

*Bigland*

## I N F O R M A T I O N D I G E S T

No. 40

March 20, 1943

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For the Use of the WRA Staff Only

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ARMY ANNOUNCES VOLUNTEERS --

The War Department has announced that 2500 volunteers for the nisei combat unit will be accepted from Hawaii. Approximately 1070 nisei volunteered from the relocation centers. This number does not include those who are already serving in the Army at the Fort Savage, Minnesota, military intelligence school. The War Department is expected to announce the exact figures next week.

REGISTRATION TO BE ANALYZED --

With registration completed at all projects with the exception of Tule Lake, where it is expected to be concluded on March 24, two analyses are under way. One is a complete statistical analysis and the other is on the evacuee reaction to registration. The latter project will be an attempt to document the variations found between the projects and to explain them. This is being done by the Community Analysis Section. Later, this study will be coordinated with the statistical analysis to provide a comprehensive picture on the registration.

LEUPP TO BE NEW CAMP --

Arrangements are being made to use a former boarding school for Navajo Indians as an isolation camp, instead of Moab. The school is located at Leupp, Arizona, about 37 miles from Winslow, on the Navajo Indian Reservation. Approval has been received from WPB for materials for repairs.

The residents at Moab will move to Leupp as soon as some essential repairs are completed. The Moab camp will be abandoned.

LEAVE APPLICATIONS POUR IN --

As a result of the general registration, about 10,000 applications for indefinite leave have been received in the Washington office. This makes a total of approximately 19,000 received to date. In order to keep pace with the increased momentum of the program, arrangements have been made with the FBI whereby they will be able to clear up to

10,000 cases a week instead of approximately 3,000 per week, which is the present schedule.

The Employment Division has estimated that leave applications will total about 60,000. Almost 15,000 cases have been sent to the FBI, leaving a possible balance of 45,000. If the anticipated schedule is maintained, the job of completing the clearances may be accomplished by May 15.

Of the cases sent to the FBI, 8,000 have been returned. To date, 3,015 indefinite leaves have been issued and 3,434 leave clearances - a total of 6,449 cases reported back to the projects.

With an enlarged staff and most of the organizational work in the division completed, prompt replies to wires and letters from the projects will now be possible.

Further speedup in releasing evacuees to the outside will come with a new policy of decentralizing indefinite leave work. Under this plan negotiations for jobs may be concluded between the project and field offices without referring each case to Washington. An administrative instruction on this has been signed and will be distributed shortly.

The procedures for group leaves, now to be known as "seasonal leave", are to be brought more into line with the indefinite leave policies. The administrative instruction has been issued.

REPATRIATION NEGOTIATIONS STILL PENDING ---

The Japanese government has as yet not replied to the most recent message sent by the United States government in an attempt to reach an agreement on the next exchange of nationals, except to indicate that the sailing date proposed by the United States was too early.

The following table shows the returns on the lists submitted by the Japanese government since the first of the year:

	<u>List 5.</u>		<u>List 6.</u>		
	<u>Total</u> <u>Number.</u>	<u>Number.</u>	<u>% of all</u> <u>replies.</u>	<u>Number.</u>	<u>% of all</u> <u>replies.</u>
Persons on Projects named on Japanese Government Lists.	2,687	711		1,976	
No reply and other- wise unaccounted for.	36	3		33	
Total Replies.	2,651	708		1,943	
Acceptances	254	96	13.6	158	8.1
Declinations	2,397	612	86.4	1,785	91.9
Add'l Family members requesting repatriation.	26			12	

The United States government still hopes that an exchange can be arranged, and that the Japanese government will be willing to take not only those on its lists who have signified their acceptance, but in addition, the other evacuees who have asked to be repatriated.

BUDGET SUBMITTED --

The 1944 budget for WRA was completed this week and submitted to the Bureau of the Budget for approval. Hearings on it will be held March 24 and 25.

FARM EQUIPMENT INVENTORIED --

An inventory of farm equipment still in the hands of evacuees shows a total of only about 150 tractors in the three coastal states. The evacuee property office in San Francisco is endeavoring to assist the evacuees in arranging for the sale or lease of these tractors and has recently negotiated the sale of 43 pieces of farm equipment.

The results of this inventory will be evidence that, contrary to the exaggerated stories which have been in circulation on the West Coast - particularly in California, large quantities of farm equipment owned by evacuees are not lying in storage. Most of the equipment owned at the time of the evacuation already has been disposed of and will be used in the 1943 farm production.

To aid the evacuees with their property problems, a property officer is now being employed on each project.

RELOCATION POLICY ENDORSED --

At a meeting on March 16, the executive committee of the Federal Council of Churches endorsed the resettlement policy of WRA. The Home Mission Council is expected to offer a similar resolution.

INTERNAL SECURITY OFFICER HERE --

Willard E. Schmidt, formerly internal security officer at Manzanar, is now here to assist in organizing the Internal Security Section at the national level. Mr. Schmidt is now working out procedures that will aid the functioning of internal security on the projects.

EDUCATION MEETING PLANNED --

A meeting of project school superintendents and members of the Washington staff will be held in Denver from April 5 to 10 to give the educational staffs at the centers some greater knowledge of the reloca-

tion program and to plan for the coming school year.

The president of Colorado State College of Education, the chancellor of the University of Denver, and the head of the education department of the University of Colorado will be the speakers on the first day of the conference. On the second day Mr. Myer will address the superintendents. Mrs. Lucy Adams, Acting Head of Community Services at Manzanar, Philip Glick, Solicitor, John Provinse, Chief of Community Services, Davis McIntire, Assistant Chief of the Employment Division, and John Embree, Community Analyst, expect to be present to discuss various phases of the program. The remainder of the conference will be devoted to curriculum planning, school costs, and procurement problems.

PD-200'S RECEIVED --

PD-200's -- the applications for project approval and/or priorities assistance, are coming in from the projects in gratifying numbers and are being transmitted immediately to the War Production Board. Forms for the most important construction projects are now in.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES SOUGHT --

The chief cooperative wholesales in the west are now being approached by Community Enterprises Section in an effort to find employment opportunities for evacuees in technical, clerical, and skilled positions.

DEPENDENCY ALLOTMENTS DISCUSSED --

The Public Welfare Section is studying the matter of allotments to be granted to soldiers' dependents. Wives and children are automatically eligible for such grants. Class B dependents, including parents and other relatives, are granted allotments on the basis of need. The question is whether Class B dependents residing at relocation centers are dependents.

Last August the War Department ruled that parents in centers were not dependents, but in February the ruling was reversed, so that now parents are not excluded. However, grants will depend on other dependency factors. A memorandum is being prepared giving instructions on this point and will soon be sent to project directors.

OEM TO DISCONTINUE RECRUITING --

The Personnel Division of the Office of Emergency Management will discontinue the placing of personnel for the subsidiary agencies.

Effective April 17, WRA will do all recruiting for the Authority directly through the Civil Service Commission. An increase in the Personnel Division staff is planned.

ROTOGRAVURE LAYOUT PLANNED ---

The Reports Division is cooperating with the Office of War Information in the planning of a picture story on relocation which will be released to the rotogravure sections of sixty-five newspapers in the country.

The program to publicize the relocation of evacuees is getting into action. Frank Cross of the Reports Division is working with field officers of the Employment Division in the Chicago, Denver, and Salt Lake City areas to find relocated families and employers of evacuees who will be willing to be interviewed and photographed for publicity purposes.

On March 19 Mr. Myer made a transcription at NBC of an interview on WRA. Records will be distributed to radio stations located near the relocation centers.

CRYSTAL CITY CAMP INSPECTED ---

Selene Gifford, accompanied by Evelyn Hersey, public welfare consultant of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, is visiting the Crystal City, Texas, family internment camp in order to report to the projects on the accommodations there.

RED CROSS QUOTA OVERSUBSCRIBED ---

By March 19 the Washington office staff had contributed \$819.10 to the Red Cross drive. This represents about 20% more than the quota of \$688. More contributions are expected with the return of a number of staff members from the field.

FEBRUARY AT THE PROJECTS:

CENTRAL UTAH: 115 acres of barley and 190 acres of sweet clover planted.....3,565 lbs. bean sprouts produced.....155 applications for indefinite leave filed.....Requests at community welfare office for aid decreasing due to the effectiveness of home calls.....Partitioning of rooms housing families of six or more was begun.....Community Enterprises received Certificate of Incorporation from District of Columbia and filed with the State of Utah. A permanent Congress elected..... Evaluation of high-school credits adapted to adjust more easily to California system.....Committee of five Utah state senators spent a day

at the center and afterwards reported favorably to the senate on the operation of the project.

GILA RIVER: 12,000 lbs. of beets, 236,725 lbs. of cabbage, 88,930 lbs. of carrots, and 43,260 lbs. of turnips were shipped to other centers... Incorporation of Community Enterprises completed and By-Laws adopted... Camouflage net factory production bettered predictions.....Community councils in both camps are awaiting approval of the constitutions..... Women's organizations got under way.

JEROME: 31 applications for indefinite leave filed.....New regulations for project employment procedures were approved by division heads and project director.....Community Council appointed three committees to recommend improvements in mess, keep informed of all school situations and developments, and look into the matter of center participation in national fund-raising campaigns.....75 acres were cleared completely, 60 acres partially, and 80 acres readied for plowing.....55,000 bd. ft. of rough lumber produced in sawmill.....Five members of appointed personnel were elected to membership in the Dermott Rotary Club.

GRANADA: 110 applications for indefinite leave filed.....Chick-brooding operations got under way.....New community council elected.....Community enterprises incorporated as Amache Consumers Cooperative.....17 students left for colleges.

MANZANAR: Only 50% of scheduled production of soy sauce accomplished due to delayed shipment of raw materials. Manufacture of bean sprouts and clothing reached 100% production.....186 applications for indefinite leave filed.....Work progressed on irrigation system, land preparation, and hot beds and seed beds for vegetables.....High school students meet three times a week for Fire College.....Retraining courses now held in adult carpentry, domestic science, chemistry of fertilizer, guayule, tailor drafting, and wood sculpture.

MINIDOKA: 168 applications for indefinite leave filed.....A study begun to collect factual information regarding man-power and man-day production to help anticipated labor shortages.....Marked decrease in cases of infectious diseases.....Hostel established for the care of old men not capable of caring for themselves, but not hospital patients. Four vocational classes opened in night school under auspices of State Vocational Education Department, which has supplied considerable amount of machinery and tools.....Approximately 85% of families have secured at least one membership in community enterprises.

ROHWER: Final draft of constitution prepared.....627 applications for indefinite leave filed.....30 acres cleared and about 175 acres plowed. Sufficient firewood cut for remainder of winter.....Cash clothing allowances paid for November.....Charter and by-laws of community enterprises sent to Washington for approval.

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED —

The following administrative instructions have been issued during the past month:

<u>No.</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date Signed</u>
22 (Revised)	Issuance of Leave for Departure from a Relocation Area.	3-20-43
22 Suppl. 5	Issuance of Leave for Departure from a Relocation Center.	2-22-43
22 Suppl. 6	Issuance of Leave for Departure from a Relocation Center.	2-26-43
22 (Rev. Sup. 7)	Issuance of Leave for Departure from a Relocation Area.	3-20-43
27 Suppl. 7	Employment and Compensation.	3-2-43
30	Cancellation	3-3-43
34 Suppl. I	Community Evacuee Government	3-3-43
36 (Revised)	Mess for Administrative Personnel on Relocation Centers.	2-25-43
42 Suppl. I	Project Procurement Procedures; Equip. & Supplies for Operation of Project Health Service	3-19-43
65 Suppl. 2	Repatriation and Exchange with Special Reference to Japan	3-2-43
70 Suppl. I	Property Control and Warehousing — Project storage of evacuee property	2-22-43
77 Suppl. I	Property of Evacuees	3-3-43
84	Rules to govern the making of arrests by WRA police officers	2-26-43
85	Trial and punishment of offenses against law and order in Relocation Centers	2-26-43
86	Applicability of Administrative Instructions to the Moab Relocation Center	2-25-43