

# JAPS DEMAND CITIZEN RIGHTS

Petitions Circulated Among Those Facing Induction

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—(AP)—Some draft-age Japanese-Americans who have been confined in relocation camps for more than a year were reported today to be demanding restoration of their full citizenship rights before they are inducted into the Army.

The Army recently began taking these men under the Selective Service Act and a press representative of the War Relocation Authority said today that while the response generally has been normal, there have been some instances where men have refused to serve. More than 10,000 Japanese born in this country were said to have volunteered for service. The press representative said he did not know how many have been called by Selective Service.

"We have been informed," he said, "that five men in the Granada, Colo., camp refused to report for their physical examination in the draft and we are cooperating with the Bureau of Investigation in apprehending them. We have had no petitions from the Granada camp, but we have been informed that some are being circulated there."

## CONTENT OF PETITIONS

"The petitions, we are told, asked that these draftees be allowed to resume their responsibilities as American citizens, that they have the right to go any place in the country where they please, live where they please and that their parents have these same rights. They also asked the privilege of selecting the branch of service which they desire."

"We do not consider that these petitions are objectionable in themselves, though in the Arizona camp one man was placed under arrest for posting notices urging a protest against the draft."

"The draft, of course, is out of our hands." The press representative said that petitions have been circulated in the camp near Buhl, Idaho, asking that full citizenship rights be restored. He added that a group of 15 draftees from that camp went out yesterday and 73 more this morning.

practices followed by the war relocation authority were not con-

(Continued on Page 17, Col. 4)

# WRA Transferred

## About Deportation

(The following editorial hitting the deportation bill—proposed to rid American citizens of Japanese ancestry, was carried in the recent issue of The Chicago Sun. Ed. Note.) A Useful Witness

Someone with a sense of justice ought to arrange for Pfc. Hoshino Omiya, whose eyes were blown out in Italy, to appear before the congressional committee where honorable gentlemen from the West Coast states are heating up the atmosphere with demands for legislation expediting deportation of American citizens of Japanese ancestry. Disclosure of atrocities committed by subjects of the Son of Heaven cannot make Pfc. Omiya's sacrifice any less real.

Attorney General Biddle, in an effort to stave off more extreme action, has proposed a bill to require an oath of allegiance from suspected Japanese-Americans. The laws already allow Federal Court action to deport disloyal immigrants. Many internees at Tule Lake, Calif., who have frankly declared their preference for Japan, are now awaiting deportation—and certainly should be returned to Tokyo at the earliest possible moment. But this is not enough for the Westerners.

Economic rivalries in California have helped create antagonism against Japanese-descended groups, and the Hearst press has done its best to inflame this hate. But the sightless eyes of Hoshino Omiya might help persuade some thoughtless congressmen that vindictive legislation against a small minority would be unworthy of America.

Interior Department officials said Myer would serve under Ickes for the time being.

# Plea made for calm study of Jap problem

Three hundred delegates to the California State Chamber of Commerce, meeting here today, heard an appeal for a "calm and unemotional" study of the California Japanese problem.

The speaker was the state president, Preston Hotchkis, who said the board of directors had set up a small committee to study the problem carefully.

"The Japanese," he said, "are inextricably tied up with our agricultural life and the problem of their return here deserves careful consideration."

Hotchkis, speaking before the Southern California council of the chamber in the Ambassador hotel, urged support of Gov. Earl Warren's prison reform plan, which is now before the state legislature.

"Our present prison and parole structure," he said, "is archaic." A. J. McFadden, former chamber state president, told the delegates that plans are under way to bring 70,000 Mexican nationals to California for farm labor work this year.

Included among the recommendations adopted today were: That a statewide chamber of commerce committee be set up to plan "an adequate, comprehensive and modern state highway system."

That a bill now in congress calling for the federal mobilization of scientific research for the development of resources for war and for peacetime purposes be defeated.

That the state chamber ask Governor Warren for the early appointment of commissioners to fill out the full legal membership of the fish and game commission.

That the state chamber oppose the proposal to create a national monument in the San Bernardino and San Jacinto area.

Zone Your Mail

# Tule Lake gets its first food from

## Director Myer Reveals Plan To Close One Relocation Center

SAN FRANCISCO—That WRA is planning to close one of the nine relocation centers now housing loyal Japanese Americans was disclosed by Dillon S. Myer, national director, at a press conference here this week. No mention of which center it would be was made.

Myer also told of plans for moving 1900 disloyal residents of the Manzanar center to Tule Lake and described conditions at the segregation center.

He said, "There is more security there now than ever before. The white guard staff has been increased from six to 66 men. A fence has been erected be-

between the camp and the administration buildings. Three radio cars patrol the camp and a nine block square isolation area has been fenced off to hold 244 American-born Japanese."

Although Pacific coast Congressmen and pressure groups are pressing for a transfer of control of the Tule Lake segregation center from the War Relocation Authority to the Justice department and for the removal of Myer as director of the WRA, no indication of such changes was made.

A group of Tule Lake Legionnaires warned local residents to "take immediate steps to protect their own lives."

# Pushes bill against Japs

(Continued from Page 2)

sistent with the safety of citizens of the state or "in my humble opinion" with military security.

The loose discipline exercised by the WRA in the care of the Japs, he said, has destroyed the faith of the people of California in that agency.

The governor said he investigated land ownership by Japs and found much Jap owned land around vital areas. Not all of these, he said, could be due to coincidence.

"But," he concluded, "if the army thinks that the people will be safe if the center is turned back to the authority we will do the best we can to work with the problem."

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LA EXAMINER 2/27/44

# Jap proper ban loses in Colo. senate

DENVER, Feb. 8.—(UP)—Colorado state senate, after a long debate concerning

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enclosing 16,000 Japs. The state senate committee, headed by Sen. Hugh P. Donnelly

# House Passes Bill

## Myer Raps Pressure Groups

New York, Feb. 17.—Speaking before a conference on "The Bill of Rights in War," sponsored by the American Civil Liberties Union as a feature of the Lincoln's Day celebration at the Biltmore Hotel, Dillon S. Myer, national director of the War Relocation Authority, charged "organized and persistent opposition" to the relocation of Japanese.

Though he refused to name any specific groups or individuals, except the Hearst newspapers on the Pacific coast, Myer declared that this opposition emanated from "super-patriotic organizations and individuals, and to some extent the press."

The W.R.A.'s major problem, Myer said, is not getting communities to accept evacuees, but rather getting the evacuees to overcome their fear of going out into the community to earn their living free from discrimination.

Other speakers brought up subject of what effect passage the resolution might have American prisoners in Japan, the senate's only woman maker, Eudochia Bell Smith Denver, warned that such action "could lead to eventual discrimination against Negroes, Jews and other minorities."

State Sen. Willard Preston, refusing to accept the defeat, announced he would circulate a petition calling for the same action after the senate voted it down.

Zone Your Mail

# Old Hawaiian Defenses

try—approximately 123,000 whom are American citizens 37,000 aliens who are ineligible for citizenship.

"These people were and concentrated in the most important U. S. Military base in world where they had all possible opportunity of sabotage opposition to the military," Stone declared.

"The record of these Americans of Japanese ancestry important as anything in generation as the finest example of Americans in action. Stone stated. He explained the FBI, the Military Intelligence, and the Police report no sabotage was committed the Hawaiian Islands by

erians of Japanese ancestry either before during or a

LA EXAMINER 2/27/44

# 470 Nips Sent to Tule Lake

1408 Segregees Moved From Manzanar

TULE LAKE, Feb. 26.—(INS)—The third trainload of Japanese segregees from the Manzanar center—a group of 470—arrived today at the War Relocation Authority's camp for professedly disloyal Japs at Tule Lake.

They brought to 1408 the number of segregees moved to Tule Lake from Manzanar this week in the W. R. A.'s program to isolate all avowedly disloyal Japs at the northern California camp.

Other segregees will be moved to Tule Lake from nine other W. R. A. centers throughout the country. These will include those who have openly professed loyalty to Japan or requested expatriation or repatriation to their ancestral land.

Many of the segregants to be repatriated or expatriated are elderly and bear no resentment toward America, but feel they will find greater peace and happiness in Japan after the war, Cozzens said.

In the meantime, he said, they desire to live peacefully at Tule Lake until they can return to Japan.

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Buy War Bonds—ever, that the WRA be restored to control of the center under army protection. Dr. Robert G. Sproul, president of the University of California, heads the group as honorary chairman.

# COAST GROUPS DEMAND FIRM CONTROL OF NIPS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—(UP)—Spokesmen for a congressional delegation of representatives from three Pacific coast states today renewed their demand for "firm control" over Jap internment centers as the war department returned the Tule Lake camp to civilian government authorities.

The state department earlier this week accused Japan of delaying further exchanges of American

Wed., Mar. 1, 1944—Part I, Page 7

# TULE LOYALTY HEARINGS OPEN

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 29.—(INS)—Hearings are under way at the Tule Lake Japanese segregation camp to determine whether a number of the internees are loyal to the United States or Japan, it was announced in San Francisco today by the regional office of the War Relocation Authority.

Quoting Ray R. Best, director of the camp, the statement said the hearings were being conducted by a board of WRA staff members. Similar hearings are under way at several other relocation centers, it was stated.

LA EXAMINER 2/27/44

# Unruly Japs resume jobs at Tule Lake

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10.—(UP)—Internees at the Tule Lake segregation center for disloyal Japs have returned to work, ending a three months period of idleness, Robert B. Cozzens, regional director of the war relocation authority, said today.

Cozzens said nearly 4000 of the Japs are working for the first time since Nov. 4, when the army took over the center following a series of disturbances among the internees. Later the WRA resumed control from the army.

At the same time, WRA officials announced the Red Cross had established an office at the camp, hoping the Japanese government may reciprocate and permit resumption of shipment of medical and other supplies to American prisoners held by Japan.

Japs in the center are working as janitors, motor mechanics, warehousemen, fire department assistants, furniture makers, coal distributors, maintenance assistants, storeroom assistants, kitchen and messhall assistants, farmhands and office workers, Cozzens said.

Schools have been reopened, with an attendance of 2261. Cozzens blamed occasional disturbances at the camp on "approximately 300 young agitators" but claimed there have been fewer crimes and misdemeanors at Tule Lake than in most American communities of similar size.

"The normal expectation in a community like Tule Lake, where there are thousands of people avowedly loyal to Japan, is that incidents may happen," Cozzens said.

Many of the segregants to be repatriated or expatriated are elderly and bear no resentment toward America, but feel they will find greater peace and happiness in Japan after the war, Cozzens said.

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LA EXAMINER 2/27/44

# Solon pushes bill to run out disloyal Japs

WASHINGTON, Jan. 20.—(UP)—Appearing before the house immigration committee today Rep. W. F. Norrell, D., Ark., urged approval of his bill to take into custody all "hostile" citizens of Jap descent and arrange to exchange them for American nationals in Japan.

"I take it there is no question but that we will deport the non-citizen Japanese," Norrell said.

He defended the right to revoke citizenship of Japanese born.

"Many persons lost their citizenship by making whisky during prohibition," Norrell observed.

Rep. J. Leroy Johnson, R., Calif., asked for support of his bill to create a three man deportation commission to pass on the cases of persons of Jap descent suspected of foreign loyalties.

Persons of Jap origin, found to be disloyal, would be deported to Japan after the war, Johnson explained.

"If we cull out the bad eggs, the Japanese who live here after the war will have much happier lives," he said.

Johnson said that two-thirds of the 130,000 persons of Jap descent in this country are United States citizens by birth.

"I believe the dangerous group is comprised of these younger ones," he said.

## WRA SAYS TULE LAKE IS MODEL CAMP NOW

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 20.—(UP)—The war relocation authority plans to close one of its nine centers holding Jap Americans and "hopes to" move 1900 Jap educated inhabitants of the Manzanar, Calif., camp to Tule Lake, national WRA director Dillon S. Myer announced at a press conference here today.

"The situation at Tule Lake is gradually returning to normal," Myer said. "There is more security there now than ever before. The white guard staff has been increased from 6 to 66 men. A fence has been erected between the camp and administration buildings. Three radio cars patrol the camp and a nine block square isolation area has been fenced off to hold 244 American born Japanese," Myer said.

Alien Japanese recalcitrants are being turned over to the department of justice, Myer revealed, declining to state which of the nine Jap centers would be closed.

## GOV. WARREN CRITICIZES WRA CONTROL AT TULE

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

The governor said he was "frank to say" that in his opinion the practices followed by the war relocation authority were not con-

(Continued on Page 17, Col. 4)

# Gen. DeWitt says Jap exclusion still imperative

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—(UP)—Security of the Pacific Coast requires exclusion of the Japanese from that area, Lt. Gen. J. L. DeWitt, former commanding general of the western defense command, advised Gen. George C. Marshall, chief of staff, it was revealed today.

His report dated June 5, 1943, was contained in a 618 page book made public here today.

"The evacuation (after Pearl Harbor) was impelled by military necessity," DeWitt said.

"The security of the Pacific coast continued to require the exclusion of the Japanese from that area, now prohibited to them, and will so continue as long as that military necessity exists."

Intelligence service records submitted by DeWitt showed hundreds of Japanese organizations existed in California, Washington, Oregon and Arizona prior to Dec. 7, 1941, and were actively engaged in advancing Japanese war aims.

"These records disclosed also," DeWitt reported, "that thousands of American born Japanese had gone to Japan to receive their education and indoctrination there and had become rabidly pro-Japanese and then returned to the United States.

"Emperor worshipping ceremonies were commonly held and millions of dollars had flowed into the Japanese imperial war chest from the contributions freely made by Japanese here."

These considerations, DeWitt said, led to the decision to evacuate persons of Japanese ancestry from the west coast.

# Tule Lake gets its first food from Tokyo—sauce

TULE LAKE, Feb. 8.—(UP)—The first shipment of goods from Japan to internees of the Tule Lake relocation center had arrived here today and additional shipments are expected within the next few days, camp authorities announced.

The first shipment consisted of 16 barrels of soy bean sauce and Ray A. Best, project director, said manifests showed that an additional 747 barrels of sauce, 30 barrels of bean mash and five cases of drugs would be sent here.

Brought to America aboard the exchange ship Gripsholm, the food shipment was arranged through the International Red Cross and is assigned for the use of "citizens of Japan."

Zone Your Mail

## Attention Tokyo:

# Nisei Rebuild Hawaiian Defenses

Americans of Japanese descent were chiefly responsible for rebuilding the defense of the Hawaiian Islands, and for preparing the way for our offense against Japanese-held islands in the Pacific, Remington Stone of Sierra Madre, Calif., assistant to the army deputy district engineer for the Central Pacific area, told the Los Angeles Lawyers' Guild at its meeting last Tuesday.

Returning to California after 22 months' work in supervising the construction of Hawaiian defenses, Stone, a civilian assistant for the army engineers, described to the Lawyers' Guild the rebuilding of fortifications destroyed by Japanese military.

"On December 12 after Pearl Harbor it was facetiously said that 12 men in a rowboat could have taken the Islands. Now the entire Japanese navy would be welcome," Stone explained. "This is the difference between December 7 and the present. A large part of the work was due to, and would have been impossible without, these people of Japanese ancestry."

Stone disclosed that of the Hawaiian Islands' population of 425,000, a total of 37 per cent are persons of Japanese ances-

try—approximately 123,000 of whom are American citizens and 37,000 aliens who are ineligible for citizenship.

"These people were and are concentrated in the most important U. S. Military base in the world where they had all possible opportunity of sabotage and opposition to the military," Stone declared.

"The record of these Americans of Japanese ancestry is important as anything in our generation as the finest example of Americans in action."

Stone stated. He explained that the FBI, the Military Intelligence, and the Police report that no sabotage was committed on the Hawaiian Islands by Americans of Japanese ancestry either before, during or after Pearl Harbor, and that all rumors of such sabotage were found to have no foundation in fact.

"Most of the civilians killed or wounded at Pearl Harbor were Americans of Japanese ancestry, as the chief civilian bombing took place near their homes," Stone revealed.

He told of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry capturing the first Japanese prisoner taken in Hawaii and of an American welder of Japanese ancestry working 72 hours without stopping to weld back pipe lines burst by the bombs.

Stone attributed the successful handling of the "Japanese problem" in the Hawaiian Islands to: (1) a comparative lack of hysteria on the part of the general population, (2) the cooperation of newspapers in "busting" false rumors and (3) the positive leadership of a level-headed general. General Emmons who was commanding general of the Hawaiian Islands after Pearl Harbor is now commanding general of the western defense command, which includes California.

Only a small fraction of one per cent of the Japanese in the Hawaiian Islands, both citizens and enemy aliens, were interned after Pearl Harbor, Stone explained.

# Return of Tule Lake Jap control to WRA opposed

TULE LAKE, Jan. 15.—(UP)—Restoration of control of the Tule Lake segregation center for disloyal Japs to the war relocation authority after more than two months of army occupation today was opposed by Tule Lake civic organizations.

"We still believe the army alone should handle the center," spokesman for the American Legion post, Grange and civilian defense council in this nearby farming community said, as WRA officials resumed full civil administration of the center.

The army will maintain "perimeter control" of the camp, it was announced, with troops under the command of Col. Vern Austin manning towers outside the fence enclosing 16,000 Japs.

The state senate committee, headed by Sen. Hugh P. Donnelly

of Turlock, formerly recommended last month that the army retain control of the Tule Lake center.

The committee on American Principles and Fair Play, composed of a group of leading California educators and civic leaders, recommended last month, however, that the WRA be restored to control of the center under army protection. Dr. Robert G. Sproul, president of the University of California, heads the group as honorary chairman.

## COAST GROUPS DEMAND FIRM CONTROL OF NIPS

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15.—(UP)—Spokesmen for a congressional delegation of representatives from three Pacific coast states today renewed their demand "or firm control" over Jap internment centers as the war department returned the Tule Lake camp to civilian government authorities.

The state department earlier this week accused Japan of delaying further exchanges of American citizens still in Japanese custody, declaring the Japanese have refused to discuss further exchanges until the treatment of Japanese here is clarified.

One reason for the Jap refusal to consider further exchanges has been the enemy's insistence upon a full report of disorders at the Tule Lake camp. The Spanish ambassador, in charge of Japanese interests here, investigated the camp and was understood to have found conditions favorable.

Chairman Clarence F. Lea, D., Calif., of the tristate delegation contended there was "no doubt among people of the Pacific coast" that government control over Tule Lake prior to the riots and the subsequent army supervision was "too lax."

There is little importance to the announcement that civil authorities are again in control, Lea said, "because firm control over the camp must be maintained."

Zone Your Mail

# Jap property ban loses in Colo. senate

DENVER, Feb. 8.—(UP)—The Colorado state senate, after a bitter debate concerning enactment of "race legislation" during wartime, tonight narrowly voted down a measure whose ultimate intent was to prohibit Japanese aliens from owning property in the state.

The resolution was defeated by the narrow vote of 15 to 12, and the special session of the assembly prepared for adjournment tomorrow. Earlier it had passed legislation giving Colorado servicemen overseas the opportunity to vote.

The resolution which was voted down provided for submission at the November election the question of whether the legislature should be empowered to pass measures denying property ownership to aliens—and there was never any doubt that it was aimed at the Japanese. It already had been approved in the lower house.

One of the most eloquent pleas against the proposal in the two hours of debate was made by State Sen. Roy Chrysler of Denver, who told the lawmakers his grandson had been killed at Pearl Harbor and that his only son was now in the army.

"I hate the Japanese, God help me, with all the bitterness I possess," Chrysler said. "But never would I take out my personal revenge by voting for a law which violates the first principle which has made America great—justice for all."

State Sen. Robert Bosworth called for a calm analysis of the situation, pointing out that no factual information had been obtained regarding the actual number of Japanese aliens in Colorado or an actual study of whether they were buying up the best farm land in certain sections, as charged by supporters of the resolution.

Party lines were completely shattered during the debate, with the republican floor leader, Sen. A. C. Johnson of Las Animas, making the principal speech in favor of the resolution. He asserted that it "seemed impossible to assimilate the Japanese" in this country.

Other speakers brought up the subject of what effect passage of the resolution might have on American prisoners in Japan, and the senate's only woman lawmaker, Eudochia Bell Smith of Denver, warned that such action "could lead to eventual discrimination against Negroes, Jews and other minorities."

State Sen. Willard Preston, refusing to accept the defeat, announced he would circulate a petition calling for the same action after the senate voted it down.

Zone Your Mail

# House Passes Bill Aimed At Disloyals

WASHINGTON, Mar. 1.—By an outstanding vote of 111 to 33, the House last week passed an Administration-approved bill by which native-born citizens of this country formally could renounce their citizenship in time of war, subject to approval of the Attorney General, the Los Angeles Examiner reported.

Although the measure does not specifically name the Japanese American citizens now interned in this country, it was aimed at them, the House immigration committee said, so that formal renunciation of American citizenship could be obtained from internees who have professed disloyalty.

The House rejected an amendment sponsored by Representative J. Leroy Johnson (R), California, which would have utilized previous expressions of disloyalty as the basis for proceedings to deprive Japanese Americans of their citizenship.

Representative Gearheart (R), California, attempted to defeat the committee bill by an emasculating amendment, arguing that the bill would give the Attorney General too much power.

He asserted that the Attorney General "would have more power than any good man should ask for, and more than any bad man should be given."

# WRA Transferred To Dept. of Interior

Washington, Feb. 16.—Following long criticisms of West coast congressmen, President Roosevelt tonight transferred the War Relocation Authority to the Interior Department.

"In announcing the transfer," a White House statement said, "the President said that he considered the program of the War Relocation Authority sound in principle, and the work already accomplished by the agency highly satisfactory."

The statement added the transfer was made "for reasons of administrative simplification and to bring the work of the agency under supervision of a cabinet officer."

It was not immediately specified whether Dillon S. Myer will resign or whether he will work under Secretary of Interior Harold L. Ickes. Interior Department officials said Myer would serve under Ickes for the time being.

THE ROCKY SHIMPO  
3/13/44

# U. S. Senator Rapped by Jap Camp's Paper

## Robertson's 'Back to Tokyo' Plea Draws Citizenship Slur

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo., Feb. 28.—(INS)—Japanese evacuees at the Heart Mountain war relocation center today turned their "big guns" on United States Senator E. V. Robertson (Republican), Wyoming, who was quoted last week as saying that America's Jap problem could be solved by sending "them all back to Japan."

Removal of all Japanese—including those born in the United States—presents a "ticklish problem" under the Constitution, according to the statement attributed to Robertson.

The Japanese-edited Heart Mountain Sentinel, published under supervision of the WRA, attacked Robertson in a Page One editorial for his published remarks, saying:

"This intimates that this nation's most sacred document—the U. S. Constitution—can be tampered with. And this from a foreign-born... The matter of a foreign-born politician having the effrontery to think of circumventing the Constitution is bitter gall."

### CITIZENSHIP ASSAILED

The editorial added: "America offered sanctuary to E. V. Robertson after the Boer War. He was born in Wales of Scotch parents. He arrived in Park County, Wyo., in 1912... But it was not until his opportunist eyes foresaw a political future did he petition for citizenship in the United States. This was 14 years after arriving in Park County."

The Sentinel's editorial was unsigned. Haruo Imura is editor of the paper, which is published under direction of Vaughn Mechau, WRA reports officer.

### WARNING ON DRAFT

The Sentinel also published a warning from the Wyoming State Commander of the American Legion for the Japanese-Americans in the camp "not to go around telling people to evade the draft."

"That's sedition, and there's a heavy penalty for it," warned the legionnaire chief, Ernest J. Goppert.

Japanese-Americans recently were made eligible for the draft and protests were registered from most of the WRA camps. Signed protests from the evacuees were forwarded to Dillon Myer, national WRA director at Washington. Myer said he was turning the protests over to the Army and to President Roosevelt.

The Japanese demanded restoration of their civil rights—including the privilege of returning to the West Coast from which they were evacuated by Army

actions which may have been attributable to espionage and suggests elliptically that the evacuated Japanese-Americans were responsible. A few of them have been responsible, although the general's report affords only tenuous indication that that was so. Most of them were undoubtedly good, loyal Americans.

It was General DeWitt, we re-

order—if they were to be subject to draft call.

One Japanese at an Arizona camp was arrested for sedition, five from the Granada (Colo.) camp were jailed on draft evasion charges when they refused to report for preinduction tests, and 20 at the Hunt (Idaho) camp asked "return to Japan instead of entry into the U. S. Army."

### —WASHINGTON, D. C. POST

It is gratifying to read the War department announcement that selective service is once more open to American citizens of Japanese descent. It was closed to them in February, 1942. Uncertainty was widespread at that time whether the

## Amendment To Disloyalty Bill Is Scored

Washington, Feb. 17.—The proposal of Rep. Leroy Johnson of California to insert an amendment into the pending House Resolution 4103, a bill to de-nationalize disloyal Nisei, drew vigorous denunciation from Rep. Allen of Louisiana, author of the committee bill.

Rep. Johnson contended that the present committee bill was a mere "legal opium" because it would apply only to renunciation of citizenship after the bill became law. He proposed that it be amended to apply as far back as October, 1940.

The Louisiana congressman replied that if the Johnson amendment prevailed "precious American citizenship would be placed in jeopardy" and that "men of evil intent" might even seek by perjured testimony to denationalize American citizens.

Chairman Samuel Dickstein of New York, head of the House immigration committee, supported Rep. Allen's stand and asserted that Congress had no constitutional right to deprive a citizen of his birthright.

Rep. Engle and Rep. Gearhart, both of California, challenged the effectiveness of the committee bill. Rep. Engle pointed out that 5,376 Japanese had answered with an unqualified "no" to a federal questionnaire. Rep. Gearhart contended that "Japanese who were enthusiastic for Japan a year ago are not so enthusiastic now."

ment. "there is likely to be the demand that we 'treat 'em rough."

We need to be on guard against just such temptations. We pride ourselves on being a Christian nation, and continually refer to the Japs' capacity for heathenish barbarities. Just such situations as the current revelation of those Bataan torture stories place our professed Christianity under test.

—PALO ALTO TIMES

## Ask Legion To Make Loyalty Distinction

DENVER, Colo., Feb. 28.—Before an American Legion luncheon recently, a plea that a distinction be made between loyal and disloyal persons of Japanese ancestry and between the Tule Lake and the nine other relocation centers was made by Jesse H. Lewis, acting field assistant director of the WRA here.

Lewis declared that the Tule Lake camp is a segregation center for Japanese who have expressed a desire to be expatriated or repatriated and should not be confused with relocation centers, which house persons of Japanese ancestry who are under no suspicion of disloyalty.

"The people in relocation centers who have been granted leave clearance are people against whom this country has made no charge," Lewis said. "They are not charged with any crime nor are they accused of disloyalty. The only charge is that they are people of Japanese ancestry."

He asserted that "the problems which confront the War Relocation Authority are not problems which concern the War Relocation Authority alone, but... are of vital interest to every citizen of this country."

"Little promise seems to have been given," he added, "to the fact that the 100th Infantry Battalion composed almost entirely of American citizens of Japanese ancestry have suffered a casualty list of 419, which is more than 40 per cent of the total personnel of the battalion."

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## Governor Maw To Investigate Race Situation

Doesn't Believe Present Situation Needs Formal State Action

Governor Herbert B. Maw of Utah declared Tuesday that he was cognizant of racial antipathies in the state, particularly involving Americans of Japanese ancestry, and that he would "begin an informal investigation of the situation."

"I don't think the situation demands formal action, but if the various groups can get together and talk things over it should work out for the best of all concerned," the Governor added.

It was recalled that Gov. Maw had addressed a group of Ogden citizens in November and had warned them that the rights of all Americans would become imperiled if any group becomes strong enough to restrict the rights of American citizens of Japanese ancestry.

"I hope that the time never comes when the liberty of any American citizen is limited or restricted merely because his skin is dark, or his eyes appear slanted or because he belongs to a minority religious or racial group," the Utah governor said at that time.

"We are spending most of our efforts and energies in fighting the enemy, rather than citizens in our own country. Unfortunately, we have in this country organizations and individuals who spend their money and efforts attacking citizens and interfering with the agency in carrying out its program."

"The War Relocation Authority has always assumed that the persons of Japanese ancestry, citizens and aliens alike, will remain here after the war, and that all American citizens have equal rights."

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## Army Chaplain Converts Many Nisei Soldiers

N. Y. Times Writer Says Japanese Americans Show "Great Courage"

THE FIFTH ARMY IN IY—The heroic group of Nisei soldiers attached to the Fifth

## Teachers needed at Camp Manzanar

The civil service commission announced today that the war relocation authority at Camp Manzanar needs teachers in auto mechanics and elementary subjects as well as secretaries and internal security officers.

An officer from the relocation project will be at the central recruiting unit, 1031 South Broadway, Wednesday and Thursday, to interview applicants.

the New York Times, report-

## Myer Urges Americans Coast Groups

LOS ANGELES—Influential people and organizations on the West coast will go to any length to reduce people born in the United States of Japanese ancestry to the status of second-class citizens, Dillon S. Myer, director of WRA told a Town Hall meeting last week.

"The idea of confining all people of Japanese descent in the centers has been strongly advocated on the West coast," Myer said. "They hold all people of Japanese ancestry are basically disloyal. I heartily disagree with that contention," he said.

Persons and groups who have been carrying on a persistent and vigorous campaign of race hatred are doing a serious disservice to the national war effort and providing the enemy with propaganda material to convince other Oriental nations that the United States is conducting a racial war," the director declared.

## First Evac Indu

HEA The first induction of the service was last week. The evacuation of the Japanese-Americans was provided for mass detention of citizens."

Two were entered at Los Angeles, and George Hirota, registered in King county, Washington, who has been ordered to report for induction have not been residents of the Heart Mountain center.

Other draft-age residents of the center are receiving reclassification notices, placing them in 1-A.

## Heart Mountain Buddy of Blinde

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The tragic picture of Omiya sitting helplessly on his cot, with bandaged eyes that will never see again, took Kashiwabara back to his school days in Honolulu when he played on the same athletic

1/26/44 Daily News LOS ANGELES WEDNESDAY

## Japs demand expatriation

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Most of these are among the approximately 4200 American citizens of Japanese ancestry at the Tule Lake, Calif., segregation center, he added.

Chairman Samuel Dickstein, D., N. Y., questioned the WRA's effectiveness, particularly in managing

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Provine said there were 25,000 Japanese in the United States who were not under the jurisdiction of any authority and "as far as I know have not been investigated."

"It is amazing to me that these 25,000 are not checked," Rep. Bernard W. Kearney, R., N. Y., remarked.

"There may be Japanese sympathizers among them."

The committee is considering bills for denaturalization of any disloyal United States citizen.

## Racial Persecution Hits Salt Lake City

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah—The city, founded less than a hundred years ago by a people seeking sanctuary from religious persecution, today is a hotbed of racial persecution, stated William Flynn, San Francisco Chronicle reporter.

American Federation of Labor unions in Salt Lake City, home city of the Mormon church that fled New York and the Middle West for the right to worship God according to conscience; in Ogden, and in Provo are fighting entrance of Japanese-Americans into the community.

Vigorously battling the AFL unions are the Congress of Industrial Organization union locals, liberal groups, and organizations devoted to maintenance of democratic principles.

The Utah AFL unions are fighting the resettlement trend because, the leaders state frankly, they fear their competition for jobs.

The Salt Lake City Council has refused to take a definite stand on the "messenger boy" of Manzanar kind of a man any mother would admit as her son.

# Other Editors are Saying:

When 10 Des Moines people were asked their reaction to the mistreatment of American prisoners of war by the Japanese, three of the 10 thought we should retaliate on Japanese in our hands; the other seven thought not, including three men in uniform. An eleventh just didn't believe the story.

Punishment of those guilty, in due time, yes. But retaliation upon others who had nothing to do with it was not only immoral; it was impractical. It would make still worse the lot of any of our boys who might be within the power of Japan. That was the general sentiment.

We feel monstrously cheered at this first reaction of Des Moines people picked at random. Americans are supposed to be a pretty excitable people, particularly in a case like this, where we have clear and abundant evidence from both American and British escaped prisoners of the enemy fighting "dirty". It would be just like us to fly off the handle, and scream to high heaven for retaliation in kind.

But apparently most of us are now sophisticated enough to know better—especially the ones in uniform: they learn fast.

## —DES MOINES SUNDAY REGISTER

Mayor Bowron defies anyone to tell a loyal Jap from a disloyal one.

It seems to us that those Japanese Americans who have been fighting so valiantly for the Allied cause in Italy can be quickly designated as loyal. They volunteered their lives in order to prove to their fellow citizens that it is wrong to judge the many by the conduct of the few.

Throughout the nation thousands of Japanese are proving to be good citizens.

## —HOLLYWOOD CITIZENS NEWS

Lieut. Gen. J. L. DeWitt has now issued a final report on the evacuation, carried out under his orders, of all persons of Japanese ancestry from the West coast. However necessary this evacuation may have been, it was essentially tragic. For it involved a substantial restriction on the liberties of some 70,000 American citizens solely because of their racial background. They were accused of no criminal act and no disloyalty.

The action taken against them was justified by the military situation on the vital West coast after Pearl Harbor. It has no need of the sort of spurious justification which General DeWitt's report now attempts to provide. He cites enemy actions which may have been attributable to espionage and suggests elliptically that the evacuated Japanese Americans were responsible. A few of them have been responsible, although the general's report affords only tenuous indication that that was so. Most of them were undoubtedly good, loyal Americans. It was General DeWitt, we re-

call, who declared about a year ago: "A Jap's a Jap. It makes no difference whether he is an American citizen or not." Well, we have been looking at a column headed "Casualty Report" in a newspaper called the Hawaii Herald. "Corp. Edward E. Nakamura, 25," it starts off in the bland way of such notices, "was killed in action in Italy on November 29, his parents were advised by the War department." Cpl. George Fukimi Ishii is next on the list. Then comes Pfc. Takeo Shimizu. Then Pvt. W. Teruichi Shiraki. The list is a long one. These men were volunteers. Because of the "outstanding record" of the 100th infantry battalion of which they were members, the War department has just announced that American citizens of Japanese descent will henceforth be brought under the selective service system on the same basis as other citizens. What was that you were saying, general?

## —WASHINGTON, D. C. POST

It is gratifying to read the War department announcement that selective service is once more open to American citizens of Japanese descent. It was closed to them in February, 1942. Uncertainty was widespread at that time whether the loyalty of such citizens could be depended upon. Meanwhile Japanese American volunteers have been accepted in the armed services, and two outfits of them—the 442nd combat team and a battalion fighting in Italy—have demonstrated that the question of their loyalty is out of order.

There may, of course, be found among citizens of Japanese descent persons of doubtful loyalty, just as such persons have been uncovered among citizens of other racial categories, even of Mayflower heritage. Eccentrics are apt to bob up in all breeds. In two years of observation by the War department, American citizens of Japanese blood are disclosed as being, in the mass, as dependably loyal as any other group.

That is the gratifying significance of the re-opening of selective service to them—particularly gratifying because there have been many to say that the Japanese could never be truly Americanized, not even after generations of residence under the Stars and Stripes.

## —THE DAYTON (OHIO) HERALD

The instinctive first reaction to those blood-boiling stories of Jap atrocities to American and Filipino captives in Bataan is demand for revenge on the Japanese most accessible. And we may expect therefore a choral demand that we stop "coddling" the Japanese in our keeping in the War Relocation camps. "Coddling", in the definition that will be improvised by vengeance seekers of the moment, will mean ordinary decency of treatment. There is likely to be the demand that we "treat 'em rough."

We need to be on guard against just such temptations. We pride ourselves on being a Christian nation, and continually refer to the Japs' capacity for heathenish barbarities. Just such situations as the current revelation of those Bataan torture stories place our professed Christianity under test.

## —PALO ALTO TIMES

# Super-Patriots, Hearst Papers Hinder Government Relocation Effort, Dillon Myer Charges

### WRA Director Declares Resettlement Program Obstructed by "Organized, Persistent Opposition;" Describes Practical Problems of Agency

NEW YORK—Dillon S. Myer, national director of the War Relocation Authority, charged in New York on Feb. 12 that the government's effort to relocate persons of Japanese ancestry from war relocation camps to already inhabited communities was being hindered by "organized and persistent opposition" from "super-patriotic organizations and individuals, and to some extent the press."

Myer spoke at a conference held by the American Civil Liberties Union at the Hotel Biltmore. He charged that opposition to the government's relocation effort was coming from "super-patriots" who were obstructing "the job we're trying to do, which is based on sound principles."

The WRA director did not name any specific groups or individuals, except in the newspaper category, where he mentioned the Hearst newspapers on the Pacific coast.

Myer added that "strange as it may seem, our major problem is not securing community acceptance of evacuees, but to secure acceptance on the part of the evacuee to enter community life."

"They are not sure they can go out into the community with their families and earn their living free from discrimination," he added.

He stressed that two-thirds of the 115,000 persons evacuated from the Pacific coast and those held in war relocation centers were American citizens, and said that 70,000 Japanese Americans now in camps are eligible for relocation.

James B. Carey, secretary of the national CIO organization, told the conference that another period of unemployment after the war would bring "an onslaught of racial discrimination."

Myer declared that 18,000 persons of Japanese ancestry had already relocated from the centers, and noted that the majority of this group were American citizens. He stressed that the major problem confronting the WRA in its resettlement work was in getting family units out.

He told the gathering that, so far, the WRA's "powers of persuasion" were not so good in convincing family groups that they could go out and be accepted in normal American communities. In the beginning of the resettlement program, he indicated that the WRA had believed that the question of community acceptance would be the major obstacle, but now because of the unexpected favorable reception this had become a minor point.

The WRA director outlined some of the policies and basic assumptions of the agency:

"The practical problems to be faced in the resettlement program include the utilization of the manpower available among the evacuees, since the centers are no place to keep such manpower at a time when there is a nationwide demand for trained workers. We should spend most of our efforts and energies in fighting the enemy, rather than citizens in our own country. Unfortunately, we have in this country organizations and individuals who spend their money and efforts attacking citizens and interfering with the agency in carrying out its program.

"The War Relocation Authority has always assumed that the persons of Japanese ancestry, citizens and aliens alike, will remain here after the war, and that all American citizens have equal rights.

"Loyalty can only grow in an atmosphere of confidence and trust. We are furnishing the enemy with valuable propaganda when we indicate by our actions that the principles in which we believe are not quite true."

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"There's a feeling here in congress that you haven't done a job that should have been done," Dickstein said.

Culling the loyal from the disloyal has been a difficult job, Provine said.

Japanese sympathizers have been transferred from relocation centers to Tule Lake, Provine said and estimated that less than 1 per cent of those remaining in relocation centers were disloyal to the United States.

However, Provine said there were 25,000 Japanese in the United States who were not under the jurisdiction of any authority and "as far as I know have not been investigated."

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### N. Y. Times Writer Says Japanese Americans Show "Great Courage"

WITH THE FIFTH ARMY IN ITALY — The heroic group of chaplains attached to the Fifth Army in the front lines of Italy believe its luckiest member is First Lieut. Israel L. Yost of Nazareth, Pa., who was attached to the fighting Japanese American unit, the 100th Infantry.

The 100th Infantry contained a large percentage of Buddhists and non-Christians when they went into battle, it was reported. Chaplain Yost is credited with having made thirteen converts to Christianity and has accepted 50 more New Testaments for further proselytization.

Cyrus Sulzberger, correspondent for the New York Times, reported:

"The Japanese Americans who have shown great courage in their effort to prove their loyalty to the United States, of which they are citizens, accepted spiritual consolation from Lieut. Yost before battle and he has said the Christian burial service over their dead."

# Kent Will Sponsor Public Discussion On Evacuee Issue

KENT, Wash.—Kent will sponsor the first public forum discussion of the relocation problems of persons of Japanese ancestry evacuated from the Puget Sound area at the Methodist church on Feb. 27.

Dr. Frank G. Williston of the University of Washington history department has been selected as discussion leader.

A selection of six persons to carry on the discussion is being made, according to the Rev. William M. Snyder, chairman of the forum committee.

# First Heart Mountain Evacuee Gets Army Induction Notice

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo. — The first order to report for induction under the War Department's reinstatement of selective service for Japanese Americans was received at Heart Mountain last week by Gene Kumagai, an evacuee resident of the center.

Kumagai was among three who were ordered to report.

Two others, Bill Omoto, registered at Los Angeles, and George Hirota, registered in King county, Washington, who have been ordered to report for induction have not been residents of the Heart Mountain center.

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Saturday, February 19, 1944

## **Governor Hunt Bucks Plan to Remove Military**

### **Wyoming Executive Notes Army Reduces Guard Unit at WRA Camp**

CHEYENNE, Wyo. — Governor Lester Hunt said on Feb. 4 that he had protested the removal of the military police detachment at the Heart Mountain relocation center.

He declared that he had suggested in a letter to Guy Robertson, director of the Heart Mountain camp, that the military guard unit be detained for the duration of the center.

Gov. Hunt's statement was issued here following publication of a report quoting Sen. Robertson, R., Wyo., as declaring that the War Department proposed to remove the military guard at Heart Mountain and was planning to turn protection duties over to civilian personnel at the WRA camp.

### **Senator Robertson Warns Against Withdrawing Military**

WASHINGTON—Declaring that he had been informed that the War Department is considering withdrawing military personnel from the war relocation centers, leaving protection to camp and local police officials, Senator Robertson, R., Wyo., declared that he was opposed to the removal of the guard units.

He called to the War Department's attention the danger to residents of the relocation camps from "local citizens."