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Core 9 Period 7 & 8
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What the War Has Done To Us

Everything was peaceful in December, 1941. I slept peacefully that night. The next day I had just finished hauling in the wood. I stopped to turn on the radio. I was shocked to hear that "Pearl Harbor" had been bombed. Everybody was shocked to hear it the next morning.

A few months later the radio broadcaster announced that the Japanese in California were being evacuated. This surprised me for I knew that sooner or later we would be evacuated, too. A few days later I was reading the newspaper when I came upon a picture where it told of the different zones which were to be evacuated next. I did not want to leave my home but since it was Army orders I could do nothing about it. It was a very sad day for us all. I left many a friend behind which makes me very sad to think about it even now.

When we first met in Puyallup we had a large reception. I was evacuated in the second group. The first thing I had to do was to take a physical examination. This took up almost the whole day for me. For a whole month I helped unpack some of the things. After everything had been settled I got a job outside the gates of Area A. After I quit the job and got another job in the Area A and D Post office. It was a lot of fun. Everyday I went to the Post Office 8:00 o'clock.

When the first group from Area A was ready to move, I got a volunteers job on the baggage crew. I had tried to get this job ever since the other people had started to move. The reason I wanted this job was because I could see the trains that we were to ride on. It felt good to see a lot of trains again.

When we loaded up the Army trucks we had to sit on the top baggages to keep them from falling off. Everyday after work I went home and the first thing I did was to lie down on the bed and rest.

The day I was to leave the center I was very sad for I knew that some of my friends were leaving for "Arizona" and "Tule Lake".

On the train I heard that most of the people could not sleep but I slept all night and in the morning I got up just in time to eat. When I got back to my seat the first thing I did was to go to sleep again. On the train was when I really caught up on my sleep. I can sleep best on a train.

When we were half way to Idaho I was surprised to see a train go so fast as the streamliner. It shot past us at about 150 miles per hour. When it past us it was nothing but a silver blurr. It

was very interesting to watch the Indians spear fish.

When I first saw the rolling plains of sagebrush I thought it looked pretty good but when I had to look at the sagebrush all day it got very boring.

When I saw the dust rising from the camp it did not look so good to me. In the camp it was very dusty. It got in my eyes and every time I open my mouth it got full of dust. The first month or so I took a cold shower. It felt very good after a hot dusty day. I yake a all cold shower every now sometimes. Now it is so muddy it is hard to walk.

I like it here in the winter because it snows more and it gets colder here and we can go ice skating.

The "Thanksgiving" meant more to me this year than it did to me any other. I was thankful that I had a home to live in and lots of food. While in Europe and Asia, are at war and the children and mothers don't have any shelter or food. I felt very sad when I read in the "Life" magazine that the people of Europe were being starved to death.

I also will never forget this Christmas and the whole year after the war began I will always be thankful that I still have a school to go to.