

Thank God, however, we come from a basically very obedient and patient race. As, if this unfortunate interment was attempted upon a body of German, Italian, Irish, English, or any other national group, whose children are American Citizens, you certainly can draw your own conclusion.

As to our future actions, the responsibility of rehabilitation is entirely upon our Government; and, directly the responsibility of the Caucasian Administrative Staff in this camp. For, our predicament today is akin to a cornered animal; groping about without exact clarification as to the present and future status of our citizenship, inequality of pay, unheard of in the history of our nation, poor food, poor living conditions with very little consideration as to sanitation, morale, human feelings, and, many other like problems.

Our future then is very dark. The un-rooting of our economic and social life by our government and the military is an accomplished fact. Our present internment is pitiful enough, but, when we look into the future, when peace is with us again, it becomes a night-mare. Having been interned and deprived of our economic independence, we are now the forced wards of our Government. Pay of twelve, 16, and 19 dollars, a month certainly cannot be expected as sufficient to set aside for future reserve as this pay will just about cover the soap and miscellaneous costs of our daily necessities. Can our Government return us all to our former social and economic status before internment? Are we to be kept in this corral even after the war? What will become of the improvements if we are to be released after working practically for nothing for our government? And, many like questions hover in our minds. Perhaps you can help solve this riddle. For the roots planted so long, whether they be 200 years or, 40 years, or 20 years, these roots when uprooted, cannot forever remain alive unless they are properly and securely planted.

On the other hand, if you, as the Administrative Staff, individually and collectively, after fully understanding our predicament, endeavor to tackle our problems on a 100% responsibility basis, we offer you, our challenge that, with your acceptance of the responsibilities, there will evolve a spirit of cooperation from the residents, and, thenceforth, there is no question in our minds that a harmonious, well-organized center can be attained for the duration.

By now, it sounds as if we are condemning the Administrative Staff, but, please believe us that we do not condemn you as individuals. Our only desire is that you, as representatives of our Government, approach our problems with thorough understanding and sympathy. With this in your minds and also the fact that our Democracy which boasts of no discrimination between race, creed, or color, these major problems could be solved. It will then become our duty in an enlightened and cooperative sensibility to assist in the erasure of at least a portion of the blackest mark in the history of our country!

R. Tomo

Chairman

Handwritten Chinese characters in a dense, overlapping script, likely a form of shorthand or a specific dialect. The characters are arranged in roughly horizontal lines across the page, with some vertical elements. The script is highly stylized and difficult to decipher without context.

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