

Bigelow

WEEKLY PRESS REVIEW

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For the Use of the WRA Staff Only - Not for Publication

SUMMARY

Announcement that a combat unit of Nisei youth was to be formed aroused a great deal of press attention, in the form of news articles and editorials throughout the country. Editorial opinion was almost universally favorable to the plan. Also of considerable interest was WRA's announced plan to resettle evacuees in private industry in the Middle West. Editorial opinion on this was divided. The movement to take over evacuee-owned property on the Pacific Coast seemed to be gaining strength.

MILITARY SERVICE --

Press Coverage of War Department Announcement: Secretary Stimson's announcement of the formation of a combat team of Nisei soldiers received extensive press attention. About 50 papers carried stories on January 28, 29, and 30, based on the official War Department press release.

According to one United Press dispatch, "plans had been completed for admission of a substantial number of additional American citizens of Japanese ancestry into the United States Army on a volunteer basis...the arrangements were made at the request of many Americans of Japanese ancestry...the step is part of a larger program which will enable loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry to contribute to victory through employment in war production as well as military service." Secretary Stimson was quoted on the "inherent right of every faithful citizen...to bear arms in the nation's battle." The San Francisco News headlined this story in inch high letters: "ARMY TO TAKE LOYAL JAPS." San Francisco News, Pittsburgh Press, St. Louis Star Times, Houston Press, Seattle Star, Fargo Forum, 1/29/43. Another UP dispatch declared: "Enrollment of several thousand American citizens of Japanese descent for combat duty in the Europe or African war theaters was believed today to be the initial goal of an army plan to use such persons." Las Vegas Review-Journal, 1/29/43

Two items were carried on the AP wires on January 28. The first subordinated the announcement to former Ambassador Grew's appearance before the Senate investigating committee, but the later story quoted extensively from the official press release and commented, "Organization of the unit, aside from its military value, might have psychological and propaganda importance in Asia." Emporia Gazette, Wilmington Journal Every Evening, Denver Post, Ogden Standard-Examiner, Tacoma News-Tribune, 1/28/43. Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Boise Statesman, Colorado Springs Gazette, Arizona Republic, San Francisco Examiner, Cedar Rapids Gazette, Los Angeles Times, Birmingham Age-Herald, Rochester Democrat and Chronicle, Denver News, Mobile Register, Charleston News and Courier, Pittsburgh Post Gazette, St. Paul Pioneer Press, Manchester Union, Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette, Greensboro News, Little Rock Gazette, Winston-Salem

Journal, Dallas News, Christian Science Monitor, New York Herald Tribune, Baltimore Sun, Idaho Daily Statesman, Montana Standard, San Francisco Chronicle, Springfield Republican, Albuquerque Journal, 1/29/43.

INS treatment was almost identical to the earlier of the two AP dispatches. Call Bulletin, Austin American, Nashville Banner. 1/29/43.

The New York Times (1/29/43) had a one-half column article based on the War Department press release, which also said, "A Senate Military Affairs subcommittee, headed by Senator Chandler, which is investigating the possibility of using loyal Americans of Japanese descent in the Army or industry, expressed approval of Secretary Stimson's move."

A statement by Senator Chandler that the combat team "will be trained to fight Germans and Italians, rather than Japanese" was mentioned in a Philadelphia Inquirer article. 1/29/43.

Director Myer was interviewed by the Denver Post (1/30/43) on the matter of army service. In endorsing the plan, according to the Post article, Myer claimed to have "no fear of the loyalty of the American-born Japanese who are 'more American than Japanese' because they have been born here, educated and reared in an environment that is American, and to have pointed out the total lack of sabotage at Pearl Harbor.

Items based on the War Department press release also appeared in the Washington Post and Washington Star. 1/29/43.

HAWAIIAN INDUCTION:

An AP dispatch from Honolulu on the proposed induction of 1,500 Nisei also was widely printed in the United States press. Quoting General Emmons on the loyalty of Hawaiian's Japanese population and its contribution to the war effort, the dispatch said that his statement "followed word from Washington that the army had planned for a combat unit of loyal Japanese-Americans...A large percentage of the officers will be citizens of Japanese ancestry...The places of induction, and other information will be announced at the earliest practicable date." Schenectady Gazette, Cleveland Plain Dealer, Patterson Call, Providence Evening Bulletin, Augusta Chronicle, Call Bulletin, Huntington Herald-Dispatch, Minneapolis Tribune, Jackson Clarion-Ledger, Newark Star-Ledger, St. Paul Pioneer Press, Canton Repository, Detroit Free-Press, Portland Press-Herald, Baton Rouge Times, Ft. Wayne Journal Gazette, Christian Science Monitor, Decatur Herald, St. Louis Globe-Democrat, New York Herald Tribune, Baltimore Evening Sun, Idaho Daily Statesman, Little Rock Gazette, Norfolk Virginian Pilot, Terre Haute Star, Waterbury Republican, Springfield Sun, Houston Post, St. Joseph Gazette, Providence Journal, Texarkana Gazette, Twin Falls Times-News, Visalia Times-Delta, Idaho Falls Post Register, Salt Lake City Tribune, Fairmont Times, Seattle Post Intelligencer, Denver Post, New York Times. 1/29/43.

Eleven papers carried a statement by Liout. Col. Farrant L. Turner very favorable to Hawaiian Nisei soldiers of the 100th Infantry Battalion. This statement, as quoted, was: "I've never had more wholehearted, serious minded, co-operation from any troops. They are grimly determined to prove in action some day that their memory of Pearl Harbor is a vivid one." Los Angeles Times, Baltimore Evening Sun, Washington Star, Washington Post, New York Herald Tribune, New York Times, Denver Post, Erie Dispatch-Herald, Atlanta Journal, Wilmington Journal-Every Evening, Fresno Bee. 2/2/43.

President Roosevelt's Letter on Nisei Induction: President Roosevelt's letter of February 1 aroused scant press attention, judging from the number of clippings received. All articles were confined to condensation of his letter, except in the Milwaukee Journal (2/4/43) which included a long reference to Representative Rankin's speech urging congress to "quit coddling the Japs." Detroit Free Press, Chicago Sun, Washington Star, Boston Herald, New York Times. 2/5/43

The Baltimore Sun was apparently confused at first on whether the induction order included persons held at enemy alien detention camps. On February 7 it ran an article based on interviews with authorities at Fort George G. Meade, who were quoted as follows: "Here, they (internees) were arrested because they are enemies...We feel sure they wouldn't come under the new orders that permit induction of Japanese in the armed forces."

Items in Newspapers Near Relocation Centers:

The Times-News (near Minidoka) said on February 2 that "hundreds of citizens of Japanese ancestry living at the relocation center today were looking forward eagerly to the arrival of an army induction crew scheduled for Friday", but stated "there was considerable resentment among those concerned with the farm labor problem" who feared lest induction dip into the pool of farm labor reserves. On January 31, the Times News headed a short article, "Youths at Hunt Flock to Learn of Army Chance."

The Inyo Independent said that "Manzanar Japanese men...were making plans this week to join the armed forces." 2/5/43.

The Arizona Republic reported the start of registration, declaring that "about 5,000 are eligible to volunteer from the two camps (Poston and Gila River)." 2/6/43.

The Little Rock Gazette (1/29/43) asserted the "order would benefit Japanese in Arkansas and quoted E. B. Whitaker: "Several hundred Japanese-American citizens of unquestioned loyalty, now interned in Arkansas, will undoubtedly take advantage of this opportunity of serving their country."

Two stories sent out from California by the AP on February 5 and 6-- based on interviews with the state director of selective service--conveyed the impression that California is going to give American-born Japanese the chance to show their loyalty by fighting for the United States. Reading Eagle,

New York Journal and American, New York Herald Tribune, 2/7/43. Worcester Telegram, Chicago Tribune, San Francisco Examiner, St. Joseph Gazette, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, Boston Globe, New York Herald Tribune, Winston-Salem Journal, Montana Standard, Philadelphia Bulletin, Los Angeles Times, 2/6/43.

Editorial Comment: Almost universal applause from editorials all over the country greeted Secretary Stimson's announcement. Most were concerned with the manpower angle, but there was also considerable feeling that the plan was a reward to the Nisei for having measured up to the faith placed in them by this government. Many papers predicted that evacuees would rush to take advantage of the opportunity to prove their loyalty.

Secretary Stimson "has taken a wholly justified move", most Nisei "are eager for a chance to serve as soldiers and to prove their patriotism", the government should "find a way to restore many of those still penned in concentration camps to useful employment in farming or war industries", was the opinion of the Wilmington News. 1/30/43.

"Such a program is wisely undertaken...the policy of condemning to detention camps tens of thousands of American citizens without a careful effort to determine their loyalty, or the lack of it is not easily defended...This great human resource can be fairly and profitably used (on the home front) if we are intelligent enough to make the effort." Minneapolis Morning Tribune. 2/1/43.

Formation of a combat team "is one desirable step toward meeting a vexing problem", but "there should be further segregation of those Japanese whose loyalty can be established from those whose loyalty may be suspected", and they should be put to work to solve the manpower shortage. Seattle Post Intelligencer. 1/29/43.

"Already the announcement has had a stimulating morale effect at the camp, it is reported, and no doubt more than one thousand male Japanese will be leaving the camp to assist in the war effort." Inyo Independent. 2/5/43.

"It is well that our policy is turning toward acceptance of loyal Japanese in the armed forces and in war industries." Prejudice against them has resulted from "stab in the back acts of their nationals" in addition to the "background of first generation economic pressure in California." Moreover, it is doubtful whether indefinite "incarceration" of Americans of Japanese descent "would stand up under a supreme court test." Pueblo Chieftain. 1/30/43.

Considerable protest against the letting down of bars against Japanese was predicted by the Portland, Maine, Press Herald (1/29/43), but "Theoretically, most Americans will approve this tardy attempt to treat the Nisei with justice."

Chester Rowell called the plan an "encouraging beginning toward a more rational treatment of American citizens of Japanese ancestry." Reporting two contrary movements in Congress and elsewhere--the one hoping to return evacuees to the Army for "tough" treatment and the other to expedite their reentrance into normal life--Rowell declared, "The sooner and the more fully they can be

restored to their normal places in American life, the better Americans they will be. Also, in doing it, we shall be better Americans ourselves." San Francisco Chronicle. 2/1/43.

The easing of restrictions on loyal Japanese "seems only just" and is "sensible in view of the present critical need for man power..." It should cement the loyalty of those who have patiently accepted as a necessity of war the hardships of leaving their homes and living in internment and who now voluntarily accept the opportunity to work, or fight, for Uncle Sam." New York Herald Tribune. 1/30/43

War Department's action proved that "America is still America, and that it is the most tolerant country in the world", and is a challenge to loyal Japanese-Americans to see that the "War Department does not misplace its trust." El Paso Times. 1/30/43.

The Portland Oregonian saw the announcement as "bad news for Hirohito" and said that "because of the hazards of battle confusion, it is best that they be sent to fight" not against their own kinsmen. 1/31/43.

The announcement "will gratify all who have felt that the only proper test...is loyalty, not racial origin", and the Army is the best judge of that. San Francisco Chronicle. 1/30/43.

Announcement is "welcome evidence of a further loosening of the harsh restrictions under which these citizens have lived for more than a year" and should stimulate communities to accept them as workers. Hartford Courant. 2/2/43.

The Springfield Republican saw the action as part of a trend for the upholding of the civil rights of Japanese-Americans, and hoped that "the federal courts will celebrate the passing of the acute crisis of war and threatened invasion by adjudging the arbitrary evacuation and segregation...as unconstitutional." 1/29/43.

The Baltimore Sun (2/6/43) considered the action as symbolical of "what we are fighting", i.e., "Tyranny".

"Induction...is earned recognition of much fine service performed by these people, especially in Hawaii and other areas where many of them live." Atlanta Constitution. 2/1/43.

The Tucson Star (2/3/43) considered Army service as a reward for peaceful and cooperative conduct of evacuees, and felt that sending some evacuees to the Mid-west as farm laborers is a "sensible suggestion" because "it would disperse, and thus lessen, the possible danger of the heavy concentration of these particular people in one area of strategic importance."

The New York Times (1/30/43) considered that a year's experience with evacuees justified Secretary Stimson's faith in their loyalty, and felt that war service may ameliorate the "rather lonesome lot" of the Nisei in this country after the war.

Only two totally unsympathetic editorials appeared--both in Texas. The Wichita Falls Times (1/31/43) held that "most Americans look darkly upon the announcement." While expressing confidence in the judgment of the U. S. Army and federal authorities, "it is not pleasant to think of the possibilities, if they have guessed wrong." The Fort Worth Star-Telegram (2/2/43) said: "Several million American heads were vigorously shaken over the announcement." Although the "American Melting Pot is a marvel of alchemy in transmutation of racial characteristics,...the children of Nippon are not mixers and they have not mixed. They are Japs."

CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS --

Senate Investigation: Press interest in the Senate investigation, which had quieted down temporarily, was revived by announcement that former Ambassador Joseph C. Grew was to testify.

The AP handled this announcement in two separate dispatches which said that Grew was being called before the committee to verify reports that "two-thirds of Japanese are loyal" and quoted Senator Chandler as follows: "If this is true, something should be done to separate the loyal Japanese from the avowed enemies of this country in those camps." Twin Falls Times News, 1/28/43. Albany News, 1/28/43. Spokane Spokesman-Review, 1/28/43. Fresno Bee, 1/28/43. Washington Star, 1/27 and 1/28/43.

Only one paper--Los Angeles Examiner--carried a story on the hearing at which Grew, Tokio Slocum, an FBI agent, and Hawaiian Delegate Farrington appeared. According to this report, Grew advocated segregation camps for "bad actors", expressed the conviction that "Japanese imperialist ideology is so thoroughly instilled in the Japanese that birth in the United States cannot guarantee its absence; and Slocum testified that "as many as 25 per cent" of evacuees "may be disloyal" and that he had narrowly escaped with his life from Manzanar last December 7. Los Angeles Examiner. 1/29/43. Article by Ray Richards.

Writing to a Washington businessman, Senator Wallgren showed realization of the fact that there are loyal groups among Japanese whose "manpower the nation can ill afford to waste, but criticized the WRA for not having segregated loyal from disloyal elements. Seattle Post Intelligencer, 2/5/43. AP

Speech of Representative Rankin of Mississippi: In a speech to be delivered on the House floor, Rankin was predicted to recommend the return to Japan after the war of "all those of Japanese blood in the United States", with "the United States buying their estimated \$200,000,000 worth of property in this country." He was also expected to pledge the support of the South to the West's efforts to "wipe out the Japanese menace." Call Bulletin. San Francisco Examiner. 2/1/43. By Ray Richards.

Only press item covering Rankin's speech was a UP dispatch in which he was quoted as having declared he was "shocked beyond expression" to learn of proposed Japanese-American combat team. Los Angeles Times. 2/4/43. UP

Senator Robertson attacks WRA: According to the UP, Senator Edward V. Robertson (R), Wyoming, accused the administration of "pampering" evacuees and declared that government's treatment was causing "great unrest" among Wyoming residents." Twin Falls Times News, 2/7/43. UP.

LEGAL --

A constitutional amendment not "to deny American citizenship to Japanese born here", but to "forbid them to be also citizens of Japan", was proposed by Representative Jerry Voorhis. San Francisco News. 1/27/43.

"A memorial to President Roosevelt and Congress protesting a proposal to allow Japanese-Americans in relocation centers to attend college while American youths are called for military duty" was unanimously passed by Arizona Senate. It had previously passed the House. Washington Star. 2/2/43

Bill to prevent evacuees relocated in Wyoming to vote passed the Wyoming legislature on February 4 and was sent to Governor Hunt. Seattle Post Intelligencer. Herald and News. AP 2/4/43.

An amendment to California's anti-alien land laws prohibiting "transfer of property of children of persons ineligible to citizenship" was introduced before the legislature by Senator George Luckey. San Francisco News. 1/14/43.

"The Arkansas Senate, after a bitter battle over racial issues, defeated an attempt to bar all members of the Mongolian race from white public schools in the state." Idaho Daily Statesman. 1/29/43.

"Attorney General Konny will assist in a vigorous prosecution of escheat proceedings against the State Farming Company...which the State asserts is owned by alien Japanese. The case has been set for trial March 23..." Los Angeles Times. 1/21/43.

Federal Judge Harry A. Hollzer granted a writ of habeas corpus, returnable March 5, in the case of Ernest Wakayama on legality of exclusion order. San Francisco Call Bulletin. Denver Post. Spokesman Review. Arizona Republic. AP. 2/5/43. Los Angeles Examiner. Los Angeles Times. San Francisco Examiner. 2/3/43.

EVACUEE PROPERTY --

Several developments showed growing strength in California movement to seize idle evacuee-owned property.

Farm Equipment: The State Chamber of Commerce agricultural committee voted to recommend to the State Chamber policy board meeting on February 19 that "all Japanese farm machinery and equipment belonging to evacuees and now stored in California warehouses be released by Lieutenant General John L. DeWitt", with "Japanese farmers to be paid a reasonable sum for the use of the farm machinery." San Francisco Chronicle, 1/23/43.

San Joaquin Federal clubwomen requested War Department (in letter) to distribute idle farm implements "to white farmers who can use them now to win the war." San Francisco Examiner, 2/5/43.

Representative Gearhart of California asserted that "federal agencies should formulate plans to acquire thousands of motor vehicles and pieces of farm equipment stored by Japanese removed from California." Los Angeles Times, 2/2/43.

Stored Automobiles and Tires: The McClatchy Newspaper Service started a campaign for the seizure of Japanese-owned tires and automobiles with a long article which appeared in the Fresno and Sacramento Bees (1/28/43). According to this, the fact "came to light" that from "20,000 to 25,000 Japanese-owned automobiles and trucks equipped with pre-war grade tires in good condition are believed to be stored for the duration of the war in public and private garages" when "OPA investigators...found two buildings in West Fresno owned by Nipponese", which "housed more than 100 cars in excellent condition all belonging to the Japanese, and the cars are not for sale." Article's unfriendly tone is indicated by following quotations: "When the war is over and the coast states Japanese are permitted to resume their former residences, they can start motoring again on practically new rubber, while the balance of the state's auto owners will have to get by on the scrap rubber tires they have been saving and wearing out during the war", and "the tires are useless on the stored automobiles, and that is the way the Japanese want them, until the war is over."

A condensation of the Bee story was sent out over the AP wire on January 28, and another condensation appeared in the San Francisco Examiner (1/29/43). San Francisco Chronicle, Herald and News, Los Angeles Examiner.

The Bee article set off an immediate repercussion in the state legislature. "Senator Jack B. Tenny of Los Angeles, chairman of the committee on un-American activities, announced...that his group will try to find a way to bring the tires from such cars to the nation's stock pile" and Senator Hugh M. Burns was authorized to start an investigation. Los Angeles Times, 1/29/43. Richard Combs, chief investigator and attorney for the committee on un-American activities is to assist Senator Burns, with "a state-wide series of hearings" to be opened "in about two weeks." Sacramento Bee, Fresno Bee, 2/3/43.

In the House of Representatives, Representative B. W. Gearhart of Fresno "criticized Rubber Czar William Jeffers for failing to utilize an estimated 100,000 serviceable tires on Japanese owned automobiles and trucks now in storage", and "announced he is calling on Jeffers to take immediate action looking to the release of the tires". Fresno Bee, Sacramento Bee, 2/1/43. McClatchy Newspaper Service.

The Sacramento Bee (1/29/43) asked editorially, "...is it out of line to suggest that the Japanese here at least be subjected to the same kind of decree which was imposed on the Americans themselves with respect to their tires?" and stated: "Californians were shocked to learn that ...Japanese owned cars are gathering dust in storage."

MESS OPERATIONS --

Official WRA denial of rumors that evacuees at Manzanar are enjoying luxury food, reported last week, was carried in the following: Los Angeles Examiner. Los Angeles Daily News. 1/28/43. San Diego Union. 1/30/43. San Francisco News. UP 1/28/43.

Commenting on the official release, the Times Delta (2/2/43) said editorially: "The rumor has been laid low at Manzanar. Let's hear from the other centers and get this point settled."

AGRICULTURAL AND ENGINEERING ---

Its campaign for the abandonment of high school building plans at Granada was continued by the Pueblo Chieftain. A full-page, illustrated feature article, written after a tour of the project, while generally sympathetic with the "good but not fancy" project features and with the evacuees, themselves, concludes: "As to the education offered the children, a visit to their classrooms crowded though they may be, should raise serious doubts as to whether the new buildings are needed, particularly when facilities at the camp are compared with those of the average 'little red school-house' of present-day America." 1/31/43. Commenting on the above, the Chieftain stated editorially that it is "UN-AMERICAN" for the Granada school facilities to be better than those of many other schools in Southern Colorado, and urged the legislature to appropriate sufficient funds to raise public school standards. 2/3/43.

Plans for the 1943 Tule Lake agricultural program have been completed. Tule Lake Reporter. 1/28/43.

Vegetable crop valued at \$287,238.60 was raised at Gila River during quarter ending December 31, as announced by project director, L. H. Bennett. Arizona Republic. 2/1/43.

REPATRIATION ---

Visit of a Spanish consular representative and Bernard Gufler of the United States Department of State to Manzanar on repatriation matters reported, in WRA press release. Millard County Chronicle. 1/21/43.

EMPLOYMENT ---

Farm Labor:

Several developments occurred on the farm labor front. These included Department of Agriculture announcement that prisoners of war may be used to relieve farm labor shortages next year; increased pressure from Arizona for evacuee labor; agreement between Governor Hunt of Wyoming and WRA on the use of evacuee labor; reiteration of official sentiment in Nevada against the importation of evacuee farm workers; and mixed reaction in Middle West toward use of farm labor there. (For synopsis of latter, see "Reaction to Proposed Evacuee Employment in Middle West.")

John A. Walker, Chief of the labor division of the Food Production Administration, U. S. Department of Agriculture, disclosed that the United States is considering the use of prisoners captured in Europe and Asia to help fill agricultural shortages next year, according to the AP. Madison Times, Chicago Times. 1/5/43.

"Arizona's congressional delegation" requested Assistant Secretary of War John McCloy to revise Arizona military zone boundary lines to permit evacuees to pick long-staple cotton. According to this report, last year's crop is still only half-picked. Arizona Republic. AP 2/3/43

Guayule cultivation in Arizona by evacuees was urged by Governor Osborn of Arizona, the University of Arizona, and the California Institute of Technology.

Governor Hunt of Wyoming agreed with Guy Robertson, Director of Heart Mountain, that "there should be full utilization in Wyoming of available Japanese evacuee labor in agriculture and other industries suffering manpower shortages", provided evacuees are protected while outside the camp and return at the termination of their employment. Cody Enterprise. 2/3/43.

Governor E. P. Carville of Nevada "reiterated his vigorous stand against the importation of Japanese" for farm labor, "declaring he would be willing to bring Japanese labor into Nevada only under one condition: That the Federal government guarantee to police them and provide protection against sabotage." Nevada State Journal. UP. 1/27/43.

Reaction to Proposed Evacuee Employment in Middle West:

Several days after the Cleveland office opened officially, both AP and UP sent out stories based on interviews with Harold Fistere, and INS and the New York Times had dispatches datelined from Washington. These were carried widely in newspapers throughout the nation. The AP dispatch heralded the opening of the Cleveland office as "a government plan to move 10,000 American-Japanese into Michigan, Ohio and West Virginia to help with farm and factory labor shortages; the UP called it, "a program to transfer Japanese-Americans who are now confined to 18 western relocation camps, to industrial plants and farms of the midwest"; INS said, "the government is now engaging in a nationwide campaign to find jobs in private industry for as many Japanese evacuees

as possible; and the New York Times saw it as a plan "to help relieve the nation's manpower needs and quoted a WRA executive as saying, "Eventually, we hope the majority will leave." Pontiac Press, South Bend Tribune, Canton Repository, UP, 1/29/43. Lansing Journal, Jackson Citizen Patriot, Youngstown Vindicator, Toledo Blade, Dayton News, Lansing State Journal, Columbus Dispatch, Springfield Sun, Minneapolis Tribune, Huntington Herald-Dispatch, Fargo Forum, Charleston Gazette, Bluefield Daily Telegraph, Arizona Republic, Cleveland Plain Dealer, AP, 1/29/43. Jackson Clarion-Ledger, INS, 1/30/43. New York Times, 1/30/43. Columbus Citizen, 1/29/43. Philadelphia Record (1/31/43).

Local community sentiment--as shown in newspaper reports and by editorial comment--varied, but was for the most part favorable.

In Detroit, the Detroit Times (1/29/43) said, "the announcement...was met with mixed feelings by city and labor officials...R. J. Thomas, UAW-CIO president, favored putting Japanese in plants, but only after each one had been thoroughly investigated", but Frank X. Martel, president of the Detroit and Wayne County Federation of Labor was definitely opposed to placing evacuees in industrial plants, while Mayor Jeffries and the president of the city council were non-committal. According to the Detroit News (1/31/43), Captain Donald S. Leonard, state defense administrator, "saw no particular State Police problem arising from the importation of Japanese workers" but felt their "unquestioned loyalty" should be known before they are "brought to Michigan"; "farm members of the Legislature were indefinite in their reactions", but the County Agent of Macomb County felt "they probably will be given a warm reception."

In Cleveland, the Cleveland Press (1/29/43) felt that "efforts of the WRA to relieve the local farm labor shortage with Americans from Japanese internment camps will meet with enthusiasm." According to this paper, "farmers themselves were the most eager to get the plan started since they need labor badly"; the Cleveland Welfare Federation has "voiced approval of the plan", and 220 growers meeting at Ohio University "endorsed the proposal."

An item in the Indianapolis News (1/29/43) shows the existence of considerable hostile sentiment there. This article stated, "After receiving various protests, one from the Marion County Buildings Trades Council, Mr. (Representative Louis) Ludlew conferred with E. M. Rowalt, acting director of the War Relocation Authority, who gave assurance that the sentiment of a community is ascertained before persons of Japanese ancestry are permitted to migrate there."

According to the Canton Repository (1/31/43), "farm leaders" in Ohio were "wary of Japanese labor", Murray D. Lincoln of the Ohio Farm Bureau contending that "he did not believe the situation in Ohio was critical enough as yet to merit such a step."

In Berrien County, Michigan, a poll of farmers showed "the majority of fruit growers and others opposed to allocation of Japanese-Americans." Pontiac Press. AP. 1/29/43

In Elkhart County, Indiana, a survey conducted by a representative of the Fellowship of Reconciliation showed "farmers, dairymen, and householders were anxious to hire Japanese." Logansport-Pharos-Tribune. UP. 2/4/43.

Editorial comment in the Middle West was chiefly concerned with the manpower and civil rights aspects of the resettlement program. The Jackson, Michigan, Citizen Patriot (2/5/43) saw the local employment of evacuees as "a problem" which "people of this community" would reply to with "a polite but firm, 'No, Thanks!'" ; the Detroit Free Press and Akron Beacon Journal (1/30/43) felt that, "Only the most hopelessly prejudiced will resent the resettlement decision"; the Pontiac, Michigan, Press (2/3/43) declared, "If proper care is made in sifting out those who are American citizens and who have shown themselves imbued with our philosophy of life the shift might work out to the general good...American citizens will have to remember that this war is not being fought for one race or color or ancestry but for the liberties of all peoples regardless of where they came"; the Canton Repository (1/30/43) said, "The relocation program for loyal Japanese who want to contribute to the war effort outlined by war relocation board is a challenge to the American way of life we talk about so much...If it (relocation experiment) succeeds, it will be proof beyond dispute that in America there is only one test of an individual's worth--the test of his loyalty to American principles...There is no more reason for holding all Japanese in internment camps than there is for holding other minorities"; and the Cleveland News (2/1/43) saw the proposal as a way to "make available some badly needed manpower" and internment of loyal Japanese as "obviously contrary to the principles of American democracy."

Miscellaneous press items: First application of a Nisei to work in Middletown, Connecticut, was received favorably. According to the Hartford Courant (2/6/43), Dr. S. L. Leak, superintendent of the Middletown State Hospital, "said he hopes that many more will apply...and if they appear qualified he will be pleased to fill vacancies with them."

"Plans for opening a War Relocation Authority office in Milwaukee" were announced in the Milwaukee Sentinel (2/5/43).

Protest against employment of Japanese aliens by the Great Northern railway in Spokane, Washington, was made by the Central Labor council to county commissioners on the grounds that it is "obnoxious to American citizens." Spokesman-Review. 1/30/43.

"225 Japanese evacuees have received private employment" in the district around Idaho Falls, according to a statement attributed to Miss Marjorie Ross, "agent in charge of the War Relocation Authority office in the Federal Building." Post Register, 2/2/43.

Two Japanese chick-sexers received "C" cards from the Joliet, Illinois gas rationing board in order to carry on their chick-sexing activities. Chick-sexing was described as "an old Japanese secret, passed on from father to son, essential to the war." Washington News. UP. 2/10/43.

INDIVIDUAL EXCLUSION --

Newspaper reports of two separate exclusion orders consisted of an announcement of the order and a list of those excluded. "Six more San Franciscans (Arthur Karl Wilhelm Buescher, etc.) and a resident of Santa Cruz were excluded today from the coastal frontiers of the United States." San Francisco Call Bulletin, 1/25/43. "Eight more persons (Wilhelm Ferdinand Heinrich Brandes)...were ordered excluded from the coastal areas of the United States today." Los Angeles Times. 2/2/43.

INTERNAL SECURITY --

Arrest by the United States District Attorney of seven Poston residents implicated in last November's incident directed considerable press attention to disloyal elements there. On January 31, the AP carried a story on the arrests, commenting: "Tojo sympathizers in November overthrew the civil government in one section of the Poston center, barricaded themselves in the community jail and halted work on the project." Los Angeles Times, Dallas News, Idaho Daily Statesman, San Francisco Examiner, St. Joseph Gazette, Butte Standard, San Francisco Chronicle, Washington Star, Baton Rouge Times, Baltimore Sun, Montana Standard, Seattle Post Intelligencer. 2/1/43. The following day, AP sent out another story in which project director Wade Head was quoted as describing "the insurgents" in the November riot as "a small but well-organized group of Tokyo-sympathizers." Denver Post. 2/1/43. Fresno Bee. Los Angeles Times. 2/2/43.

The Arizona Republic (2/2/43) predicted that the seven arrests "were only the beginning of government action as the result of the riot."

Two sons of an evacuee arrested at Poston are being held in the Maricopa County Jail "charged with obstructing and resisting Federal Bureau of Investigation officials" who were taking their father. Arizona Republic. 2/3/43.

The hammer death murder of Jinkichi Nitao was reported in the Arizona Republic (1/21/43) which attributed the affair to marital difficulties.

The Inyo Independent (2/5/43) carried a warning--apparently released from WRA sources--that future hikers who transgressed Manzanar boundary rules would be turned over to the military police.

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES --

Both the Twin Falls Times News and Jerome North Side News covered activities at Minidoka rather fully and in a friendly manner. Principal news source was January 28 concert of Minidoka massed choir, sponsored by Jerome Ministerial Association. Concert attendance of 600 was reported.

Two Central Utah residents lectured at Brigham Young University on painting and flower arrangement. Millard County Chronicle, 2/4/43

STUDENT RELOCATION ---

College students have contributed \$9000 through the World Student Service Fund for education of evacuees, according to an announcement of Miss Wilhelmina Rowland, secretary of the fund. New York Evening Post, Chicago Sun, New York Herald Tribune, 2/1/43.

HAWAII ---

Joseph Driscoll, special correspondent in Honolulu for the New York Herald Tribune and the Dayton Daily News, is writing a series of articles on Hawaiian Japanese. The first, which appeared January 31, reported how contending factions in Hawaii feel about the loyalty of the Japanese, but reached no conclusions. The second article (2/2/43) described plan of "John A. Balch, chairman of the board of Hawaii's telephone company" to deport 100,000 Japanese to the mainland "as soon as conditions warrant." According to Driscoll's report, Balch first presented his proposal to Admiral Chester Nimitz, General Delos C. Emmons, and Benjamin W. Thoron, director of the Division of Territories of the Department of Interior. Having met with no response from those sources, "Mr. Balch is spending his own money to propagandize the public and has built up a considerable following. He is working in co-operation with the California Joint Immigration Committee, the California Federation of Labor, and the Native Sons of the Golden West."

Public attitudes toward Japanese in Hawaii and the background thereof were also the subject of a four-column story in the Los Angeles Times (2/5/43). Written by Kyle Palmer from Honolulu, no conclusions were reached, but false stories about sabotage on December 7 were effectively pricked.

MAGAZINE ARTICLES ---

New Republic, "Trouble Among Japanese Americans", February 1, 1943.
By Isamu Noguchi.

This article, written by a noted Eurasian sculptor, is an effort to probe the factors which gave rise to recent incidents at Manzanar, Poston, and Jerome. Mr. Noguchi contends that newspaper interpretation that the rioters were merely pro-Axis elements was over-simplified. Pro-Japanese sentiment and a plain hoodlum element played a part in the trouble, he admits. But the situation of which the troublemakers took advantage was produced by other causes, the most important being "the decision of the WRA limiting participation in government to the American-born" which increased tension between first and second generations. Also involved was the great sense of frustration which all members of the camps

felt and, at Jerome, "the factor of contact with the native attitudes toward the Negro."

Solutions suggested by Mr. Noguchi are expansion of resettlement policy, especially on group basis; "selective service of Americans of Japanese origin"; segregation of pro-Japanese elements; "a real attempt to make these areas self-supporting before the people in them become too demoralized"; and granting more social and political responsibility to evacuees. He feels, in short, that evacuees should be returned to their normal civilian status as soon as possible, while, concurrently, the centers themselves should be made "as much like other places in America as possible."

Commonweal, "Totalitarian Liberals" By Norman Thomas . 1/22/43.

In an article describing the growth in the United States of the "totalitarian liberal" (a person who gives lip service to liberal philosophy but who approves totalitarian methods), Mr. Thomas cites February 19, 1943 (date of the first evacuation order) as the "date for the beginning of the totalitarian concept and practice of justice in America." According to Mr. Thomas, "Mr. Roosevelt's order of February 19 was a surrender to an unhealthy public opinion and to the army's appetite for power...The army tried to do the job humanely, the Civilian Relocation Authority, now in control, has a real interest in its wards." Nevertheless, the Japanese had to submit to cruel and unjust treatment--contrary to a genuine American tradition of liberalism. "The philosophic basis for this is precisely the philosophic basis for far more cruel treatment of Jews and other victims in German concentration camps. The well-being of the state as interpreted by its ruler is the supreme law. Justice to the individual in our democracy as we had come to understand it, after long centuries of struggle under the influence of Christian concepts, doesn't matter."

Fellowship, "Gifts to Nisei Children Arouse Town's Ire." Editorial.
February, 1943.

Reports the following incident as having occurred in Placerville, California: A conscientious objector group delivered a box of Christmas toys to the express office for delivery to Poston. Rumors spread through the town that the box contained "subversive material, guns, dynamite, or other contraband." Before the package was released for shipment, the camp director had to grant permission to the sheriff and district attorney to open it and examine its contents. One of the men who examined the package declared "only half jokingly": 'I only wish it had been dynamite instead of toys and that it had blown up when it reached its destination.' "

The Sugar Beet (publication of the Amalgamated Sugar Company), "Sugar Beets Have Been the Way Out for Thousands of Japanese Evacuees." December, 1942.

Article promoting the use of evacuees as sugar beet labor. Recites successful experience last year from points of view of both workers and growers, and challenges Japanese to respond to patriotic call for more workers this year.

"In 1943, the nation faces another shortage of sugar...Here is an opportunity for every Japanese to show his loyalty to America...The challenge is now laid down to all able-bodied Japanese who love to breathe free air and earn their own living. The sugar beet industry has done more than all other private agencies combined to provide work for evacuees."

Survey Graphic, "Japanese Colony, Success Story" by Clement C. Williams.
February, 1943.

Account of the experience of group of 130 led by Fred L. Wada who voluntarily evacuated from the Pacific Coast last year to settle on the George A. Fisher ranch at Keetley, Utah. Mr. Wada's motive in founding the colony was to "form a corps of Americans of Japanese ancestry, and try to break all records at raising crops." At first local feeling toward the newcomers was somewhat hostile, but gradually harmonious relationships developed between the evacuees and their Caucasian neighbors. The colonists have made out well--in terms both of successful war food crop production and financial profit.

