

Information for Mr. Schmidt:

Sam Horino, 6804-D -- This man was transferred from Hart Mountain, Wyoming, to Tule Lake, April 2, 1944, apparently a trouble maker at Hart Mountain. While there he was the instigator and number one leader of a movement intended to challenge legality of the Selective Service program as applied to Japanese Internees who are American citizens. In cooperation with Frank Ami and Kyoshi Okamoto (5604-D) he purchased stencils and paper from Sears Roebuck and Montgomery Ward and put out bulletins urging the Japanese evacuees who came under the Selective Service to protest against it. The Steering Committee, of which he was a member and leader, collected several thousand dollars for the purpose of employing legal talent. A lawyer was employed and paid \$275.00 retainer.

At one time Horino left the camp at Hart Mountain illegally -- simply walked out the gate in order to get himself arrested and make an issue of the matter in court. He was not arrested and was much chagrined that his plans went wrong.

Another man named Ben (last name not known), living at Block 9, Hart Mountain was apparently was the treasurer of the Steering Committee. Okamoto was the secretary and did a good deal of the writing of the bulletins which were distributed by Horino. Horino apparently composed the contents of the bulletins himself.

L. B. Pearson, Investigator

In the afternoon Horino added the following information: Three bulletins went out, he states the bulletins were for the purpose of clarifying the status of American-born Japanese. The first bulletin was published in February, 1944. He was designated as publisher by the committee (Fair Play Committee). This bulletin was headed "Fair Play Committee, One For All, All for One". He wrote the first bulletin and assisted with all three.

My own comment: He was very careful of the wording of the statement given to the interviewer, evidently with the view of being questioned in court.

He assisted in typing stencils and distribution of bulletins with approval of a body of Japanese who attended the Fair Play Committee meetings. He bought the supplies used in publication of these bulletins at the canteen of the Hart Mountain center: mimeograph paper and stencils. Ink was supplied, the origin is not known, typewriter used in cutting stencils borrowed from Block Office by

other members of the Fair Play Committee for use in preparing bulletins. Block number not known, believed to be Block Office 30. A portable typewriter was used. One thousand copies of each publication were printed. Complete records of activities of members and funds of the Fair Play Committee were kept and are available, also exact amount of money contributed and names of members. He refused to state who now possessed these records. (At this point he became rather belligerent and stated that if the others involved did not have guts enough to come out and admit their part, he would take entire blame himself.) He states the records are open to examination by anyone. Additional supplies for mimeographing were obtained from Montgomery Ward by catalog from Denver; mimeograph machine was obtained by Fair Play Committee but he refused to name the owner.

Question: Are you scared of incriminating others?

Answer : If he don't have guts enough to speak for himself, I will not speak for him. I am not trying to protect anyone.

Cross

~~Close~~ examination produced information mimeograph machine owned by a Mr. Aso. Kuboto was a mouthpiece. The following members were speakers: Makagata, Kiyoshi Okomoto. (Temporary chairman of Fair Play Committee, Ben (last name refused)).

All information was voluntarily given and statement was filed without duress or pressure.


L. B. Pearson, Investigator