

January 16, 1943.

Mr. Guy Robertson,
Project Director,
Heart Mountain, Wyoming.

Dear Sir:

It has been called to our attention that the rationing of canned goods, dried fruits, and frozen vegetables which is scheduled to become effective on February 1, 1943 will forbid the supply of these commodities through their canteens to the resident of Heart Mountain Relocation Center, unless contrary is authorized by the rationing board.

We are informed further that the rationing board has taken the stand in regard to coffee and sugar that since these commodities are being supplied through the mess halls, there is no justification in issuing additional ration to the residents. We are afraid that the rationing board may take the similar view point regarding the rationing of canned goods, dried fruits, etc. and on all future rationing. If they so rule, a very serious consequence may ensue.

We are not in a position to know whether or not the residents are receiving the full quota of the rationed commodities through the mess halls. If not, they are certainly entitled to buy the difference through their canteens. However, assuming that full quota is being supplied through the mess halls, there still remain ample reasons why these commodities should be supplied through their canteens. As you are aware, the relocation centers have a peculiar set up altogether different from the outside community, and the rationing rules must be modified to conform to this type of set up. The following are some of the reasons why the residents must be supplied with the rationed commodities through their canteens:

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1. Children need supplementary nutrition and feeding aside the three meals supplied by the mess halls. The mass feeding as practiced in this camp is entirely inadequate for the requirements of growing children.
2. Convalescent and aged persons need special or supplementary diets.
3. Pregnant women, diabetic patients and people with food allergies must obtain their special or supplementary foods from the canteen.
4. the mass feeding does not satisfy individual requirements; the canteen is the only source of supply through which individual requirements are supplemented.
5. In ordinary society, individuals have freedom of adjusting their requirements by properly arranging their need with rationed and non-rationed foods. Moreover, they have means of obtaining greater variety and quantity of non-rationed foods; whereas non-rationed foods obtainable in this camp is very meager and altogether inadequate to take care of nutritive requirements of various people as mentioned above.
6. The sale of canned goods, frozen vegetables and dried fruits, which will be affected by the new rationing, sold at the canteen at the present time amounts to approximately \$10,000.00 to \$11,000.00 per month. This figure will serve as ample evidence to support our contention that the mess halls do not and will not be able to supply varied requirements of widely different age groups and constitutions. cont

For the reasons above stated, it is obvious that immediate steps must be taken to assure the residents of Heart Mountain Relocation center of the continued supply of the rationed commodities. We, therefore, request you to present our case to the proper authority and obtain favorable decision in our behalf.

Respectfully submitted for your consideration and cooperation.

Yours very truly,

COUNCIL OF BLOCK CHARIMEN

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