conducted, were a valuable part of democracy. But he added that they must serve "with an open mind and real zeal for finding out the facts" and must keep in mind "the heavy responsibility incumbent upon them to present accurate, unbiased information and recommendations as a guide to legislative action."

"With these principles in mind," he said, "I have participated in the investigation of the War Relocation Authority program with a growing feeling of apprehension. From the beginning, it has been apparent that my associates on the subcommittee and the staff investigators have a conception of our assignment which is fundamentally different from mine."

"An onlooker would have concluded that the committee was acting in the role of prosecuting attorney rather than as judge or as grand jury. It seemed that every opportunity was pounced upon to ferret out minor flaws and get abundant publicity on the wildest allegations."

"Testimony of discharged or disgruntled former employees re-

Refusal To Bear Arms Unless Restrictions Are Lifted Now Is Said Under Consideration

In what is reported to be a general movement in relocation centers, petitions for redress of grievances prior to the induction of draft-age Nisei to military service is being proposed, the Rocky Shimpo was advised Thursday.

The petitions are expected to be sent to President Roosevelt, WRA National Director Dillon S. Myer, and the War Department.

In the action, the petitioners are said to be contending that various restrictions on persons of Japanese ancestry in the United States should first be lifted before the Nisei are compelled to military induction.

It is reported that the petitioners are requesting the following redress of grievances: (1) universal application of the draft rather than the discriminatory segregation plan; (2) induction into Air Force, Coast Guard, Navy as well as the Army; (3) lifting of west coast ban on admission of Japanese; (4) release of parents of draftees from internment camps; (5) counteraction of anti-Japanese sentiments and incidents toward U. S. Japanese; and (6) full restoration of their civil and inalienable rights.

The petitioners are said to be prepared to undergo prison confinement or transfer to Tule Lake segregation camp rather than to bear arms for the United States under current conditions.

Justice Department Will Act To Protect Loyal Nisei from Pending Congress Legislation

Members of House Immigration Committee Express Doubts Regarding Validity of Moves to Strip "Disloyal" Citizens of Citizenship by Legislation

WASHINGTON—It was reported here this week that the Department of Justice will warn the House Committee on Immigration on the illegality of any pending bill which would inflict penalties on loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry, particularly on those serving in the armed forces of the United States.

The House Committee was reported ready to meet this week to consider legislative proposals for the denationalization of "disloyal" Japanese Americans.

Meanwhile, it was also reported that members of the House Immigration Committee were expressing doubts regarding the validity of moves to strip certain Japanese Americans of their citizenship through legislation.

It was stated that authors of three pending bills were confident that Congress can "denationalize" native-born citizens who refuse to swear allegiance to the United States, but Rep. Samuel Dickstein, D., N.Y., chairman of the House immigration committee, and other committee members repeatedly questioned whether such measures can be reconciled with the Constitution.

Reps. Sheppard, D., Calif., and Leroy Johnson, R., Calif., maintained that there is ample precedent for removing citizenship from Americans of Japanese ancestry who acknowledge loyalty to Japan. Rep. Norrell, D., Ark., declared "When Congress sets out acts which constitute unfriendliness to this country, we have a right to say those who commit the acts have forfeited their citizenship."

It was reported that the Sheppard bill provides revocation of

citizenship upon conviction for "knowingly and intentionally expressing loyalty to a foreign state." Johnson has suggested creation of a special commission to review the cases of all Japanese Americans and expatriate those who do not demonstrate allegiance to the United States. The Norrell measure directs the President to arrest all Japanese Americans who are unfriendly to the United States and call for special efforts to exchange them with Americans held in Japan.

Testifying before the House Committee last week Sheppard quoted Attorney General Biddle as having told the Dies Committee last year that there is no reason why Japanese Americans who are not loyal to the United States should not lose their citizenship, but that there was no statute for that purpose.

Dickstein replied that he doubted whether "we can take away a man's birthright under the Constitution," adding that he was not trying to defend any disloyal group but that "the Constitution does give them some inalienable rights."

WASHINGTON—John Province, acting administrator of the War Relocation Authority, told the House Immigration Committee Wednesday that perhaps 4,000 American-born Japanese would renounce their United States citizenship, if a means were found for them to do so.

There are approximately 200,000 United States citizens of Japanese ancestry in the continental United States and Hawaii.

Province and Rep. Herman Eberharter, D., Pa., were the last witnesses in hearings of the House Committee designed to clarify the citizenship problem of persons of Japanese ancestry. The House group is considering various bills which provide for the denationalization of disloyal citizens of Japanese ancestry.

Rep. Samuel Dickstein, D., N. Y., chairman of the committee, commented that there is a feeling the WRA has "not done the job that should and could be done" in handling the relocation of evacuees of Japanese ancestry. Province replied that it was much easier to say how a job should be done than to actually do it.

He said about 1,200 youths volunteered for the armed services from war relocation camps and that few youths over 17 had refused to sign the loyalty pledge.

Province estimated that 90 percent of the citizens of Japanese ancestry are completely loyal to this country.

Eberharter, who advocated the expatriation of the disloyal group, declared that he thought such action would be valuable to the morale of loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Gov. Warren Raps Agency On Tule Lake

Voices Severe Criticism Of Policy Pursued by War Relocation Authority

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Earl Warren on Jan. 20 criticized the return of the Tule Lake segregation camp to civilian control, although he said he would take the judgment of the army as to the effect of the action on military security.

Gov. Warren said he was "frank to say" that in his opinion the practices followed by the War Relocation Authority were not consistent with safety of citizens of the State or "in my humble opinion" with military security.

Warren said the "loose discipline" exercised by the WRA in the care of the Japanese has destroyed the faith of the people of California in that agency.

"I think," he continued, "that the people of California are convinced that the agency has no concern for their safety. It does just as it pleases and, I think, in deliberate contempt of public opinion."

The governor of California said he had "some personal knowledge" of the conditions on the coast which led to the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry. He said he investigated land ownership by persons of Japanese ancestry and found a great number of instances of Japanese-owned land around vital areas. Not all of these, he said, could be accidents.

He said that a reading of a report by Lieut. Gen. DeWitt, former western defense commander, who ordered the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry, would support his position.

Report WRA May Be Placed Under Ickes

War Relocation Agency May Be Transferred To Interior Department

WASHINGTON — The War Relocation Authority, administrator of ten Japanese American relocation camps, will be transferred to the Interior Department under Secretary Harold Ickes, the Washington Post's authoritative daily column, "The Federal Diary," reported on Jan. 21.

The WRA is at present an independent agency created under the emergency war powers of President Roosevelt.

"The transfer order already has been drawn and it's reported it has been signed by the President," the Post added. "Announcement of the transfer is being delayed, it's said, until the move can be discussed with Dillon S. Myer, WRA director, who is now on the west coast and who won't return here until Jan. 28."

The Post said that Myer and the present WRA staff will be given the opportunity of remaining with WRA after it loses its independence.

West coast congressmen had demanded the reorganization of the WRA after the recent Tule Lake incident, asking military or Department of Justice control of the relocation centers.

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Future May Be Less Troublesome

Second Class Citizens' Status

Dillon Mver Defends Policies of War Relocation

California Paper Raps Grange Resolution as 'Out of Order'

In its lead editorial, November 19, the Palo Alto (Calif.) Times attacked the resolution of the National Grange urging deportation of all Japanese at the end of the war, terming it premature and out of order.

The Grange members would be serving their country best in this emergency, in the opinion of the Times, by "concentrating on food production, and leaving the delicate matters of international and inter-racial questions for settlement at the proper time and by properly constituted agencies."

"The relocation of Pacific coast Japanese as an emergency measure in wartime is one thing. The handling of the problem presented by our Japanese residents after the war is quite another. Whatever policy is to be pursued at that time must depend necessarily upon conditions and incidents that develop then and which are not within our range of prophecy right now.

"For that reason, among others, such resolutions as those proposed to the National Grange convention are premature, to say the least, and are out of order for other reasons as well."

George Sehlmeier, master of the California state grange, in advocating that all Japanese in the United States be deported to Japan at the end of the war, stated, "California farmers are convinced that Japanese, whether born in this country

try are basically disloyal. A hearty disagree with that contention. Much of the comment represents the loosest and most dangerous kind of talk. The one principle above all which has guided our actions is the belief that there is a place in this melting-pot nation for all people of good will and democratic faith, regardless of racial antecedents."

The WRA director reported that there are now about 9000 soldiers of Japanese descent in the United States army, nearly one-half of whom are volunteers since Pearl Harbor. One unit, he said, has had nearly one-third casualties in recent fighting in Italy, and another unit is in training in Mississippi.

Myer noted the War Department announcement of the opening of selective service for Japanese Americans and said that the War Department's actions should prove the army's opinion on Japanese Americans.

"Those who urge mass deportation overlook the repercussions it would have from a constitutional standpoint," he added, noting that the Supreme Court had not yet ruled on the validity of evacuation or detention.

"Practically all lawyers are

or not, are loyal to Japan."

The Times pointed out that the "mere fact that some one vocational group is convinced of a certain point that bears no relation whatever to the particular vocation is not sufficient in itself to establish the contention as an indisputable fact. Nor can it be assumed safely that any one farm organization speaks necessarily the opinion of all farmers in the state."

"If we were to adopt as an infallible premise that every American-born Japanese is a disloyalist to this country," the Times continued, "and that he should be treated therefore as a hopeless enemy alien regardless of what his own inner feelings might be and of what his performance might indicate is disproof of that assumption, we would be placing no premium whatever on American loyalty for the nisei, and so would be leaving them no option but to treat us as enemies.

"Even the nisei whose loyalty to the United States has modified their resentment over relocation and prompted them to accept the conditions stoically as an inescapable wartime restriction on personal liberty could find no reason for remaining loyal to our country if they still were to be branded as disloyalists per se."

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(Following are excerpts from an address delivered by Francis Biddle, United States attorney general, before the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, November 11 in New York City.—The Editor.)

When in April of 1942, the United States army decided to exclude the 110,000 persons of Japanese origin, citizens and non-citizens alike, from the West coast as a military precaution to protect our Western defense command, the treacherous attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor was four months fresh and there had been movements of airplanes and submarines which indicated the possibility of an attack.

On June 3, 1942, Japanese planes raided Dutch Harbor in Alaska. The Japanese in the United States were concentrated in vital spots along the West coast—in Portland, San Francisco and Los Angeles. It was not surprising that public opinion in those states where Japanese were concentrated in great numbers was deeply disturbed over the possibility of sabotage and reacted violently against all persons of Japanese origin, loyal or disloyal alike.

The legal theory on which they were excluded was that anyone—citizen and alien alike—could be moved out of a war area for its protection. The theory was valid enough. But, like most theories, its ultimate test depended on the reasonableness of its exercise.

To say that citizens could be moved out of a war area might depend on the size of the area. If they could be moved away from the two coasts, away from possible points of attack, how

Roosevelt, Biddle Join In Backing Evacuees Against Discrimination

Two direct actions by the federal government—one from President Roosevelt himself—this week pointed toward a less troublesome future for loyal persons of Japanese ancestry.

The President, according to information reaching here, reiterated his executive order against discrimination against any person for reason of race, creed, color or national origin in war contracts and declared that his action was mandatory and not simply a directive to be ignored.

The President's action followed assertions made by Attorney General Francis Biddle that the administration would not yield to pressure from the Pacific coast for a policy of firmer handling of evacuees. The problem involved, Biddle said, was a "social" one and not political.

Under the terms of the President's order, all persons contracting with the government will be required to adhere to the antidiscrimination clause which prohibits placing an employee in a less favorable position because of race, creed, color or national origin. Sub-contractors as well as principal contractors must comply with the provisions.

The President's order against racial discrimination was issued some time ago but re-emphasis of the statement was made last week when Comptroller General Lindsay Warren interpreted it as a directive and therefore not mandatory. President Roosevelt was emphatic about his executive order being followed out to the letter.

Following his re-statement, the President in a letter addressed to Attorney General Biddle declared that the clause must be incorporated in all government contracts.

In his letter to the attorney general, the President said: "The prosecution of the war demands that we utilize fully all available manpower and that the discrimination by war industries against persons for any of the reasons named in the orders is detrimental to the prosecution of the war and is opposed to our national democratic purposes."

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Grew was awarded the Holland society's gold medal for distinguished achievement.

Biscaya Ru Ministers Warn Against Passing Of Anti-Japanese Legislation

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"I'm in able step turn of o clared She "It is that detail and that action be started without unnecessary delay. Many times investigations take long months and even years. We must shorten

here last week at The former an the society that citizens of Jap should not be ma of wartime prejud "I have too gr the sanctity of zenship to want Americans of J cent penalized through blind prejudice," Grew declared.

"I want to see them given a square deal. I want to see them treated as we rightly treat all other American citizens regardless of their racial origin—with respect and support.

"That fundamental principle," Grew said, "should apply all along the line—to every citizen of the United States of America."

Grew said that the nation must take every proper step to protect the country from hostile acts, espionage or sabotage, but the competent official authori-

majority of Japanese Americans, and stated that "hundreds of fellow citizens can corroborate this confidence on the basis of their dealings with nisei."

The association expressed absolute confidence in the efficiency and sufficiency of the FBI and navy and military intelligence services in apprehending subversive elements, and therefore termed un-Christian and unconstitutional any effort to disqualify persons from residence in any part of the country or freedom of occupation solely on the basis of ancestry, color or creed.

The association protested any attempt to gain such disqualifications through threats, violence or moral coercion.

established outside the centers in places where they may gain tolerance and acceptance.

The relocation authority has no power to intern American citizens; and constitutionally it is hard to believe that any such authority could be granted to the government. The decision of the Supreme court in the Hirabayashi case, de-

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12/11/43 H.M. Sentinel

These aliens in one of the internment camps operated by the department of justice at Crystal City, Texas, was repatriated. This was a "family" camp, so-called because wives and children of the interned alien enemies were allowed to live with them in family groups.

Among them was a Japanese family whose two sons, American-born, had already been released on their stated desire to remain in the United States, even though their family was returning to Japan. The morning the repatriates were scheduled to leave, the two Japanese boys returned to the camp to say goodbye to their parents.

Just at sunrise, as the American flag was being raised, and as the entire population of the camp gathered about the flagpole for a farewell ceremony, the two young Japanese Americans stepped forward, saluted the flag and sang "God Bless America." They then left to join the American army.

Recently a report from Fifth army headquarters made special mention of Japanese Americans fighting side by side with other Americans in Italy. I am told that more than five thousand men of Japanese origin are today enrolled in our army.

Neither Japan nor Germany can boast of American battalions in their ranks. The Fifth army says of these Japanese Americans: "They obviously believe in what they're doing, and look calmly secure because of it."

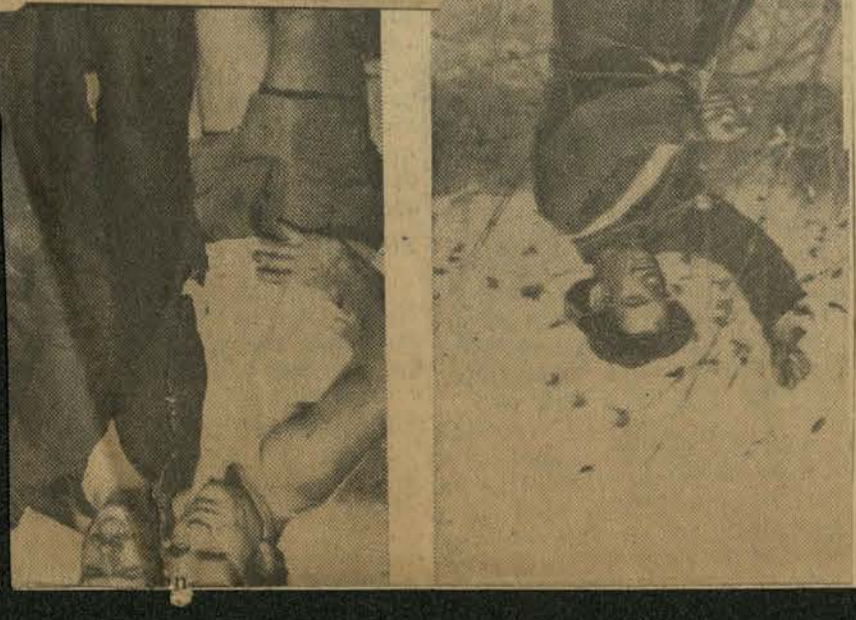
Our sons are today fighting side by side with the sons of Italians, of Germans, and of Japanese. Is anything more needed to entitle the loyal Japanese Americans to recognition?

For this is the essence of our democracy in practice. The Washington Star in a recent editorial, reporting the dispatch I have mentioned, made this admirable comment: "All races, all colors, make us up. And when wars like the present one engulf us, all races and all colors take up arms for America. When we strike back at our enemies, the American kin of those enemies do the striking—Americans of Italian extraction, of German extraction, even of Japanese extraction.

"We are of almost every extraction conceivable, black, white and yellow, and so we are tied together not by any mystical philosophy of blood or common ethnic traits, but solely and simply by an idea—the idea of democracy, of individual freedom, of liberty under law, of a justice before which all of us stand equal."

Local Postal Clerk Passes Physical

Harry L. Estes, center postal clerk, has passed his physical examination and will leave for Cheyenne by December 9 for induction into the army.



11/27/43

Acts Black, White and Yellow: 'We're All Tied Together by an Idea'

WRA Director Raps Coast Attempts to Reduce Nisei to Second Class Citizens' Status

Dillon Myer Defends Policies of War Relocation Authority in Speech at Town Hall in Los Angeles; Hits Proposals to Detain Japanese Americans in Camps

LOS ANGELES — Attempts of "many influential people and organizations" to reduce people born of Japanese ancestry in the United States to the status of second-class citizens were described as a "serious disservice to the war effort and providing the enemy with propaganda material" by Dillon S. Myer, national director of the War Relocation Authority in an appearance at a Town Hall meeting at the Biltmore last Friday.

The WRA director declared that a "persistent and vigorous campaign of race hatred" has been carried on recently on the west coast against Japanese Americans. He said that such a program was giving Tokyo material "to convince other Oriental nations that the United States is conducting a racial war." He said that these people and groups seemed intent on going "to almost any length" in their advocacy of restrictive treatment of Americans of Japanese ancestry.

Myer defended the War Relocation Authority's administrative policies at the Tule Lake center in northern California. He declared that recent disturbances there had been grossly misrepresented and that "this has jeopardized the prisoner-exchange process between the United States and Japan" and delayed the repatriation of Japanese nationals desiring to return to Japan.

Commenting on proposals for the mass internment of all persons of Japanese ancestry, Myer said:

"The idea of confining all people of Japanese descent in the centers has been strongly advocated by many individuals and organizations on the west coast. They hold all people of Japanese ancestry are basically disloyal. I heartily disagree with that contention. Much of the comment represents the loosest and most dangerous kind of talk. The one principle above all which has guided our actions is the belief that there is a place in this melting-pot nation for all people of good will and democratic faith, regardless of racial antecedents."

The WRA director reported that there are now about 9000 soldiers of Japanese descent in the United States army, nearly one-half of whom are volunteers since Pearl Harbor. One unit, he said, has had nearly one-third casualties in recent fighting in Italy, and another unit is in training in Mississippi.

Myer noted the War Department announcement of the opening of selective service for Japanese Americans and said that the War Department's actions should prove the army's opinion on Japanese Americans.

"Those who urge mass deportation overlook the repercussions it would have from a constitutional standpoint," he added, noting that the Supreme Court had not yet ruled on the validity of evacuation or detention.

"Practically all lawyers are

agreed that the Constitution does not provide for mass detention of American citizens. This was strongly emphasized recently by the Attorney General and brought out in a Circuit Court decision," he declared. "Mass confinement would be a blow at the constitutional safeguards which now protect every last one of us against arbitrary government action. It would mean a serious retreat from the principles of freedom and justice on which the nation was founded and which it is now fighting to defend."

Myer gave a detailed account of the Tule Lake situation to the Town Hall audience. He said his administration had never ignored or minimized the dangers from any person of Japanese ancestry who may be pro-Tokyo in sympathy. He said that the segregation and confinement of such persons, and the relocation of loyal persons of Japanese ancestry in normal communities was a part of the WRA's program.

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Included in the growing appeal was that of Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz, who two months ago introduced a resolution before the State War Council asking an exchange of internees between America and Japan.

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Grew said that the nation must take every proper step to protect the country from hostile acts, espionage or sabotage, but the competent official authori-

(Following are excerpts from an address delivered by Francis Biddle, United States attorney general, before the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, November 11 in New York City.—The Editor.)

When in April of 1942, the United States army decided to exclude the 110,000 persons of Japanese origin, citizens and non-citizens alike, from the West coast as a military precaution to protect our Western defense command, the treacherous attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor was four months fresh, and there had been movements of airplanes and submarines which indicated the possibility of an attack.

On June 3, 1942, Japanese planes raided Dutch Harbor in Alaska. The Japanese in the United States were concentrated in vital spots along the West coast—in Portland, San Francisco and Los Angeles. It was not surprising that public opinion in those states where Japanese were concentrated in great numbers was deeply disturbed over the possibility of sabotage and reacted violently against all persons of Japanese origin, loyal or disloyal alike.

The legal theory on which they were excluded was that anyone—citizen and alien alike—could be moved out of a war area for its protection. The theory was valid enough. But, like most theories, its ultimate test depended on the reasonableness of its exercise.

To say that citizens could be moved out of a war area might depend on the size of the area. If they could be moved away from the two coasts, away from possible points of attack, how far inland could they be taken? Could citizens be retained in any specified part of the country?

Roughly two-thirds of the persons moved were American citizens by reason of their birth in the United States, under the provisions of the American constitution which protected them as effectively as it protected other citizens, irrespective of the color of their skins or the nationality of their ancestry.

But in teams of public antipathy no distinction was drawn between citizens and aliens, between loyal and disloyal. In the eyes of the public, all persons of Japanese ancestry were Japs; and we had seen what the "Japs" had done to our soldiers.

The relocation centers were not designed as places of internment but as a refuge. In most instances local communities at first would not have them, at least in substantial numbers. Today the loyal Japanese who are American citizens are being gradually re-established outside the centers in places where they may gain tolerance and acceptance.

The relocation authority has no power to intern American citizens; and constitutionally it is hard to believe that any such authority could be granted to the government. The decision of the Supreme court in the Hirabayashi case, declared.

Grew quoted press reports from the 5th army in Italy saying that the first unit of American born troops went into combat "smiling with satisfaction as if they were going to a baseball game," and that their motto is "Remember Pearl Harbor."

Grew was awarded the Holland society's gold medal for distinguished achievement.

ceded last spring, indicates this conclusion. The court sustained the validity of curfew orders applied by the military authorities prior to the evacuation of the Japanese on the West coast.

The validity of the evacuation orders was not even considered, let alone the far more difficult problem of detention. Even the curfew order was said by Mr. Justice Murphy in his concurring opinion to go "to the very brink of constitutional power." I emphasize this particular problem—very special in its aspects—because it is far from solution; and public opinion, often hostile or indifferent, has made its solution infinitely more difficult.

We have too casually accepted, I think, this perhaps necessary but obviously temporary meeting of the problem. We have hardly recognized its serious consequences and the fact that it has never occurred before. Would anyone, before the war, have complacently accepted the proposition that the government could move 75,000 American citizens out of their homes, and hold them with enemy aliens for relocation?

I do not believe that among those of Japanese parentage born and bred in America, graduated from our public schools, many of them speak-

newspapers did in report- what actually happened e was tarnished by its color- accounts published by a few spapers on the Pacific coast by the Hearst press elsewhere, and by inflammatory tment of the episode on the io. The facts are these: The alty of about 19,000 of the

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Recently a report from Fifth army headquarters made special mention of Japanese Americans fighting side by side with other Americans in Italy. I am told that more than five thousand men of Japanese origin are today enrolled in our army.

Neither Japan nor Germany can boast of American battalions in their ranks. The Fifth army says of these Japanese Americans: "They obviously believe in what they're doing, and look calmly secure because of it."

Our sons are today fighting side by side with the sons of Italians, of Germans, and of Japanese. Is anything more needed to entitle the loyal Japanese Americans to recognition?

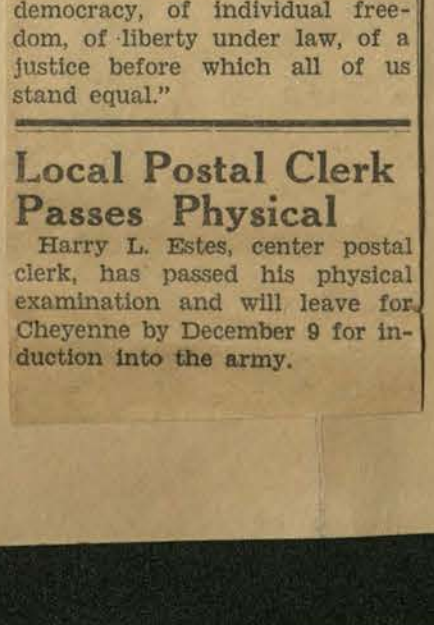
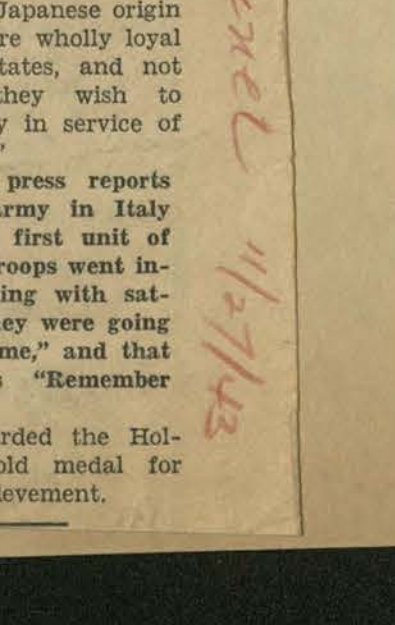
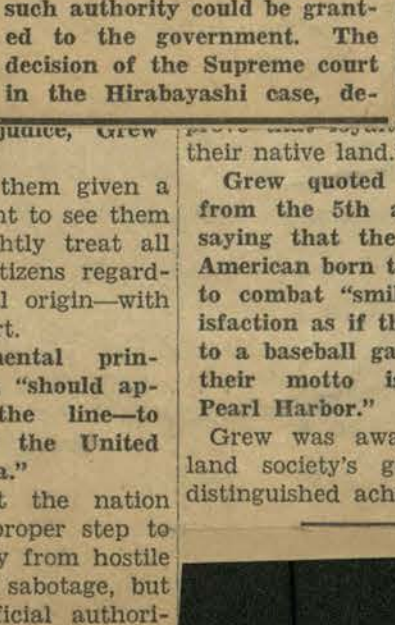
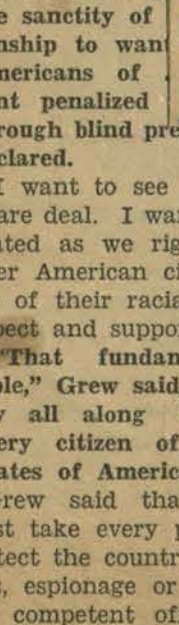
For this is the essence of our democracy in practice. The Washington Star in a recent editorial, reporting the dispatch I have mentioned, made this admirable comment: "All races, all colors, make us up. And when wars like the present one engulf us, all races and all colors take up arms for America. When we strike back at our enemies, the American kin of those enemies do the striking—Americans of Italian extraction, of German extraction, even of Japanese extraction."

"We are of almost every extraction conceivable, black, white and yellow, and so we are tied together not by any mystical philosophy of blood or common ethnic traits, but solely and simply by an idea—the idea of democracy, of individual freedom, of liberty under law, of a justice before which all of us stand equal."

Local Postal Clerk Passes Physical

Harry L. Estes, center postal clerk, has passed his physical examination and will leave for Cheyenne by December 9 for induction into the army.

11/27/43



JAPS CHARGE 'OUTRAGES'

Say Allied Story on Atrocities Used to Cover 'Own Crimes'

By Associated Press
Sadao Iguchi, spokesman for the Japanese Board of Information, sought last night to reply to United States and British charges of wholesale atrocities committed by Japan against civilians and prisoners of war—by citing what he said was the record of "numerous outrages" against Japanese.

"The Anglo-American campaign to spread hatred against Japan has been motivated by the desire to cover up their own crimes," Iguchi declared in a statement broadcast by the Berlin radio.

He charged that "many of the 2400 Japanese women who were confined at the Japanese primary school in Davao (in the Philippines) were raped."

He added that "on January 20 (1942) as Japanese forces were about to land at Davao Americans resorted to the most bestial treatment of ten Japanese who were preparing food for their fellow internees. These men were bound with ropes, boiling water was poured upon them, their ears were cut off, their eyes gouged, their noses slashed and their arms and legs amputated—a sadistic torture that defies description. Enemy troops fled as Japanese forces advanced, but before that they left as many as 56 Japanese murdered."

NEVER VERIFIED

This was a more detailed version of a charge which the Japanese made soon after they launched their attack on the Philippines, but which never has been verified by Allied or neutral sources.

The first report of Iguchi's statement relayed by Berlin suggested he was talking purely for a world audience with the object of countering as much as possible the effect on world opinion of Washington and London charges of brutality and bestiality toward Allied prisoners of war.

There was no immediate indication whether Iguchi's statement was being broadcast or published in Japan in an effort to incite the Japanese people.

The dispatch added that a spokesman for the Japanese government told the Swiss minister a reply would be forthcoming "at a suitable time."

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LISTS 'INCIDENTS'

Iguchi cited what he said were some of the attacks "resulting in murder" and other acts of mistreatment against Japanese in the United States. He listed these alleged incidents in California:

"Jugi Nano, an employee of the State Garage in El Dorado street, Ctockton, was assaulted and killed with a revolver in the early morning of December 23, 1941.

"Shigemasa Yoshitoka, proprietor of the Sunrise Hotel in Washington street, Stockton, was similarly murdered at his home on February 20, 1942."

"Mr. and Mrs. Tanaka of El Centro and Mr. and Mrs. Shichiji Kikuchi of Brawley" were named as other victims.

Iguchi charged Japanese internees were confined in dilapidated tents under adverse weather conditions at Fort Bliss, Tex., "in utter disregard of their suffering."

He declared Hatsuki Wakahp, suffering from tuberculosis, and Kota Isomura, suffering from a spinal disease, were shot to death by guards at Topaz relocation center in Utah, on the pretext they were trying to escape.

'ABOMINABLE' CONDITIONS

Some 18,000 Japanese at Davao in the Philippines were forced to live under "abominable" conditions in a camp, he further charged, and 4200 men, women and children were "herded into the muddy grounds of the Central Grammar School and kept there during a heavy rain for four days without proper shelter."

"No food was provided for them by the Americans for the first two days," he asserted, "and after that they were given only a handful of rice and a small amount of salt per day."

Japanese taken from Malaya and Burma by the British, he charged, were "thrown into holds of ships and sometimes into prisons and were almost completely robbed of their possessions." Their accommodations were described as very poor and their food as "not only poor but

'Uncivilized' Acts of Nips Hit by Grew

By Joseph C. Grew

Former American Ambassador to Japan

WASHINGTON, Feb. 7.—War at best is not a pretty business, but the disclosures of the savage and utterly diabolic atrocities of the Japanese military in the Philippines and elsewhere tell a story of what might well be regarded as an all-time record in human villainy.

This insensate cruelty by a soldiery which we believed still retained some spark, however faint, of the former chivalry of the bushido code, has shown us beyond any shadow of doubt the sort of bestial enemy we are fighting today in East Asia.

Civilization means reclamation from savagery. By these acts the Japanese military have incontestably placed themselves beyond the pale of civilization. The American people, and indeed the people of all civilized nations, have not only been inexpressibly shocked, but, what is more, they have been aroused to an indescribable degree everywhere.

GRIMMER RESOLVE

That means just one thing, namely, that we are going to fight this war with grimmer resolve than ever before. The skyrocketing of the War Bond sale shows that. If any of us needed a stimulus, we have it. And we shall have it when the time comes for the punishment of the guilty.

It may be of significant interest that in 1938, when our embassy in Tokyo submitted to the Japanese foreign office photographs of Japanese atrocities in Nanking and asked that these photographs be referred to the Japanese ministry of war as evidence of the behavior of Japanese troops in China at that time, the only response received from the war ministry was one of vituperation for our interference in Japanese affairs.

Many people have asked me

what will be the reaction in Japan to these disclosures. As to that reaction, we can only guess; we cannot know. Very few of the Japanese people will be allowed to know of these atrocity reports.

LOOKS FOR IMPROVEMENT

As for the higher-ups, the military and other leaders, I can only say that no Japanese likes to be regarded abroad as uncivilized. Whether or not those leaders are capable of a sense of shame, they at least are capable of a desire to improve the record, and I profoundly hope that this desire will result in an eventual amelioration of the conditions under which prisoners of war and interned enemy civilians are held. I think it will.

In the meantime, my sympathy goes out in fullest measure, not only to those who have suffered and are still alive today, but to the families at home who live in sorrow for those who have given their lives for their country, or in hope for those who still remain. I believe their hope is justified. I believe that in all probability the situation in the Japanese prison camps in the Philippines and in Japan and elsewhere will become better, not worse. In broadcasts to Japan, I am appealing for that spark of chivalry in war which in times past the Japanese have asked us to associate with the bushido code.

Biscailuz Joins Appeal for Russ Aid in Prisoner Return

New voices were added yesterday to Los Angeles' demand that the United States ask Russia to assist in returning American prisoners to this country from Japanese camps.

Included in the growing appeal was that of Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz, who two months ago introduced a resolution before the State War Council asking an exchange of internees between America and Japan.

The name of Joseph C. Grew met with repeated favor among patriotic leaders as choice of chairman to head a committee for investigating the whole problem.

"I'm in favor of any reasonable step which will mean return of our people to us," declared Sheriff Biscailuz.

"It is of vital importance that details be studied quickly and that action be started without unnecessary delay. Many times investigations take long months and even years. We must shortcut diplomatic customs in this matter.

"Russian, at peace with Japan, should be prevailed upon to take a leading hand in a prisoner of war exchange.

"We must waste no time. The people of California demand that."

Superior Judge Thurmond Clarke strongly advocated asking Russian assistance.

"I think we should call on Russia as an ally," he said, "to come to the aid of our unfortunate prisoners in Japanese hands.

"Russia, according to the

decomposed, resulting in malnutrition and widespread dysentery."

SAY SHIPS ATTACKED

Iguchi charged numerous instances of Allied air attacks on Japanese hospital ships and said these were "totally incompatible with the professed humanitarianism" of the British and Americans.

One attack on the Buenos Aires Maru, sunk off New Ireland, on November 26, resulted in the death of 174 persons, including nurses, he said, although "due notice concerning this hospital ship, as in the case of all others, had been given to the enemy countries in accordance with the stipulations of The Hague convention, and the vessel bore the required markings visible from aircraft and by night."

Nurses in lifeboats and on rats also were machinegunned after the sinking, he charged.

professions of our own Government, officials and its leaders, is on the most friendly terms with the United States and is cooperating in every way to bring the war to a successful conclusion.

"It would seem to me that this would be an excellent opportunity to test Russia's friendship, since she has in her capital, Moscow, Japanese diplomats with whom she could correspond directly on the matter of our prisoners."

Don't Victimize Loyal Japanese By War Prejudice, Grew Says

NEW YORK—Loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry were strongly defended by Joseph C. Grew, former ambassador to Japan and special assistant to the secretary of state, in a speech here last week at the annual dinner of the Holland society.

The former ambassador told the society that loyal American citizens of Japanese descent should not be made the victims of wartime prejudices.

"I have too great a belief in the sanctity of American citizenship to want to see those Americans of Japanese descent penalized and alienated through blind prejudice," Grew declared.

"I want to see them given a square deal. I want to see them treated as we rightly treat all other American citizens regardless of their racial origin—with respect and support.

"That fundamental principle," Grew said, "should apply all along the line—to every citizen of the United States of America."

Grew said that the nation must take every proper step to protect the country from hostile acts, espionage or sabotage, but the competent official authori-

ties were attending to that constantly and effectively.

"I do know," he said, "that like the Americans of German descent the overwhelming majority of Americans of Japanese origin wish to be and are wholly loyal to the United States, and not only that, but they wish to prove that loyalty in service of their native land."

Grew quoted press reports from the 5th army in Italy saying that the first unit of American born troops went into combat "smiling with satisfaction as if they were going to a baseball game," and that their motto is "Remember Pearl Harbor."

Grew was awarded the Holland society's gold medal for distinguished achievement.

California, Please Note!

Nobody has warned Americans about the tenacity of our Japanese enemies with more insistence and insight than Ambassador Joseph C. Grew. Therefore he is entitled to be heard with especial respect when he examines the other side of the coin, as he did the other night before the Holland society of New York, which presented him its 1943 medal for distinguished achievement.

Pleading that a distinction be made between enemy aliens and loyal Americans of Japanese descent, he said:

"Like the Americans of German extraction, the majority of Americans of Japanese origin wish to be and are wholly loyal to the United States. Not only that, but they wish to prove that loyalty in service to their native land.

"It does not make for loyalty to be constantly under suspicion when grounds for suspicion are absent. I have too great a belief in the sanctity of American citizenship to want to see Americans of Japanese descent penalized and alienated through blind prejudice. I want to see them given a square deal. I want to see them treated as we rightly treat all other American citizens, regardless of their racial origin."

Undoubtedly, Mr. Grew's vigorous words were evoked in part by public reaction to the trouble early this month at the Tule Lake, Calif., camp where disloyal Japanese are segregated. The careful, factual job which most newspapers did in reporting what actually happened there was tarnished by its colorful accounts published by a few newspapers on the Pacific coast and by the Hearst press elsewhere, and by inflammatory treatment of the episode on the radio.

The facts are these: The loyalty of about 19,000 of the

120,000 persons of Japanese origin in the United States is suspected either because of their own declaration, or because intelligence or other records indicate that they endanger national security or because they are close relatives of persons in the first two groups and have chosen to remain with them. Some 15,000 of these disloyal Japanese have been placed at the Tule Lake camp and the other 4,000 were to be moved there.

The War Relocation Authority erred in treating the disloyal Japanese at Tule Lake much like the loyal Japanese at our nine other relocation centers. The Tule Lake Japanese were entrusted with self-government, and they were policed within the camp by only six outsiders—and they unarmed! — although army guards functioned outside the camp. There were disorders November 1-4. They were soon put down, after several persons had been injured.

The point is that this was at a camp where are concentrated Japanese citizens, or Americans of Japanese origin, who are known or believed to be disloyal, and that these are fewer than one-eighth of our Japanese population.

The happenings at Tule Lake ought not to be allowed to reflect upon the more than 100,000 loyal persons of Japanese origin among us, most of whom are citizens, all of whom are as eager as the rest of us to see a United Nations victory and to have a part in it.

The Japanese Americans have a higher percentage of men in our armed forces (10,000) than any other racial group. Before the war they had a smaller crime percentage than any other group. They had a higher per cent of their young people in college. Almost none were on relief. Secretary Stimson is authority for the statement that there has been no known case of sabotage by

(Continued on page 6)

Californians, Please Note!

(Continued from page 4)
Japanese in Hawaii, either on December 7, 1941, or since. The FBI says there has been no known case of sabotage by the Japanese on the Pacific coast.

Surely this is proof to any intelligent American that suspicious and distrust of those of Japanese origin among us simply because they are of Japanese descent is as unwarranted as distrust of all persons among us who are of German, Italian, Rumanian, Bulgarian, Finnish or Hungarian stock.

—Minneapolis (Minn.) Star Journal

Attn Sentinel 11/27/43