

**REPORT SUBMITTED
TO
TOLAN CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE
ON
NATIONAL DEFENSE MIGRATION**

**EMERGENCY DEFENSE COUNCIL
SEATTLE CHAPTER
JAPANESE AMERICAN CITIZENS LEAGUE**

**517 Main Street
Seattle, Washington**

FOREWORD

The Emergency Defense Council of the Seattle Chapter, Japanese American Citizens League, has prepared this report on the position of the Japanese in the State of Washington in the belief that a factual and objective presentation of the true picture is the best way to bring about a fair solution of a difficult problem.

We realize it is an issue which cannot be settled lightly, an issue possessing many sides, and one which must be judged by reason rather than the emotions.

We present this report in the hopes that the facts and figures contained in it may assist the Congressional Committee to make its decision on the issue of evacuation of Japanese nationals and their citizen children in a manner most advantageous to the war effort of the United States, and in keeping with the traditions of fairness and justice that all Americans hold dear.

May we also draw the Committee's attention to two comprehensive reports of the Japanese situation in this area. They are: "Types of Adjustment of American-Born Japanese", a doctor's thesis submitted to the University of Chicago by Dr. Forrest La Violette, and "The Ecological Position of the Japanese Farmers in the State of Washington", a doctor's thesis submitted to the University of Washington by Dr. John Adrian Rademaker.

Seattle, Washington

February 26, 1942



Since this report in mimeograph form was first issued there have been numerous requests for copies. To meet this unforeseen demand, 1,000 copies are being printed for distribution among friends and others vitally interested in this problem. Evacuation has become reality, and already the Bainbridge Island group has left for Owens Valley, California, but our hopes as expressed in the report remain unchanged.

William Hosokawa, Secretary
March 30, 1942

**REPORT PRESENTED TO TOLAN
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE**

February 28, 1942

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INTRODUCTION

Circumstances brought about by Japan's treacherous attack on the United States on December 7, 1941, have created a situation in the Western States affecting directly a considerable and not unimportant portion of the population. Indirectly, but equally as vitally, an even larger section of the United States and its national defense effort as a whole is affected by this problem.

The issue concerns the position of aliens and American citizens of Japanese extraction. It is a problem aggravated by racial differences, and made more urgent because total warfare recognizes no geographical boundaries or other restrictions. Because of these, and various other reasons to be brought out later in this report, it is a matter which must be decided quickly. It was a problem that existed from the very day of the war, if such a problem ever did exist, but it has been only recently that public feeling has come to the point of making it a serious issue.

We believe that not all the facts of the situation are known. We are also convinced that many misconceptions exist regarding the nature and magnitude of the problem. We, therefore, grateful for the congressional committee's sincere interests in determining all the facts, respectfully submit this report compiled from information gathered by the Emergency Defense Council of the Seattle Chapter, Japanese American Citizens League, with the co-operation of various Japanese American Citizens League chapters throughout the State of Washington.

For some time now there has been agitation for the evacuation of Japanese nationals as well as American citizens of Japanese descent from Pacific Coast States. Such evacuation has been proposed in a variety of forms.

We wish to go on record now that the safety and welfare of the United States is, has been, and will continue to be foremost in our minds. We, as American citizens, have a duty to this, our country, and the first tenet of that duty is complete and unshakable loyalty.

For this very reason, we are opposed to the idea of indiscriminate, en masse evacuation of all citizens and loyal aliens of Japanese extraction. We are wholeheartedly in favor of complete co-operation with the military and other authorities on withdrawal from the immediate vicinity of defense projects and

establishments. But we do not believe that mass evacuation is either desirable or feasible. We believe that the best interests of the United States will be served by other solutions to the problem.

We also desire the privilege of remaining here to fight shoulder to shoulder, and shed our blood, if necessary, in the defense of our country and our homes together with patriotic Americans of other national extractions if that time should ever come. It is repugnant to us that we be given a place of safety when our friends and neighbors remain behind to defend the things that we together created and developed.

It is our belief after extensive and exhaustive investigation and considered judgment, that Americans and Aliens of Japanese extraction can contribute more for the defense and welfare of the United States by being permitted to carry on in their present positions than by any other means. We have complete confidence in the ability of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to uncover and apprehend those dangerous to the safety of our nation. Despite press reports to the contrary, there have been no cases of attempted sabotage or fifth column work among Japanese aliens in the United States according to a recent statement by Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is to our own interests that the record shall be kept clean.

In Seattle proper as well as in other Washington districts, American citizens of Japanese extraction, mainly through the Japanese American Citizens League chapters, have been working in active co-operation with the various national defense agencies. One of the committees of the Emergency Defense Council of the Seattle chapter, Japanese American Citizens League, is an intelligence unit which is rendering every assistance to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. It is our conviction that in co-operation with the authorities, we will be able to see that alien Japanese not only do nothing to jeopardize the safety of the United States, but contribute actively to the welfare of their adopted homeland.

If, finally, the decision is that Japanese must go, the Committee is assured of the Japanese American Citizens League's complete co-operation in the evacuation movement. Loyalty demands that orders, no matter what, be obeyed willingly and efficiently.

PHYSICAL PICTURE

In the State of Washington, there are approximately 14,000 individuals of Japanese extraction. About 63 per cent, or 8,800 are American-born, therefore American citizens. The remainder, approximately 5,400, is foreign-born and alien. A large number of these foreign-born would be American citizens today if they had been permitted the privilege of naturalization, denied them by law.

There are, in the City of Seattle proper, approximately 6,000 persons of Japanese extraction, about 3,500 citizens and 2,500 aliens. The remainder, approximately 8,000 is in the following areas, most of which are rural: the White River Valley, south of Seattle; the Puyallup Valley, northeast of Tacoma; the Yakima Valley, east of the city of Yakima; the outskirts of the Greater Seattle area; around Bellevue on the eastern shore of Lake Washington; Vashon and Bainbridge Islands in Puget Sound; and the cities of Spokane and Tacoma. There are also scattered families in other sections of the state, primarily in the western half.

An estimate of population distribution follows:

District	Citizen	Alien	Total
Seattle	3,500	2,500	6,000
Tacoma	480	320	800
Spokane	203	162	365
White River Valley	1,040	560	1,600
Puyallup Valley	650	350	1,000
Yakima Valley	650	275	925
Bellevue	194	130	324
Vashon Island	75	47	122
Bainbridge Island	187	83	270
Bothell Area	32	15	47
Others	1,560	1,040	2,600
Total	8,571	5,482	14,053

Of the alien group, the average age of males is 59 years; of the females, 51 years. Many of these aliens have been in the United States for 45 and 50 years; all have been here since 1924 when the Exclusion Act went into effect, and their average tenure of residence in this country may be approximated at 30 years. Thus, the majority have spent from half to two-thirds of their lives in the United States.

Most of these aliens immigrated to the United States in their early youth, and many have not returned to the old country since their first arrival. Large numbers have lost all contact with relatives and friends in the old country. In other words, they have been in contact with American ideals and principles for the greater portion of their lives, and their ties to the old country have grown progressively more tenuous. Considerable numbers have expressed, time and again, their desire for American citizenship so that they might enjoy in full measure the benefits of American life which they appreciate so deeply.

These aliens were given an opportunity to return to their native land last November when the Japanese government sent evacuation ships to the United States. The M.S. Hikawa Maru, the last Japanese ship to call at this port came prepared to handle at least a thousand passengers. Emergency quarters were rigged up in the holds and all preparations had been made to evacuate as many as the ship would hold. That ship made its return trip only one-third full. The alien Japanese, loyal to their children who are Americans, had elected to take their chances with the United States in the war which was then only impending.

This attitude is understandable. Many of the aliens are pioneers of the Pacific Northwest. They came here at the turn of the century when the State of Washington was comparatively a raw frontier, and they grew up with the country, aiding in its development. They have a pride in their achievements. They helped to clear the forests and plant the fields that now yield such a rich harvest from land that was once wilderness. They helped produce the lumber that was built into cities, and they helped lay the railroads that penetrate into the hinterland.

Now that the lives of the Alien immigrants are drawing to a close, it is only natural that they wish to see their American-born children reap some of the fruit of their labors. Both the

livelihood and the future of the immigrant and the American-born groups are rooted solely in this country.

The average age of the American-born generation is 20 years, although there are a few individuals in their 40's. They are, for the most part, thoroughly Americanized because of their education, their contacts with Caucasian Americans, and American society in general. Although most of these American-born can speak Japanese to some extent, extremely few can be considered fluent as was discovered in efforts to find capable translators and interpreters. The language situation among the Japanese is similar to that among all immigrant groups in this country.

Generally, the relations between the American-born and their Caucasian associates have been friendly and wholesome. That they have shouldered their burdens as citizens in the greater community of the United States will be revealed in interviews with public officials and others. While considerable numbers of the American-born have made visits to Japan, some studying in Japanese institutions of higher learning, the vast majority have returned to the United States more appreciative than ever of the American way of life. It is proper, we believe, to consider these trips to Japan as educational, much in the same manner as Americans of other racial extraction make visits to Europe to round out a liberal education and acquire a broader viewpoint.

In the public schools, the American-born Japanese have established an admirable record of scholarship as well as competing on equal terms with others on athletic fields. Within the past 12 years, 27 American-born Japanese have been either valedictorians or salutatorians of the nine Seattle high schools. Over the same period, 24 Japanese Americans were elected to Phi Beta Kappa at the University of Washington. The Japanese enrollment in December at the University of Washington was about 300, out of a total enrollment of approximately 9,500.

Juvenile court and police records show that the American-born Japanese rarely, if ever are in difficulty with the law in spite of the fact that most of them come from Seattle's economically depressed areas.

THE JAPANESE IN AMERICAN ECONOMIC LIFE

Contrary to popular belief, the Japanese has not wilfully segregated himself in his own little communities where he moves only in completely Japanese circles, living in complete economic isolation from the rest of the community. The Japanese have become so well assimilated, economically if not socially, with the greater community of America, that to withdraw him in wholesale numbers from his home would be the best possible way to disrupt the normal course of life of thousands of Caucasian Americans.

In war-time a tremendous number of disrupting influences are brought into play in all aspects of society. Consequently, experts in the field of civilian morale are agreed that avoidable disruptions should be discouraged as much as possible. Since the Japanese have become well integrated into the economy of the local community, to remove them would be an unnecessary blow to the economic machinery of this area.

The Japanese resident in the United States has made his greatest contribution in the field of agriculture and it is here that he can make a great contribution to the war effort of the United States. Already, state after state has reported farm labor shortages, brought about by the increased drain of men into the fighting services and defense industries. Yet, the farms play a tremendously important role in our victory effort and must be kept operating at top efficiency in order to feed America and her Allies. Detailed figures presented in the following tables show graphically the part Japanese aliens and American citizens of Japanese parentage are playing in this phase of the national defense effort.

It must be emphasized that farmers are specialists, especially the truck farmers. They must have training and experience to get the maximum yield, just as defense workers or soldiers must have training and experience. It is not practical nor possible to import farm laborers to take over fields left by Japanese farmers. For one thing, Caucasian American workers are loathe to take such tedious and comparatively unprofitable work when defense industries with their high scales of pay are bidding for the same services. Truck farming involves long hours of work on hands and knees close to the soil. A farmer from the Mid-West or other areas would have difficulty in adapting himself to this sort of work.

The produce issue is not merely one of doing without spinach or lettuce temporarily. It is not merely a matter of producing truck vegetables and marketing the crops for local dinner tables. A multi-million dollar industry has been built up around Japanese farmers, giving livelihood to thousands of others in the railroads, in the eastern markets, in the numerous little communities that dot the farming areas of Washington.

While it is likely that we could manage with canned goods this coming year and not require fresh vegetables, it must be remembered that this year's harvests are processed for next year's canned supplies. If no great pinch is felt immediately, it is certain that next year, and the year after, the problem of food will be most acute. Farming is a vital industry which can ill afford disruption at this time, and that disruption is sure to come, for the country does not have the skilled labor to take over should Japanese farmers be removed. The Filipinos, the only possible source of replacement, are being taken by the armed forces in increasing numbers; they will be required in the Alaska salmon canneries; and they are not available in sufficient numbers to alleviate the situation to an appreciable extent.

In the cities as well as the rural areas, mass removal of Japanese would create unexpected hardships on the community as a whole. Whether at war or peace, hotels must be operated, beds made, dishes washed, floors swept. In normal times, it would not be difficult to replace Japanese labor for this work. But now with the competition of the armed forces and defense industries, these menial occupations would not appeal to labor. Housing difficulties, bad enough at best in the crowded defense centers of Seattle, would become infinitely more difficult if the more than 200 hotels operated by Japanese had to be closed down. For the most part, these hotels are operated as a family enterprise, by a man and wife assisted in some cases by adult children. With hired help, such hotels could not be operated on a profitable basis at the price levels now prevalent. The possibility of getting help at all is also remote.

Other than the two main occupations, farming in the rural areas and hotel operation in the cities, the Japanese are serving their communities in a number of other ways. For instance, in the city of Seattle, there are 140 grocery stores, 90 cleaning establishments, 53 restaurants, and other enterprises, the vast majority of which are located outside of the so-called Japanese

districts and serving the needs of Caucasian American patrons in these areas.

The following tables were compiled from information obtained from exhaustive canvasses made by members of Japanese American Citizens League chapters in the various districts. Individuals who have grown up in the communities, who are actively engaged in business in those communities, reliable individuals with judgment and access to the facts, made door-to-door surveys, and we submit them with every confidence as to their accuracy.

Each table is accompanied by explanatory statements. It should be mentioned in passing that the Japanese are not in the fishing industry and do not possess fishing boats.

AGRICULTURAL TABLES

The agricultural situation deserves an entire section in itself, but the story is better told by tables of figures. In Western Washington alone more than three million dollars worth of produce was marketed by Japanese farmers, about one-third of this amount being sent to Eastern markets.

A produce shortage would be especially acute now because of the great increase in the local population caused by defense workers migrating here.

A decision on the evacuation issue must be made quickly for planting time is already here. The majority of farmers have already planted, risking their savings on the possibility of being able to harvest. Others must decide soon, and those who have planted must begin the task of cultivating and fertilizing.

Many have been unable to get bank credits to finance planting. In the past the credit of Japanese farmers was good enough to get substantial loans without collateral, but this year things are different.

These, however, are minor considerations beside the greater problem of an impending produce shortage should the skilled workers who produced last year's great harvest be suddenly withdrawn with no prospects of substitutes for them.

FARM REPORT

Total of Western Washington Districts:

Total acreage farmed: 9,052 acres

People involved: Aliens—849 Citizens—1,432 Total—2,281

Commodities raised: Lettuce, cauliflower, peas, beans, corn, cabbage, spinach, squash, celery, tomatoes, carrots, strawberries, other berries, turnips, cucumbers, radishes, green onions, beets, asparagus, dry onions, potatoes, and miscellaneous.

Total valuation \$3,120,205.00

NOTE: Acreage is based on total number of acres cultivated during one year. In other words, the actual number of acres is 6353 but since 2 and 3 crops are grown on some farms, the total acreage is increased by approximately one third. About 5,000 workers find direct employment on the farms and countless thousands in allied lines.

Western Washington District

Local, Cannery & Interstate Sales

Summary of Commodities

Lettuce	\$613,133.00
Cauliflower	213,843.00
Peas	347,630.00
Beans	169,433.00
Corn	37,067.00
Cabbage	95,391.00
Spinach	79,667.00
Squash	22,610.00
Celery	249,947.00
Tomatoes	66,630.00
Rhubarb	218,050.00
Carrots	13,325.00
Strawberries	382,960.00
Other berries	155,523.00
Turnips	44,000.00
Cucumbers	68,150.00
Radishes	39,098.00

Green Onions	74,288.00
Beets	17,475.00
Asparagus	3,500.00
Dry Onion	1,900.00
Potatoes	1,560.00
Misc.	154,625.00
Total	\$3,069,805.00

REPORT OF VEGETABLE SHIPPING INDUSTRY

(Western Washington District)

Shippers	Cars shipped	Paid for Supplies	Wages	Employed
Seattle Growers	76	\$ 6,198.00	\$4,389.00	35
Western Producers	315	124,846.00	22,191.00	90
Puget Sound Assn.	555	132,356.00	39,927.00	195
Bellevue Growers	83	7,800.00	5,400.00	40
White River Pkg.	257	45,000.00	25,000.00	95
Sumner Pkg. Co.	77	7,000.00	6,866.00	50
Kent Vegetable	124	9,644.00	7,178.00	28
TOTAL	1487	\$332,844.00	\$110,951.00	533

The principal commodities shipped from the Western Washington District are Lettuce, Peas, and Cauliflower during May, June and July and celery in October and November.

The official total of car-lots shipped from this District as reported by the Washington Produce Shippers Association for 1941 is 1843 of which the Japanese organizations shipped 1487 or 80 per cent plus.

The smaller communities in the rural Districts will be affected to the extent of the loss of this payroll as well as the loss of business from the Japanese farmers.

REPORT ON GREENHOUSES OPERATED BY JAPANESE

CITY OF SEATTLE

February, 1942

Number of Japanese-operated greenhouses in this district	50
Total number of greenhouses in this district	80
Estimated number of workers in Japanese-operated greenhouses	200

Total value of crop in Japanese-operated greenhouses \$398,000

Ninety per cent of the Japanese-operated greenhouses are owned and ten per cent are leased.

Greenhouse labor is generally furnished by the families themselves. Practically no outside help is required.

The total value of the crop is broken down as follows: tomatoes, \$66,000; cucumbers, \$32,000; flowers, \$100,000; bedding plants, pot plants, etc. \$200,000.

FARM REPORT

Bainbridge Island

Number of farms:	Leased—16	Owned—27	Total—43
People involved:	Aliens—83	Citizens—187	Total—270
Commodity	Acreage	Local Sales	Interstate
Strawberries	574	\$46,644.00	\$186,576.00
Rhubarb	5	1,500.00	
Peas	14	2,040.00	
Truck vegetables	8½	1,200.00	
Other berries	18	7,500.00	
TOTAL	619½	\$58,884.00	\$186,576.00

NOTE: Approximately 80% of the agricultural products in this area are controlled by Japanese.

Bellevue District

Number of farms:	Leased—35	owned—19	Total 54
People involved:	Aliens—88	Citizens—160	Total 248
Commodity	Acreage	Local Sales	Interstate
Peas	130	\$7,200.00	\$24,000.00
Cauliflower	50	17,200.00	8,300.00
Lettuce	50	18,750.00	
Tomatoes	100	45,200.00	4,800.00
Rhubarb	20		6,000.00
Strawberries	50	25,000.00	
Beans	15	12,000.00	
Celery	20	12,000.00	
Cabbage	30	6,000.00	
Turnips	20	4,000.00	
Cucumbers	5 hothouses	25,000.00	
Tomatoes	2 hothouses	3,000.00	
TOTAL	485	\$175,350.00	43,100.00

NOTE: 20% of the farmers in this locality raise 2 crops per year.

Bothell Area

Number of farms:	Leased—7	Part owned—2	Total—9
People involved:	Aliens—15	Citizens—32	Total—47
Commodity	Acreage	Local Sales	Interstate
Lettuce	209	\$38,000.00	\$16,950.00
Cauliflower	45	5,000.00	5,450.00
Peas	10	1,000.00	480.00
Spinach	45	2,350.00	
Dry Onions	6	1,900.00	
Corn	4		400.00
Celery	25	500.00	2,870.00
Carrots	28	4,250.00	
Tomatoes	2*		
Cabbage	26	7,350.00	
Rhubarb	4*		
Strawberries	2*		
Beans	4*		
Brussel Sprouts	1*		
Cucumbers	3*		
Misc.		1,500.00	
TOTAL	414	\$61,850.00	\$26,150.00

NOTE: 58% of the acreage in this district raise from 2 to 3 crops per year.

Approximately 50% of the truck farming in this area is controlled by Japanese.

Kingston District

Number of Acres:	Leased—15	Owmed—100	Total—115
People involved:	Alien—14	Citizen—20	Total—34
Commodity			
Strawberries		\$22,000.00	
Truck vegetables		10,000.00	
Total		\$32,000.00	

Port Orchard and Poulsbo District

Number of acres:	Total—64		
People involved:	Aliens—9	Citizens—13	Total—22
Commodity			
	Strawberries	\$11,220.00	
	Truck vegetables	15,000.00	
	Total	\$26,220.00	

Puyallup Valley

Number of farms:	Leased—89	Owned—25	Total—114
People involved:	Aliens—181	Citizens—367	Total—548
Commodity	Acreage	Local Sales	Interstate
Lettuce	500	\$78,750.00	\$104,319.00
Peas	612	31,756.00	99,409.00
Cauliflower	145	45,900.00	25,468.00
Spinach	100	15,360.00	10,877.00
Celery	223	49,275.00	72,520.00
Endive	2	1,200.00	
Potatoes	65	1,560.00	
Cabbage	106	21,200.00	
Cucumbers	70	42,000.00	
Radishes	45	23,625.00	
Green Onions	42	42,000.00	
Beans	135	64,800.00	
Asparagus	16	3,500.00	
Corn	130	27,300.00	
Beets	40	12,000.00	
Carrots	140	70,000.00	
Tomatoes	11	8,250.00	
Strawberries	156	105,300.00	
Raspberries	80	57,600.00	
Blackberries	110	88,000.00	
Squash	45	13,500.00	
Miscellaneous	10	5,725.00	
TOTAL	2,783	\$808,601.00	\$312,593.00

NOTE: Approximately 95% of the agricultural products in this area are controlled by Japanese.

45% of acreage of this district raises 2 to 3 crops making an actual acreage of 3980 acres cultivated.

South Park, Riverton, and West Seattle Districts

Number of farms: Leased—34 Owned—11 Total—34

People involved: Aliens—68 Citizens—125 Total—193

Commodity	Acreage	Local Sales	Interstate
Carrots	56	\$35,200.00	
Beets	19	5,250.00	
Green Onions	38	27,600.00	
Radishes	45	13,035.00	
Lettuce	107	9,500.00	\$22,000.00
Celery	88	10,800.00	10,150.00
Spinach	38	15,300.00	5,900.00
Cabbage	40	9,200.00	2,000.00
Cauliflower	68	4,600.00	15,000.00
Peas	28	850.00	6,400.00
Corn	2	435.00	
Beans	10	2,750.00	
Cucumbers	3	1,150.00	
Tomatoes	5	3,100.00	
Misc.	4	2,050.00	
TOTAL	551	\$140,820.00	\$61,450.00

NOTE: 85% of the farmers in this locality raise from 2 to 3 crops per year.

Approximately 50% of truck farming in this area controlled by Japanese.

Sunnydale District

Numbers of farms: Leased—7 Owned—3 Total—10

People involved: Aliens—18 Citizens—30 Total—48

Commodity	Acreage	Local and Interstate Sales
Lettuce	12	\$4,500.00
Peas	10	2,540.00
Cauliflower	10	4,613.00
Beans	1	300.00
Corn	2	378.00
Cabbage	4	1,350.00
Spinach	7	900.00
Celery	5	3,375.00
Miscellaneous	28	16,269.00
TOTAL	79	\$34,225.00

White River Valley

Number of Farms: Leased—257 Owned—28 Total—285
 People involved: Aliens—456 Citizens—685 Total—1141

Commodity	Acreage	Local Sales	Interstate
Lettuce	726	\$179,258.00	\$141,106.00
Cauliflower	198	33,607.00	48,142.00
Peas	443	24,685.00	148,590.00
Beans	206	89,583.00	
Corn	284	6,225.00	2,329.00
Cabbage	287	49,039.00	252.00
Spinach	203	28,980.00	
Squash	59	9,110.00	
Celery	170	18,000.00	104,220.00
Misc.	225	117,950.00	
TOTAL	2801	\$556,437.00	\$444,639.00

NOTE: Approximately 95% of the agricultural products in this area controlled by Japanese.

Yakima District

Total acreage farmed: 9,000 acres
 People involved: Families—125 Aliens—275 Citizens—650
 Commodities raised: Onions, potatoes, tomatoes, carrots, peas, beans, watermelons, sweet corn, rutabagas, cantaloupes, squash, turnips, lettuce, cucumbers and other truck vegetables; also hay and grain.
 Total valuation: \$750,000.00 to \$1,000,000.00

NOTE: 70% of the above named commodities and 10% of the potatoes grown in this District are raised by Japanese.

6,700 acres on the Indian reservation are leased with a yearly rental of approximately \$25,000.00 to the United States Government.

Spokane District

Numbers of farms:	Total—16
Commodity	Local Sales
Truck vegetables	\$140,000.00

REPORT ON HOTELS OPERATED BY JAPANESE

CITY OF SEATTLE

February 1942

Number of Japanese-operated hotels	206
Total number of all hotels in Seattle	325
Number of rooms in Japanese-operated hotels	13,759
Number of Japanese-operated apartment houses	56
Number of apartments in Japanese-operated houses	1,300

These figures show that almost two-thirds of the hotels in Seattle are being operated by resident Japanese. These include for the most part, hotels in the cheaper price scales patronized mainly by the laboring class. The hotels average 66 rooms per hotel. From this it can be seen the majority are comparatively small places, profitable only if operated by the manager and his wife with the aid of the family and a minimum of outside help.

Practically all these hotels are now filled to capacity due to the great influx of labor to local defense industries. It is essential that these hotels keep operating, and it will be impossible to keep them in operation at the present price levels if the Japanese are removed in wholesale numbers, simply because no one will work like the Japanese have been working at the remuneration which Japanese accepted.

REPORT ON RESTAURANTS OPERATED BY JAPANESE

CITY OF SEATTLE

February 1942

Number of restaurants operated by Japanese	53 or
	10% of city total
Total number of restaurants in Seattle	500
Number of employees in Japanese-operated restaurants	225
Weekly payroll in Japanese-operated restaurants	\$5,100
Number of meals served daily in Japanese restaurants:	
10 Class I restaurants	7,500 meals
25 Class II restaurants	12,500 meals
18 Class III restaurants	6,000 meals

Total 26,000 meals daily

The majority of meals in the Class I and II restaurants are served to defense workers. These restaurants are located mainly in the southern section of the down-town area near the water-

front, not distant from defense industries and on the route from the industrial area to residential districts. By mass turnover, these Japanese restaurants can serve a good meal at reasonable prices.

Lunches are also put up by these restaurants for defense workers but are not included in the above figures.

Class III restaurants cater mostly to individuals on welfare aid and relief.

Restaurant operators declare that if they were forced out of operation, restaurant prices would climb immediately for defense workers.

REPORT ON GROCERY STORES OPERATED BY JAPANESE CITY OF SEATTLE

February, 1942

Number of Japanese-operated stores	140
Total number of grocery stores in Seattle	840
Percentage of Japanese-operated stores	16%
Average investment per store	\$3,500
Aggregate investment	\$500,000
Average monthly gross income per store	\$2,100
Average total gross income per month	\$294,000
Average number of employees (mostly family members)	3
Estimated total employment	420
Average number of years in business	15 years

More than 95 per cent of the stores are in localities outside the Japanese community. Stores located within the Japanese community and those bordering on it now average between 30 and 40 percent of their sales to the Caucasian trade. This abnormally high percentage is due to the fact that many defense workers now live in Japanese-operated hotels and rooming houses which are either in or close to the Japanese community. Japanese stores located definitely in Caucasian residential and business districts are practically 100 percent dependent on Caucasian trade.

The range of investment in these stores is from \$700 to

\$18,000.

The smaller stores are operated by families while the medium sized ones employ extra help for delivery and general work in the store. The larger stores employ as many as five or six clerks and are in most cases located in shopping centers.

**REPORT ON DYE WORKS AND CLEANERS OPERATED
BY JAPANESE
CITY OF SEATTLE
February, 1942**

Number of Japanese-operated Dye Works and Cleaners	90
Total number of dye works and cleaners in Seattle	390
Average total number of customers per month	12,169

About 22 per cent of all dye works and cleaning establishments in the city are operated by Japanese. The 90 establishments average a total of 12,169 customers each month, or about 140 per month per shop.

Most of these shops are located in low-income areas of the city. None of them is on a scale to rival the large white American firms. They are, with few exceptions, purely family enterprises with small capital investments.

JAPANESE IN THE LUMBER INDUSTRY

	Total No. Employed	No. of Japanese	Union
LONGVIEW, WASHINGTON			
Long Bell Lumber Co.	1300	125	CIO
Weyerhaeuser Lumber Co.	1000	75	CIO
ENUMCLAW, WASHINGTON			
White River Lumber Co.	700	40	CIO
SNOQUALMIE, WASHINGTON			
Snoqualmie Falls Lumber Co.	500	50	AFL
NATIONAL, WASHINGTON			
National Lumber Co.	450	70	AFL
EATONVILLE, WASHINGTON			
Eatonville Lumber Co.	85	40	AFL

ONALASKA, WASHINGTON

Carlisle Lumber Co.	375	25	AFL
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CALLAM BAY, WASHINGTON

Bodell-Donovan Lumber Mill	400	20	CIO
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FORKS, WASHINGTON

Forks Lumber Co.	100	12	CIO
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TACOMA, WASHINGTON

St. Paul Lumber Co.	500	6	CIO
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(discharged)

Defiance Lumber Co.	150	6	AFL
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Dickman Lumber Co.	110	8	AFL
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Tacoma Harbor Lumber Co.	100	2	AFL
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SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

Nettleton Lumber Co.	200	3	AFL
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Hartung and Hansen Lumber Yards		1	AFL
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TOTAL	5970	483	
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Percentage of Japanese workers as compared to total number of workers employed..... 9%.

**JAPANESE IN THE ALASKA SALMON CANNING
INDUSTRY**

DATA:

A. Estimated number of American-born	350
Estimated number of Non-citizens	150

Total	500
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B. Approximate total of cannery labor supply dispatched from Seattle	3,000
Ratio—1/6 Japanese	

C. Estimated number of Japanese employed in key positions (Foremen, Timekeepers, Plant Delegates, Department Heads)	45 to 50
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D. Estimated average individual gross income	\$400.00
Estimated total gross seasonal income	\$200,000.00

E. Type of work: Processing, canning, labelling, longshoring and the supervision thereof.

F. Areas and canneries where Japanese employed:

Bristol Bay Area

Cannery	Company
Koggiung	Libby, McNeil & Libby

Peninsular Area

False Pass	P.E. Harris & Co.
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Kodiak Area

Port Bailey	Kodiak Fisheries
Shearwater Bay	Kodiak Fisheries

Southeastern Area

Craig	Libby, McNeil & Libby
Taku	Libby, McNeil & Libby
George Inlet	Libby, McNeil & Libby
Hawk Inlet	P.E. Harris & Co.
Cordova	New England Fish Co.
Noyes Island	New England Fish Co.
Ketchikan	New England Fish Co.
Chatham	New England Fish Co.
Excursion Inlet	Astoria-Puget Sound Canning Company
Snug Harbor	Snug Harbor Pkg. Co.
Waterfall	Nakat Pkg. Corp.
Hidden Inlet	Nakat Pkg. Corp.
Union Bay	Nakat Pkg. Corp.

Floating Cannery S.S. "Ogontz"

Total number of canneries employing Japanese—18

NOTE: The above data is based upon the 1941 season. The estimate on the number of Japanese employed in the industry is reasonably accurate. The total fluctuates annually according to the number of canneries operating. The figures on the gross seasonal income of these workers are rough estimates, the difficulty in obtaining accurate figures being that income varies according to the cannery, type of work, amount of fish packed, length of season, etc. The usual length of the season and period of employment is two months.

All Japanese cannery workers embarking from Seattle are either regular or permit members of the the Cannery Workers' & Farm Laborers' Union, Local 7 of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing & Allied Workers of America (C.I.O.), 221 Second Avenue, Seattle. Either the union or the canning companies may be consulted for additional facts or for corroboration of the data presented above.

The immediate concern of the Japanese cannery workers is the question of whether or not the American-born majority will be employed in the Alaska canneries during the approaching season. The union has not been able thus far to obtain an official government verdict on this question. Since the industry has long been a consistent source of income for large numbers of Japanese workers and a major factor in the economic life of the community, the importance of securing government definition of the status of Japanese cannery labor under the conditions of war cannot be over-emphasized.

The following tentative recommendations and proposals are submitted with the above question in mind:

1. That, in the event the American-born are granted employment for the 1942 canning season, they be assigned to specially designated and segregated plants which are farthest removed from the arena of conflict. They shall work under military surveillance. The normal practice of placing Filipinos and Japanese workers in the same plant must be abandoned for obvious reasons.
2. That, in the event all Japanese (including the American-born) are barred from employment in the industry for the duration of the war, their exclusion shall strictly be construed as temporary and the result of military emergency and necessity. Special provisions should be made to guarantee their right to return to their former jobs upon termination of the war or when it is deemed advisable for them to be re-employed.
3. Should these Japanese workers be barred from employment in Alaska, the government shall consider and adopt all possible steps to effect their rehabilitation and utility as an asset to the national war effort.

OYSTER INDUSTRY REPORT

No. Acres owned and leased by Japanese	910 Acres
Total output	177,000 gallons
Sales amount to	\$218,000
No. Japanese employed	185
Total wages earned by Japanese	\$223,500

NOTE: Six out of eight main oyster houses in the state employ Japanese almost exclusively in the fresh and cold packed oyster industry.

Approximately 50% of the fresh packed oysters opened in the Willapa Harbor district are done by Japanese-American concerns.

Japanese have been in the oyster business for the past 10 to 15 years, both in the native and pacific oyster industry. It will be hard to replace these skilled men.

Since there will be no more oyster seeds coming in from Japan due to the war, local seeds must be caught; and Japanese concerns play a large part in this seed trade.

OYSTER INDUSTRY

Address	Acreage	Output	Sales	Earned
Eagle Oyster Packing Co.				
Nahcotta	200	80,000	\$78,000	\$18,000
New Washington Oyster Sales				
South Bend	325	60,000	80,000	55,000
Main Oyster Co.				
Bay Center	50	5,000	20,000	3,000
Stackpole Oyster Co.				
Nahcotta	150	15,000	3,000	2,000
Shintani				
Poulsbo	20	4,000	2,000	1,500
Yamashita				
Silverdale	25	5,000	4,000	3,000
Western Oyster				
Blanchard	20	3,000	4,000	3,000

West Coast Oyster Co.

Shelton	120	5,000	27,000	8,000
TOTAL	910	177,000	\$218,000	\$93,500

Japanese employed in American concerns:

	People Employed	Approximate Earnings
Willapa Harbor	10	\$9,000
Olympia and Puget Sound	50	47,000
Bellingham, Samish Bay	25	35,000
Seattle Opening Houses	16	19,000
Tacoma Opening Houses	20	20,000
TOTAL	121	\$130,000
Employed by Japanese firms	63	
GRAND TOTAL	184	

PUBLIC OPINION

For many weeks after the attack on Pearl Harbor, public opinion regarding resident Japanese was considering everything extremely favorable. The newspapers, civic officials, and prominent figures in public life were responsible for editorials and statements stressing the necessity of fairness to individuals of Japanese extraction, and urging that no untoward action be taken to alter the friendly pre-war relationship.

So far as we know, there was no sudden public reaction against Japanese aliens or their citizen children, although there were a number of cases where employers anticipating public disfavor discharged Japanese help. School authorities, church leaders and others, who knew the Japanese or were interested in preventing hysteria from rising against them joined in these appeals.

Newspaper letter columns showed about as many communications favorable to resident Japanese as unfavorable, and generally the situation was well in hand until the agitation growing in California spread to this district.

Investigation will substantiate our contention that the relations between Americans of Japanese descent and Japanese aliens with the Caucasian community of the Pacific Northwest have, on the whole, been extremely good. The Japanese have a high reputation as to honesty, integrity, industry, and are con-

sidered by those most closely in contact with them as law abiding and useful citizens.

Our investigation has shown that there are a great many individuals who would not like to see wholesale evacuation of Japanese, but who dare not jeopardize their own positions by speaking up at this time. Understandably, they do not care to lay themselves open to the charges of the vociferous minority that they are un-American and "Jap-lovers".

Except for the most rabid critics who make baseless and blanket charges attacking the loyalty of Japanese and stress their danger as potential saboteurs and fifth columnists, most persons who express themselves on the subject seem to believe that only one out of 10 or perhaps one out of 100 Japanese may be disloyal. Many contend that because of the presence of this questionable element, the whole group must suffer.

While there is no general agreement on just what portion of the Japanese are dangerous to the safety of the United States, it should be stressed that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has already detained some 300 alien Japanese in the Seattle area. Analysis of the total population figures shows that at least half of the Japanese in the State are women, and thus safely to be ruled out of consideration generally as saboteurs and fifth columnists. This would leave at the very most, 2,700 alien Japanese males in Washington. From these must be subtracted the aged and infirm, no small consideration because the average age of this group is 59 years.

From these figures, it can be seen that considerably more than one in every ten alien Japanese males is under detention by Federal authorities. Many others are doubtless still under surveillance by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Here is the reply, then, to those who urge mass evacuation so that the one in ten, or the one in 100 dangerous character may be removed from the coastal states.

We believe that if the proper action and leadership could be initiated by responsible individuals with access to the facts, it would lead the way for the now silent groups to speak up. Once the hysteria is controlled by a statement of the facts of the case, it would seem self-evident that the problem would take care of itself. It seems evident also that those individuals and organizations who spoke in behalf of loyal Japanese aliens and American citizens of Japanese descent before the hysteria began would

speak out again when the facts to substantiate their contentions become generally known.

It should also be remembered that one of the favorite Nazi techniques for creating internal disorder is to create an atmosphere of fear and mistrust in the civilian population. The creation of an attitude that holds that everyone with Oriental features is a spy or a saboteur would delight the masterminds of Nazi psychological warfare. Hysteria has no place in a nation that is resolved to fight the war against the Axis through to a victorious conclusion.

SELFISH INTERESTS

From the speed and organization with which the agitation for removal of Japanese aliens and American citizens of Japanese parentage grew, there is reason to believe that it was not only the result of hysteria or genuine fear of dangers, actual, potential or imagined. We have discovered that there is at least some agitation being conducted by interests which would profit from removal of Japanese. Facts and figures of the economic position the Japanese have built up are a fairly good index to the sort of behind-the-scenes pressure one might find.

First, however, the political angle must be mentioned. This is more prevalent in California than in Washington. Nonetheless, the Japanese issue has become one that apparently is without the "other side", and politicians find it a most convenient football to be kicked around without fearing any sort of counter-reaction developing from the opposition. In other words, the Japanese issue is an ideal punching bag which politicians can pummel in the limelight of public approval without experiencing any sort of political retaliation. Such irresponsible tactics have done much to inflame public opinion. It might also be pointed out that any office-holder who remained silent on this issue could expect to be attacked by those who covet his office.

In Seattle proper considerable pressure has been applied by owners of hotel properties as well as real estate agencies, both powerful and influential groups, for the removal of Japanese. Most Japanese-operated hotels are operated on leases of from three to five years. Hotels have not been profitable for the past few years, and it was only in the latter half of 1941, when defense workers rushed to Seattle, that hotels began to make money.

Now that these hotels are experiencing a boom, many of the owners are anxious to break present leases and increase the rental for the next lessee. Others, seeing the profitable nature of the hotel business are anxious to become operators and are hurrying the day when they may be able to step into hotels left vacant by departing Japanese.

Real estate agencies have approached at least 50 Japanese-operated hotels with propositions that they take over operation of the hotels for the duration, in return for a percentage of the gross income, usually 5 per cent. In some of the larger hotels, where gross income for the month is \$10,000 and more, five per cent amounts to \$500 monthly and up. A holding company which could operate four or five of these hotels would find it a most profitable venture, especially when there is every possibility of cheating the original operator on practically every item of operation. It must be emphasized that this is not a baseless charge. There are at least 50 large Japanese-operated hotels which have had this proposition put up to them.

A somewhat similar but not quite so severe situation exists in the rural areas where other farmers have showed that they desire rich lands leased by Japanese farmers. However, it is extremely doubtful if outside farmers can turn out anywhere near the volume or the quality of produce that the present tenants are able to do with their infinite patience.

There also appear to be groups which are trying to discredit the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Just who or what they are is beyond the scope of this report, but it must be remembered that the Japanese issue is only one of the many duties of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The internment of large numbers of enemy aliens within twenty-four hours of the attack on Pearl Harbor; the unflagging zeal with which the Federal Bureau of Investigation has since rounded them up; and the absence of any serious sabotage on the Pacific Coast all eloquently attest the fact that the Federal Bureau of Investigation has not been slumbering.

PROBLEMS OF EVACUATION

So far we have reviewed at some length the various reasons why we believe that, provided the Federal Bureau of Investigation can continue to hold the situation well in hand as it certainly

has done, it serves the best interests of the community of Seattle and the United States as a whole to keep the Japanese right where they are. A tremendous burden falls upon those still in civil life to keep the daily routine from being entirely disrupted by the new war economy. It is fundamental to keep the home front secure against shortage of foods, shortage of housing, and shortage of domestic labor, for unless these needs are first met, the production of the war industries is bound to suffer.

Thus, we believe that from every angle the problem is approached, the benefits derived by moving the Japanese out en masse are overbalanced by the advantage of keeping them here where they are already concentrated under proper supervision. It must be pointed out that if the Japanese are a problem here, they will continue to be a problem wherever they are sent, for war industries and vital centers are spread out over the length and breadth of the land.

In the case, however, that in the face of these arguments the authorities deem it to be the best interests of the United States to order evacuation, certain problems arise. We present them, not only with the intention of helping the authorities get a complete picture of the issue, but also in the hopes that assurances can be given a naturally anxious Japanese public.

LOCATION

A large number of people have remarked that they will go where the government orders them to go, willingly, if it will help the national defense effort. But the biggest problem in their minds is where to go. The first unofficial evacuation announcement pointed out that the government did not concern itself with where evacuees went, just so they left prohibited areas. Obviously, this was no solution to the question, for immediately, from Yakima, Idaho, Montana, Colorado and elsewhere authoritative voices shouted: "No Japs wanted here!"

The Japanese feared with reason that, forced to vacate their homes, unable to find a place to stay, they would be kicked from town to town in the interior like the "Okies" of John Steinbeck's novel. Others went further, and envisioned the day when inhabitants of inland states, aroused by the steady influx of Japanese, would refuse to sell gasoline and food to them. They saw too, the possibility of mob action against them as exhausted, impoverished and unable to travel further, they stopped in some

town or village where they were not wanted.

The matter of location is an extremely realistic one. Exceedingly few Washington Japanese have friends or relatives elsewhere to whom they might be able to go. The others, in the overwhelming majority, would have to depend on sheer guess work or on government guidance in re-locating themselves.

Naturally, farmers desire re-location on farm lands, but it must be pointed out that the large scale farming of the mid-West presents problems entirely foreign to the experience of the truck gardeners of the coast. It has also been suggested that all Japanese be organized as farm laborers in the mid-West, but here again, it must be emphasized that the average age of the alien Japanese male is 59 years, and that due to the rigorous life he has been forced to lead, he is not so rugged as his Caucasian counterpart of the same age. True, truck farming calls for unremitting labor, but the actual physical strain is much less than that imposed on the individual in harvest time in the mid-West.

RESETTLEMENT

What will the government's policy be? Will communities be shifted as units to other sections? Will the Japanese be re-settled as family units? Will men and women be segregated and families split up? Will Japanese be scattered at random in the interior? These are questions that are arising in the Japanese communities in this area.

It would seem hardly feasible to place thousands of Japanese into inland communities without extensive preparation because of the natural repercussion from outraged citizens who understandably would not want the "backwash" from the coast dumped in their cities. On the other hand, concentration camps are not a permanent solution, especially if this turns out to be a long war as the government seems to believe it will.

We are also vitally interested in learning to what extent we can rely on federal financial assistance, not only in the matter of transportation, but also in the numerous problems of resettlement. Our financial reserves are not great as a glance at the statistics on Japanese businesses will reveal, and a long pilgrimage followed by a difficult period of adjustment would be too much for the savings of the average evacuated family.

Another problem is that of how far to go. Is it sufficient to go east of the Cascade mountains to the Yakima and Okanogan

valleys? Or would it be more sensible to travel as far inland as possible, to the Mississippi valley, for instance, to obviate the possibility of a second evacuation? Would the sparsely populated areas along the Canadian border be feasible, or is this likely to be considered a danger zone? Should the migration cross the Rockies?

RETURN

It is necessary to think of the future, of the day when this war will be over. Could the Japanese people, once evacuated, return to their homes? There is the great possibility that once the Jap-haters and outspoken opponents of the resident Japanese were successful in driving the Japanese out of this area, they would never permit them to return. A post-war campaign of hate and vilification when resident Japanese tried to get back to their homes and investments here, is a definite possibility should these elements score an initial victory.

There is a huge but indeterminable investment here in furniture, personal belongings, businesses, land and property by the Japanese. Certainly the matter of personal possessions is dwarfed by the issue of the national good, but this is an humanitarian problem that strikes close to the hearts and pockets of old people who have lived here close to a half century, of young people just starting out in life.

Who will take care of investments and personal belongings which cannot be taken by the evacuees? Is it better for evacuees to try to liquidate their possessions at the best possible price so they will have funds when they find a place to relocate? Would it not be better to do so if the chances of returning to this section of the country are remote? These are other questions that should be answered.

HUMANITARIAN

A problem of this magnitude involves certain far-reaching humanitarian considerations. Evacuation means the uprooting of ties established since birth for the citizen group, ties of 30, 40 and 50 years standing for the resident aliens.

We have noted with gratitude that the authorities have decided that aliens too ill to move, occupants of hospitals or other such institutions, and those more than 75 years of age will be permitted to remain in certain California prohibited areas. While

this is an humanitarian move, it does not go far enough for it does not provide for persons to care for the incapacitated and helpless.

Other related problems include women in pregnancy, the education of children, individuals less than 75 years of age not ill enough to be considered invalids but useless in the establishments of new homes in a distant area.

What assurance have evacuees that they will find security, a chance to make a livelihood, or even to uphold their pride and dignity as individuals in their new homes? What reaction can evacuees expect from their new neighbors in the matter of welcome, co-operation, assistance and neighborliness? Or must they live fearful and apprehensive under armed guard wherever they are taken, to protect them from sullen natives outraged that their precincts have been invaded by the West Coast's unwanted?

A matter of 14,000 Japanese from the state of Washington might be comparatively easily taken care of, but this issue affects more than 130,000 individuals in the western states.

It must also be remembered that the Axis propaganda machines would immediately seize upon an un-humanitarian mass evacuation to discredit the war aims of all the United Nations as set forth in the Atlantic Charter, for example. Unfortunately, such propaganda might prove to be a serious psychological blow to the cause of the democracies.

WISHES OF THE JAPANESE

The Japanese do not want to be evacuated. They desire to stay in their home cities and districts, away, of course, from vital defense areas such as factories, airports, military establishments, hydro-electric projects, water supply systems and the like to avoid all unnecessary suspicion. In this way they believe they can serve the United States best. But, we repeat, the Japanese will abide faithfully by any decision that the Government reaches.

MODEL CITY

This is an ambitious plan entailing the creation of an all-Japanese city somewhere in the interior of the country, able to sustain itself as a self-sufficient unit. It would be financed originally partially by the Japanese themselves, partially by the government. Some important defense industry would be set up to

give employment to Japanese labor, preferably one calling for skill and efficiency which Japanese workmen possess. The city would be governed by American citizens, who would elect a mayor and council, just as other American cities, and the Japanese, both American citizens and aliens, would be given an opportunity to practice the American ideals of democratic government which they have learned.

After the initial investment, the city could be expected to become self-sufficient and a center for the hinterland. It is altogether likely that such a city, as an experiment in democracy would be so progressive and would provide such advantages that friends of the Japanese would desire to share its benefits.

This would be a long-range project, to be continued in perpetuity. The objection of the time required to set it up would be overbalanced by the permanent nature of the project.

ALTERNATIVE TO EVACUATION

If a licensing system for individuals in vital and necessary occupations could be worked out under the supervision of either the military or the Federal Bureau of Investigation, unwanted mass evacuation can be avoided. It is our belief that only those considered not dangerous are being allowed to be at liberty today, but this might be carried further by thorough investigation of each individual.

Those permitted to remain at their jobs should have to pass two tests: Prove their necessity to the national defense effort and be approved by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Thus, the general public would be assured that only the unquestionably loyal individuals remain, and that their importance to the defense effort justifies their remaining in this area.

Covering the problem generally, these are the important points:

1. The Japanese do not know where to go in case of general evacuation.
2. They wish to be directed by the government as to where to go.
3. They wish to be sent together, with families intact and in sufficient numbers to be able to help each other over the difficult period of adjustment.
4. They wish to be settled near large urban centers.

CONCLUSION

We believe the so-called Japanese problem is not so serious as certain vocal exponents of mass evacuation profess to believe. We are sure that the benefits to be derived from large scale evacuation of Japanese from the state of Washington are overwhelmingly over-balanced by the benefits to be derived by keeping them here under the proper supervision.

The Japanese problem is not going to be solved by evacuation. If they are a problem here, they will be a problem wherever they are sent. Since this is so, it is logical that they can be kept under better surveillance where they are now, concentrated as they are in well-defined areas, and where they can continue to do their bit for the national defense.

The argument that the Japanese must be placed in safety because of danger to themselves in case of invasion or parachute attack is not entirely valid. It is admitted that loyal residents might be mistaken for such invaders and be subject to injury. But in that case, a similar danger is present for both Chinese and Filipinos for racial characteristics which differentiate Japanese, Chinese and Filipinos are so difficult to detect that even members of those races cannot make infallible identification of each other.

Among Axis enemies, the Japanese are the worst possible people to select as saboteurs, spies, and fifth columnist. A Japanese can be distinguished from a considerable distance because of Oriental facial characteristics which set him apart from the general mass of people. Enemies with Caucasian faces can mix with crowds anywhere and carry out their nefarious missions.

Japanese are already barred from vital war industries such as aircraft plants, ship yards, and other such places where saboteurs are most likely to strike. His contribution is in other fields where the matter of sabotage is not involved and where there is ample opportunity for government supervision.

Espionage is a highly specialized business which cannot be engaged in by just anyone. The vast majority of alien Japanese and American citizens of Japanese descent have no training whatever in espionage, sabotage or fifth column work. Their age distribution precludes this possibility. The Federal Bureau of Investigation has already detained, or is keeping under surveillance those considered suspicious.

Distinction must be made between long-time residents of

this country and temporary visitors or treaty merchants. The first have made their homes here, and have made up their minds to remain here until they die. The great majority has resolved never to return to Japan. The other are here on a temporary basis, their homes are in Japan and their interests are Japanese. The two groups have never had anything in common other than race. The first group came here as immigrants, just as immigrants from various parts of Europe, in search of the life, liberty and freedom to pursue happiness which this country has granted all oppressed and unhappy people. They found it here, and they are appreciative. It is against their principles to turn against the country that has sheltered them, given them a livelihood, security, prosperity, and happiness for all these years.

This is not a war of races. To consider it so is to be taken in by Tokyo propagandists who have used the "Asia for Asiatics" theme in their conquests to create internal turmoil. To succumb to badly informed public opinion and carefully organized mass hysteria by pressing undue hardships on the Japanese is to emulate the Nazi tactic of racial persecution which proved so successful in Hitler's climb to power.

If the loyalty of citizens as a group is to be questioned in what may the American people have faith and confidence?

Internecine warfare is not new. It has precedents in the United States where first the 13 Colonies turned on the mother country in the American Revolution. Brother fought brother in that war, and cousin fought cousin. The issue was the ideal of liberty. Another such war was fought in the Civil War, and here again it was brother against brother, cousin against cousin, over an ideal.

In Asia, the Japanese are pitted against other Asiatics. The Japanese are allied with Germany and Italy, Caucasian nations. The Allied nations include Caucasian nations as well as the Chinese and Filipinos. The Japanese also claim allies among the Chinese of the Nanking regime. Thus, it is a war that transcends racial barriers, a war in which ideals stand as the banner around which various peoples of many nations and many colors have rallied.

For the Japanese, this is in fact a civil war. The Japanese in the old country are fighting for one thing. The Japanese here are fighting for the American way of life. If any substantial

number of the Japanese in this country, either those with or without American citizenship, sided with the bloody and ruthless aims of the Axis powers, then it is poor testimony indeed for the principles of democracy and freedom to which those people have been exposed for so long.

We have, in extensive personal contacts, heard time and again from alien Japanese the desire to do something concrete to assist the United States to victory. These people believe such victory to be a double triumph—for the principles of democracy upheld by the Allied nations, and for their cousins and brothers back in the old country who will be liberated from the mad Fascist warlords who have misled and exploited them.

As for the younger generation, they are already playing an active part, serving in United States forces by the thousands. Many hundreds volunteered after the attack on Pearl Harbor, and all of them are serving willingly and loyally.

To shun and disavow this patriotic feeling expressed spontaneously by the vast majority of the Japanese in the United States is to throw an offering rising from the heart back into the faces of those who have made it.

If it is for the greater good that evacuation be decreed, we shall obey to the best of our ability. But we are convinced that here in our homes and in our community is where we belong, where we can lend every ounce of our strength, and every cent of our resources, in creating the sinews of war so necessary to total victory. We are Americans. We want to do our duty where we can serve best. We make these statements, not because we fear evacuation, but because we believe, to the bottom of our hearts, that the best interests of the United States, our nation are to be served by being permitted to stay, work, fight, and die for our country if necessary here where we belong.