

FAMILY LIFE

This is the only internment camp in the history of the world where the family lived as a single unit.

Individuals in custody here, preferred this arrangement to life in a Relocation Center, in spite of the closer security, censorship and numerous restrictions in effect.

One reason was that the family was enabled to cook in its own living quarters, sit around its own table, rather than assemble for mass feeding.

Each could improve their own quarters if they had the desire and interest to do so.

Then there was the general work program in effect, which kept most of the population busy on some useful and constructive project.

The "Privacy of the Home" was always respected. It was never entered without just cause.

There were births, deaths, love affairs, marriages, love triangles, the ups and downs of any community life. There was a jail, but it was seldom occupied.

At the Crystal City Camp, we had German and Japanese for the most part. However, there were a few Italian Nationals.

They came from the continental United States, Hawaii and a few from Alaska. There was a large number from Peru and smaller numbers from almost every country in Central and South America.

After we had taken over the Marshall and Gilbert Islands a few were brought to this country and interned here.

Interpreters were necessary who were fluent in English and one of these languages, Japanese, German, Spanish, some Italian and Some French.