



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

WASHINGTON 25. D. C.

ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS

TO THE SECRETARY

18 April 1944

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

Mr. Willard E. Schmidt
Department of the Interior
War Relocation Authority
Chief, Administrative Police
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Upon receipt of your communication of April 14, 1944, I dispatched a communication to Mr. Greaves requesting a mobile unit and personnel be sent to Tule Lake Center for the purpose of determining if the radiotelegraph signals reported, originated from a transmitter in that vicinity.

Reference is made to the penultimate paragraph of your communication regarding security of correspondence. I would like to point out that the Radio Intelligence Division, since its inception in 1940, has adopted the military procedure in handling communications and correspondence. It has received an "Excellent" rating in this respect as a result of a survey made by the Joint Chiefs of Staff. However, far be it from me to criticize another agency but I would like to point out that your communication, addressed to me, was received in a single envelop and marked on the front "SECRET AND CONFIDENTIAL". This, of course, is a violation of the outstanding instructions on this subject to Federal Agencies as released by the Office of War Information. I am returning the envelop referred to.

Please be assured of our continued cooperation.

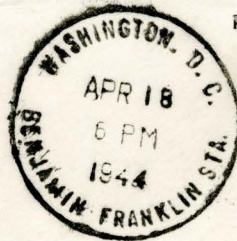
Very truly yours,

G. E. Sterling
Assistant Chief Engineer
and Chief,
Radio Intelligence Division

Enclosure

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

Washington 25, D.C.



PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID

PAYMENT OF POSTAGE, \$300



Mr. Willard E. Schmidt
Department of Interior
War Relocation Authority
Chief, Administrative Police
Tule Lake Center
Newell, California

It is pointed out that the Administration is not concerned with the subject of attendance or non-attendance either in the Center School or in the Japanese language schools. Policy does not require attendance at either type of school. The Administration, however, is concerned about the activities of the Japanese language school proponents who seek to have the language school take precedence over authorized programs of the project, such as the Center School and Community Activities and who use terroristic methods to exercise control over other residents, both parents and children, to conform willnily to their wishes. The activities and attitudes are definitely disruptive of specific phases of project operation, including Education, Community Activities, and Evacuee Housing.

For several weeks the Administration has been working with a group a leaders who represent that they have been selected by the respective wards to serve as a Japanese Language School Board of Education. The intention was to recognize this group as the body selected by the residents to give leadership and supervision to language school activities; to devise some sort of organization under which the language school would operate; to select teachers and be responsible for their acts; to provide curriculum and superintend instruction; to provide for the Center Superintendent of Schools, information concerning the number of schools, their locations, their principals and teachers, and enrollment and attendance reports; and to provide liaison with the Administration whereby common problems could be solved. After a series of conferences between representatives of the "School Board" and Mr. Gunderson, Principal of the High School, a memorandum (See Exhibit #1) was issued by the Project Director, dated March 30, 1944, which was purportedly and intentionally an operating agreement between the Administration and the Japanese Language School Board. It provided for recognition by the Administration of the School Board, and called for the School Board to assume certain jurisdiction and responsibilities.

After a time it developed that the School Board was either unable or unwilling to assume the jurisdiction and responsibilities it was contemplated they should assume, to the extent that they were not even able to control unofficial, unauthorized, erroneous and misinterpreted announcements which were disseminated through the schools and through the blocks. This resulted in the submission by Mr. Harkness, Superintendent of Schools, of the draft of an official announcement to be disseminated for the purpose of correcting what appeared to be deliberate misinformation. (See Exhibit #2.)

The ineffectiveness of the Japanese Language School Board of Education in bringing about a responsible organization of the language school program led to the determination of the Administration to withdraw recognition which evidently had been misplaced. This ineffectiveness and the accompanying rise of friction in Block #54 were definitely linked together. The School Board admitted that they had no control over the school activities of Ward 6 in which Block #54 is located.