

2/11-43

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
CENTRAL REGION

Heart Mountain Relocation Project
Heart Mountain, Wyoming

MEMORANDUM

January 22, 1943

TO: Block Chairmen and Block Managers
FROM: Guy Robertson, Project Director
SUBJECT: Unauthorized Use of Fire Hydrants and Fire Hose

It is my duty to point out to you that a grave fire hazard has been created by the unauthorized use of fire hydrants to flood skating rinks.

The fire hydrants are constructed so that if the jacket is not pumped out immediately after using or if the valve is not completely turned off, during these winter months ice will form in the hydrant. If the weather is severe enough, the result will be a burst and a ruined hydrant, and there are no more hydrants available for replacement.

The second possibility is that of ice forming inside which may not burst the hydrant but still completely cut off the supply of water from the hydrant, or loose chunks of ice into the stream of water and plug the nozzle of the fire hose. Such an instance has already occurred. Fortunately, it was in a fire drill. Had the same thing happened at the scene of a fire, there might have been very serious consequences.

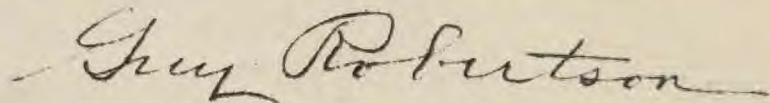
Therefore, for the protection of the lives and property of this community, it is directed that fire hydrants shall not be opened for any purpose whatsoever except by the Fire Department or by the Plumbing Department (which is charged with their care and maintenance).

If it is desired to use the hydrant for flooding a skating rink, the Block Manager will make a request of the Fire Chief. A fireman (with sufficient fire hose) will then be sent by pick-up to supervise the work. When the hydrant has been turned off, the Fire Department will immediately notify the Plumbing Department who will pump out the hydrant and make sure there is no danger of freezing.

The use of the garden hose stored in each block

for fire protection purposes has also been abused. Therefore, it is necessary to direct that the garden hose be used only under the supervision and with the permission of the auxiliary fire chief in each block who will be instructed by the Fire Chief as to proper precautions. The persons operating this hose shall have a written authorization from the Fire Department and shall be responsible for draining the hose and returning it to its proper place in the boiler room. The Police will be instructed to enforce these regulations.

It is requested that the Block Chairmen and the Block Managers give their full cooperation in educating the people of this Center in regard to these regulations and the reasons they are necessary for their protection.



Guy Robertson
Project Director