

WEEKLY PRESS REVIEW

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Week ending September 8, 1943

For the Use of the WRA Staff

SUMMARY

The American Legion provided the greatest amount of news clippings this week, with departments in Washington, Ohio, Colorado, Illinois, Idaho and Arizona adopting resolutions unfavorable to WRA and the evacuees. Exclusion from the West Coast, confinement, and Army control of relocation centers were the three most popular resolutions as National Commander Roane Waring continued on his speech-making tour of Legion conventions.

At Fresno, California a state senate fact-finding committee held a two-day hearing to determine the attitude of local residents on Japanese resettlement. UP reported most witnesses agreed on danger of returning evacuees to California now, but surprisingly few opposed their return after the war.

Reports of Congressional relations were scarce. Representative Eberharter (Dem.-Pa.) declared Hawaiian habeas corpus controversy "might well" be test case for such problems in the United States.

The American Federation of Teachers, meeting in Chicago, asked for speedy release of loyal evacuees and further support of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee in order to fight racial discrimination.

Lt. Col. Marshall Micon of the Army Air Forces stated the West Coast is still in danger of Japanese bombings, while Lt. Gen. John DeWitt, recently returned from operations in Alaska, expressed the opinion that threat of invasion by the Japanese has "decreased".

Highlight of several favorable editorials was one from the St. Louis POST-DISPATCH titled "Martin Dies is Seeing Things", in which the "Salesmesque Representative" was criticized in connection with the WRA investigation for a too colorful imagination.

Illustrated articles described the friendly attitude of Philadelphians toward evacuees working there, and the success of consumers cooperatives at Jerome and Rohwer.

In Idaho, public school officials were told evacuee children were not entitled to free schooling at state-financed institutions, and Carbon College (Utah) announce it would accept no Japanese students, other than the children of evacuees working in that district. WRA area supervisor for Chicago, Elmer L. Sherrill reported that Japanese-American girls enrolled in approved nursing schools may join the U. S. Cadet Nurses Corps.



Employment division head, Thomas W. Holland, told WRA officials at Salt Lake City meeting that no acts of sabotage have yet been committed by released evacuees.

### CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

Rep. Eberharter (Pa) declared Hawaiian habeas corpus controversy "might well become the case which would govern action on such problems throughout the United States." It is he adds as "fundamental a constitutional issue" as the recent ruling by a Philadelphia judge permitting a German-American woman to continue living on the Eastern Seaboard despite Army exclusion orders. Phoenix, Arizona GAZETTE, 8/26/43

"Total exclusion of Japanese from the United States" only solution, says Congressman James W. Mott (Oreg.) at meeting of state veterans representatives; claims "East less alive to Jap issue" (headline). Portland OREGONIAN, 8/29/43

### PUBLIC ATTITUDES

#### Editorials

Arizona editor agrees with evacuee editorial, in the Gila NEWS COURIER, that although Americans, as a people, have "grown up" in the past 25 years, "we still have room for improvement". Arizona DAILY STAR, 8/18/43

Student paper calls statements of Roane T. Waring and other Legionnaires, Fascist rather than American, and brands as "wholly unconstitutional" their proposal for the use of "investigated" Japanese in farm work under Army supervision. THE DAILY CALIFORNIAN, Berkely, Cal., 8/19/43

"Cleveland conforms to its tradition of tolerance and liberality" in receiving "without any unpleasant incidents" more than 300 Nisei. The lot of the Americans of Japanese descent much harder than those of German or Italian descent because of the "instinctive mistrust and suspicion" they must overcome. Cleveland NEWS, 8/24/43

Arizona has made it quite clear that any "Japanese" attempting to concentrate there are inviting trouble and both WRA and the evacuees seem "wisely" and "thoroughly convinced on that point. Phoenix, Arizona FARMER, 8/28/43.

"Martin Dies is seeing things" (headline), namely "dragons--big ones--in re-location camps". That the "Salesesque Representative" has "never taken precautions against unreliability in his own sleuthing" may be reason why he "doth protest too much" against WRA policy of releasing evacuees. St. Louis POST-DISPATCH

Los Angeles editor expresses admiration for Gen. DeWitt's achievements both as a fighting general in Alaska and as an administrator in handling the "delicate Japanese removal problem." L. A. TIMES, 9/3/43

President Roosevelt branded as a "military tyrant" for his attitude, as commander-in-chief of the U. S. Army, toward Hawaiian habeas corpus case. Chicago TRIBUNE, 8/27/43

#### Feature Articles

Illustrated article describes "friendly" attitude of Philadelphians and "fair treatment" received by some 200 or more evacuees relocated in that city. Quotes



opinion of WRA relocation officer, H. C. Patterson, that program of spreading out and associating with people of other racial back-grounds will probably make the evacuees "even better Americans". PHILADELPHIA RECORD, 8/20/43

Column by Heart Mountain evacuee gives current news of the center; announces visit of Governor Lester C. Hunt and Senator O'Mahoney of Wyoming. Powell, Wyo., TRIBUNE, 8/26/43

"Japanese cooperative stores in two Arkansas camps show nice income for Uncle Sam". (headline) The government makes "hundreds of dollars" in monthly rentals of co-op stores at Jerome and Rohwer and "thousands of dollars" in state and federal taxes, but "the profits all go to the residents of the center" in setup "as American Series E bonds". Arkansas DEMOCRAT, 8/29/43

Story of evacuation told by Central Utah evacuee is accompanied by her pen sketches and edited with italicized quotations from WRA Director Myer's speech to the S. F. Commonwealth Club--expresses hope for "a better tomorrow". S. F. CHRONICLE, (This World section) 8/29/43

"....a film of great importance because it doesn't make monsters of all Japanese", says actress Margo, who portrays a Japanese stenographer in James Young's "Behind the Rising Sun". S.F. CALL-BULLETIN 8/28/43

In film "We've Never Been Licked", Texas A. and M. student finds Japanese students he befriended couldn't be trusted. S. F. CALL-BULLETIN, 8/28/43

#### Letters to the Editor

##### Friendly

Correspondent finds "intolerance of religious beliefs, desire for vengeance and a denial of civil rights" in "Japanese cemetery" incident in Portland. OREGONIAN, 8/27/43

U.S. soldier reminds editor we have "many loyal Japanese in our armed forces"; finds recent cartoon, characterizing a Japanese soldier as a monkey, un-Christian and in bad taste. OREGONIAN, 8/29/43

Californian offers History as proof of argument that American citizens of Japanese origin can absorb American point of view. A. F. CHRONICLE, 8/31/43

##### Hostile

Front page letter asks for an amendment to the Constitution for the deportation of all disloyal Japanese; encloses brief, prepared by an attorney, attempting to show legality of a treaty to that effect. THE RECORDER, San Francisco, Cal., 8/12/43

Warning letter urges soldiers' wives to form Legion to banish all Japanese remaining in the U. S. Sacramento BEE, 8/26/43

Californian resents "pampering" of Japanese in this country; asks "a death for a death" and also advises against putting "Japanese boys" in U. S. uniforms. Sacramento BEE, 8/27/43



Efforts to reinstate Japanese by "silly-minded, Jap-loving sentimentalists, including the stupid WRA" should be stamped out by patriotic citizens. SPOKESMAN-REVIEW, Spokane, Wash., 8/29/43

Washingtonian wants more publicity for "howls of protest" against release of evacuees. Seattle POST-INTELLIGENCER, 8/30/43

Contributor asks why German and Italian aliens are not "rounded up and put into concentration camps" as well as the Japanese. Sacramento BEE, 9/1/43

"Our immigration laws....too liberal", thinks we should demand "more drastic restrictions" to help solve our racial problems. Sacramento BEE, 9/1/43

Makes his "blood boil" says World War I Veteran, to read of Civil Service jobs for evacuees. Sacramento BEE, 9/2/43

"A Jap is a Jap no matter where he is born"---should be transported in box cars rather than allowed to share public vehicles with "Americans". Klamath Falls, Ore. HERALD & NEWS, 8/30/43

#### Resolutions and Statements

National Legion commander, Roane Waring, accuses WRA at Washington State convention of misstating facts when FBI denies they have investigated released evacuees. Seattle TIMES, 8/21/43. Washington Legionnaires adopt resolution to deport all Japanese from continental limits of the U. S. at end of war. Seattle POST-INTELLIGENCER, 8/23/43

Ohio Legionnaires go on record as favoring confinement of Japanese-Americans in "internment camps". AMERICAN LEGION COUNCILLOR, 8/13/43

Colorado branch of the American Legion asks for Army administration of all war relocation centers; finds "coddling" of Japanese aliens "scandalous". Pueblo CHIEFTAIN. 8/17/43

Illinois members of the American Legion pass resolutions for the "liquidation" of WRA and Army control of the Japanese in the United States. Chicago DAILY NEWS and HERALD AMERICAN, 8/31/43

Idaho Legionnaires hear national commander, Roane Waring, declare WRA unqualified to control evacuees; adopt resolutions demanding Army custody of evacuees and Federal assurance that evacuees will not remain in Idaho after the war. Boise, Idaho STATESMAN, 8/25/43

Resolution calling for Army control of relocation centers is adopted by Arizona Department of the American Legion. Tucson, Arizona STAR, 8/15/43

FBI agent, Kenneth Logan, states "in two years of wartime....there have been no actual sabotage cases" in report to Idaho Falls chamber of commerce. Idaho Falls POST REGISTER, 8/24/43 Twin Falls TIMES NEWS 8/26/43

American Federation of Teachers urges speedy release of all loyal evacuees, at annual convention in Chicago; asks support of Fair Employment Practice Committee in order to "combat racial and religious discrimination." Chicago TRIBUNE, 8/25/43



Pacific Coast Japanese Problem League adopts resolution at Los Angeles meeting protesting recruiting of Japanese women by the WAC. L. A. TIMES 8/28/43

State senate fact-finding committee opens two-day hearing in Fresno, Cal. on Japanese resettlement there after the war; is on record as opposing return of evacuees for the duration, reports committee chairman, senator Hugh P. Donnelly. AP Sacramento BEE, 8/26/43, Witnesses, testifying before State senate committee ask for Army control of "Japanese" in this country during the war, eventual revocation of citizenship of Japanese-Americans and deportation of both aliens and American born. AP Sacramento BEE, 8/28/43. Former WRA employee at Minidoka testifies he "quit his job" because the evacuees there were "pampered"—seldom worked more than half of required eight hours. AP, S. F. EXAMINER, 8/28/43, Salt Lake TRIBUNE, and twin Falls, Idaho TIMES-NEWS, 8/29/43

UP report of California state senate fact finding committee hearing finds most witnesses agreed on danger of returning evacuees to California now, but few opposed their return after the war. UP, Sacramento BEE, 8/27/43

Lt. General John L. DeWitt makes formal announcement of choice of Tule Lake center for disloyal evacuees--Major General Kenyon Joyce of the Ninth Service Command will direct military garrison there and will handle transportation of segregants S, F. CALL-BULLETIN, 8/30/43

Dr. Harold E. Branch, chief speaker at American War Dads meeting in Kansas City, Mo. outlines fourfold purpose of organization and praises Colorado paper for account of "waste and pampering of Japs" at Heart Mt. center. Denver POST 8/31/43

Pacific coast still in danger of bombing by Japanese, says Lt. Col. Marshall Micon, Army Air Forces intelligence officer, in address to Exchange club at Los Angeles. L. A. TIMES, 9/2/43

Threat of West Coast invasion by the Japanese has decreased "says Lt. General John L. DeWitt; receives second Distinguished Service Medal for "outstanding leadership" in Aleutians and is praised for his "efficient" handling of Japanese evacuation from the Pacific coast. S. F. NEWS, 9/1/43

Former Gov. Ralph Carr of Colorado blames his defeat at the polls last year on his willingness to take Japanese from the Coast States; notes evacuees saved a "good part of sugar beet crop" and are aiding in harvest again this year. ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, 9/3/43

#### REPORTS

No acts of sabotage have yet been committed by released evacuees, reports Thomas W. Holland, head of WRA employment division, at meeting of WRA officials in Salt Lake City. AP, Salt Lake TRIBUNE, Sacramento BEE, Montana STANDARD and Idaho DAILY STATESMAN, 8/31/43

Tule Lake Director Raymond R. Best discusses segregation problems at Lions' Club meeting. HERALD & NEWS, Oreg., 8/25/43

Tule Lake Rotary club hears "brief history of WRA" and report of pending changes at center by C. E. Zimmer, assistant WRA director in charge of agriculture at Tule Lake. Tule Lake REPORTER and Klamath Falls, Oreg. DERALD & NEWS 8/26/43



## EDUCATION

Indefinite leave for educational purposes may now be issued by project directors if leave clearance has been received, says report from Granada. Lamar, Colo., DAILY NEWS, 8/27/43

Carbon College informs "alarmed" county residents that only children of the 200 evacuees working in the district will be allowed to enroll--"must pay their own expenses and will receive no salary or aid from the federal government". Salt Lake TRIBUNE, 8/28/43

Paul J. Terry, Amache superintendent of schools, states a "few vacancies" remain after recruiting trip yields six elementary and seven secondary teachers and a librarian for coming school term. Lamar, Colo., DAILY NEWS, 9/1/43, Enrollment of 1,750 children expected for Amache school opening Sept. 7th. Same paper, 9/2/43

Elmer L. Sherrill, WRA area supervisor for Chicago, states that American girls of Japanese ancestry may join the U. S. Cadet Nurses Corps if enrolled in an approved nursing school. Chicago SUN and Chicago TRIBUNE, 9/2/43

Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction, C. E. Roberts, advises school officials "Japanese children living at relocation camps are not entitled to free schooling at state-financed institutions." AP, Idaho TIMES-NEWS, 8/31/43 and Washington SPOKESMAN-REVIEW, 9/1/43

Sumio Miyamoto, Japanese-American language instructor at the naval language school at Boulder, Colo., visits Kendall Smith, WRA district manager at Rockford, Illinois. Rockford, MORNING SUN, 8/43

## EMPLOYMENT

Chicken sexing explained to curious subscriber--first introduced on a commercial basis ten years ago by "Japanese, who were skilled in the art". PACIFIC RURAL PRESS, 8/21/43

WRA places evacuees under WMC job-changing rules after approximately 100 leave Michigan jobs for higher salaries in Chicago and report conditions of employment in Chicago unsatisfactory. Toledo, Ohio BLADE, 8/24/43

Fifteen Nisei from Rohwer aiding war effort by harvesting tomatoes in Freeport, Illinois. Report describes them as a "well educated" group, several of whom "had accumulated considerable wealth" before evacuation. Freeport, Ill. JOURNAL STANDARD, 8/26/43 by Norman R. Hoefler and Rockford MORNING STAR, 8/27/43

Montana's farm labor requirements adequately met so far, reports state emergency farm program supervisor, Ralph E. Bodley, thanks to imported civilian workers, including 635 evacuees. Montana STANDARD, 8/29/43

## SEGREGATION

Work is started on barracks, theatre and recreation hall for military unit of approximately 1000 men and 40 officers to be stationed at Tule Lake. Klamath Falls HERALD & NEWS, 8/27/43



Contingent of 867 segregees scheduled to leave Heart Mt. for Tule Lake center by Sept. 21st--40 others will be sent later. Wyoming STATE TRIBUNE, 8/30/43

Army will control transfer of disloyal evacuees to Newell, announces Lt. Gen. DeWitt; "escape-proofing" of Tule Lake center is in progress states report. S. F. EXAMINER, 8/31/43, and Klamath Falls HERALD & NEWS, 8/30/43

#### REPAIR/TIATION

Gripsholm sails Sept. 2nd from New York Harbor with 1,330 Japanese civilians, relief supplies and medicine for American prisoners in Japan. AP, Sacramento BEE, 9/2/43, L.A. TIMES, N. Y. TIMES, Idaho DAILY STATESMAN Billings GAZETTE, OREGONIAN and ROCKY MOUNTAIN NEWS, 9/3/43

40 evacuees from Minidoka to be among group sailing on the second voyage of Gripsholm to Japan. Idaho DAILY STATESMAN, Twin Falls TIMES-NEWS, Jerome NORTHSIDE NEWS and Salt Lake TRIBUNE, 8/27/43

#### LEGAL

FBI authorizes release of Japanese-American soldier previously arrested for being in Puyallup Valley without Army permission. 8/18/43

Phoenix land owner, Japanese alien and Japanese-American citizen face superior court trial for attempt to violate Arizona's alien land law. Arizona GAZETTE, AP, Arizona DAILY STAR, 8/25/43 and Arizona REPUBLIC, 8/26/43

Employee of the South Australian munitions works fined \$75 for false statements about Japanese activities, says report from Adelaide, Australia. S. F. EXAMINER 8/31/43

#### MILITARY SERVICE

American-Japanese wounded as he fights for U. S. in Pacific. (headline) Tech. Sgt. Kazuo Komoto, son of Gila evacuees, believed to be the first Nisei casualty in the Southwest Pacific area, say WRA officials. Family told he is recovering "normally" Arizona REPUBLIC and DAILY STAR, 8/24/43, Chicago SUN and HERALD AMERICAN, 8/31/43

Drive to enlist 30 Japanese-American girls from Illinois in WAC is announced by Elmer L. Shirrell, Chicago area Supervisor. Chicago DAILY TIMES, 8/24/43

#### AGRICULTURE

Heart Mountain receives first carload of potatoes to be shipped from Granada center farm. Lamar, Colo., DAILY NEWS, 9/2/43

#### INTERNAL SECURITY

Body of Minidoka evacuee found in canal, by center residents, five days after swim ended in death. Twin Falls, Idaho TIMES-NEWS, 8/29/43

#### STUDENT RELOCATION

Coaches and personnel director at University of Tulsa debate wisdom of allowing



Sam Kiguchi, former football player for U. C. L. A., to participate in coming season's games. SPOKESMAN-REVIEW, 8/29/43

M/GAZINES

THE GRIZZLY BEAR M/GAZINE (Official publication of the Native Sons and Native Daughters of The Golden West) "Newsgraphs (With Occasional Comments)" by Clarence M. Hunt, August 1943

A review of news articles which attempts to "give a picture of the Jap problem today" and claims to illustrate their "peaceful invasion of our homefront, with the help...of the Washington administration and projap individuals and organizations".

FELLOWSHIP: "Forward to Brotherhood"--Editorial, September 1943

An appeal for prompt and vigorous action against the champions of racial discrimination, with immediate relocation of Japanese-Americans listed as one point of campaign.

