

A recollection of barbed wire

FIRST OF EIGHT PARTS

By Tadaichi Uyeno

(Editor's note—Following is the personal story of Mrs. Kathryn J. Cook, wife of the late J.B. Cook, chief internal security officer at Jerome and Tule Lake Relocation Centers during World War II. She tells of her three years living with internees to fellow Rosemead resident Tadaichi Uyeno, who conducted an in-depth interview with Mrs. Cook.)

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"The American Japanese are reluctant, it seems to me, to talk about their concentration camp experiences."

Thus spoke Mrs. Kathryn J. Cook as she sat comfortably on a chair in the living room of her modest home in Rosemead and talked of her experiences in U.S. concentration camps for persons of Japanese ancestry during World War II. She remembers too well, this lady of 79, the happenings of 30 years ago as if they occurred only last year or the year before that. Time has not dulled her memory.

Mrs. Cook, a Caucasian American, had very little contact with Japanese people until she met them in camp.

"The Japanese should be proud to tell of their camp experiences," Mrs. Cook said. "It is the rest of us Americans who put the American Japanese into camps who should feel ashamed to talk about the existence of concentration camps in America. We called them relocation centers for convenience sake. Barbed wire fences, watch towers and military patrol and sentries certainly spelled out a detention or concentration camp in which prisoners of war, political prisoners, foreign nationals, refugees, and the like, are confined."

She remembers vividly the details of that tragic event in the history of our country that recorded, now as an inconsequential footnote, the uprooting of 115,000 Japanese from the West Coast and their confinement in 10 concentration camps.

Mrs. Cook was there in camp herself. However, she was a free American and not subject to the restrictive measures the internees were forced to accept. She could go in and out of the camp at her whim. Yet she was annoyed at the military sentry check at the main gate where her badge displaying her photograph had to be verified each time she left.

"I must admit," Mrs. Cook said, "this picture of me on this War Relocation Authority badge necessitated the sentries to look at me twice before letting me pass. I resented the sentry and the barbed wire fences every time I entered the camp."

Her late husband, J.B. Cook, who died Feb. 27 of this year, was chief of the internal security at the Jerome Relocation Center, Denton, Arkansas from its inception in late September, 1942, to Nov. 6, 1943, when he was transferred to Tule Lake Center. He was sent to Tule Lake on a special emergency assignment after a massive demonstration broke out among the internees in early November.

Mrs. Cook accompanied her husband to both centers and was able to observe the evacuees from a vantage point the general American public should have seen. The public's distorted pictures and descriptions of camp life as reported by the unfriendly press and radio did not do justice to the Japanese.

Up until the time she entered Jerome Relocation Center, Mrs. Cook knew very little about the Japanese in America. The Midwest had few Japanese, and they were scattered.

"In fact," Mrs. Cook said, "I had known of only one Japanese with whom I was friendly. He operated a laundry in Plains, Montana. His name was Kondo. That was back in 1923 or 1924, as I recall. A good man he was—kind, pleasant, always trying to please his customers by doing a little bit more than necessary or was expected of his services."

Was the evacuation justified, in her opinion, after watching the conduct of the Japanese in camp? Did she harbor any hatred toward them because they looked like the enemy?

"I couldn't hate them. How can you hate anyone you don't know? If my husband and I had any prejudice against the American Japanese would we have taken the job that required us to live and work next door to them 24

hours a day? I thought the Evacuation was unnecessary, a pitiful waste of money and manpower. Governor Earl Warren of California and General De Witt were responsible, more than anybody else, I thought, for the Evacuation.

"Race-baiting and hating directed against the Japanese," continued Mrs. Cook, "did not begin in the decade before Pearl Harbor. It had been going on for a long time before that.

"Shortly after my husband and I were married, my husband went to work for the Pacific Spruce Mill on the coast of Oregon. The year was 1922. The company arranged to hire Japanese workers in the logging operation.

"The company built houses specially for the Japanese with Japanese bathtubs. The Japanese workers came, but they didn't remain long. Race-baiters in the community got busy. The Japanese were harassed, threatened with violence. The racist, as usual, claimed the Japanese would eventually replace every Caucasian worker.

"When agitators start exploiting the highly human traits of credulity and the fear of loss of security, confused citizens permit unreason to take hold and they

were blindly misled to join in driving the Japanese out.

"We weren't there when the Japanese came and left. We were on vacation to Wichita, Kansas, visiting my husband's folks when it happened but I read about it in the newspapers. I cut out clippings of the incident because it was plain bigotry and un-American in what those people did to the Japanese workers."

Mrs. Cook collected newspaper clippings through the years. She had War Relocation Authority center newspapers printed in both Japanese and English, WRA memorandums and bulletins, booklets and annuals published by the evacuees and, of course, newspaper clippings reporting on the impounded Japanese by hostile press.

The Japanese who were sent to Jerome Relocation Center from assembly centers in California were adventurous lot, Mrs. Cook pointed out. They were patient and tolerant in facing the adversity they encountered. They were firm believers in democracy and they had faith that their right to enjoy the privileges as well to fulfill the obligations of a democratic society would some day be recognized by the American people.

(To be continued)



Approximately 10,000 persons of Japanese ancestry were confined in Jerome's barracks.

A recollection of barbed wire

SECOND OF EIGHT PARTS

By Tadaichi Uyeno

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Did the Japanese show outwardly any disdain or scorn toward the Caucasian administrators, the appointed personnel, at the Jerome center?

"The friendliness of the Japanese toward us Caucasians," Mrs. Cook said, "amazed us. Like ourselves, many of the WRA appointed personnel had never been acquainted with the Japanese before. We had expected them to look upon us as their jailers, people sent to guard them from escaping and treating them roughly.

"The Japanese, women especially, bowed to us and spoke to us with friendly greeting whenever we met. There was no show of anger or suspicion that we Caucasians were not to be trusted.

"We came to Jerome with anticipation that unfriendly relations may develop between the internees and administrative personnel. The Japanese impressed us as being sincere and willing to cooperate and our sympathies were with them from the very first moment we saw them come into the center with their identification tags, duffle bags and hand baggage."

Caucasian-appointed personnel had no easy time making adjustments to center life, especially at the Jerome center. The center barracks were not yet completed when the Army began sending in evacuees by the thousands by trucks and buses. Construction crews were barely able to keep up with the incoming internees' shelter needs.

My husband and I were given a small apartment in a tar-covered barrack the same as the evacuees," Mrs. Cook related. There were two cots. An electrical cord with a 75-watt bulb hanging in the center of the apartment from the rafter. There were no chairs, no table. A pot-bellied stove stood over near the wall to satisfy our heating needs. We were given a mattress, covers and blankets.

Like the evacuees, we were

terribly disappointed and on top of our disappointment we were charged for them, \$15 to \$20 per month.

"We didn't like what we saw. We didn't dare complain about our living quarters because we were promised a substantially furnished home at the time of being hired. We had sold our home in Wichita since we expected the war to last many years.

"We realized the evacuees were making the best of the bad situation by providing the basic comforts on their own by improvising and improving them, each to his own ability with saw and hammer, scrap lumber, whatever they could muster from the bleak surroundings of the center.

"We had a feeling of desolation, of being prisoners even though we were free to go anywhere we liked to go at any time we wished outside the barbed wire enclosure. The poor Japanese internees were denied this privilege. It was pathetic. My heart bled for them, even though we of the personnel staff and their families fared no better in the basic living conditions. We were still free; they were not.

"Our barrack, next to the internees, leaked from the tarpaper roof when it rained; rain came in through improperly constructed window frames. Cracks appeared on walls and floor. The barracks were only of temporary construction designed for only a few years' use and made out of cheap rough lumber. The potbellied stove which we burned freshly cut swamp trees smoked more than burned and the heat emanating from it only warmed half of our body with our backs always cold.

"Outside the bare freshly leveled ground became a sea of mud from the Arkansas rain. Mud puddles everywhere outside. No sidewalks or gravelled paths to walk on.

"Like the evacuees we had no running water in our apartment, no sanitary facilities. We had to go to the communal building in the center of the block for our laundry, bathing and toilet needs.

"Surprisingly, the Japanese were able to make their barracks into livable quarters. They made makeshift furnitures, clothes closets, cabinets. Curtains were hung on windows. The resourcefulness of these people to improvise means to better their temporary homes perhaps helped them to forget the bleakness and desolation of their surroundings."

Mrs. Cook emphasized that the first couple of months of their camp life was a time of busy activities for the internees. Their primary interest was to make their living quarters habitable. Then as their apartments were tidied up, the administration began recruiting workers to keep the center operating. There was only a small staff of WRA employees to handle everything for the 5000 to 10,000 evacuees.

Without the volunteers picked from the internees, the center, Mrs. Cook pointed out, would not have operated as successfully as

it did with a minimum of cost to the government. The evacuees did most of the essential services under appointed personnel supervision.

"If the government had to hire Caucasians or other — non-Japanese, that is—at the going rate of wages," Mrs. Cook said, "to do what the Japanese did for themselves would have cost the government a tremendous amount of money. The American people should be thankful the internees were so cooperative. Twenty-five hundred to three thousand worked in the smaller centers, I was told."

Of course, the employment of so many evacuees in the center presented problems. Many of the evacuees were dissatisfied with the type of work they had to accept. Key positions naturally were taken over by the early arrivals, leaving nothing good for the latecomers. Dissatisfaction among internees sprang up in housing, mess operation, hospital care and cooperative store management. Complaints were many, and no fair solution was found for immediate settlement in the center.

(To Be Continued)

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THIRD OF EIGHT PARTS

By Tadaichi Uyeno

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Were there incidents in the center that make one chuckle now as one looks back in retrospect now?

"Yes—there were many," Mrs. Cook recalled, "At Jerome, Arkansas, unlike other centers in Arizona, California, Utah and Wyoming, farms and communities were nearby. Cotton farmers complained to the internal security that evacuees were stealing their cotton crop. Evidently at night the center residents were slipping out from underneath the barbed wire fences to strip the cotton bushes. The internal security never caught the culprits. However, my husband had to negotiate with the farmers on the amount of their losses.

"He compensated the farmers out of his own pocket. The WRA did not want to antagonize the neighbors on the outside of the center. Maintaining friendly relations with the neighbor residents were of primary importance.

"Perhaps the claim of cotton stealing was a racket devised by the farmers to bolster extra spending money. You know, they could have stripped the cotton themselves and put the blame on the Japanese. However, we had suspicion that the makeshift furniture of the internees could have been stuffed with stolen cotton. We never did find out if there were any suspects."

Because of this incident, were the Japanese at Jerome distrusted or that there was question about their honesty?

"We took this cotton disappearing episode as a joke," Mrs. Cook said. "The cotton was there and perhaps if I were in need of material to stuff my furniture I would have gone out to help myself. It was so inviting, this cotton crop waiting to be picked off the bushes.

"Distrust the Japanese? We never distrusted them. My husband and I never locked our apartment in the center, day or night. We felt very safe with them around. The supplementary evacuee policemen always knocked on our door and walked in without our opening the door for them. We trusted the evacuees absolutely. We left good clothing in the communal laundry room to dry without fear of getting them stolen.

"Mind you, the appointed personnel living quarters had no fence setting our section apart from the Japanese. We actually lived among them and we never felt any safer. That was Jerome."

The WRA civil service employees were constantly reminded the two chief rewards of employment at any center were in experience and in the knowledge that it was a necessary and important contribution to the war against enemy domination. What satisfaction did the WRA employees get from working in the the Japanese camps? Were there disadvantages, too?

"Whatever kindness we extended the Japanese," Mrs. Cook said, "they would reciprocate. In Jerome, these people had respect for authority, although we tried to stress equality. We were sorry we couldn't do more for them, as we were limited to following rules and regulations.

"My husband was a kind man, perhaps too gentle for one engaged in a professional law enforcement career. Above all, he believed in compassion and had a strong desire to help mankind, regardless of race, color or creed. And the Japanese needed help in the worst way.

"Outside the center, WRA personnel were subject to derisive and sometimes very biting remarks, such as 'Jap-lovers,' 'Jap-toddlers' and 'damn Yankees,' among others. When we became mad at Arkansans, we called them hillbillies, which wasn't either.

"We weren't exactly 'Jap-lovers.' We didn't hate the Japanese either and they were lovable people who, by association, we had come to like very much. They were no different from other Americans. True, physically, they were different and that was the extent of their difference."

Charges that the WRA centers were mismanaged, that the Japanese internees were pampered with too much kindness and that they were given unlimited supply of meat and other hard-to-get foods were made by politicians and newspaper reporters.

Were these accusations true?

Mrs. Cook was quick to reply:

"Those were lies! Deliberate lies concocted for sensationalism to further their evil intentions to blow things up big, bigger out of proportion to the magnitude of the problem as they saw it. I should know. I lived in the center with the internees. My husband and I ate every day, three times a day, at the administration personnel mess hall. The same food ingredients served to us were delivered to the Japanese mess halls. We weren't delighted with the food we had to eat.

"And meat? What meat. What we were served didn't come in the form of steaks. All I can remember is that lamb stew was processed meat of sorts were on the table the most.

"My husband, to offset the bad publicity given us by the hostile press, took journalists and politicians to examine the contents of garbage cans outside Japanese mess halls. There was very little wasted food found in them."

The mass evacuation of the Ja-

panese from the West Coast brought out many cases of injustices and hardships, Mrs. Cook emphasized, the people on the outside and away from the centers did not know. She couldn't understand the necessity of putting the families of those serving in military service into the centers. Some special consideration should have been given them.

"There was a family in Jerome center whose soldier son and brother was having his leg amputated at Walter Reed Hospital. The parents and two daughters must have gone through intense mental suffering worrying about their loved one. It was cruel and unjust. They didn't complain. Yet we knew they were worried. The family name was Fujino. The girl, Mitsie, worked for my husband as secretary in the security office.

"The father, Mr. Fujino, after getting their apartment into rather comfortable shape spent considerable time working on roots and limbs of trees and shrubs and carving many beautiful artistic objects from them. He gave me some of his works. One of them is on that table. It is one of my prized possessions.

"Forced idleness did not make the Japanese waste time in camp. They were busy pursuing their hobbies which they had no time to follow previously on the outside. Making enough to support the growing family had left no spare time and money for hobbies. All their years of struggling had culminated by evacuation in total loss, financially and economically."

(To Be Continued)

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FIFTH OF EIGHT PARTS

By Tadaichi Uyeno

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The aftermath of the November incident was very much in evidence when Mrs. Cook arrived in Tule Lake. It was a segregated center. It was surrounded by a man-proof fence. Within that center were the administration buildings also enclosed by a man-proof fence.

Then there was another area of tents in which the leaders of the demonstration were temporarily sheltered under military surveillance. This small area was also encircled by a fence.

"My immediate reaction as I saw the soldiers everywhere in the center was that I had come to a military prison," she said. "Of course, the Japanese residents of this center had brought this condition upon themselves, I was well aware. The tension which existed was very hard on the nerves. Everyone, residents and the appointed personnel alike, expected something to happen at any time.

"The WRA staff and evacuee relations were sharply drawn and there was virtually no communication between them."

The withdrawal and passive non-cooperation of the evacuees under military control of the center continued for two months. The Tulean Dispatch, center newspaper published by the evacuees in English and Japanese, was suspended. No evacuees went to work except in the few essential services.

Minimum temperatures in Tule Lake during the winter months went down far below freezing.

Newspapers and radio blew up the crisis within the center beyond proportions. Subversive activities played up by reporters whose imaginations were larger than their ability for digging up facts brought forth more hostilities and unfriendliness toward Tule Lake center residents.

Did Mrs. Cook's opinion of the Japanese internees change as she observed the events taking place at Tule Lake?

"Basically, no. The belligerent attitude of certain leaders," she said, "did not affect my sympathies for the silent majority who were frightened into submissive acceptance of the vocal militants or extremists' actions.

"Many of the families from other centers did not come to Tule Lake with wholehearted approval. The younger, thoroughly American-educated youths who didn't speak the Japanese language fluently objected but for the sake of keeping the family as a unity had consented to come. That was my impression as I saw the split in opinion held by various family groups that had left Jerome for this segregated center.

"There was an incident in Jerome, I remember, where a young boy committed suicide because he didn't want to leave his childhood friends when his parents decided to go to Tule Lake.

"I couldn't make myself hate the Japanese—all Japanese internees—because they wouldn't cooperate with the administration staff. Too long a confinement had brewed dissension among the internees who didn't know which path to take or follow—the vocal

minority who preached of unity by providing exciting activities by marching drills every day and singing slogans, 'We are Japanese together,' or by just letting things take their course without taking any definite stand one way or the other.

"The segregated condition of the camp was glaringly obvious by one look at the physical properties. The man-proof fences, the fenced-in administration area to keep the center residents out and a new area called the "stockade"—a group of buildings next to administration area completely man-proof-fenced with more than 350 inmates who had participated in the 'November Incident.'

"The stockade was in plain view of the center residents. It did convey a feeling of repressive, restrictive and discriminatory status of the center itself.

"The Army had installed watch towers at the corners of the stockade. All this emphasized the existence of a prison within a prison and that actually all internees were prisoners with variance among them.

"The appointed personnel and their families at Jerome didn't get the depressed feelings the WRA staff and their families encountered at Tule Lake. In Jer-

ome, we moved into camp a little before the evacuees did and we had to make the same adjustments in housing and living conditions as the evacuees. We lived in the center in identical barracks next to the Japanese with no fence between the Japanese and the administrative residents.

"In Tule Lake the appointed personnel and their families lived in barracks occupied formerly by the military contingent which was moved to another site newly constructed near the center having barracks for 1000 officers. We weren't allowed into the center proper nor were we allowed to mingle with internees even though we may have had friends among them.

"During this period of the internee withdrawal and passive non-cooperation following the November demonstrations, the appointed personnel was hoping sympathetically that the Japanese internees would realize that the continued resistance to full cooperation would only hurt them more. It was evident that the different segments of the Tule Lake center lived in fear among themselves that they were subject to violence if they opposed the wishes of the extremists."

(To Be Continued)

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SIXTH OF EIGHT PARTS

By Tadaichi Uyeno

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Looking back over her nearly two years' residence at Tule Lake center's administrative housing quarters, Mrs. Cook remembered two incidents which she regrets happened at Tule Lake's Japanese camp.

"A trigger-happy soldier on sentry duty shot and killed an internee," she said. "You will find the details in the Newell Star, internee-edited camp newspaper, I have here."

In May, 24, 1944, Soichi James Okamoto, the Newell Star reporter, was shot by a military police sentry at the old main entrance to the project. He died early next morning at the center hospital.

The victim of the shooting was employed in the construction and had been driving a truck. He drove out through the gate to get lumber which was to be delivered to the construction job and was returning to the center at the time. In the truck was one worker, a witness to the shooting, and others were near who cooperated with the police in giving full statements on the shooting.

The sentry was placed under arrest by Lt. Col. Verne Austin, commanding officer of the military garrison.

A jury of Army officers on July 13, 1944 cleared the sentry of manslaughter charges at a court martial proceedings.

"We never got the full story of the shooting," said Mrs. Cook. "I saw the truck stop at the gate through my apartment window, but I didn't realize what had happened until later as I was quite a distance away. Anyway, I am afraid the shooting by the sentry was justified, at least the sen-

try's story prevailed and the prosecution with the victim dead had insufficient evidence to refute the sentry's testimony."

The second incident of violence in Tule Lake Mrs. Cook found shocking and incomprehensible was the murder of Yonezo Hitomi, a prominent evacuee from Sacramento, on July 2, 1944. He was general manager of the Tule Lake Cooperative Enterprises, Inc., operators of the center stores.

"His death by assassination put fear into center residents," Mrs. Cook said. "Residents of the center were most fearful of each other as they didn't know who to trust among themselves."

Hitomi was found knifed to death Sunday night near his apartment. He had worked with the administration in an effort to bring the center back to normal as did board members of the center's cooperative enterprises.

"It was presumed," Mrs. Cook said, "that his death was caused by rash and inconsiderate men who were misled into thinking by groundless propaganda of bitterness and misunderstanding that he was an administration stooge selling out his people for personal gain."

Hitomi's murderer was never apprehended. Suspects could not be found by the internal security or the internee police.

As the aftermath of the Hitomi murder, the Colonial Peace Department composed of internees who policed the center under internal security supervision, resigned en masse on July 20. The reason given for their resignation was that the staff of 115 men had dwindled to 72 by resignations and that they were unable to maintain law and order in the center.

"The real reason," Mrs. Cook believed, "is that the men were threatened and intimidated to quit because they continued to look for suspects in the murder case among the extremists."

This group was led by hot-heads, and violence it seemed was their sign of nobleness."

Hitomi's assassination strengthened the embryo Hoshidan (service society) activities, and center residents became converts by permitting this group to flourish without questioning their motives or the end result of their policies.

Consequently, members of the seven-man Coordinating Committee, who had unofficially represented the internees for three months after the Army relinquished control of the center, were forced to leave the center by relocation. They feared that they may be the next targets for assassination if they remained.

Leadership in the center passed from the moderates who favored working with the administration in order to get the repressive measures reduced thereby making existence in the center easier and more pleasant, to the men with a program for return to Japan.

The Hoshidan, a pro-Japan oriented service society became a threatening force by September of 1944. By November, a small group known as the "Society for the Study of the Customs of the Fatherland" under an altered name, "Society to Serve the Emperor on Speedy Repatriation," a thousand-member organization, was determined to bring center life a meaning in direct relationship to the Japanese war effort. How were they to accomplish this?

"They wanted to indoctrinate the children in the center with current Japanese political propaganda," said Mrs. Cook. "As they were in a segregation center, they believed that all residents should prepare themselves for a future in Japan by studying Japanese language and practicing pure Japanese customs. They almost succeeded in steamrolling their proposals. But the majority of the internees were not ready to accept this plan or program to return to Japan."

"Most had come to Tule Lake thinking that this was a safe refuge until the war was over. They didn't want to move and remained uninterested in Japan, in spite of the exhortations by Hoshidan followers."

"The daily marching and drilling Hoshidan group put on was quite a sight. The men wore sweat bands of "hachimaki" bearing insignias in Japanese. Actually, this group appeared to be heading for a quasi-military training program under the guise of drills for physical exercises."

"The way these young men performed reminds us of the half time show during a football game. Oh, yes, these boys had plastic bugles and the men responded to the call."

"These hothead upstarts who for the first time were able to assume leadership headed a gang of youths bent on rowdiness to achieve their goals in a totally disorganized community."

"On Monday, Feb. 12, 1945, the Tule Lake Center Internal Security officers, armed by authority of a warrant of search, seizure and eviction issued by Ray Best, project director, removed the contents of and closed the combined headquarters of Sokuji Kikoku Hoshidan and Hokoku Seinen Dan at 5408-A."

"Officers and members of both organizations numbering 900, were picked up by the Department of Justice and removed to alien enemy internment camps. This action ended the period of turmoil in Tule Lake and relative peace once again prevailed."

(To Be Continued)

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SEVENTH OF EIGHT PARTS

By Tadaichi Uyeno

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(To Be Continued)

The paralyzing hold the extremists had on the Tule Lake Center residents disintegrated almost immediately. Internees became more willing to cooperate with the administration. In time, once again, resettlement became the predominant program for the WRA staff and Tule Lake residents.

The protracted length of the settlement of the issues that emerged from the mass demonstrations on Nov. 1, 1943, labeled as the "November Incident," dragging on for over a year, presented difficult problems for the internal security staff at Tule Lake.

Were these problems a constant source of burden and irritation to the internal security staff?

"No, my husband didn't complain about the Japanese internees and the unsettled conditions of the camp," said Mrs. Cook. "The Internal Security Section personnel numbered over 30 officers. 'J.B.'—that was my husband's full name—had more trouble keeping peace among his men. He complained more about the men who served under him.

"There was a constant turnover. Too many misfits were hired by the WRA. They were not all dependable men. Some drank excessively. There were many retired policemen who had taken the job for what there was in it—good pay. Bickering among themselves constituted one of the problems my husband had to resolve to keep the force functioning smoothly to fulfill its duties.

"My husband joined the Tule Lake Internal Security Section as senior security officer, then rose to assistant chief in November, 1944, acting chief in March, 1945, and remained chief until the camp was closed. Even as a senior security officer, my husband served as acting chief when the chief was absent because he had specialized police training and experience."

Why was it that the project administration did not crack down on the Hoshidan (service society) groups in the early stages of organization rather than to wait while the center residents became completely demoralized?

"We must realize that our country operated on principles of law. Rules and regulations must be followed," Mrs. Cook said. "The enforcement arm of the WRA—the Internal Security—even in a segregation center like Tule Lake, could not forceably enter any center building occupied by intern-

ees without a warrant of search, seizure and eviction.

"The Department of Justice had to make a ruling first that these groups promoting Japanese nationalistic or anti-American sentiments were illegal and that finally that the project director had authority to issue such a warrant. We must not forget the WRA was a civilian government agency and there were no precedents in our government's history to follow. The WRA treaded cautiously in matters concerning the violation of civil rights of any individual in the center."

Following the raid and closing of the headquarters of the Sokuji Kiku Hoshidan and Hokoku Seinen Dan, the project director issued Special Project Regulations prohibiting assemblies, gatherings, meetings, parades, and group exercises, or similar activities, designed to be sympathetic to Japan or to promote anti-American resentment.

Did these regulations bring immediate compliance by the internees and would the outcome make Tule Lake a peaceful and orderly place to live?

"I don't know what the internees thought of the new regulations," said Mrs. Cook. "Peace did come to the center. I certainly appreciated how nice it was to have a quiet morning. For quite a long while, we were awakened at five in the morning by the patriotic an-

ti-American society's members blowing bugles to get members to fall in line for the drill exercises. Their shouting of orders woke up the communities surrounding the center, namely the administrative residential quarters and the Army barracks some distance away.

"I didn't mind the internees holding parades or conducting group exercises daily. But the noise the plastic bugles made early in the morning by the bugle corps was something that drove us frantic. I believe the internees too were bothered, but were in no position to complain."

The internees' efforts to gain something out of the November Incident had been a dismal failure. The Army had lifted the Mass Exclusion and the Japanese were moving back to the West Coast. The war in the Pacific islands was going badly for the Japanese. The leaders who had engineered the November demonstration had deliberately lied to center residents and misinformed them as to the real intention of their disruptive tactic.

"With the so-called service societies immobilized and the leaders in jail, the center residents, most of them fence-sitters, almost immediately became more willing to cooperate with the administration. In time, once again, resettlement became the predominant program for the WRA and Tule Lake residents.



Mrs. Kathryn J. Cook with her husband, now deceased.