

A STATEMENT OF GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF  
THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

1. The War Relocation Authority recognizes that the foremost task before the people of this country is to win the war. This means concentrating on fighting the enemy - rather than fighting among ourselves, and using all the available manpower where it can do the most good.
2. We have faith in the American democratic way of life, with equal rights, privileges, and responsibilities for all, regardless of race, creed, or national origin.
3. We assume that the great majority of the people of Japanese ancestry now in this country will stay here during the war and afterward.
4. We have confidence in the ability of the Armed forces to wage the war, and of the authorized intelligence agencies of the government to give proper surveillance to all suspected or potential enemies within our country.
5. We believe that it is possible to distinguish between the loyal and the disloyal people of Japanese ancestry, as well as with other national or racial groups, to a degree which will insure the national security.
6. We believe loyalty grows and sustains itself only when it is given a chance. It cannot flourish in an atmosphere of suspicion and discrimination.
7. Steps which this government takes to suppress or discriminate against the people now in relocation centers give weight to the enemy's argument that the United Nations are waging a race war. This argument is used in propaganda directed at the peoples of the Pacific area, and others whose collaboration with the United Nations can help to speed up the day of victory.
8. Repressive or discriminatory treatment of people of Japanese ancestry in relocation centers will be used by the Japanese militarists as a pretext for reprisals against American prisoners of war and American civilians held by the Japanese government.