

Hawaii soon to serve as head of the translation staff there, now in process of recruitment. In the Washington office, our Romaji staff is rated at the top of our foreign language translation groups, and the members are liked as individuals. Originally trained by Dr. _____, their group efficiency has been maintained at a high level. I think it is no exaggeration to say they are regarded as one of the finest, if not the finest, language technician staffs in the Government."

It must be noted here that not only American citizens of Japanese ancestry but also Japanese aliens are today working for the American government in the interest of the Allied cause. No more striking example of patriotism exists than these Japanese aliens who exert their energies for the victory of America over Japan.

Among such men is Yasuo Kuniyoshi, nationally-known artist who turned his energies toward the war immediately after Pearl Harbor.

Aside from spearheading activities of Japanese Americans in New York to strengthen our all-out war program, Kuniyoshi has written radio scripts and broadcast over shortwave to Japan for the Coordinator of Information and the Office of War Information. His script entitled "Japan Against Japan," was broadcast on Feb. 10, 1942, and repeated on March 12, 1942. He has also created war posters for the OWI and made sketches for a booklet, "This Is Japan."

Another artist who has done important work for the war services is at present on civilian war duty overseas. He is Taro Yashima, Japanese-born artist who escaped to America in 1941, shortly before the war. Tortured and imprisoned nine times by the Tokyo police, Yashima has brought his full knowledge of Japanese brutality to his present work.

These men, along with hundreds of other Japanese aliens, have by their work renounced Japan and are putting their full energies into her defeat.

In a sense, with almost every Government bureau geared to the war program, every Nisei's service in federal employment is auxiliary to the war effort. Besides these strictly wartime agencies in which the Nisei work, they are employed also in almost every Government office.

A large number of Nisei girls, trim, courteous and efficient, are working as secretaries, stenographers and clerks, helping to alleviate an employment situation made inordinately acute by a high turnover and a dire labor shortage.

Well trained and responsible, these women have been employed in Civil Service in Washington and other cities as well as in the Sioux, Nebraska, and Tooele, Utah, ordnance depots. Many of these women have husbands or brothers in the armed services, particularly in the 442nd Regimental Combat Team and in the Pacific theater. By working in wartime agencies they feel they are matching to the degree they are able the mili-

tary feats of their husbands and brothers on America's far flung battlefronts.

No Japanese American has ever been discharged for dereliction of duty or for disloyalty. They are the only employees in government service who can boast a quintuple check on their loyalty, having passed the microscopic scrutiny of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Army and Navy Intelligence, the War Relocation Authority and the Civil Service Commission.

ABOVE: Ray Hashitani, formerly of Oregon, an employee of the OPA in Washington. BELOW: Dillon Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority, reads a copy of the Heart Mountain Sentinel with Civil Service employees Eiko Narita, left, Joan Ishiyama and John Kitasako. Photos by Van Tassel for WRA.



"other work essential to the war effort"

TODAY ALL AMERICA is geared to the war program. Not all the young men and women in the country can serve in the armed forces or in actual defense work. But men and women who have taken over jobs in semi-essential industry, youngsters who save their pennies for War Stamps, and the civilian army corps, millions strong, are, to the extent they can, helping to win the war.

In Detroit, in Cleveland, in Chicago, in Minneapolis, in Milwaukee, Japanese Americans are serving in important capacities. They maintain the nation's industrial equipment, they operate machines, they work mines.

In Cleveland, Nisei are employed as electricians and repairmen, as tool and die workers, as power machine operators and grinders. About half of the Nisei in the city are contributing directly to war work in defense plants.

In Detroit, nerve center of a vast war-producing area, Nisei have added their skills and energy to keep the city producing at top speed. The city needed skilled workers, engineers to run and maintain transportation equipment, nurses to care for the public health, and laborers to keep roads in condition. Approximately 250 Japanese Americans are today in Detroit as servants of the city. They are mechanics, drivers and conductors for the Detroit Street Railway; they are engineers and draftsmen in the Post War Planning Division; they are dieticians, diet maids, pharmacists, nurses and physicians in Public Health; and they serve in many other essential capacities to keep Detroit producing in top form.

In Chicago thousands are in every conceivable industry. There are 225 with the International Harvester Company, which manufactures tractors for both domestic and overseas use. There are thirty-two more at one of the major railroad equipment manufacturing plants. There are 45 mechanics with a transportation maintenance company, and twenty-five other Nisei with a plant manufacturing LSTs.

Japanese Americans have gone out on railroad work, volunteering in large numbers for some of the hardest maintenance work. They have gone into mining as metallurgists and miners. One small company, the Hudson Coal Company at National, Utah, with a payroll of only thirty-seven employees during 1944, produced 50,000 tons of coal in that period. Of their workers, two-thirds were of Japanese ancestry, and despite the small number of employees, the company is justly proud of its service record: of its workers, six Nisei employees have gone into the U. S. Army, all of them serving overseas. Red Cross and War Bond drives have been heartily endorsed, and Franklyn Sugiyama, fire boss, has received



Photo by Van Tassel for WRA

Mrs. Yoshiye Abe, employee of the Flag and Decorating Company in Denver, hopes the flag she is working on will be carried someday by a victorious army into Tokyo or Berlin.

citations from the Treasury Department and the Utah War Fund testifying to the company's participation in these drives.

EVEN IN THE RELOCATION CENTERS war activity has been kept going at a fast rate. In addition to the all-important camouflage net project, other war contributions have included a guayule project at Manzanar, California; silk screen projects at Heart Mountain, Wyoming, and Amache, Colorado; a ship model factory at Rivers, Arizona; and civilian war work such as Red Cross and War Bond drives at every camp.

The guayule project began in April, 1942, at the Manzanar center under the direction of Dr. Ralph Emerson of the California School of Technology. Laboratories and seed plots were set out, and 190,000 seedlings representing nineteen varieties of guayule were planted. Three chemists, two propagators and seventeen skilled nurserymen began the experimental work.

The entire project has been watched with close interest by scientists from many of California's educational institutions. Experiments are being made on the extraction of rubber from guayule by a new, fast process.

On this project both aliens and citizens of Japanese ancestry have pooled their efforts, working together to the end that this country might have a substitute for rubber, critical war material.

Model Ship Factory

On March 19, 1943, a new kind of assembly line went into production at the Gila River relocation center. On this assembly line Japanese Americans turned out hundreds of sub-chasers, PT boats, and belligerent and Allied ships.

They were all models, made with meticulous accuracy and measuring from two to eighteen inches in length, and they were used by U. S. Navy training classes to train aviators and naval cadets in ship identification.

The factory, established under Navy contract, opened in March, 1943, and closed in May, 1944. During these fourteen months the workers produced 710 belligerent warship models in addition to earlier production of many sub-chasers and submarines of which no actual count was made. The original order for production consisted principally of the Battleship German von Tirpitz, the cruiser Prinz Eugen, the destroyer Koeln, a quantity of submarine models, and an unlimited number of PT boats. Personnel in the shop at that time numbered about twelve young men.

When production was started on allied ships, the personnel was increased to 70 workers, 15 of whom were girls. Production of allied models included U. S. sub-chasers, U. S. light cruisers, the U. S. aircraft carrier Wasp, PT80 boats, the destroyer Fletcher and the destroyer Sims.

Filling orders which called for larger and varied models required more precision. One model of the U. S. South Dakota was eight inches in length, with all parts above water full operative. Draftsmen who were trained in the shop designed this model from a very small plan, photographs, and other limited information. When this model, valued at \$1200, was shipped to Washington, high praise was received from the Navy.

A model of the carrier, St. Louis, 7 1/2 inches long and fully operative, is now on display in the Navy Office in New York City as an example of fine craftsmanship.

Silk screen shops, too, at the Granada, Colorado, and Heart Mountain, Wyoming, relocation centers did work for the Navy in producing hundreds of thousands of posters.

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IN APRIL, 1943, the shocking, electric news of the Tokyo executions broke upon the American public. Three thousand Japanese American soldiers in training at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, sent their reply to the Tokyo warlords: they purchased \$100,000 in war bonds in two days.

And in Hawaii other Japanese Americans collected \$10,340 and presented it to Lieutenant General Robert C. Richardson, commander of the Army's Hawaiian department.

"We hope this money will be used for bombs to give Premier Tojo and his cutthroats bloody hell," said their spokesman, Walter Mihata.

Not all the civilian contributions of Japanese Americans have been so dramatic, but they have been steady and sincere. In all Red Cross, War Bond and blood bank drives the Nisei have responded heartily. Thirty-five Nisei registered in Denver on January 29 to donate to the blood bank, and in New York City sparkling-eyed Katherine Iseri was a regular blood bank contributor until the time she was inducted in the Women's Corps Army.

Nor have Japanese Americans contributed only to U. S. blood banks. On the 18th of September, 1943, twenty-five members of the Japanese American Committee for Democracy appeared at the Chinese Blood Bank at 154 Nassau Street in New York City and contributed blood for the fighting armies of Free China. Since then many Japanese Americans have made regular visits to the Chinese blood bank. They have also participated in China Relief drives, and they are striking examples of the fact that Nisei Americans work and fight and give for America and America's allies. From that day years ago when a Japanese American was arrested on the San Francisco waterfront for picketing oil and scrap metal shipments to Japan, the Nisei have proven their loyalty lies with America.

IN SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, members of the Japanese American Citizens League during the Fourth War

JAPANESE AMERICANS REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR: Two Nisei instructors at Northwestern University give their blood to the Red Cross on the anniversary of Pearl Harbor. Left to right: Captain Albert A. Granitz, Japanese Americans Tsune Baba and G. Byron Honda, and Red Cross Nurse Jane East.

Photo by Acme





TOP LEFT: Ruby Yoshino, Japanese American singer, shown here entertaining in a ward at the Walter Reed Hospital in Washington. With four brothers in the U. S. Army and another in the merchant marine, Miss Yoshino carries on at home with volunteer war work. Photo by Van Tassel for WRA. **LOWER LEFT:** This silk screen shop at the Heart Mountain Relocation Center has produced thousands of important war posters for the Navy. Photo by Parker for WRA. **UPPER RIGHT:** Japanese Americans participate in a sewing project for European refugees with Americans of other ancestries. Left to right: Eunice Allen, Mary Shigeta, Leona Evans and Toshi Baba. **LOWER RIGHT:** Katherine Iseri, offtime blood donor at the New York Red Cross, is congratulated upon joining the Women's Army Corps by a Red Cross Worker. Now Pvt. Iseri, she is at Camp Ritchie, Maryland.

Loan Drive set as their goal 16 jeeps for the Army's use. They rang doorbells, they called up prospective purchasers, they pounded the pavements. And by the end of the drive, the small but active group of committeemen and women had sold \$25,000 worth of bonds and stamps. During the same drive the Idaho Falls chapter of that same organization sold \$15,000 worth of bonds.

In the centers the sale of bonds has been impressive, especially in view of the fact that the residents are allowed for their full-time, eight-hour-daily jobs a cash allowance averaging \$16 monthly. The residents of the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming have, in two and one-half years, contributed \$41,390.35 through their purchases of stamps and bonds. During the same period the Rohwer center purchased \$18,000 worth of bonds.

Other Work Essential to the War Effort

Some bonds purchases are large, more are small. It was Eikichi Toshima, a vegetable farmer, who walked into the Gila River camp's post office, laid a check for \$6,000 across the bond window, took his receipt, and walked out without a word.

And there are school children at the Rohwer relocation center who own three Army jeeps, jeeps which, they hope, are still seeing service somewhere overseas.

"Jeep or Bust," their slogan was when the campaign started. Their goal was one single jeep to cost \$1165, which was a lot of pennies and nickels and dimes for the school-age youngsters. But within two weeks they had passed their goal with \$2507.95. When the campaign was over, they counted up their sales—\$3505.95. And somewhere men in khaki are riding three jeeps that are the special pride and joy of these children, who had, in their own way, contributed to America's war program.

Women in White

As registered nurses, volunteer nurses aides and cadet nurses, Nisei women have played an important part in wartime America.

Even in the relocation centers, hard hit by an acute shortage of trained nurses, youngsters of sixteen and seventeen have donned white caps and gone about the serious business of tending the ill. Wide-eyed and solemn, they go about their business, carrying trays that seem too heavy for their slim shoulders, carefully tucking in bed sheets, trotting on tiny feet down the long hospital halls. Their striped pinafores are starched and clean, and their tiny caps sit neatly on their heads.

Many of them have gone into regular training as cadet nurses since it was first announced in August, 1943, that Japanese American women were eligible to join the U. S. Cadet Nurses Corps. First from the Gila River center to join the Cadet Nurses Corps was Anne Watanabe, who immediately applied for training at the Hamline University in St. Paul. Others followed in rapid succession. Within three months thirty-one left the Minidoka Relocation Center to train as nurses in hospitals scattered through eight states of the Union. Like Nisei WACs, they felt they were doing their utmost in serving the nation.

Today hundreds of Nisei are serving as nurses or are in training. Rochester, N. Y., counted ten Nisei



Photo by WRA

SONO MATSU and TOMI KAWAKAMI Cadet Nurses

cadets at the beginning of the year at the Genessee, St. Mary's and Rochester General Hospitals. Eight more were in Kansas City—Jayne Shimada, Helen Mukai, Chiyo Iwamoto, Tomi Kawakami, Sonoko Matsuo, Fumi Matsumoto, Riyoko Kikuchi and Michiye Fujimoto.

Many are already with the Army, like Lieutenants Marguerite Ugai and Yaeko Suyama, both serving in England, and Lieutenant Yaye Togasaki of the Army Nurses Corps. Meanwhile, a woman doctor, Captain Yoshiye Tagasaki is at present with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.



Photo by
Ansel Adams

WHO CAN SAY these days what services are essential, what are not? And how can one's participation in the war effort be measured?

There are women, aliens mostly, at the Heart Mountain relocation center who spend their spare moments sewing for European refugee children. Even within the barbed-wire enclosures, the plight of these Hitler-ridden children has touched the hearts of the evacuees.

There are other women, young and old, who knit sweaters for the Red Cross. This volunteer work, too, measures up well in earnestness and sincerity with the work of any assembly-line worker on the swing shift. There is Ruby Yoshino, singer, who has entertained in Army hospital wards, dedicating her songs to her five brothers in the service of their country.

In Royal Oaks, Michigan, Jimmy Kajiwara, once of San Francisco, has become a familiar sight on the streets of the city. And his work is arresting, too, for he is a trainer of Doberman Pinschers, who will later lead the blind. Kajiwara and another Nisei, Thomas Imoto, are both employees of the Pathfinder Kennels.

And in Nebraska, Father Flanagan's Boys Town has become a symbol of wise, intelligent and sympathetic treatment of homeless boys. The great buildings and the wide fields of Boys Town have sent into the world young men of high caliber and faith.

Among Boys Town employees are twelve young men and women of Japanese ancestry.

JAPANESE AMERICAN citizens and aliens have cooperated in a new venture, the production of guayule in an extensive project at the Manzanar Relocation Center which may prove to be a highly important contribution to the country's rubber needs.

They have become a part of a great institution, living in and for a great ideal. They line up as follows:

Patrick Okura, assistant director and psychologist in the welfare department. Formerly with the Los Angeles Civil Service, Mr. Okura with his wife, Lily, have become intimately associated with the problems of Boys Town.

James Takahashi, landscape gardener; Henry Kodama, in charge of the Boys Town victory garden; Jerry Hashii and Eddie Hotta, gardeners; J. Momoto Oku, father of two sons in the armed forces and of another, Private Susumu Babe Okura, killed in action in France; Kaz Ikebasu, clerk; George Takemoto, dairyman; Mrs. George Takemoto, typist; Paul Takahashi, barber; and Mike Oshima, carpenter.

Can the value of their work to the war effort be estimated correctly? There are many others, trained in the ways of children and adolescents, who are doing their part in making America's youth self-reliant and strong.

There is Peter Ida, track coach and high school teacher. There is Abe Hagiwara, counsellor in the Cleveland YMCA; there is Pat Noda, high school instructor.

America's war effort is a mighty one, unexcelled in spirit, unsurpassed in production, limitless in scope.

{ Since the material in this pamphlet was prepared, the
War Department has announced the death in action of
Lt. Moe Yonemura, whose photograph appears on page 9. }

