Relocating a People



I AM glad to observe that the War Department, the Navy Department, the War Manpower Commission, the Department of Justice, and the War Relocation Authority are collaborating in a program which will assure the opportunity for all loyal Americans, including Americans of Japanese ancestry, to serve their country at a time when the fullest and wisest use of our manpower is all-important to the war effort.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT February 1, 1943



Relocation center residents include trained engineers, mechanics, drivers, shop and mill workers with a variety of skills.

In 10 wartime communities in the western part of the United States, more than a hundred thousand men, women, and children are living temporarily, awaiting an opportunity to resume normal lives in ordinary communities. All of them are of Japanese descent, and were evacuated from strategic military areas of the West Coast in the spring and summer of 1942. These wartime communities, known as relocation centers, were established when it became evident that such a large number of people could not immediately locate themselves successfully in new communities. There was no intent to remove from them any of their rights or to deprive them of the opportunity of earning a livelihood and contributing to the Nation's economy.

Nearly two-thirds of these people are American citizens. Nearly two-thirds were born in America and most have attended American schools. Only a few hundred of this citizen group have ever been outside the boundaries of the United States. The draft-age men not

How to Employ Evacuees

An offer of employment should be prepared and presented to the nearest relocation office of the War Relocation Authority, or, if more convenient, to your local United States Employment Office.

Addresses of principal relocation offices:

Cleveland, Union Commerce Building. Chicago, 226 West Jackson Boulevard. Kansas City, 1509 Fidelity Building. Denver, Midland Savings Building. Salt Lake City, 318 Atlas Building.

Information to be given in each offer:

- 1. Employer's name and address.
- 2. Type of worker desired:
 - (a) Experience desired.
 - (b) Skills, knowledge, or abilities required.
 - (c) Sex; age; physical requirements.
- 3. Working conditions:
 - (a) Hours and pay.
 - (b) Permanency.
 - (c) Union or nonunion.
- 4. Living accommodations:
 - (a) Housing (if provided, describe it).
 - (b) Board (if included, explain arrangement).
 - (c) Trading center: Distance and transportation.
 - (d) Health and educational facilities.
- 5. Other special features pertaining to offer.

Employers who prefer to recruit labor directly at a relocation center may apply to the project director, either in person or in writing.



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These hospital laboratory workers, and many other technicians with equally important skills, are waiting for opportunities to serve outside communities.



A considerable number of secretaries, stenographers, and other clerical workers are available for employment outside the relocation centers.

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already in uniform were made eligible for military service by an official announcement of the War Department, on January 28, 1943, which recognized "the inherent right of every faithful citizen, regardless of ancestry, to bear arms in the Nation's battle."

The aliens, who comprise the remaining third, are barred from citizenship by our immigration laws which do not permit Orientals to acquire citizenship by naturalization. Almost without exception, however, they have lived in the United States for at least two decades, and the majority of them have been here for three decades, or longer.

The relocation of these people—both citizens and aliens whose records indicate that they would not endanger the security of the country—in normal communities where they may enjoy the full benefits of American justice, is a national problem deserving the thoughtful consideration of every person who believes in American principles. All together, the Japanese-American population evacuated

from the West Coast comprises less than onetenth of one percent of our total population. Dispersed throughout the interior of the country, only a few families to any one community, they should be able, with their wide diversity of skills, to contribute notably to the civilian and wartime needs of the Nation.

Both the War Department and the Department of Justice have examined and approved the relocation procedures of the War Relocation Authority, which include an investigation of each evacuee's previous behavior and attitudes, and a record check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation before leave is granted from a relocation center. The relocation policy also has the approval of War Manpower Commission. The Chairman has stated that it "should have the dual effect of benefiting the evacuees, many of whom are American citizens, and of making available to the country several thousand people for employment on farms and in industry."



Major Industry Groups (Selected)

Americans of Japanese ancestry, 14 years of age and over, in California, Oregon, and Washington; Census of 1940

Agriculture:	
Men	17,785
Women	
Retail trade (clerks, salesmen, etc.):	overhiller.
Men	6,592
Women	
Wholesale trade (both sexes)	
Domestic service (private homes):	a lighthering,
Men	2,421
Women	
Hotels, laundries, cleaners and dyers	
Manufacturing (all kinds)	
Professional services	
Finance, insurance, real estate	
Railroading, trucking, etc	
Auto storage, rental, repair	
Other business and repair services	

