

## INFORMATION DIGEST

No. 31.

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MILITARY POLICE LEAVE MANZANAR --

Of the two extra companies of Military Police which were sent to Manzanar on December 7, only one was still on the project on January 7, with the prospect of its being withdrawn within a few days.

Company D of the 751st Military Police was withdrawn on December 23, but Company A of the 753rd Military Police remained as an internal guard stationed at the administration building, warehouses, light switch, water supply, and for internal patrol. On January 2 they were withdrawn from all internal guarding except the light switch. Ten Caucasian police are now patrolling strategic points.

The fifteen evacuees who were being held in the jails at Lone Pine and Independence have been sent to the camp at Moab, where they will be housed until further disposition is made of their cases.

OFFICIALS MEET WITH WPB --

On Friday, January 8, Director Myer and Messrs. Glick, Utz, Provinse, Seltzer, Powers, and Gilbert met with the Facilities Review Committee of the War Production Board to rejustify construction on the projects which had already been approved by WPB and to obtain approval on the future overall construction program.

The problems of schools and administrative quarters were covered for all of the centers and the agriculture and subjugation programs for Central Utah and Colorado River. The meeting will be continued next Tuesday afternoon to discuss the remainder of the program.

Project directors have been requested to send in reports on the present utilization of housing and other construction and on a number of questions relating to the present occupancy of buildings constructed for housing, recreation, warehouses, etc. This information is necessary in order to answer WPB's query as to why barracks cannot continue to be kept for schools and other uses.

CONFERENCE ON RELOCATION PROGRAM --

Last Monday January 4, Director Myer met in New York with representatives of the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy, the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born, and the Maritime Union to discuss plans for a meeting of these groups in New York on February 15. The



purpose of the conference is to present the problems of American Japanese to larger groups and to give them a clearer understanding of the relocation program.

#### FRYER RETURNS --

E. R. Fryer, Deputy Director, returned from the Coast today. Leaving Washington shortly before Christmas, Mr. Fryer went directly to San Francisco. From there he visited Tule Lake to assist in the formal installation of Harvey Coberley as project Director; Manzanar, to Salt Lake City and Moah, Utah, where he consulted with Ray Best, Director of the camp there.

#### PAPER REPORTS UNREST AT JEROME --

The Memphis Commercial Appeal reported on January 3 that evacuees at Jerome had "turned the camp into a nest of sabotage and unrest." According to a United Press release appearing in the New York Times of January 4, "careless and deliberate waste of food, slowdown strikes, refusal to work and threats against government workers constructing buildings at the center were reported by the newspaper in an expose of conditions described as 'a nightmare of confusion.'" The UP story was also picked up by the Milwaukee Journal and a number of other papers across the country. A subsequent report issued by the Office of War Information in Little Rock, prepared in collaboration with WRA, points out the gross exaggerations contained in the syndicated story.

#### PROGRESS ON INDEFINITE LEAVE PROGRAM --

Thirty-eight hundred applications for indefinite leave, both for particular jobs and for general job clearance, have been received, including 350 leaves granted to students and 442 to other individuals. The total now out on indefinite leave is approximately 900, since perhaps 100 to 150 dependents accompanied the 442 persons who have left the projects. The number includes about 20 out of 100 students at the Boulder, Colorado, language school, the remainder having been granted short term leaves until indefinite leaves could be cleared. It also includes ten civilian instructors at the Savage, Minnesota, and Ann Arbor, Michigan, language schools, but does not include 200 enlisted men at Savage. Nor does it include about two thousand workers who are staying on from the fall farm work in winter jobs on group work leaves.

#### CONFERENCE ON PROPERTY --

Russell Robinson, Chief of the Evacuee Property Division, J. H. Fitzhenry, Transportation Officer, Victor Furth of the Property Division, and Edgar Bernhard, attorney for the division, will arrive soon to discuss problems relating to evacuee property. They are expected to arrive with the draft of the policies and procedures to be followed by WRA in assisting in the protection and management of evacuee property on the West Coast.



CHICAGO CONFERENCE ON EMPLOYMENT --

A conference on employment is to begin in Chicago on January 14. Mr. Myer will be there, as well as Mr. Holland, Mr. Sabin, and Mr. Frase of the Employment Division and Frank Cross of the Reports Division. They will meet with the field staff for two days. On the 16th and 17th, meetings will be held with various individuals and organizations to discuss employment opportunities in the Middle West.

SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION REPORTS IN --

In order to supply WPB with information on the current status of school construction at the projects, all centers were asked to send in reports of progress. Granada reported construction 10% completed, 30% of the materials delivered, and all remaining materials on order. No start has been made at Central Utah, although paint and roofing materials have been received. Jerome has completed all plans, materials have been requisitioned, but construction has not started. Clearing of the site has been 6% completed at Minidoka and the foundation excavation will be begun on January 10. Some materials are on hand. Schools at Tule Lake are about 5% complete with 30% of the materials delivered. One-third of the materials are on hand at Colorado River and the foundations are in place for several buildings. At Rohwer, the site has been cleared, construction started, and 85% of the lumber on hand. PD-200's have been completed for the Gila River schools and requisitions prepared. Manzanar has not begun construction, but all materials are on order.

All construction will be done with evacuee labor except at Granada and Heart Mountain.

LEAVE APPLICATIONS INVENTORIED --

At the present time the Employment Division is inventorying all leave applications which are in the Washington office. When this has been done, it will be possible to show statistically at what point in the clearance process cases are being held up - whether by the FBI, the Eastern Defense Command, the Southern Defense Command, for community sentiment reports, or because of incomplete applications. The inventory has turned up completed cases for indefinite leave and advance leave clearance. These cases are now being processed.

When the inventory has been finished, the Employment Division will take all applications which are pending because they are incomplete and advise the projects again on what data are needed in each case.

As cases are inventoried and are located for which leave clearance can be granted but for whom jobs are not available, the placement unit will inventory them by occupation. This occupational inventory will be sent to the field offices, cooperating committees, and the U. S. Employment Service to be used in placement work.

Field representatives are now surveying various parts of the west for employment opportunities. Harold Choate is temporarily working out of Minneapolis. Theordore Waller has been in Omaha and reports that possibly



190 persons could be employed there. Lincoln, Nebraska, despite a large number of students there, might take an additional 25 evacuees. The farm country in western Nebraska looks very good. Pullman, Washington, where students have been accepted at the State College, does not look favorable, nor does Spokane. However, Mr. Waller believes that in a few months the employment outlook in Spokane will improve, with possible employment opportunities for about 100. Mr. Waller is now in Kansas City and will stop in Topeka before reporting to Washington.

#### STUDENT RELOCATION HEAD HERE --

Robert W. O'Brien, national director of the National Student Relocation Council, was here on Thursday of this week to confer with John Provinse and Edward Marks on the student relocation program. Mr. O'Brien reported on his recent tour of the projects and visit to the West Coast office of the Council. He plans to attend the conference on employment in Chicago.

Thomas R. Bodine, formerly associate director of the West Coast Committee of the Council, has been appointed director following the resignation of Howard K. Beale, who has returned to the east.

#### ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED --

The following administrative instructions have been issued since December 21:

No. 22, Revised, Supplement 1, Revised. Issuance of Leave for Departure from a Relocation Area. December 22.

No. 26, Supplement 2. Consumer Enterprises in Relocation Centers. December 22.

No. 41, Supplement 5. Victory Tax Deductions. December 22.

No. 62, Operations of the Motor Pool and Motor Repair Sections. December 26.

No. 65, Supplement 1. Deletion of Wording on Form. January 1.

No. 71, Status of Agent Cashiers. December 22.

No. 72, Revocation of Certifying Officer's Authority. December 22.

No. 73, Community Management. December 26.

No. 74, Photographic Documentation of the WRA Program. January 2.

No. 75, Purchase of War Bonds by WRA Staff. January 2.

#### BUSINESS SERVICE OFFICE OPENS

The Business Service office for community enterprises will be opened in New York Monday, January 11, at 2202 Daily News Building. As reported



earlier, this office will upon request by the community enterprises at all projects secure goods that they find difficult to get. It will also give them information on opportunities for combined purchases and bargains. This office will be the headquarters for Charles Beltt and Otto Rossman, who will visit all community enterprises at regular intervals, check on business practices, cash and stock controls, and auditing.

Mr. Beltt is now at Jerome where he is installing cash and stock control systems for the existing stores and is establishing a variety store.

Mr. Rossman will remain in New York until January 17, when he will leave for Colorado River to audit the community enterprises' business and make recommendations concerning business practice.

At the most recent report Manzanar, Tule Lake, and Minidoka community enterprises had been incorporated, and several other projects have submitted their articles of incorporation.

#### MODEL-MAKING SHOP A POSSIBILITY --

Negotiations are now under way for the establishment of a shop for the construction of ship models at several projects. Mr. Scheidt and Mr. Strieffler will go to New York on Monday to discuss the project with WPA officials who have been doing similar work. Although the Industrial Division has the details for the requirements for setting up such an industry, there remain questions of equipment and personnel, and a determination of the costs involved.

#### FAMILY INTERNMENT CAMP PLANNED --

The Department of Justice will establish a family internment camp at Crystal City, Texas, to be operated strictly under the terms of the Geneva Convention. Persons in relocation centers, members of whose families are now interned, are being given the opportunity of being reunited in the family camp.

The camp will consist of two-family houses of frame construction with concrete floors. Three-burner oil stoves will provide facilities for home cooking. There will be accommodations for about 2000, but probably only half this number will be from relocation centers.

#### REPORTS DIVISION ENLARGED --

Reorganization of the Reports Division has resulted in an expansion of the staff. Under John Baker, Chief, Morrill Tozier will head the Information Section. In this section Frank Cross, formerly Reports Officer in the Denver office, will work closely with the Employment Division field offices and cooperating committees in handling public relations. Eleanor Vaughn and Catherine Scott will concentrate on staff information. John Embree has been transferred from head of the Documents section to the Community Management Division. The position of archivist has not yet been filled. Eleanor Moore is librarian, handling documents and photographs, while Ruth McKee, in the same section, will be historian.



Next week Mr. Tozier and Mr. Markley will leave for the Arkansas, Arizona, and California projects. Mr. Buttedahl will visit the four northern centers, leaving Washington about the end of January. During the latter half of the month, Tom Parker of the Photography Section will go to Heart Mountain and Granada, and Francis Stewart plans to cover Central Utah, Minidoka, and Manzanar.

The position of Reports Officer at Gila River has recently been filled with the appointment of Robert A. LeBarron, formerly a Washington correspondent and political analyst for a news syndicate in Washington. Russell Bankson is the new Reports Officer at Central Utah. Edwin Bates, formerly of the San Francisco staff, is now at Delta for consultation with Mr. Bankson. Mr. Bates is due in Washington on January 11.

#### BARROWS IN ARKANSAS --

Leland Barrows, Executive Officer, Hall Stenz, Procurement Officer, and Frank Harding, Chief Steward left on Thursday, January 7, for Little Rock and the two Arkansas projects. In Little Rock they will discuss the matter of procurement relations with the U. S. Engineers with Mr. Whittaker and Henry C. Baker. Mr. Barrows also plans to spend a day in Memphis where he will contact officers of the Quartermaster Depot. They expect to return to Washington by the end of next week.

#### STAUBER IN WEST --

Mr. Stauber, Relocation Planning Officer, left this week for San Francisco, where he will spend three or four days. He also plans to visit Tule Lake, Minidoka, Heart Mountain, and Central Utah to consult with administrative officers on statistical procedures and repatriation.

#### DRAFT MANUAL ON COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES --

The first draft of a manual on community activities has been prepared by the Community Management Division. The manual will deal with suggestions for recreational programs, what WRA provides, responsibilities of the evacuees, the role of community activities supervisor, the determining of evacuee needs, suggested ways of financing the program, cooperation with other departments on the project, and dealings with outside organizations.

#### AID TO RECRUITMENT --

In an effort to locate clerical and stenographic help, the Office of Emergency Management is asking employees in war agencies to nominate friends and relatives who might come to Washington to fill such positions. WRA will have first choice on nominations made by its own staff.



ADE SEEKS TEACHERS --

Dr. Ade, Education Consultant, left last Tuesday for Philadelphia, New Haven, and New York on a week's trip during which he will recruit teachers for the projects and collect educational materials for use in the schools.

Mrs. Adams, upon her return from Manzanar, has remained in the West to discuss further with California officials the status of the proposed school legislation affecting Manzanar and Tule Lake. She will then visit several projects in the Western region to arrange for training institutes to be held during the remaining half of the school year. Robert Gibson, formerly of the San Francisco staff, has been requested to spend a month in Manzanar and then perhaps make a short visit to Gila River before coming into Washington.

HEALTH STAFF EN ROUTE TO WASHINGTON --

Dr. Carlyle Thompson, Medical Officer, left San Francisco on January 6, and Miss Helen Shipps, Medical Social Worker, Miss Joy Stuart, Chief Nursing Consultant, and Lowe, Sanitary Engineer, left last Saturday. En route to Washington they will all visit projects, probably arriving here about January 15.

DECEMBER REPORTS FROM PROJECTS --

JEROME: Inclement weather prevented full-time, regular work....Hot beds and cold frames for plant production now being built....75 acres cleared, resulting in 3,000 cords of wood and poles....15,000 bd. cut in sawmill. Machinery now being installed to increase production to 100,000 bd. ft....Temporary council adopted rules and regulations for its operation. Organization commission to begin work first week in January to plan permanent form of government....School to open on January 4....Consumer Enterprises grossed \$30,128.61....1,704 out-patients treated during month, 633 dental patients....Weekly church attendance was 1785 Buddhists and 1487 Protestants....Editor of center newspaper will contribute weekly to the Arkansas Gazette a column of news of the project.

ROHWER: Tentative draft of city constitution approved by temporary council and is now being studied by an issei committee before presentation of final draft to project director and residents....60 acres of land cleared of timber,,,,,Leases executed on two tracts of crop land totaling 663 acres....Physical examinations have been completed for pupils in grades 7, 8, and 9....2999 out-patients treated compared with 3065 the previous month....64 student teachers and assistant teachers on school staff. In-service training courses have been established in general psychology, teaching techniques in secondary-schools, reading and language arts.

CENTRAL UTAH: Furniture factory operated by the Public Works Division produced tables, benches, and other items valued at \$1,125....400 acres cleared and 200 acres prepared for planting....194 head of cattle now



on hand.....Requests for adjustments in housing are rapidly decreasing  
.....Student-body government adopted.....Full programs in vocational  
department of schools begun, with exception of foods.....Federal Credit  
Union chapter applied for.

GRANADA: Supply of available labor for center farms becoming an increasing  
problem.....Feeder hogs on ration almost wholly garbage doing exceptionally  
well.....About 250 acres plowed during the month....From October 14 -  
November 28, Montgomery Ward paid Community Enterprises \$1,237.39, repre-  
senting a 10% commission on mail order sales.....Five new play centers  
providing for sedentary and athletic games opened.....Basketball games  
are being played between evacuee teams and Caucasian teams at Lamar and  
Granada. Games are well attended and good sportsmanship evidenced at  
all times.

MANZANAR: All industrial units were closed from December 6-18 except  
the Bean Sprout and Soy Bean projects.....961 applications for individual  
work leaves on hand.....Discontinuance of net factory and reorganization  
of other projects resulted in a surplus of workers.....All crops have  
been harvested; land being cleared and plowed for spring season; orchards  
being pruned.

GILA RIVER: Gross business of community enterprises \$11,200.47 compared  
with \$77,056.48 the previous month.....153 men and 30 women employed  
in net factory.....Value of crops harvested in 1942 estimated at  
\$310,682.61. Vegetables accounted for \$297,354.61, alfalfa hay, \$1,890.00,  
and pasture revenues, \$11,438.00.

HEART MOUNTAIN: Fire in mess hall on Dec. 12 resulted in \$2500 worth  
of damage.....October and November clothing allowances paid.....Shortage  
of supplies in Cody created by amounts absorbed by project had a bad  
effect of public opinion....Japanese language course for military in-  
telligence added to night school courses.....Cabinet shop, poster shop,  
sewing project, and apple cannery all producing for center consumption.

WEEKLY PROJECT REPORTS -- (Week ending January 2)

JEROME: Council provided that Judicial Commission should have 14 instead  
of 12 members, the additional two to be citizens.....Work on project  
practically at a standstill due to weather and holidays.....Most critical  
problem is fuel wood, but 15 cut-off saws are expected.....Transportation  
facilities remain insufficient.

GRANADA: 6822 evacuees on project, 857 on leave... Block volunteer  
firemen are being organized into teams and are receiving training....;  
Papers for Co-op incorporation are about ready to sign.....First checks  
for clothing grants have been received, all vouchers covering July-  
September having been forwarded for payment.....Criticism in Colorado  
papers on school construction program at center has subsided.



ROHWER: January 1 and 2 holidays for evacuees. Entire center had programs and festivities.....Not a single fire or arrest during this period .... 75 Boy Scouts held a Court of Honor on Dec. 29 and scout awards were presented to members of the troupes for outstanding achievements in the center.

CENTRAL UTAH: Representatives to the permanent council elected. Joint meeting of outgoing and incoming councils scheduled for Jan. 9.....Community Activities has activities planned centering on WRA relocation plans for 1943.

GILA RIVER: Resolution passed by Council recommending that prices sold by Community Enterprises be readjusted downward without jeopardizing the capital set-up.....New Year festivities orderly and quiet.

HEART MOUNTAIN: 48 clothing allowances paid.....Kindergarten expected to get under way in February.....24 carloads of coal received.....Inventory made of all equipment, material, and supplies on project.....Recommendations made and work begun to remove present fire hazards caused by badly equipped heat conveyors.

#### HIGHLIGHTS FROM PROJECT PAPERS --

Gila News Courier, Dec. 22, 24, and 27.

First stoves installed on Dec. 22 with regular carload deliveries scheduled...Wild bees to be captured in the spring for farm apiary.....September clothing issue for Canal begun.....Combined community councils voted to allow net worker a base pay of \$16 plus a bonus of \$10 for an average of 1,000 square feet per day per month, plus 48¢ per hundred square feet above the 1000, plus his share of the residual fund.....Shipment of farm produce to other centers will be curtailed because of federal order curbing shipment of vegetables with less food content, such as lettuce, spinach, melon, and broccoli.....Fuel oil distribution to have begun Dec. 28.....Bids for building materials for schools submitted to supply firms.....Club providing craft facilities and a Japanese library organized for men over 60.

Rohwer Outpost, Jan. 1.

Cash clothing allowances to begin in latter part of January.....Heavy rainfall and clogged drainage caused floods in greater part of six blocks. Christmas pageant postponed because of rain.....Extensive program of adult education courses listed.

Jerome Communique, Dec. 31

Council charter approved by project director.....Establishment of Fair Practices Committee delayed.....About 1200 expected to enroll in high school and 1000 in elementary schools.....Nursery school to open Jan. 6... ..School personnel listed.....Rules and regulations of temporary community council printed.



Minidoka Irrigator, Dec. 30

Plans for a single JACL chapter at the center progressing.....17,000  
Christmas gifts donated to the center.....School traffic patrol set  
up.....All divisions have received their November pay.....123 out of 171  
families with relatives in internment camps favor reunion of families  
in family camp.

Tulean Dispatch, Dec. 28, 29, and Jan. 1.

Japanese Parents' Club of American Soldiers have requested Lieut. Gen.  
DeWitt to permit nisei soldiers to visit center.....Co-op membership  
over 5000.....335 students were graduated from the Tulean Sewing School  
.....All Co-op books and records found in order by C.P.A.'s.....Inven-  
tory of all government property started... Galen Fisher, president of  
Pacific School of Religion to address residents on Jan. 1 and 2.....Ward  
leaders took a strong stand against criminal offenses.....Results of  
survey of all divisions, their status and accomplishments as of Dec. 1.  
occupy three full pages of Jan. 1 issue.

Manzanar Free Press, Dec. 25 and Jan. 1.

Reopening of Canteen and Department Store broke all sales records....Co-op  
to begin action on rebates at first of year.....Visual Education Depart-  
ment sponsors exhibit.....Distribution of July clothing allowances be-  
gun Dec. 30.....A sand and windstorm swept over the center on Christmas  
Day.....Reorganization of the Police Department is under way.....Operation  
of the camouflage net factory terminated...An extremely thoughtful  
editorial, "The Year of Decision," in the issue of Jan. 1.

Poston Chronicle, Dec. 25, 27, 29, 30, 31.

Student body of McKinley High School, Honolulu, sent \$500 to the three  
Poston high schools.....Charge for public address system to be made.....  
General hospital installs fire sprinkler system.....Two motor repair  
shops under construction.....Meeting to discuss a better transportation  
system requested.....Interesting editorial on future of evacuees in  
America in issue of Dec. 30.....Rest home for aged and chronic cases  
approved.....New Year Festival held in Unit II.

Topaz Times, Dec. 21-24.

City schools closed from Dec. 23-28.....Complete cast and staff of  
Christmas pageant named.....4000 gifts donated to children.....Story of  
search for evacuee lost on desert.....Investigation to be made by school  
faculty through home visits to determine why certain children from 6 to  
18 years old are not attending school.

Granada Pioneer, Dec. 24, 30, and Jan. 2.

Documentation staff of 13 writers is recording project life both in written  
records and samples of evacuee art and handicraft together with photographs,



motion pictures, and sketches.....Eight tons of scrap metal were collected on the X-Y Ranch by 35 project residents.....Mimeographed map of the Solomon Islands area in issue of Dec. 24.....City charter approved by WRA and will be submitted to residents for ratification soon. Text is printed.....First feature-length movie shown at project on Jan. 3.

Heart Mountain Sentinel, Jan. 1.

Cash register receipts to be used as a basis for computing patronage refunds to be issued by community enterprises stores beginning Jan 1..... Construction scheduled to begin early part of January on hog and cattle projects.....Survey of adult education needs begun.....Vigorous editorial on the evacuation and freedom.....General stories on various phases of project life.