

Office of the Attorney General
Washington, D.C. 25

May 8, 1945

Mr. Frank Herron Smith
2816 Hillegass Avenue
Berkeley, California

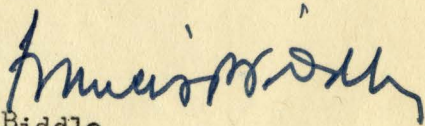
Dear Mr. Smith:

The President has sent me your letter of May fourth, suggesting that Mr. J. Edgar Hoover be assigned in connection with the outrages that you mention against Japanese Americans on the West Coast.

I have asked Mr. Hoover to let me have a report on these outrages immediately. Unless, however, some Federal law is involved, I would have no authority, under the statutes, to direct any investigation.

I should appreciate your sending me any more details that you might have, and I propose to draw them to the attention of Governor Warren, who is very anxious to prevent these outrages.

Sincerely yours,


Francis Biddle
Attorney General.