

January 13, 1943
Wednesday

At Conference Room

At 9:30 A.M.

Mr. Martin came in at 9:25 A.M.

He wished to discuss about internal problems rather than those pertaining to international problems. Three main topics he highly stressed were on salaries, clothing allowances, and food.

Mr. Martin stated that there were no international laws provided for our status as evacuees since there weren't any cases as ours except in Spain 400 years ago. However, he said that the living conditions were equal to that of the Geneva Convention. Also, called for practical complaints.

Mr. Martin requested for a list of petition on any complaint within this center and he will expend his efforts in finding some solution to these problems which will be brought before the U.S. government.

In reference to the food problem request for increase daily food allotment per capita from present 45¢ to that commensurate with increased food prices, special diet kitchen for the sick, aged, and children, and guarantee of ample food supply for emergency.

In reference to clothing allowance the Council asked for uniform clothing allowances to all evacuees whether employed or or whether having worked 15 days or not, issuance of complete winter outfit to all evacuees, and obtain WCCA clothing allowances of to former Pomona and North Portland Assembly Centers. These have been sent to Mr. Martin in a petition and form which are now under consideration.

Shelter problems have been also sent in which included the following: Allotment of larger living quarters at least as originally promised, completion of flooring, partitioning, and providing simple furnitures, and proper protection against fire hazards.

Increase in amount of cash advances and in number of ratings and provision of spending money as in assembly centers were petitioned.

Health problem included improvement of health protection measures which are listed in sheet of questions submitted to the Vice-Consul.

Towards the recreational field the Council asked for establishment and obtaining budget for such purposes, more liberal movements of evacuees as swimming, fishing, hiking, etc. which are to be listed in petition, freedom of use and release of cameras, long-wave radios that were impounded prior to evacuation, and obtaining of non-propaganda Japanese picture films now impounded at Washington, D.C., for showing in center.

In the educational field request for better facilities for

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On the subject of internees and those waiting repatriation, the Vice-Consul stated that the boat was lying idle in an American port ready to leave after the modification list was okayed by Japan. When asked for the origin of repatriation questionnaires he said the Japanese government sent to Spain, but the WRA made the forms of questionnaires. Approximately 1000-1500 persons per ship are allowed. Mr. Martin couldn't say anything on possibility of deportation of internees in detention camps as they are in process of organization. Rendering efforts toward making it possible for American citizens to leave family camps for attend colleges or outside positions. When questioned whether whether families with children are given preference in going to the family camp to those without children, he said as far as he knew there were not; but he will check the matter carefully. When information is available as to when the next boat will leave, he promised to telephone immediately. Re-hearing conducted at family camp when united is to be looked into by Mr. Martin.

Speeding up communications with internees was another problem which Mr. Martin resolved to look into.

Meeting adjourned 11:45 A.M.