

# TULE LAKE JAPS

## WILL BE CURBED

—Says W. R. A. Chief

There will be no repetition of the "incident" at Tule Lake, Northern California Japanese segregation center, which occurred Monday night when a committee of disloyal Japanese ordered a mass meeting and made excessive demands on the staff, Dillon S. Myer, national director of the War Relocation Authority, said here today.

Myer described his meeting with the self-appointed committee and the mass meeting of 3,000 Japanese outside the administrative building as an "incident" and not an "outbreak."

### He Wasn't a Prisoner

"Attempts have been made to blow this up into a bloody incident," Myer went on. "Such attempts are derogatory to the war effort and dangerous from the standpoint of the safety of prisoners of war, both civilian and soldiers, in Japanese hands."

Myer laughed at the suggestion that he was a Japanese prisoner of war for even as much as five minutes Monday night at the center.

"I had heard stories that I found when a checked had not happened at all," Myers said. "The stories came from the staff, from visitors at the center, and from people who drove down the road Monday night and let their imaginations get to working."

"I even heard reports that the military had come in and dispersed the crowd with tear gas. The military certainly were on the alert, but were not in the center."

### Assemblies Banned

"An announcement is being made verbally today," Myer continued, "that there are to be no such meetings from now on in the administrative area without the authorization of the project director. This area includes the office and residences of the administrative staff."

"This does not mean that we would try to prevent meetings of the Japanese in their own territory and this rule applies only to the Tule Lake Center."

Myer said that there seemed to be some concern on the part of the residents of surrounding towns regarding their safety. He said he had been asked to meet with the group but had had no time to do so. He made it clear that the problem there was in the hands of the Army. "In which we have perfect confidence."

### Trick—Not an Outbreak

Myer said that there had been outbreaks in other centers but that this was not an outbreak in any sense of the word. "The committee was smart enough to give window-dressing to its demands," he commented. "It was a smart trick but it didn't work."

Myer would not comment on whether action will be taken against persons taking part in the incident.

One of the demands the committee made was that Ray Best, the director, be dismissed. Myer said emphatically that Best "has the toughest job in the United States

# Union Head Bares Alibis

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names was that of Sid Traurig, a member of the union.

"Why did you impersonate an individual?" asked Herbert.

De Lorenzo first refused to answer the question, then said that it was for personal reasons.

Chairman Drewry, Democrat, Virginia, cited a law subjecting congressional witnesses to penalties for a misdemeanor for refusing to answer pertinent questions and pressed for an answer.

De Lorenzo still refused to answer in public but agreed to inform the committee member privately why he used Traurig's name and walked slowly to the committee bench and whispered the answer.

The chairman announced: "We'll let the answer stand for personal reasons."

De Lorenzo outlined for the committee the story of his life from his birth in Brooklyn to presidency of a union with approximately 21,000 members.

De Lorenzo blamed "stupidity" on the part of management rather than obstructionism by himself or his union for failures in scheduled plane production.

Shortly after taking the stand before the subcommittee, De Lorenzo demanded to know "what my rights are, if I can refuse to answer, and what the penalties may be if I refuse?"

Drewry told him that the committee is an integral part of Congress concerned only with the causes for production failures.

De Lorenzo denied "any obstructionist tactics on the part of myself as an individual or as an official of the union to wilfully hold up production, to sabotage production," De Lorenzo replied.

The union president then said that he would attribute the cause of the production failure to these three reasons:

1. An attempt to produce six different types of plane in three years—"more than the automobile industry."

2. The management changed so often they didn't have time to put their policies in effect."

at this moment and has what it takes."

Demands were made that some of the other staff members—there are between 200 and 250, including teachers—be dismissed. Myers said a number of the staff members did become hysterical and made some demands on him on the same basis as the Japanese had made theirs.

Myers said he told frightened staff members to "go out the front gate," that it was necessary to have people who knew how to support the director and who "have guts."

Myers said some of the insurgents were from the Arkansas center, and it was "evident they wanted to climb in the saddle." He said the Japanese making the demands on him were the same who contended they were prisoners of war and would not harvest the crops for other centers.

Myers said he arrived at the center about 9 o'clock Monday morning, toured the farm and had lunch at the center mess hall. Then Best said he had heard reports there was to be a meeting and that Myers was to speak. Myers said the crowd was orderly. Then the committee of about 15 arrived, with George Kuratomi, a San Diego-born Japanese, as spokesman.

### Doctor, Japs Clash

During the conference, a report came in that Dr. Reece Pedicord, chief surgeon, was being beaten. He stopped the conference long

3. "Stupidity" in three fields—production, labor relations, and "failure to understand" the contract management had with labor.

De Lorenzo told the committee that the company's plants never had operated at more than one-third capacity during the past two years. "The men could have done three or four times as much work if they had had the material" he said.

"I never broke my word or pledge to anyone in my life" until the other party broke it first "and then I consider myself released," De Lorenzo asserted.

### 'Never Broken Word'

Angrily, the labor leader asserted that both managements prior to Henry J. Kaiser, the incumbent at Brewster—those of C. A. Van Deusen and Frederick Riebel—attempted to "do a job" on the union.

"They gave us an awful beating," he said at one point. "When a man gets you down on the ground and starts kicking your brains out, I don't think you should take it."

"You say you have taken an awful beating," observed Drewry. "Well, let's see what kind of a beating the government took because of these disputes."

Drewry read a long list of work stoppages and slowdowns compiled by naval committee investigators and said:

"It looks like the government was taking considerable beatings in the loss of man-hours."

"Why," pressed Drewry, "couldn't your union, as good Americans, overlook the trivial causes of these disputes? Do you have to get your pound of flesh, your few cents more when Americans are fighting for \$60 a month? You can't answer that."

"I can try," said De Lorenzo, his voice rising in protest. "The picture is one-sided that you have laid on union's doorstep. There is no law that says a man can't stop work at any hour he wants."

Then, in a tirade at past Brewster managements, he accused both Riebel and Van Deusen of devoting their time to an attempt to "bust the union" instead of to production.

enough to learn that the fight occurred when some Japanese entered Dr. Pedicord's office. They refused to step aside when told to do so and the doctor took off his glasses and started swinging.

Myers said that the conference continued for two hours and that no one was belligerent.

"They tried to be tough, but they were not very tough," he added. "They demanded improvements of food, dismissal of Best and Dr. Pedicord, oiled streets and porch roofs and other things, many of which they well knew were under consideration. When I dismissed the crowd it melted like hot butter."

Meanwhile demands for a congressional investigation of the center from the Klamath County Chamber of Commerce and the Tule Lake defense council, who said they feared the Japanese might attempt to break out of camp, the Associated Press reported.

Free rides on Colombia's railways have been strictly limited, and henceforth only the president, higher government personages, the archbishops and bishops of the Catholic Church, railway employees, members of the army and national police, and few others will be given passes.

The backbone of America's sixth largest industry is women's \$200,000,000 annual expenditure for beauty at cosmetic counters and beauty shops.

Ever Sip a  
**RRM**