

INFORMATION DIGEST

No. 47

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For the Use of the WRA Staff

SUMMARY OF SEGREGATION MEETING

Detailed plans for the segregation of evacuees on the basis of national loyalty or sympathy were presented to W.R.A. staff members from all the centers and from Washington at a meeting presided over by Director Myer, in Denver on July 26 & 27. The policy of segregation previously had been announced, in Administrative Instruction No. 100, signed by Director Myer on July 15.

Personnel attending the meeting, in addition to the Director and Deputy Director Rowalt, included project directors, attorneys, representatives of the Community Management and Reports Divisions, from all the projects as well as from Washington. Raymond R. Best, who has been director of Leupp center, was introduced as the new director of Tule Lake, succeeding Harvey M. Coverly, now of the United States Army.

The major point of emphasis during the conference was the desirability of securing as much evacuee participation and cooperation as possible in carrying through the segregation program.

Details of procedures were presented in the form of a Manual of Segregation Operations, prepared by Field Assistant Director Malcom Pitts, in collaboration with the Washington committee on segregation headed by Deputy Director Rowalt.

Tule Lake has been designated as the segregation center, and all persons in other centers who cannot be cleared for indefinite leave will be transferred there. The word "Relocation" will be dropped from the name after segregation is completed. Persons cleared for leave from Tule Lake will be encouraged to relocate, or will be transferred to Minidoka, Central Utah, Heart Mountain, Granada, Rohwer, or Jerome.

Repatriates and expatriates will be segregated without hearings. "Streamline hearings will be held for persons who refused to register, or who refused to answer question 28, or who said "No". These hearings will be held by a Board of Review appointed by the project director. Evacuees whose loyalty is to Japan will be Designated for segregation. Others will be referred to the leave section for hearings which will be considerably more exhaustive, to determine eligibility for leave clearance. All others whose loyalty is in question will be called up for leave clearance hearings.

The Welfare section will interview all persons to be transferred from one center to another, to determine whether any persons are unfit to travel or need accommodations, and whether any family separations will be involved.

An educational program will be carried on in each center to acquaint evacuees with the purposes of segregation and with the methods of executing the program. Lectures, forums, the project paper and other means will be utilized. Pamphlets are

being prepared for distribution to evacuees in all centers, and supplementary statements are being prepared for the staff. These will be produced in Denver and shipped from there.

Actual movement of the transferees will be handled by the Army, starting about September 10. Upwards of 20,000 evacuees will be moved to or from the Tule Lake center.

WAC'S OPEN TO NISEI GIRLS

On July 22, the War Department announced that a limited number of nisei women were to be admitted into the WAC'S and that enlistment would start September 1, the date of the conversion of the WACC'S into a regular unit of the United States Army. The only details forthcoming as yet, in addition to those incorporated in Acting Director Rowalt's telegram to the field on July 23, are that applicants must be proficient in the English language and that the same physical standards as for all other WAC'S will apply, except that the minimum allowable height will be 57 inches and the minimum weight 95 pounds.

(This item is not for publication. A news story for the project papers is being prepared and will be released as soon as War Department approval has been secured.)

DIRECTOR MYER TO SPEAK

Director Myer is slated to address the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco on August 6. The subject of his talk is, "The Truth About Relocation." The speech will be transcribed and probably broadcast later. Mr Myer is also scheduled to deliver and address to students and faculty at the University of California at Berkeley on the same day.

WRA DIVISIONAL OFFICIALS MEET

Immediately following the conference on the segregation program at Denver, Project Reports Officers held a two-day session to discuss the WRA information and public relations program in general. All projects except Manzanar and Poston, where the positions of Reports Officer are vacant, were represented. The meeting, held on the 29th and 30th, was the first opportunity Project Reports Officers have had to get together in a general meeting.

Heads of Community Service Divisions and Project Attorneys also stayed in Denver for an additional day. Chief topics for discussion by the Project Attorneys were legal problem in connection with segregation, leave clearance hearings, judicial hearings for law and order offenses, and Leupp.

DIES COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION

Following the appearance of Director Myer before the Dies Committee on July 6, and 7, the Committee went into executive session to question Army and Navy intelligence officers and Department of Justice representatives. Presumably, these hearings were also concerned with the relocation program although WRA has not been officially notified of the topics covered. It was stated in the press that the Committee plans no further public hearings.

With the cessation of hearings held in Los Angeles and Washington, the Publicity which has surrounded WRA's operations slackened off considerably, and it appears at this writing that newspapers generally have lost interest in the investigation.

Myer speaks on NBC:

Director Myer continued his positive efforts to present the facts about the Japanese American people and the WRA program to the American public in a radio broadcast over the national NBC hookup on July 15. Copies of Mr. Myer's address have been included in the Dies Committee material mailed to all WRA field officials.

On the same evening as the Director's speech, Congressman Costello and Carey McWilliams spoke to a Town Meeting of the Air audience on the subject of return of evacuees to the West Coast during the war.

Mundt recommendations:

Congressman Mundt, a member of the sub-committee, in a speech printed in the appendix to the Congressional Record of July 18 stated that the Costello Committee was preparing a report for the full Committee, and that "until this report is available no final recommendations and conclusions can be made by individual members of the subcommittee." Mr. Mundt went on to give his personal reactions to the investigation. Some of the major points he made are as follows:

1. Segregation of disloyal Japanese from loyal "is of paramount importance."
2. "A more satisfactory and effective program for classifying loyal" evacuees is needed.
3. "Americanization" programs should be undertaken within the centers.
4. Public funds should not be employed to teach the Japanese language or judo, and there should be a toning down of Japanese cultural manifestations within the centers.
5. Center residents "are being amply but not lavishly fed", and "housing conditions are too meager..."
6. There are many loyal Americans of Japanese ancestry.

DEPARTURES ON INDEFINITE LEAVE (MAY 29 - July 31. --

The net number of persons leaving the centers on indefinite leave declined steadily each week during the May 29 - July 17 period, but climbed up again during the July 17 - July 31 period.

The figures are as follows:

Week of May 29 (all-time high)	711
Week of July 17 (low point of period)	253
Week of July 24	386
Week of July 31	348

RETURNS TO CENTERS

The percentage of persons returning to the centers from indefinite leave has increased slightly. As of the end of May, 2.8 percent of those originally granted indefinite leave had returned; by June 30, the percentage had risen to 3.7. Of the 124 returning to all centers during the month of June, 28 went to Granada, 33 to Minidoka, 31 to Heart Mountain, 1 to Tule Lake, 2 each to Jerome and Rohwer, and from 4 to 7 to each of the other projects.

Taking into consideration all kinds of admissions, departures and transfers among centers, Manzanar has had a net increase in population each week since June 26.

STATISTICAL REPORTS --

The following reports are now being prepared and distributed regularly by the Statistical Section:

1. Number of persons on indefinite leave by relocation areas, states and cities, who have reported to the Washington office (cumulative semi-monthly)
2. Indefinite leaves by state of destination, by projects (weekly).
3. Indefinite leaves (work leaves only), dependents and workers, and workers by citizenship and type of work, by projects (semi-monthly).
4. Seasonal leaves, showing state and county of destination, by projects (weekly).
5. Absences on leave (seasonal, short term, and indefinite separately), showing increase or decrease over preceding period, and population remaining by projects (weekly).

SENATE MILITARY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS ---

On July 16 the Senate Military Affairs Committee released its report and recommendations on Senate Bill 444 (providing for the transfer of certain functions of the WRA to the War Department) and Senate Resolutions 101 and 111 (authorizing the investigation of relocation centers by the Chandler subcommittee.

The following recommendations were made:

1. That the draft law be made to apply to all Japanese in the same manner as to all other citizens and residents of the United States.
2. That those who answered 'No' to the loyalty question and those otherwise determined to be disloyal to the United States be interned at the earliest possible date.
3. That the loyal, able-bodied Japanese be allowed to go out to work under proper supervision at the earliest possible time, in the areas where they will be accepted, and where the Army and Navy authorities consider it safe for them to go. The designation of such areas should precede any movement of the evacuees.
4. That the proper Executive and departmental orders be issued to effectuate the recommendations.

The Committee did not call for the transfer of relocation centers to the War Department, nor did it recommend any legislation by Congress.

PROCESSING OF CENTER-PRODUCED VEGETABLES---

In view of the high prices and shortages of certain foods, especially vegetables, steps are being taken at the centers to provide a supply of home-grown vegetables for winter use. Fall plantings are being increased, and at least eight centers are planning food preservation programs.

Literature on the latest approved methods of storing and preserving food crops has been collected by the Agricultural section from the Department of Agriculture and other sources and sent out to the centers. Gila River already has a dehydrator in operation, and two or three other centers plan to carry on dehydration projects. Several centers also plan to put up certain vegetables by pickling, salting and brining.

If pressure cookers can be obtained, a considerable amount of canning will be done. The Department of Agriculture (which has joint authority with WPB for the granting of priorities for this purpose) has tentatively approved the acquisition of pressure cookers for center canning programs, and priorities are now being requested. Orders will be placed as soon as priorities are obtained, and it is anticipated that the cookers will be available within the next month.

In addition most of the centers are making plans for cellars for the storage of root crops, such as carrots, beets, and potatoes.

GIBSON IN NEW YORK --

Mr. Robert E. Gibson of the Education Section spoke Thursday in New York before the Bureau of Inter-cultural Education and a group at Teachers College, Columbia University.

EDUCATION --

The following table, prepared by the Education Section, shows School enrollment and size of teaching staff at each center as of May 31, 1943.

(Copy attached table, omitting footnotes numbers 2, 3, 4, and 8)

	<u>ENROLLMENT</u>			<u>TEACHERS EMPLOYED</u>			<u>EVACUEE</u> Elementary	<u>H.S.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
	<u>Elementary</u>	<u>H.S.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>CAUCASIAN</u> Elementary	<u>H.S.</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>			
ila River	1344	1569	2913	31	35	86	35	42	77
inidoka	760	1232	1992	15	27	42	16	16	32
ule Lake	1533	2023	3556	25	55	80	38	64	102
anazandar	1015	1045	2060	29	33	62	15	12	27
entral Utah	647	1076	1723	9	28	37	38	27	65
heart Mountain	1016	1427	2443	24	26	50	3	1	4
RANADA	764	963	1727	17	28	45	3	2	5
ohwer	870	1050	1920	16	30	46	27	33	60
erome	917	1241	2158	18	26	44	22	30	52
olorado River	(figures not available)								
<u>TOTALS</u> 9 centers)	8866	11626	20492	184	308	492	197	227	424

Enrollment in adult education classes 15,457
 High school Pupils enrolled in vocational classes 6282.
 Pupils leaving for college 34.

EARLY GRIPSHOLM SAILING PROBABLE---

Prospects for the sailing of the Gripsholm have taken a further turn for the better. There is a reasonable prospect that it may sail sometime soon after the first of September, but the sailing date has not been definitely set. Names of 159 persons who have been approved by the Japanese government for the next sailing have already been sent to the projects, and it is expected that almost as many additional names from relocation centers may be included by the time a complete sailing list has been compiled. As soon as full information is received, the projects will be notified.

ISHIYAMA APPOINTED---

George Ishiyama, formerly manager of Tule Lake Consumers' Cooperative, has been appointed as Buying Specialist in the New York Business Enterprises Office.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES SYSTEM REVISED--

A new system for classification, distribution, and maintenance of procedural material has been inaugurated, involving the use of an Administrative Manual for issuances of general interest and Handbooks for material necessary to the work of particular administrative units.

All procedure issued in the future will be codified according to a digital system based on WRA's functional organization, and as rapidly as possible old Administrative Instructions will be revised and classified under the new system.

The first two Manual insertions have already been approved by the Director but will not be distributed until the new black window binders to contain the Manual material have been received. The binders have been ordered and should reach the field about the middle of August.

Detailed explanations on how to use the new system are contained in Administrative Notices which will be distributed to all affected personnel.

NEW CONSTRUCTION FORM--

APB has notified WRA that all future applications for construction must be made on the new form, No. 617, instead of on the PD 200's. Copies of the new form have gone out to all the projects.

PROGRESS REPORT ON CONSTRUCTION--

Work on staff housing at Minidoka and Manzanar is progressing, and early completion is expected to relieve considerably the housing and transportation problems at both centers. Work on the high school at Tule Lake is about 75 percent complete.

LITIGATION--

Arizona Statute Declared Unconstitutional:

The Arizona law requiring anyone planning to do business with a restricted person first to advertise in a paper of general circulation and to post notice with the Secretary of State was declared unconstitutional by Superior Court Judge M. T. Phelps of Maricopa County on July 6.

In the case of Ikeda vs. Johnson-Pearce Commercial Company, the Judge declared the law to be "void and of no effect." He found that it was "vague, uncertain, unreasonable and arbitrary" and that it violated both the constitution of the State of Arizona and Section 1, Article 14 of the constitution of the United States.

It has been unofficially reported that the State's Attorney will appeal the case to the Supreme Court of Arizona.

Writ of Habeas Corpus Denied:

Mitsuye Endo, resident of Tule Lake, was denied a writ of habeas corpus in a decision handed down by U. S. District Judge Michael J. Roche, Northern District of California, at San Francisco Division, on July 2.

Miss Endo had contended that by detention at Tule Lake her rights as an American citizen were violated and that her State Civil Service rights were suspended. Her request for a writ of habeas corpus was held under advisement in the federal court for nearly a year. Soon after the U. S. Supreme Court cases upholding curfew were decided, Judge Roche ruled on her petition and denied her request for a writ of habeas corpus.

RELOCATION MOVIES --

The Washington Relocation Guidance Committee has secured a number of 16 millimeter sound films representative of various phases of American life, with particular emphasis on the areas of relocation. These films will be available to the projects upon request for bookings. Further details will be announced in the near future.

McMENAMIN DRAFTED, MILLS HIS SUCCESSOR--

Edward McMEnamin, who has been with the Authority for more than a year as Personnel Officer, first in San Francisco and later in Washington, is leaving on August 7 for service in the United States Marines. Duncan Mills has been appointed as his successor, effective August 3. Mr Mills has been administrative officer in charge of supply, procurement, and mess in the Washington office, since February, 1943. He formerly served as administrative officer in San Francisco.

NEW BOOKS ADDED TO LIBRARY:

Report of the Subcommittee on Japanese War Relocation Centers (Chandler subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs)

North America, by J. Russell Smith and M. Ogden Phillips

American Automobile Association Tour Books, (Northeastern and Western sections).

Repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Acts (Hearings before ^{House} Committee on Immigration and Naturalization, during May and June, 1943)

ADMINISTRATIVE INSTRUCTIONS ISSUED

The following administrative instructions have been issued since July 15:

Number	Title	Date
34, Sup. 111	Community Evacuee Government	7-3-43
35 Sup. 1	Public Assistance Grants	7-6-43
33, Wup. 111	Food Rationing	7-19-43
27, Sup. X	Supplements superceded by administrative	7-26-43
Instruction No. 98		
26, Sup. 9	Community Enterprises in Relocation Centers -	7-14-43
Examination of Accounts		
62, Sup. 1	Montly Reports of Units and Mileage (or Hours) by Type of Equipment	7-23-43
76, Sup. 3	Daily Evacuee Population Summaries	7-17-43
57, Rev.	Adminstrative Reports from Relocation Centers	7-19-43
103,	Clothing Allowances	7-26-43
101,	Establishment of Field Procurement Offices	7-14-43
99	Institutionalized Persons	7-19-43
100	Separation of Evacuees of Doubtful Loyalty from Loyal Evacuees	7-15-43
88, Sup. 1	Functions of Relocation Supervisors and Relocation Officers	7-17-43
85, Sup. 11	Punishment of Offenses--Authority to Impose Fines	7-3-43
54, Sup. 11	Health Service in Relocation Centers	7-20-43
42, Sup. 11	Procurement--Federal Prison Industries Clearance	7-9-43
98, .	Location of Military Areas and of Restricted and Prohibited Zones in the United States	7-6-43
1	Procurement--Prohibited Items	7-14-43
42, Sup. 1	Attorney Referral Program for Legal Services to Evacuees	7-16-43
102		

