

STATEMENTS

From some prominent people who know

KENDALL J. FIELDER, Headquarters Hawaiian Department
Colonel, G.S.C., A.C. of S., G-2
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff for Military Intelligence:

I was surprised to learn that some of the many Island rumors about the Hawaiian Islands during the first few days of the war are still prevalent on the mainland. They have been repeatedly denied by all authorities. . . .

Having been in charge of military intelligence activities since June, 1941, I am in a position to know what has happened. There have been no known acts of sabotage, espionage, or fifth column activities committed by the Japanese in Hawaii either on or subsequent to December 7, 1941.

AUGUST VOLLMER, Criminologist. Formerly, Chief of Police, Berkeley, California; Professor of Police Administration in University of Chicago and University of California:

. . . Most of the native born persons of Japanese parentage are undoubtedly good citizens and will not give the government any trouble if released.

JAMES CHAMBERLAIN BAKER, Bishop of the Methodist Church for the California Area:

I have known intimately many Japanese American citizens. I am proud of them as *fellow-citizens* and should count it a privilege to have them as my neighbors. They are persons of character and are devoted to the ideals of American democracy.

The War Relocation Authority in its scattered resettlement policy, can be depended upon to select only such loyal Americans as will be genuine assets in any community. The willingness to welcome these fellow-citizens is a searching test of the reality of our own Americanism.

NEWTON E. MOATS, President of Seattle Council of Churches:

Some of the finest and most loyal citizens in America are included among those who are evacuated. It has been my privilege to become intimately acquainted with second generation Japanese doing work in our Christian Churches in Seattle and the surrounding territory. . . .

ROBERT A. MILLIKAN, Chairman of the Executive Council, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena:

The *wholesale* condemnation of the American Japanese as treacherous, disloyal, and generally undesirable seems to me unfair, and very unfortunate. . . .

RAY LYMAN WILBUR, Chancellor of Stanford University; Chairman of Bay Region Division Institute of Pacific Relations; formerly Secretary of the Interior:

I have had considerable experience with the Japanese, both foreign and

native born, during the past fifty years. I have had more experience with university students and medical students, particularly those who were born in the United States, than I have with any other groups of Japanese. I have found these students dependable, reasonable, always willing to abide by the regulations and the laws, industrious, loyal to the United States and having as much university spirit or public spirit as their fellow students. Many of them have fitted well into the life of the surrounding communities and of the university, itself.

MR. DILLON S. MYER, Director of the War Relocation Authority, said in a letter to the Executive Director of the American Civil Liberties Union: "I know that organizations such as yours will be of great help to us in making clear to the American People that the overwhelming majority of the evacuees are loyal to this country and want only to be free to make their contribution to the winning of the war and to the life of their communities after the war."

(Monthly Bulletin of American Civil Liberties Union, November, 1942.)

MR. MILTON EISENHOWER, as Director of the War Relocation Authority (since resigned, and succeeded by Dillon S. Myer) made the following statement in July, 1942 to a Congressional Committee, in connection with the then pending budget of the W.R.A.:

"I would say that from 80 to 85 per cent of the nisei (American-born citizens of Japanese ancestry) are loyal to the United States. I just cannot say things too favorable about the way they have cooperated under the most adverse circumstances."

MRS. PEARL S. BUCK, Nobel prize winner and best-known interpreter of the Orient to America through her many novels and essays:

"But these Japanese Americans for whom I speak are not our enemies. They have come out from Japan. They have become Americans, because Japan could no longer be their country. They have chosen our country, a democracy, for theirs. . . . They are here because they do not want to go back to Japan. They cannot go back to Japan. They do not believe in what Japan is. There is no home for them in Japan any more. . . . "This is our opportunity today. Let us make the most of it. Let us not simply shut up in isolation or condemn to loneliness of spirit any Japanese whom we happen to find on our land, regardless of whether he is American or not. That is the sort of thing fascism does, blind, simple, stupid, unreasoning. No, let us remember that among these Japanese may be the Americans who one day will be able to make Japan ready for the sort of world we want after the war. It depends on us and how we prepare those future leaders, who may be here in our midst at this very moment, as Sun Yat-sen, the father of the Chinese revolution, was once the obscure son of an obscure merchant, and in this country unrecognized and unaided." (From "American Unity and Asia," by Pearl S. Buck, by permission of John Day Co. Inc., Copyright 1942.)

MR. MIKE MASAOKA is the author of the following statement, which is the Creed of the Japanese American Citizens League:

"I am proud that I am an American citizen of Japanese ancestry, for my very background makes me appreciate more fully the wonderful advantages of this nation. I believe in her institutions, ideals, and traditions; I glory in her heritage; I boast of her history; I trust in her future. She has granted me liberties and opportunities such as no individual enjoys in this world today. She has given me an education befitting kings. She has entrusted me with the responsibilities of the franchise. She has permitted me to build a home, to earn a livelihood, to worship, think, speak, and act as I please — as a free man equal to every other man.

"Although some individuals may discriminate against me, I shall never become bitter or lose faith, for I know that such persons are not representative of the majority of the American people. True, I shall do all in my power to discourage such practices, but I shall do it in the American way; above board, in the open, through courts of law, by education, by proving myself to be worthy of equal treatment and consideration. I am firm in my belief that American sportsmanship and attitude of fair play will judge citizenship and patriotism on the basis of action and achievement, and not on the basis of physical characteristics.

"Because I believe in America, and I trust she believes in me, and because I have received innumerable benefits from her, I pledge myself to do honor to her at all times, and in all places; to support her constitution; to obey her laws; to respect her flag; to defend her against all enemies, foreign or domestic; to actively assume duties and obligations as a citizen, cheerfully and without any reservations whatsoever, in the hope that I may become a better American in a greater America."

THANKSGIVING IN A RELOCATION CENTER

(Editorial in "The Heart Mountain Sentinel," written and published by evacuees in the Heart Mountain Relocation Center.)

Next Thursday is Thanksgiving Day all over America. It remains a red-letter day on the calendar in spite of war and evacuation and blood and sweat and tears. For everyone it will be a new kind of Thanksgiving—simpler and more sincere than it has ever been before.

Torn from comfortable homes, prospering businesses and childhood friends, it seems we would have little to be thankful for this year. And yet, if anything, this camp life is teaching us to appreciate the little things of life—things upon which no price can be placed.

Last year, when we had all we wanted, we took everything for granted. It has taken this war and this new

life to show us how much we did have. We are giving thanks on this Thanksgiving for the things that were ours last year. We are thankful this year for things we never thought of before—for every star that shines and for every blade of grass and pebble along the way. We are thankful for the silver lining around each dark cloud and for laughter that rings in the rain. We are thankful for all the lessons we have learned this year, for hope that springs eternal and for vision that can see beyond the circle of today. We are thankful for faith which makes life worth living and dying for and courage which makes life a game worth fighting for.

We are thankful, above all, for America and for all the people in it who believe in us.

READING LIST

- **"The Japanese in Our Midst," published by the Colorado Council of Churches. 5 cents.
- **"Moving the West Coast Japanese," *Harper's Magazine*, September, 1942.
- **"Will Japan Crack Up?" by Omori Harris in *Harper's Magazine*, May, 1943.
- **"The Japanese-Americans of Hawaii," by Cecil H. Coggins, *Harper's Magazine*, June, 1943.
- "Democracy and Japanese Americans," by Norman Thomas, from the Post War World Council, 112 E. 19th St., New York City. 10 cents.
- **"How Can Christians Help?" edited by Ruth Isabel Seabury, in the Envelope Series published by the American Board. 10 cents.
- "Arizona's City of Exiles," by Albert W. Palmer, *Christian Century*, January 20, 1943.
- "People Nobody Wants: West Coast Japanese," by F. J. Taylor, *Saturday Evening Post*, May 9, 1942.
- "Brothers Under the Skin," Chapter IV, "Our Japanese Hostages," by Carey McWilliams (Little, Brown and Co.), 1943. \$3.00.

- **“What About Our Japanese-Americans?” by Carey McWilliams. Public Affairs Pamphlet No. 91. 10 Cents.
- “Prejudice. The Japanese-Americans: a Symbol of Racial Intolerance,” by Carey McWilliams. Little, Brown & Co.
- **“The Displaced Japanese-Americans,” Fortune Magazine for April, 1944 — Then under the title of “Issei, Nisei, and Kibei.” (Reprints by American Council on Public Affairs.)
- **“Planning Resettlement of Japanese Americans,” published by the Committee on Resettlement of Japanese Americans, The Federal Council of Churches.
- **“A Balance Sheet on Japanese Evacuation,” by Galen Fisher. Reprinted from the Christian Century of August 18 and 25, and September 1 and 8, 1943, by the Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, 2234 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley 4, California. 10 Cents.
- **“The Test of a Free Country . . .” by Dr. Robert G. Sproul, President of the University of California. Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. 5 Cents.
- “American Fighting Men Speak Out,” Edited by Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. 10 Cents.
- **“Outcasts! The Story of America’s Treatment of Her Japanese-American Minority,” by Caleb Foote. Fellowship of Reconciliation, 2929 Broadway, New York 25, N. Y. 15 Cents.
- “Ben Kuroki’s Story,” An Address by Sergeant Ben Kuroki, U. S. Army Air Force, to the Commonwealth Club, San Francisco, Calif. Japanese American Citizens League, Beason Building, 25 East Second South Street, Salt Lake City.
- **“The Pacific Citizen,” weekly newspaper, published by the Japanese American Citizens League, Beason Building, 25 East Second South Street, Salt Lake City, Utah. Has much the best up to the minute information on Japanese American Affairs. Sample copies free; subscription \$2.50 a year.

* Specially recommended.

**Included in the study packet obtainable from The Citizens Committee for Resettlement, 6501 Wydown Blvd., St. Louis 5, Missouri, 25 cents. May also be ordered separately at cost indicated. Reduced price in quantities.

RELOCATED JAPANESE AMERICAN EVACUEES



Chiura Obata is employed as an artist in an advertising display concern. At one-time instructor in art at the University of California.



Mrs. Mary Hara, graduate of the University of California, is now a bacteriologist at a city hospital.



Many workers are now employed on midwest farms and truck gardens.

Miss Setsuko Matsunaga, Phi Beta Kappa from California, now continues her studies, and works part time in a college library.

Dr. Masauki Hara, is resident physician in a hospital. A Phi Beta Kappa, he is a Stanford University graduate.



Courtesy of the St. Louis Post—Dispatch PICTURES

