

Tule Lake Project
Newell, California

January 13, 1945

Mr. John H. Provinse
Head, Community Management
War Relocation Authority
Barr Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Provinse:

The following will be a summary of events that you will be interested in, in connection with Internal Security Division of the Tule Lake Center:

At the present time the personnel of the Internal Security Division numbers 19, 18 men and one female secretary. Recruitment, while very slow, has resulted in obtaining some men who appear to be the type that will work in very satisfactorily after a training program. It is possible that three of these men may not work out due to attitude, professional service ideal and/or inability to make benefit of the training program.

A recruitment trip to the vicinity of Salt Lake City, Utah resulted in the bringing back of two persons of a CAF-9 qualification. It is possible that 3 CAF7's will come at a later date. The recruitment there was not as good as anticipated due to the fact that instead of closing the plant as stated, it merely changed hands from the Remington Arms Company to the United States Ordnance Department. The functional operations of the plant ceased, however, the maintenance and guarding function remained and a great number of men in that field were kept on. The others that left had been contacted by the United States Civil Service for a job of like nature at Pasco, Washington, which paid more money. Second class patrolmen at Pasco receive \$310.00 a month. Transportation is paid to the job and if the person remains six months his transportation costs are paid back to his home. Uniforms are furnished and all equipment supplied. A comparison of that pay and ours would indicate our chance of recruiting from this group. Most of the men left for recruitment are the money hungry type that go to the place where the most money is offered and in the greater portion are malingerers.

The Center here recently took a vote of the evacuee population wherein approximately 800 votes in the majority were submitted for change from the present status of the Center, the thought being that the evacuees wished to return to work and that a normal and tranquil Center may result.

About four weeks ago the remaining supervisors of the evacuee police department were called to my office and a discussion had concerning the function of the Warden organization. It was decided that it would be best for the evacuee section here to function only in Japanese problems and in no way be connected with the administrative control. They agreed that many of the jobs they had to do previously had put them in embarrassing situations due to the fact that the Wardens had to live with the people that they were trying to prevent from obtaining things which they felt they needed, and other problems.

In connection with the addition and selection of members of the Warden Division, I feel that it would be beneficial if a representative group of the Japanese colonists took a part in the selection of the men and could act and function very closely to the position of police commissioners or the like of such. Within the next week or so I am sure a representative group will be functioning within the Center and a careful selection of that body will result in a Warden body that will function and that will have the confidence of the people.

As you are probably aware the case report A-7 has grown to be of voluminous nature and the necessary clerical work that is connected with the handling of a case of this type has been seriously impeded by the changes in personnel here. During one week we had three changes of secretaries. Later she was withdrawn for several days to operate in another division. Recently she has been taken from us again on a permanent basis and for this reason submission of final documentation, investigating, and satisfactory handling of this case will be slowed up. We are aware that it is possible that the changes had to be made but we are also indicating the reason that the final windup of our part in the last incident will be delayed.

The present plans are:

1. To recruit more personnel.
2. A training program to be inaugurated in the appointed personnel section of the Internal Security Division, as well as in the evacuee section after its complement is filled.
3. Thought given to the selection of appointed personnel who will be responsible for the function of the evacuee section.

4. To await the arrival of equipment such as two way radio, cruiser type patrol cars, uniforms and other equipment.

5. An addition being made to the police building to take care of space for a contraband room, squad room, lecture room and other necessary housing.

6. The windup and full documentation of case A-7 for presentation to local and Federal law enforcement agencies. (It is possible that Mr. Charles Lederer, District Attorney of Modoc County, will prosecute under Section 182 of the Penal Code of California, charging conspiracy. I have called this to the attention of Kent Silverthorne, Project Attorney.)

7. Thought given toward the construction of an on-project jail.

8. Selection and positive function of an evacuee law and order group who will be responsible for the preparation and presentation of project rules, regulations and laws to be applied to the evacuees.

9. That steps be taken toward the deputization of all members of the appointed personnel in the Internal Security Division as United States Marshals to serve without pay. (You will recall that I discussed this with you at the Denver conference.)

The training program for the appointed personnel is to be rather extensive and covers all phases of W. R. A. I anticipate calling in the heads of divisions and sections and have each lecture on the function of his department. A real "acquainting period" that is a desired thing in any organization is going to be had here. I will send you the proposed curriculum when I return here in about one week.

I am leaving the Tule Lake Project tomorrow (January 14) to go to the San Francisco office and area with a thought towards checking up on some references, recruiting of personnel in the Sacramento area, the obtaining of lecture material that I have already prepared to be used in the training program here on my return, which should be in a few days, and for the purpose of a physical examination requested by the police officers' pension committee of the City of Berkeley. This is usually done once a year at this time as requested by the pension board. I may be contacted through the San Francisco offices in the interim.

Very truly yours

W. E. Schmidt
Head, Internal Security