

Acme

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For the Use of the WRA Staff

SUMMARY

News reports of the military service of nisei, which have constituted an ever expanding section of the Review since the War Department's announcement in January of the induction of Japanese-Americans, has become the largest source of WRA news this week. Although there were scattered favorable reports on the good records of members of the 100th Battalion, including a report that Purple Heart awards had been given to the families of 58 Honolulu nisei who were killed in Italy, the larger proportion were on the unfavorable instances of refusal of some Japanese-Americans to be inducted or take military training. Outstanding among these was the arrest of 28 kibe members of a nisei unit at Fort McClellan, Alabama who refused to take a refresher course in basic training "under the American flag" and who now await court martial proceedings. At the Heart Mountain center, where warrants have been issued for the arrest of 12 evacuees who failed to report for pre-induction examinations, an organization known as the "Fair Play Committee" is allegedly urging draft-age residents to resist army induction. Editorials in the Heart Mountain SENTINEL on this and other subjects have been receiving considerable press attention lately. Inductions at the Gila River center are reported to be proceeding "without incident," but at Poston nine evacuees have been given three year prison terms each for their failure to report for examination, and George Fujii has been indicted for sedition on charges of circulating anti-induction propaganda.

Director Myer's statements to the press at Tule Lake and Salt Lake City and his speech to a joint meeting of civic groups in Salt Lake City received much greater attention than did his recent speech in Pasadena, Calif. Particular emphasis was placed upon his statement that when the military situation permits, evacuees "should have the right to return to their former homes if they choose to do so," and his assertion that most evacuees relocated in Utah are only there temporarily and expect to return to their Pacific Coast homes eventually.

Farm labor committees are beginning to state their needs for the coming season. One Oregon and two Idaho county groups are again requesting evacuee labor. A report from a Klamath County, Oregon meeting, however, states that fewer Japanese will be used in the eastern part of the state despite the fact that orders for Mexicans greatly exceed the number they can possibly obtain.

At a meeting of the Fruitland Grange in Kent County, Delaware, members voted their approval of the use of Japanese-American labor but qualified their resolution with the clause "for seasonal work only." They criticized the "narrow-minded standards" set by the Sussex County group who have recently been highly concerned over the Japanese infiltration in their state.

A Klamath Falls HERALD & NEWS editorial on the Life article about the Tule Lake center found it an "objective" and "on the whole...an honest report." The editor noted, however, that the article was more sympathetic toward WRA than are many local critics of the camp administration.

CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

Rep. Gearhart of California urges House to expedite passage of his bill authorizing the government to take over and sell all property of Germans and Japanese in this country and apply the proceeds toward paying claims of Americans for losses arising out of enemy action. The bill would require that the Japanese and German governments pay their nationals for any property seized by this government as one of the conditions of peace. AP, Salt Lake City TRIBUNE, 3/21/44. 1852

In endorsing proposed legislation that would provide a maximum penalty of ten years imprisonment and \$10,000 fine for American civilians convicted of aiding the escape of prisoners of war in the U. S., Alexander Holtzoff, special assistant to the Attorney General, cites to the House Judiciary Committee the case of two German prisoners of war who escaped from a camp near Trinidad, Colo. with the help of two Japanese-American girls. (see Review, 11/3/43). The two have not yet been prosecuted, Holtzoff said, "because of lack of proper testimony." Under existing law conviction requires testimony of two or more witnesses, while under the proposed legislation circumstantial evidence could bring a conviction. AP, Denver POST, 3/23/44. 1853

Rep. Jennings Randolph (W. Va.) criticizes "alien spongers" who refuse to acknowledge allegiance to this country although many of them have accumulated huge fortunes here. In a speech to the Lions Club in Washington, D. C. he urged the support of a measure to deport all immigrants who refuse to accept the responsibilities and duties of citizenship. Washington, D. C. TIMES HERALD, Washington, D. C. POST, 3/23/44. 1854-1855

Lengthy Ray Richards story indicates there is a "growing movement" in Congress to concentrate the U. S. war effort primarily in the Pacific and to correct the "whole external and internal Japanese situation." The Congressional sponsors of this movement are clamoring, according to Richards, for "factual tough-mindedness toward Japan and the Japanese in the United States." He refers specifically to 28 nisei soldiers under arrest at Camp McClellan, Alabama for "pro-Japan mutiny" and to the increasing number of Japanese-American draft resisters. Adds that the House Military Affairs Committee is being called upon to investigate the "instigated acceptance" of members of the Japanese race into military service and points out that even the sponsors of nisei induction admit their proteges are only 50 per cent trustworthy since they are being sent exclusively to the European theatre and not to the Pacific. (Ed. note: This is, of course, not true. A considerable number of nisei are serving in the Pacific theater.) Referring specifically to the WRA relocation program, Richards notes that "cries of alarm" are arising from "more than a score" of regions over the agency's "colonization plans." Repeats his earlier statement that Rep. William Hill of Colorado is preparing a resolution calling for an inquiry into all economic phases of evacuee resettlement. Story concludes by listing three main objectives of the Congressional groups attacking the "New Deal military policy." These are (1) discharge of nisei soldiers from the Army, (2) confinement of virtually all Japanese-Americans until after the war, and (3) eventual "cleansing" of the United States by deportation of Japanese-Americans. S. F. EXAMINER, N. Y. JOURNAL AMERICAN, Baltimore NEWS & POST, S. F. CALL BULLETIN, 3/24/44. 1856-1859

Dies Committee

UP story of Rep. Eberharter's minority report on the Tule Lake investigation (see Review, 3/22/44, 1719) in the SISKIYOU DAILY NEWS is prefaced by an editor's note advising local residents, in particular, to read the official word-by-word transcript (available in the DAILY NEWS office) of the November conferences between WRA officials and Japanese committees that preceded the Tule Lake disturbances, before forming opinions on the merits or demerits of Rep. Eberharter's statement that WRA Director Myer and Project Director Best, in dealing with the rioters, had "displayed the qualities of judgment and emotional stability this country has a right to expect of its government administrators." 3/17/44. 1860

Pictures of President Roosevelt, Vice President Wallace, Secretary of Interior Ickes, and WRA Director Myer, along with those of 24 other prominent national figures are captioned "These Are a Few of the Innocent 'Loyal Citizens' Smeared by Dies." In refutation of Rep. Dies statement, made during a radio speech March 26, that "my crime is my refusal to join in the conspiracy of character assassination by using the power of our Committee to smear loyal citizens," an accompanying paragraph states: "Out of 1121 Government workers named by Dies as subversive, the FBI after a full year's investigation which cost \$100,000, recommended the dismissal of only two persons." N. Y. PM, 3/28/44. 1861

PUBLIC ATTITUDES

Columnists

Principal of the Poston high school describes a production of "What a Life" by high school students at the center, concluding: "The most startling thing about the performance, to this auditor at least, was the emphasis on the fact that teen-age people are pretty much the same the world over." He adds that "just like any other cast" the group now has "trooper's fever" and wants to repeat the play at Poston II and III; concludes this might be a bad idea, as, if it were to be done, "we presume that the Hearst press will insist that Japanese are running all over the country." "Under the Bunya Tree," By John Girdler, Kingman, Ariz. MOHAVE MINER, 3/16/44. 1862

Editorials

"Brave Yanks With Yellow Skins" is the title of an editorial in the MILWAUKEE JOURNAL applauding the outstanding record of the Japanese-Americans fighting with the Fifth Army in Italy. Editor states: "Wisconsin will hope, as the men themselves hope, that the bravery and utter devotion to America of these Japanese Americans will convince the rest of us that a man should be judged on his character and his accomplishment and not on his ancestry, the slant of his eyes or the color of his skin." 3/11/44. 1863

Kansas editor declares that the Japanese-Americans who have appealed to President Roosevelt for full rights and privileges of citizenship on the grounds that they were born in the U. S. should have sent their appeal to WRA Director Myer, "who deals with the interned Japs so softly—even apologetically." Points out that some of the survivors of the "Death March" in the Philippine Islands "said many of the worst tortures...were devised by Japs who received their education in schools in the United States." Wichita, Kan. BEACON, 3/20/44. 1864

A later comment by the above editor praises the State of Delaware for not being deceived about the relocation of "undesirable" Japanese within its boundaries. He asserts: "Delaware will have achieved much for America if she, by her denial of the Japs, creates a national awareness that will close every state of this nation to the Nipponese fiends in human form who are polluting America with their inborn criminal nature." WICHITA BEACON, 3/22/44. 1865

Klamath Falls HERALD & NEWS editorial finds Life's pictorialized article on the Tule Lake center (see Review, 3/22/44), "objective" and "on the whole...an honest report." Points out that "perhaps the Life article leans a little farther toward sympathy with the WRA than will many local critics of the camp administration..." 3/23/44. 1866

Hearst editorial, remarking that "many weeks have passed since the American people were given an official report on the shameful treatment being accorded our prisoners of war and civilian internees in Japanese prison camps," points out that time is of the utmost importance, and reiterates the earlier demand of Hearst papers for the prompt establishment of a war prisoners commission headed by former Ambassador Joseph Grew, and for Soviet aid in rescuing the prisoners. N. Y. JOURNAL AMERICAN, 3/27/44. 1867

California editor mentions that Secretary Ickes in his recent announcement of relocation figures also tossed in a reference to the "great job the WRA has done and is doing." Editor, quoting from an official transcription of "that notorious conference between Dillon S. Myer, Ray A. Best and a committee of Tulelake Japs headed by George Kuratomi," attempts to prove Mr. Ickes' opinion incorrect. Yreka, Calif. SISKIYOU DAILY NEWS, 3/17/44. 1868

### Feature Articles

Article describes the Twin City Lutheran Relocation hostel for Japanese-Americans in Minneapolis, Minn. which since its opening on Jan. 1, 1944 has provided residence for 70 Japanese-Americans while they sought housing and employment in the city. Miss Martha Akard, director of the hostel, points out that the Japanese-Americans have more difficulty in securing housing than employment, and states that Twin City residents have overlooked the fact that many of the boys as well as the girls would like to work for their room and meals while attending school. Miss Akard emphasized, however, that on the whole "Twin City residents have been very cordial." Story is accompanied by two pictures of some of the hostel's residents. Minneapolis TRIBUNE, 3/12/44. 1869

An article on civil liberties problems mentions WRA, and says that the exclusion and continued detention of Japanese-Americans poses an entirely new aspect of civil liberties protection. S. F. NEWS, 3/22/44. 1870

Feature writer is encouraged by the outcome of the case of Mrs. June Terry, Japanese-American wife of a Caucasian, whose return to Martinez, Calif. was protested by other residents of the town. Earlier reports on the case had indicated that Mrs. Terry was physically assaulted by neighbors, and that finally she and her husband were forced to leave the town (see Review, 2/2/44, 539). These reports are denied by the writer, who declares that there was no physical violence, that according to Mrs. Terry "during the argument a crowd of neighbors gathered, but none of them made any move to back up" the woman who was protesting, and that the Terrys are still in Martinez, having moved only because their house was sold. Drawing attention to this comparatively

favorable outcome and to the fact that Mrs. Terry was offered help by many welfare and church groups and individuals, the writer concludes there is "some evidence that other Japanese-Americans may be able to return to California without fearing mob violence." N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE, 3/26/44. 1871

#### Letters to the Editor

Californian urges the editor of the Salt Lake TELEGRAM to continue his work for the return of civil rights to Americans of Japanese ancestry; declares that many Californians feel that loyal Japanese-Americans have been kept away from their homes long enough and that it is especially unjust now that they are being drafted into the U. S. Army. Salt Lake TELEGRAM, 3/9/44. 1872

Japanese-American resident asks whether the free enterprise, which the Salt Lake Chamber of Commerce sponsors as the fifth freedom, is to be limited to a few or is something for everybody to enjoy. He points out that there are a good many Japanese-Americans fighting for American ideals and wonders if when they come back they will find these ideals are believed in by all but practiced only by a few. Suggests that the Chamber of Commerce and the Salt Lake Federation of Labor might better adopt a dollar sign on a background of pocket lining, as the symbol of their ideals, than the American flag which they wave. Salt Lake TELEGRAM, 3/17/44. 1873

#### Resolutions and Statements

Rev. Henry Bovenkirk of Manzanar, missionary to Japan for ten years, describes his experiences as a civilian internee of the Japanese after the outbreak of war to members of the Bishop, Calif. Lions club. Independence, Calif. INYO INDEPENDENT, 3/17/44. 1874

Dr. Harry Wright McPherson, head of the division of educational institutions of the Methodist Board of Education, speaks highly of the excellent scholastic standing and whole-hearted acceptance by the students and the community of Japanese-American students continuing their education in denominational colleges. Columbus, Ohio CITIZEN, 3/18/44. 1875

Characterizing as "bigoted blindness" the "attitude of the average white American toward loyal fellow-Americans of Japanese descent," Rev. Luther Tucker, general secretary of the Yale University Christian Association, declares that this attitude is providing the Japanese military with ammunition for its race war propaganda with which it hopes to turn the peoples of Asia against the U. S. Rev. Tucker blames the evacuation move on West Coast residents who stood to profit economically, pointing out the lack of any sabotage in Hawaii where there was no evacuation despite the fact that 37 per cent of the population is of Japanese descent. Also stresses the fact that although Eastern cities had a high Italian-American population, no attempt was made to evacuate them wholesale "to the nearest desert." Hartford, Conn. COURANT, 3/20/44. 1876

Community meeting sponsored by the Fruitland Grange of Camden (Kent County), Del. adopts by a 33-1 vote a resolution approving the "practicality and the democratic spirit" of a suggestion by the WRA that Japanese-American farm labor be employed by those farmers who desire to use them, including, however, a provision that the Japanese-Americans "be brought in as seasonal labor only." The report contrasts the action with the stand recently taken by Sussex County farmers against the importation of evacuees. George M. Worrilow, acting assistant director of Agricultural Extension Work in Delaware, warned those at the meeting of the critical need for more farm labor in the

state. R. C. Cronin, WRA representative, assured them that the loyalty of any Japanese-Americans made available to Delaware would be thoroughly checked by Government agencies and that they would be employed only on a temporary or seasonal basis. Wilmington, Del. JOURNAL, 3/21/44. Another report notes that the Japanese labor issue has "split Delaware farmers' groups," with the grain farmers of Sussex county against their importation and the fruit growers of Kent county, who are badly in need of labor within 10 days for the first spraying of their trees, urging after a 63-1 vote that Japanese-Americans be used on a temporary basis. Philadelphia RECORD, 3/22/44. 1877-1878

Delegates to a two-day conference in Chicago, Ill. on Race Relations map out the creation of a National Clearing House for Information on Race Problems which will be supported financially by the Julius Rosenwald Fund and the Field Foundation. A three-point program of action formulated for the agency includes plan to: (1) help local and State groups to set up official or non-official interracial committees through advice and information, (2) institute a popular education campaign to help break down race prejudices and discriminatory practices through use of the press, radio, employee and employer groups, movies, churches, school, etc., (3) conduct research into the most effective methods of putting across interracial unity programs in public schools and other institutions. N. Y. PM, 3/23/44. 1879

John T. Regan, San Francisco Grand Secretary of the Native Sons of the Golden West, opposes assertions made by WRA Director Myer in his recent speech at Salt Lake, including the Director's statement that "Japanese-Americans moved from the Pacific Coast should have the right to go back to their former homes if they choose to do so." (Ed. note: In his speech, the Director actually preceded this remark with the qualifying statement "when the military situation becomes such that exclusion is no longer necessary.") Regan asserts: "We want to get rid of all of them. If we had our way, we'd move them all back to Japan." Oakland, Calif. TRIBUNE, 3/23/44. 1880

Provision made by the Canadian government for Japanese in interior settlements of British Columbia is "reasonably fair and adequate," according to a royal commission report. The commission made the following recommendations: (1) that no additional food allowances be given employable Japanese, (2) that they should be encouraged to work and be self-supporting, (3) that a 10 per cent increase be given the aged, infirm, and unemployable, and (4) that negotiations be opened with the British Columbia department of education for the education of interned children. Portland OREGONIAN, 3/23/44. 1881

Vice-President Wallace, speaking at Greek Independence Day ceremonies at the Boston Symphony Hall, praises the record of U. S. minority groups; says that "in America each race has something of value to contribute to democracy," and that "no man should be persecuted because he belongs to a minority race or a minority creed." AP, N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE, 3/27/44. 1882

Negro officer who has lived in six countries including Japan and is now an interpreter for the British Maritime Service, says there is no country that offers Negroes a better future than the U. S. He warns that any Negro who "feels that the Japs feel a racial kinship to him is laboring under a terrifically false impression," adding that they feel as superior to the Negro as any "bigoted white American." AP, Washington, D. C. STAR, Washington, D. C. POST, 3/26/44, N. Y. TIMES, 3/27/44. 1883-1885

Resignation of eight members of the Committee on Discrimination, formed last Fall by Governor Dewey of New York, is accompanied by their joint letter of protest, charging the Governor Dewey's shelving of anti-discrimination legislation drafted by the committee, and his creation of a new 23-man state commission to study racial and religious discrimination and to suggest remedial measures next year, was, in effect, a "repudiation" of the work done by the committee. N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE, 3/27/44. A N. Y. TIMES report adds that James C. Hagerty, executive assistant to the Governor, brands the resignation of the eight committee members as an evasion of "an important wartime task for political purposes." Report quotes a portion of the protesting letter to the Governor in which the eight members criticized as "unjustified" the delay of another year in seeking a remedy to problems so urgent and grave. N. Y. TIMES, 3/27/44. 1886-1887

Roland S. Marsh, southwestern Delaware dairyman, and leader of the opposition to relocation of evacuees in the Lewes, Del. area, charges WRA agents with "concealing truths and telling outright falsehoods" in an intensified campaign to relocate Japanese in that area. Marsh declares that he is seeking reports from California and resolutions in opposition to the WRA program adopted by organizations such as the Native Sons, West Coast City Council, Council Board of Supervisors, and agricultural groups. Story, by Ray Richards, adds that the California congressional delegation is reflecting true California sentiment in working for post-war deportation of Japanese aliens and disloyal Japanese-Americans. S. F. EXAMINER, 3/27/44. 1888

Walter H. Odemar, chairman of the committee on Japanese legislation of the Native Sons of the Golden West, in a speech to a NSGW meeting, says that Japanese-Americans should not be allowed back to the coastal areas, as their return would endanger national security. He also declares that members of the association should be proud to belong to an organization which is attempting to keep the Japanese from being returned to the West Coast during the war. S. F. CHRONICLE, 3/27/44. 1889

REPORTS

In Tulalake, on his way to visit the nearby segregation center, WRA Director Myer tells press interviewers that he expects to retain his position as head of WRA in spite of the Dies committee recommendation that he be removed. Adds that since the number of guards at the center has been increased, there is "no chance" of further outbreaks. AP, Salt Lake City TRIBUNE, Douglas, Ariz. DISPATCH, Tucson, Ariz. STAR, Portland OREGONIAN, 3/18/44. 1890-1893

Henry F. Halliday, assistant project director at Amache, leaves for Denver with project attorney Donald Horn to interview prospective WRA staff workers. Lamar, Colo. NEWS, 3/20/44. 1894

Amache center is assured of a "full house" when Project Director Lindley agrees to accept 500 Jerome residents when that center closes in June. The largest contingent of Jerome evacuees, a group of about 2,000, will go to Rohwer, while the remainder will probably be distributed among the Heart Mountain, Topaz and Minidoka centers. Lamar, Colo. NEWS, 3/20/44. 1895

Guy Robertson, Director of the Heart Mountain center, says that "a sharp budgetary reduction" in WRA funds indicates curtailment in expansion of some centers and attempts to close others, and announces that Heart Mountain has been asked to take 1,000 evacuees from Jerome. He adds that a new directive will increase "substantially" the amount of freight which will be moved,

at the expense of WRA, for relocating families. AP, Cheyenne, Wyo. TRIBUNE, 3/21/44. 1896

S. F. NEWS story on relocation, carrying the headline, "19,000 Freed from WRA Camps to Live in the East," is apparently based on Secretary Ickes' recent press statement (see Review, 3/15/44, 1636), although he is not specifically mentioned. Story says WRA is encouraging the evacuees to scatter over wide areas in relocating, so as to avoid colonies, and that one-fifth of the group are now supporting themselves outside the centers. Describes the precautions taken before releasing the evacuees, and concludes by mentioning Rep. Eberharter's minority report, quoting Eberharter's statement that the Dies committee investigation had confused the people in the centers with our real enemies across the Pacific. 3/21/44. 1897

WRA Director Myer, visiting the Tule Lake segregation center, declares that it is not his intention to hold a conference with the evacuees, but merely to meet the WRA staff "which has undergone many changes," and to view the changes in camp security arrangements. Announces the transfer of Dr. Reese Pedicord to Gila River and denies that there was any request from the evacuees for his transfer. He also announces that the jail at the center, "regarding which he admitted there had been some controversy with the Modoc County attorney," (see LEGAL, 1971), would not be built since WRA considers evacuees held under state law to be county charges. Dwells on the expected addition of three radio patrol cars for the use of the Army in patrolling the enclosure. The Director declares that the segregation program is not yet complete, and that he expects over a thousand more evacuees to be added to the group of under 17,000 now at the center. Tulelake REPORTER, 3/23/44. 1898

Dillon S. Myer, "the man with a real headache," hopes the government may close all ten of the centers and allow the evacuees to go back to their own homes says a Salt Lake City report, adding the Director's statement in a press conference there that "a lot will depend upon what happens in the Jerome closing." Explains that WRA "has no apologies" for the 20,000 evacuees already relocated, who, he declares, in recognition of their mutual interests have avoided establishing "Little Tokyos." Stating that Utah now has from 6000 to 6500 relocated evacuees, he remarks that even before the agitation against their being granted business licenses was started, WRA had been encouraging the evacuees to move further eastward. The Director also mentions the draft situation at Topaz and Minidoka; in spite of occasional objectors, he says, most evacuees are taking the situation "calmly and willingly." Salt Lake City TRIBUNE, 3/23/44. Salt Lake TELEGRAM report on the same press conference emphasizes the Director's statement that Northern Utah will not be faced with a major "Japanese problem" after the war since many of the evacuees relocated in the Salt Lake and Ogden area are only temporary residents. Adds Mr. Myer's statement that the Japanese-Americans comprise only one-tenth of one per cent of the nation's population and that "they could easily be assimilated in normal times." 3/22/44. 1899-1900

"Most of the Japanese evacuees still look upon the Pacific Coast as their home, and most of them hope and expect to return there when the military situation becomes such that exclusion is no longer necessary," says Director Myer addressing a joint meeting of civic groups in Salt Lake City, adding that "when the time comes, there can be no question that the evacuated people should have the right to go back to their former homes if they choose to do so." He points out that WRA's "big problem" is to make possible relocation of the evacuees in family groups. Over 2000 evacuees have now been relocated in Utah, he says, adding "There has been some discrimination, particularly in



opposition to their entering business or farming on their own...That smacks of a desire for slave labor." Salt Lake TRIBUNE, 3/24/44. Salt Lake DESERET NEWS report emphasizes some of the responses given by the Director in a question period, including the statement that drafted evacuees will be credited to their home states, and that the majority of relocated evacuees are in the Middle West and are doing a "good job." Quotes that portion of the speech which describes the character of the Tule Lake population. 3/23/44. An AP story stresses Director Myer's assertion that when the military situation permits, "there can be no question" that evacuees "should have the right to return to their former homes if they choose to do so." Quotes the Director's statement that opposition to their return has been led by groups on the West Coast who have been fostering a "plague of intolerance" which has spread to other areas. The Director, however, finds it "hard to believe that the American people will tolerate for very long the fostering of hatred for fellow Americans and the destruction of American ideals when their sons are giving their lives to protect those ideals." "There is no logical reason," the Director adds, why the evacuees "cannot be absorbed into our national life in such a way that their abilities may be used and that the people become inconspicuous individuals rather than members of a problem group." AP, Twin Falls TIMES NEWS, Klamath Falls, Oregon HERALD & NEWS, 3/23/44, S. F. CHRONICLE, S. F. EXAMINER, 3/24/44. A CALL BULLETIN story on the speech and a column of quotations from public figures in the magazine supplement of the S. F. CHRONICLE quote Director Myer's statement, "Japanese-Americans should have the right to go back to their former homes if they choose to do so" without the qualifying "When the military situation permits..." AP, S. F. CALL BULLETIN, 3/23/44, S. F. CHRONICLE, 3/26/44. 1901-1908

#### MILITARY SERVICE

Pfc. Jerry W. Katayama, now stationed at Camp Savage, Minn., is named by the Japanese-American Citizens' League to receive one of the Salt Lake junior chamber of commerce citizenship awards. Born in Ogden and a graduate of the University of Utah school of business, he served three years as executive secretary of the JAACL of Salt Lake City; volunteered for overseas duty in September 1943. Salt Lake TRIBUNE, 2/16/44. 1909

Miss Tomi Kobata, Milwaukee resident, receives word of the death of her cousin Pfc. Yutaka Fujii who was killed in action while serving with the U. S. Fifth Army in Italy. Born in Hawaii, Pvt. Fujii was given his military training at Camp McCoy, Wis. Milwaukee JOURNAL, 3/15/44. 1910

Poston reports officer announces that 228 Japanese-Americans will be given preinduction physical examinations at the center hospital March 19, and that in addition, 112 former Poston evacuees who are now relocated in the East and Middle West have been notified to report to their local draft boards. Announcement also notes that the Poston service flag now holds 560 stars. AP, Tucson, Ariz. STAR, Bisbee, Ariz. REVIEW, 3/19/44. Later UP report states that the examination of the 228 evacuees was done by a medical team sent to the camp from the Phoenix Induction Center. UP, Phoenix, Ariz. GAZETTE, 3/20/44. 1911-1913

Forty Amache residents of draft age take two-hour Army-Navy qualifying test at the center. Lamar, Colo. NEWS, 3/20/44. 1914

Moris Burge, acting project director at the Poston center, reports that nine of a group of 230 eligible evacuees failed to report for their preinduction physical examinations and that their cases have been turned over to

federal authorities for prosecution. AP, Phoenix, Ariz. REPUBLIC, 3/21/44.  
1915

"Banzai! He Makes It. Japanese-American Accepted by Army on Fourth Try" (headline). Stone Ishimaru, Poston evacuee who was rejected three times for being underweight, finally "talks the doctors" into accepting him. According to the story he said he was willing to "fight any place." Kansas City, Mo. STAR, 3/19/44. 1916

KODAKERY, a newspaper for the employees of the Eastman Kodak Company, carries a picture of Yoshinao Omiya, nisei soldier who was blinded by a German land mine while fighting with the Fifth Army at the Volturno River in Italy. A full page picture of Omiya was recently featured in Life magazine. (see Review, 3/9/44). 3/21/44. 1917

Heart Mountain SENTINEL editorial discloses that an organization at the center known as the "Fair Play Committee" has been distributing mimeographed forms calling on young men to resist induction into the armed forces. The editorial asserts that the committee was operating a sort of underground movement, "even threatening bodily harm to those who oppose them." UP, Yreka Calif. SISKIYOU DAILY NEWS, 3/22/44, Salt Lake TRIBUNE, 3/23/44. 1918-1919

Warrants are issued for 12 Heart Mountain evacuees charged with failure to report for pre-induction examinations. S. F. EXAMINER, 3/23/44, AP, Cheyenne, Wyo. TRIBUNE, 3/22/44, Salt Lake TRIBUNE, Washington, D. C. POST, 3/23/44. Later story by an INS reporter states that according to Acting Project Director Douglas Todd, the twelve evacuees who were jailed on draft evasion charges belonged to a Fair Play Committee in the camp. The committee was characterized by Mr. Todd as "a subversive group that is trying to stir up as much trouble as possible in the center." He adds that it has made "all sorts of wild claims" including "ridiculous charges" against the Project Director. S. F. EXAMINER, 3/28/44. An AP release comments that eleven Heart Mountain Japanese-Americans pleaded innocent before a U. S. commission to charges of failure to report for draft examinations, and adds that they waived preliminary hearings and were bound over for U. S. district court action on bonds of \$2,000 each. Report makes no mention of the "Fair Play Committee" and fails to indicate whether these are a portion of the group of 12 discussed above. AP, Cheyenne, Wyo. TRIBUNE, 3/27/44. 1921-1925

S. F. EXAMINER story reports that the first three casualties of the nisei 100th Infantry Battalion returning to this country have been received at the Menlo Army Hospital near San Francisco. The men were wounded in the fighting at Cassino. (Ed. note: The report apparently ignores the earlier return of Yoshinao Omiya, wounded at the Volturno River and now in the Stark General Hospital, Charleston, S. C., and Capt. Taro Suzuki who was also at the Stark General Hospital for some time.) 3/23/44. 1926

Numerous scattered papers report the arrest of 28 Japanese-Americans at Fort McClellan, Alabama who refused to take military training "under the American flag." Brig. Gen. Wallace C. Philoon, commanding general of the infantry replacement training center, announced that the men, who "have lived for several years in Japan and have become indoctrinated with the military philosophy of that country," have been placed in the camp stockade to await court martial. Washington, D. C. NEWS, 3/22/44, S. F. CHRONICLE, S. F. EXAMINER, 3/23/44. AP, Seattle TIMES, S. F. CALL BULLETIN, Denver POST, Washington, D. C. STAR, 3/22/44, Washington, D. C. POST, N. Y. TIMES, N. Y.

HERALD TRIBUNE, N. Y. JOURNAL AMERICAN, Baltimore SUN, Twin Falls, Idaho  
TIMES NEWS, Seattle POST INTELLIGENCER, 3/23/44, UP, S. F. NEWS, N. Y. JOUR-  
NAL AMERICAN, 3/22/44, Washington, D. C. TIMES HERALD, Denver ROCKY MOUNTAIN  
NEWS, Portland OREGONIAN, 3/23/44. 1928-1945

"Army to Step Up Draft of Japanese—Record of Volunteers Leads to Praise  
and Decision to Induct More" (headline). N. Y. TIMES story points out that  
the excellent record of Japanese-Americans in the Army has been hailed with  
pride by Secretary Stimson, Lt. Gen. Mark Clark and other officials; says that  
although the number of Japanese-Americans drafted into the Army has thus far  
been small, War Department and Selective Service spokesmen have said that their  
induction is gradually getting under way. In speaking of the WRA program the  
report notes that the rate of relocation is now between 300 and 400 a week.  
N. Y. TIMES, 3/23/44. 1946

Federal grand jury indicts George S. Fujii, Poston nisei, on charges of  
violating the Wartime Sediton Act. Fujii is charged with circulating anti-  
induction propaganda to draft-age residents of the center. Washington, D. C.  
STAR, Phoenix, Ariz. REPUBLIC, 3/24/44. 1947-1948

In answer to the protests of center evacuees against the creation of  
all-nisei battalions, Lt. Col. Harrison A. Gerhardt, at the direction of Sec-  
retary of War Stimson, declares that the policy is based on military needs and  
that the War Department is not discriminating against Japanese-Americans. Col.  
Gearhardt points out that it has not been deemed advisable to use nisei units  
in the Pacific war zone because of the danger of enemy infiltration in uni-  
forms taken from dead American soldiers, and that the screening of each unit  
sent to the Pacific theater, which would be necessary if nisei were scattered  
throughout the army, would delay operations. He urges Japanese-Americans to  
accept their assignments in the spirit of fulfilling an obligation to their  
country, pointing out that "largely upon their manner of performance will be  
judged the loyalty and sincerity of all American citizens of Japanese descent."  
Denver POST, 3/24/44. AP release notes a report of Col. Gerhardt's statements  
in the Heart Mountain SENTINEL (project paper). AP, Cheyenne, Wyo. TRIBUNE,  
3/28/44. 1949-1950

The 517th parachute combat team at Camp Mackall claims to have in its  
ranks the only Japanese-American paratrooper in the U. S. Army. He is Junie  
Kawamura, a former Seattle, Wash. resident, and has expressed his desire to  
get to Tokyo to help avenge Pearl Harbor. Raleigh, N. C. NEWS & OBSERVER,  
3/25/44. (Ed. note: Claim is erroneous according to a Cincinnati POST story  
reported in the Review of March 22, 1944, which carries a picture of four mem-  
bers of a Japanese-American contingent recently graduated from a U. S. para-  
troop school.) 1951

Idaho paper lists names and classifications of 151 persons recently  
reclassified by the Jerome selective service board. Eighty names are those of  
Japanese-Americans. Twin Falls, Idaho TIMES NEWS, 3/26/44. 1952

Army induction is proceeding "without incident" among the 1,000 unmarried  
Japanese-Americans at the Rivers center according to a N. Y. TIMES report which  
notes that although rejections on physical grounds have been high among the  
150 so far examined, "none have been turned down for illiteracy or because they  
suffered from a venereal infection." The smoothness of proceedings at Rivers is  
pointed out to be in "sharp contrast" with induction proceedings at the Poston

center where nine evacuees refused to report for examination and George S. Fujii was arrested for sedition. N. Y. TIMES, 3/27/44. S. F. NEWS story also states that nine Japanese-Americans face prison terms for failure to report for induction because they did not consider themselves American citizens. Story does not name any center, but has a Phoenix dateline and is evidently referring to Poston. 3/28/44. Later AP release states that the nine Poston evacuees were sentenced to three-year prison terms each, after admitting in Federal Court that they failed to report for preinduction physical examinations. AP, Washington, D. C. STAR, Washington, D. C. POST, Spokane SPOKESMAN REVIEW, 3/28/44. 1953-1957

In Honolulu the Japanese-American families of 58 nisei soldiers who died in action in Italy receive Purple Heart medals. Colonel Kendall J. Fielder, who presented the medals, said to each member of his audience, "Your boy was an American." In a speech of response the young widow of one of the soldiers answered that they were happy to know that "they have helped to prove Americanism is not and never was a matter of race." AP, N. Y. TIMES, 3/29/44. S. F. CHRONICLE carries a picture of the group receiving the medals. 3/28/44. 1958-1959

#### EMPLOYMENT

Ottis Peterson, WRA relocation supervisor in Salt Lake City, informs Utah agriculture agencies that evacuee farm labor will not be available under "share crop of lease farm work deals." He states that Japanese-American farm labor groups can only be obtained under the sponsorship of the War Food Administration and are subject to the same stipulations governing other migratory workers. Salt Lake City DESERET NEWS, 3/18/44, Salt Lake TRIBUNE, 3/20/44. 1960-1961

North Bannock County (Idaho) Farm Labor Recruiting Association lays plans to facilitate the sign-up of Mexican and relocated Japanese farm labor. Report states that 250 Japanese were employed by Tyhee farmers in 1943 and adds that according to WRA representative John Robinson of Idaho Falls "only 50 per cent as many relocated Japanese" will be available this year. Salt Lake TRIBUNE, 3/19/44. 1962

County agent's office receives requests for more than 1000 imported farm laborers including a total of 187 Japanese from Canyon County (Idaho) communities and individuals. Boise, Idaho STATESMAN, 3/23/44. 1963

Malheur County (Oregon) forms a farm labor sponsoring committee to obtain between 1200 and 1400 laborers needed. Report notes that they are again planning to use Japanese evacuees and Mexicans. Portland OREGONIAN, 3/23/44. 1964

Officials lay plans for a 1944 farm labor program in Klamath County, Oregon. J. R. Beck, state supervisor of the Oregon emergency farm labor program, states that fewer Japanese will be used in the eastern part of the state and adds that orders for Mexicans greatly exceed the number available. Klamath Falls, HERALD & NEWS, 3/21/44. 1965

#### RELOCATED EVACUEES

Four Japanese-American garage mechanics, relocated in Baltimore, Md., are helping to alleviate the shortage of skilled mechanics. Two of the men are single; one has a wife and son in the city, and the other is planning to

bring his wife and child East. "They do fine work," says the shop foreman, while the garage owner adds, "I hope they are as pleased to be here as I am to have them. They are good workers." One of the evacuees declares, "We were treated splendidly in camp...But camp life gets boring. You feel like you want to get out of the cramped quarters and work for a living just like other people." Story carries picture of three of the evacuees. Baltimore SUN, 3/22/44. 1966 19

#### ADMINISTRATION

Angus Acree, formerly with the Washington WRA office, is appointed reports officer at Minidoka to succeed John Bigelow, who is soon to be inducted into the Navy. AP, Salt Lake City TRIBUNE, 3/23/44. 1967 15

#### AGRICULTURE

Report on agricultural production at the WRA centers states that evacuee farmers at the 10 projects are now producing nearly all the vegetables needed by center residents. In 1943 the 10 centers produced 41,000,000 pounds of vegetables and one million pounds of dressed pork; four of the centers raised almost half of the beef needed to supply their residents. S. F. CHRONICLE, 3/28/44. Report of the release in the N. Y. PM briefly states that according to WRA Director Myer, evacuees at the 10 WRA centers have converted 10,000 acres of idle land into gardens which are providing nearly all the vegetables needed by the 80,000 residents of the centers. 3/29/44. 1968-1969

#### LEGAL

In accordance with a decision reached in discussions between Modoc County (Calif.) District Attorney Charles Lederer and representatives of the U. S. Attorney General, the fines levied against Tule Lake evacuees in a number of recent cases (see Review, 3/22/44, 1817) have been credited to Modoc County while expenses of the trials are borne by WRA. Alturas, Calif. MODOC COUNTY RECORD (undated). Another report indicates that District Attorney Lederer has "made demands upon the WRA authorities" that they bear all costs of cases involving Tule Lake evacuees and construct a jail at the center, with promises concerning the jail so far not fulfilled by WRA authorities." (Ed. note: The extent of WRA's contribution to the financial costs of cases involving Tule Lake evacuees handled by the county is still under discussion.) Alturas, Calif. PLAIN DEALER (undated). 1970-1971

Asaiche Walter Imai, Tule Lake segregee (see Review, 3/15/44, 1686) is sentenced to one year in the county jail on five counts of theft of food from the center. Sacramento, Calif. UNION, 3/17/44. 1972

Sacramento BEE story on Imai's conviction adds an additional report on the three Tule Lake evacuees indicted for operating radio transmitters (see Review, 3/22/44, 1828). Assistant U. S. Attorney Seawell says that one of the sets was homemade and the other smuggled into the camp; the three evacuees will be removed to the Sacramento County jail to await arraignment in the federal district court. 3/16/44. 1973

Clarence W. Okuda, a nisei, files a suit against the town of Layton, Utah, individual members of the town board, and other officers, charging that the town officials have refused him a business license "solely for the reason that he is of Japanese descent." Okuda seeks a temporary restraining order to save himself from threatened arrest and his business from being closed.

Salt Lake City DESERET NEWS, 3/18/44. The case is temporarily settled out of court when, before the scheduled hearing, attorneys for the Layton officials agree that an order be issued by the court restraining the officials from closing Mr. Okuda's business "pending further action." Salt Lake City TELEGRAM, 3/18/44, AP, Boise, Idaho STATESMAN, 3/20/44. 1974-1976

A "financial plot" in which the officers of the Japanese NYK steamship line tried to protect their funds in case of trouble between Japan and the U. S. by effecting telegraphic transfers of the funds to Japanese banks while they in effect remained in this country, is outlined in a recent suit. The suit was filed by the trustee of the bankrupt NYK line against the Yokohama Specie Bank and State Superintendent Corlett as conservator of the bank's funds and seeks return of \$420,000 allegedly transferred to the bank. S. F. CALL BULLETIN, 3/20/44. 1977

Twenty-eight year old nisei, relocated in Detroit last April from the Topaz center, is robbed and slugged by two armed men at the garage where he is an attendant. Detroit NEWS, 3/20/44. 1978

Japanese-American, houseman at a Chicago hotel, is charged with drunk and disorderly conduct and held for investigation by WRA. Chicago HERALD & AMERICAN, 3/20/44. 1979

The three Japanese-Americans who recently won a suit in Pasadena Superior Court against the Southern California Broadcasting Co. (see Review, 3/22/44, 1819) return to Gila River. Superior Judge Frank C. Collier who decided the case in their favor has declined to fix the amount of damages due until after a personal survey of the property. L. A. TIMES, 3/21/44. 1980

The U. S. Supreme Court has granted a petition for review of the constitutionality of the 1942 Army evacuation order for Japanese-Americans. The petition was granted on appeal of Fred Toyosaburo Korematsu, now in the Topaz center, who claims that the order deprived Japanese-Americans of their "rights of national citizenship, liberty and property." S. F. NEWS, 3/27/44, S. F. EXAMINER, AP, N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE, 3/28/44. 1981-1983

#### COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Work is begun at Amache on the first 10,000 silk screen prints of the 95,000 U. S. Navy posters already approved. Also in the process of production are covers for 2500 Amache pamphlets being published by the Reports office. Lamar, Colo. NEWS, 3/17/44. 1984

A regional one-day YWCA conference, with delegates from Denver, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, and Rocky Ford, is to be held at Amache April 1. Lamar, Colo. NEWS, 3/20/44. 1985

#### EDUCATION

Dr. Lloyd Garrison, superintendent of education at Amache, leaves to attend a conference of education directors in Washington, D. C. Lamar, Colo. NEWS, 3/20/44. 1986

#### EVACUEE PROPERTY

A farm owned by a Japanese-American near the Clearfield, Utah naval

supply depot "which has been of much discussion for the past 60 days in Davis county" is sold by its owner to a Caucasian resident of Syracuse, Utah, announces the Davis County Citizens Protective Association. Ogden, Utah STANDARD EXAMINER, 3/19/44. 1987

MISCELLANEOUS

Article giving the "P's and Q's of alphabet agencies" comments that "Harold Ickes, explosive Secretary of Interior...was further saddled with the dynamite-laden WRA..." Adds that the care of 90,000 Japanese and Japanese-Americans in relocation camps "promises to be almost as much of a headache for two-fisted Harold as his projected Arabian pipeline." N. Y. DAILY MIRROR, 3/20/44. 1988

The story of Japanese atrocities against American prisoners of war in the Philippine Islands as told by Commander Melvyn McCoy, USN, and Lieutenant Colonel S. M. Mellnik, USA, is written by Lieutenant Welbourn Kelley, USNR and published in book form under the title "Ten Escape From Tojo." Review of the book says that those who feel the home front should be told the full truth about the war will find here the reporting they have demanded—"an unmincingly worded, eyewitness account of Japanese atrocities..." N. Y. HERALD TRIBUNE, 3/26/44. 1989

University of Utah basketball team with nisei regular wins the National Collegiate A. A. championship against a favored Dartmouth team. AP, Cheyenne, Wyo. TRIBUNE, 3/28,29/44, N. Y. JOURNAL AMERICAN, AP, Spokane SPOKESMAN REVIEW, 3/29/44. 1990-1993

MAGAZINES

The Window of YWA (Published by Women's Missionary Union, Auxiliary to the Southern Baptist Convention): September 1943: "Thoughts Become Visible" By Sam Ichiba and Keyoze Toyofuku.

Two evacuee high school youths present their autobiographies telling of their early years in California where they grew up feeling "just like any typical American country boys." Explain how they expressed their feelings about America in a large mural they were assigned to paint for a YWA camp and their pleasure at learning it was to be used as the cover for this issue of the YWA magazine.

The Window of YWA: November 1943: "Foreign Missions, at Home," By Harold W. Tribble.

Seminary professor spends a week at an evacuee center in Arkansas and is shocked to find American citizens behind barbed wire, guarded by American soldiers. Tells some of the problems of evacuee life, in particular the difficulty of providing Christian home life, and urges all Christians to "build a bridge of fellowship" with the evacuees by corresponding with them and working to create a favorable public attitude toward them.

The California Legionnaire: February 15, 1944: "We Invited Disaster" By William P. Haughton (California Legion Commander)

State Legion Commander Haughton quotes Admiral Halsey's statement that "the only good Jap is one that has been dead six months," and finds it "unfortunate" that the Tule Lake evacuees cannot be sent back to Japan to be on

the receiving end of the bombs and bullets which will be dropped on Tokyo by U. S. forces. Declares that "Japan does not care whether its loyal followers at Tule Lake live or die, except insofar as they can serve Japan," and that trouble at the center would be welcome to Japan; such trouble, he believes, is "not improbable" with WRA in control. Adds that the Legion advocates deportation after the war of "every person of Japanese ancestry found to have been disloyal to this country." Finally concludes by mentioning the "numerous persons of Japanese ancestry" serving in the armed forces "valiantly and well," and declaring that "every person good enough to fight for us is entitled to our respect and equal protection under the Constitution."

Monthly Labor Review: March 1944: "Developments in the Cooperative Movement in 1943."

Report states that there was a decided expansion in local cooperative distributive and service associations during 1943. Points out that a total of 109 cooperatives were in operation in the 10 WRA centers, including food and general stores, shops providing dry goods, shoes, and shoe repair, beauty parlors, barber shops, laundry and dry-cleaning establishments, optical service and motion picture theaters. Notes that the articles of incorporation for one of the associations at the Rivers center was cancelled by the Arizona Corporation Commission on the ground that although it had been incorporated under the nonprofit law, its articles of incorporation provided for return of patronage refunds to the membership.

The Churchman: March 15, 1944: "With Uncle Sam"

Series of short news items includes the quotation of a statement by WRA Director Myer on the expressions of shock and indignation made by the people of Japanese descent in the relocation centers after the revelation of the Japanese atrocities. Mr. Myer's statement also called attention to the approximately 10,000 nisei in the United States Army.

PREVIOUSLY REVIEWED REPORTS

- "League of Nations" tract released by WRA  
Sacramento BEE, 3/18/44. 674a
- Alien property custodian reports on kind and amount of property held  
S. F. NEWS, 3/27/44 1356a
- Japanese-American mother accused of killing child  
Ogden, Utah STANDARD EXAMINER, 3/8/44 1534b
- Ickes gives statistics on relocation  
Jerome, Idaho NORTH SIDE NEWS, 3/23/44 1636c
- Miss Alice Kaneko joins the WAC  
Pueblo, Colo. STAR JOURNAL, 3/10/44 1648b
- Pin-up pineapples replace girls for Japanese-American troops  
UP, Ogden, Utah STANDARD EXAMINER, 3/9/44 1658a
- Hunt evacuees to be examined by travelling board  
AP, Salt Lake City TRIBUNE, 3/18/44 1663b



Ten Ogden Japanese-Americans fined in gambling trial  
Salt Lake City TELEGRAM, 3/9/44 1683e

WRA speakers campaign for return of evacuees to Coast—Richards story  
S. F. CALL BULLETIN, 3/21/44  
Seattle POST INTELLIGENCER, 3/21/44  
N. Y. JOURNAL AMERICAN, 3/21/44 1713a-1713c

Editorial "A National Problem"  
N. Y. JOURNAL AMERICAN, 3/24/44 1740a

Heart Mt. SENTINEL editorial decries WRA policy, attacks "some issei"  
INS, Salt Lake City DESERET NEWS, 3/13/44 1765a

Guard or kill all Japs says McCoy  
AP, Salt Lake City TRIBUNE, 3/19/44 1782a

Japanese are fighting a race war says McCoy  
UP, Yreka, Calif. SISKIYOU DAILY NEWS, 3/20/44 1787a

Three evacuees win suit against broadcasting company  
Hollywood, Calif. CITIZEN NEWS, 3/18/44  
Pasadena, Calif. POST, 3/18/44  
AP, Douglas, Ariz. DISPATCH, 3/19/44 1819a-1819c

Tule Lake radio sets said to be harmless  
AP, Boise STATESMAN, 3/20/44  
AP, Phoenix, Ariz. REPUBLIC, 3/17/44  
AP, Douglas, Ariz. DISPATCH, 3/17/44  
AP, Tucson, Ariz. STAR, 3/17/44 1824a-1824d

UP story on Tule radios  
UP, Yuma, Ariz. SUN & SENTINEL, 3/16/44  
UP, Phoenix, Ariz. GAZETTE, 3/16/44 1825a-1825b