



## JACL President Brands Dies Group Charges As Vicious Attack Upon Nisei Integrity

**Citizens League Acted Out of Patriotism In Conferring With Government Leaders On Evacuee Problems, Says Saburo Kido**

As the Dies Committee began hearings in Washington this week on the Japanese American Citizens League's role in the government's evacuee resettlement program, Saburo Kido, JACL national president, scored pre-hearing press reports as "full of vicious and misleading insinuations against our integrity."

Newspaper stories carried by the Hearst press quoting Dies Committee representatives said the JACL "dominated" War Relocation Authority policy, and the organization's influence extended into the War and Justice Departments and the Office of War Information.

"We have maintained a policy of cooperating with all government agencies in prosecution of our national war effort," Kido said. "However, it is ridiculous to say that we have 'dominated' government policy."

Kido pointed out that the JACL as the single national organization in a position to speak for Americans of Japanese descent had been called upon for suggestions, and to assist the government at various times when authorities were dealing with the unprecedented problem of mass evacuation.

"We cooperated with the Army in evacuation as a patriotic duty, and government officials have assured us that it was this cooperation which enabled the program to proceed smoothly," Kido said. "In the same manner we as an organization, and our various members in individual capacities helped in setting up the operation of both WCCA and WRA centers."

"It is also true that our representatives have been asked to sit in on government conferences during which the future of a problem of national importance was discussed. I see nothing unusual in such procedure, especially since we have been able to provide information of value to the government in solving a vital issue."

Representative Dies was quoted in one press dispatch as saying: "There is a great deal of evidence of agreements made and suggestions adopted between the league officers and government officials, all to the end that Japanese be turned out of the centers as rapidly as possible."

Kido asserted that he understood it was never government policy to keep loyal American citizens in confinement. "The War Relocation Authority was organized to relocate Pacific coast evacuees in new homes away from potential war zones," he said. "Temporary relocation centers were set up as stopping places until the evacuees could be placed in new locations in an orderly manner. It was government policy originally, and not JACL policy alone, to effect the release of as many loyal American citizens as well as loyal non-citizens to take their rightful places in this country's war effort," Kido declared.

To charges that evacuees have spread subversive racial propaganda, Kido declared the JACL's policy is Americanism, regardless of race, color or creed. "If support of racial equality in the United States as provided by the Constitution is subversive, then we are guilty together with millions of right-minded Americans," he asserted.

Dies also charged that the JACL, representing "an estimated solid voting strength of 70,000," has had little difficulty in winning the active aid of various government officials.

"Mr Dies would do well to investigate and discover the facts," Kido said. "His estimate of our voting strength is as far off as his other charges."

## NAVY LANGUAGE SCHOOL RATED PLENTY TOUGH

The Naval Intelligence Japanese Language school at Boulder, Colo., sets a record for being tough, according to Drew Pearson, writing in his noted column, "The Washington Merry-Go-Round."

In a recent column, Pearson wrote:

"Officer Candidate schools have a reputation for being tough, but the Naval Intelligence Japanese Language school at Boulder, Colo., sets a new record. Hand-picked candidates from colleges and graduate schools pore over Japanese 'kanji' 16 hours a day, 6 days a week, for 14 months."

"These 800 students are given intimate high pressure instruction in classes of only five men each. The faculty consists of 150 Japanese Americans, former professional and business men."

"The course is intensive, and the students are given no job except the principal one of learning the difficult Japanese language. Unlike other officer candidates, they have no guard duty, KP, or night bivouacs. Their job is to learn Japanese, learn it quickly, and learn it well."

## Federal Libel Action Involves Two Alien Evacuees

LOS ANGELES — The United Press reported last week that U. S. Attorney Charles H. Carr filed a federal libel action seeking confiscation of the fishing vessel Orion, naming the Sea Pride Packing Corp., Ltd.

The packing company, charged with violating a federal law which demands forfeiture of any vessel owned by an alien who fraudulently registers it, purchased the boat and transferred ownership to the Orion Corp., assertedly composed of Kiichi Tochida and Suke Shikano, Japanese aliens.

The ownership oath filed with the collector of customs, Carr charged, concealed the fact that aliens actually owned the boat.

## Story of the Week

### First Nisei Girl Accepted For Service in WAAC

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo.— A nisei girl, Mary Arakawa, 21, has been accepted for service with the WAAC's, it was reported last week in the Heart Mountain Sentinel.

First nisei girl to join this auxiliary unit, Miss Arakawa will report to Miami, Fla., on Aug. 1 for basic training. She enlisted at the Casper, Wyo., Army Recruiting station last month. Formerly of Heart Mountain

## Dies Group Opens Hearings On Japanese Americans

### FLASH!!

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Dies Committee hearing on Friday morning turned from a spy hunt to a red hunt, but so far the committee has uncovered no Communist activity in the JACL.

Private and Mrs. Joe Kanazawa were the only witnesses called Friday morning.

The committee also sought to prove WRA-JACL collaboration and brought up the matter of the Citizens League receiving "confidential" reports from the War Relocation Authority.

The hearings recessed at noon till Saturday, when Pvt. Mike Masaoka, executive secretary of the JACL now on leave, was expected to testify.

## Harold Ickes Stands by Employees

**Secretary of Interior Expresses Faith in His Nisei Workers**

WASHINGTON — Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes made it clear last Thursday that he was unaware of any subversive activities on the part of Japanese American evacuees now working on his farm at Olney, Maryland.

The United Press reported him as telling a press conference that his crops are "growing normally."

"Not even Japanese beetles have dared to show their heads," Ickes said.

His remarks were obviously in reply to a spokesman for the Dies Committee who said recently that Ickes' evacuee employees had attended a meeting of the Japanese American Citizens League. The JACL is charged by the House investigating committee of dictating the policies of the War Relocation Authority.

## Wyoming Sends Two Delegates to Conference

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo. — Masago Shibuya of this center and Shoji Oniki, president of the Student Christian Association at Granada, were chosen as special Rocky Mountain region representatives to the National Inter-Racial Christian Congress, the Sentinel reported this week.

The conferences were held at Lake Geneva, Wis., June 21 to 28. The two were chosen during a conference of faculty and student council members of the Student Christian Association at Estes Park, Colo.

## First Witness Asks for Segregation of Disloyal Elements in WRA Centers

**Little Public Interest in Hearings Shown On First Day; JACL Officials Slated To Be Called to Stand for Testimony**

WASHINGTON, D. C. — With less than 30 spectators in attendance, the Dies Committee Thursday began hearings here on conditions in War Relocation Authority centers and activities of the Japanese American Citizens League.

Tokutaro Nishimura Slocum, World War I veteran and former resident of the Manzanar center, first witness to take the stand, asked for segregation of disloyal evacuees.

Questioned by Representatives John M. Costello of California and Karl E. Mundt of South Dakota, Slocum declared that it is possible to determine the loyalty of the great majority of evacuees through investigation of their records, backgrounds and associations.

Pleading for segregation for the duration for disloyal persons, Slocum asked for American treatment of the loyal group.

J. B. Mathews, chief counsel of the Dies Committee, used records from seized JACL files as a basis in questioning Slocum, particularly regarding living conditions at the Manzanar relocation center.

Slocum characterized these conditions as "bad at its best."

Much time was devoted during the hearings to discussion of disloyal gangs and individuals at Manzanar, and the line of questioning seemed to be directed at establishing the laxness of center officials in dealing with the problem.

Paul Yojo Abe, 29, former Portland, Ore., nisei, who testified Thursday afternoon, said he was a civilian assistant to the military

attache at the Japanese Embassy prior to the war. Abe told the committee he obtained a scholarship at George Washington University through the help of the embassy, and in return was to make two reports annually to the embassy on foreign trade and the general American attitude toward Japan.

After describing the JACL as an organization contributing a service to the United States, Abe said he had applied for membership.

Private Joe T. Kanazawa, former JACL employee in Washington, was scheduled to be the first witness to be called Friday. Kanazawa, a U. S. Army volunteer, was subpoenaed from Camp Shelby, Miss., where he is in training for combat service.

Also scheduled to appear before the committee is Private Mike M. Masaoka, JACL national executive secretary, now on leave to the Army.

Despite sensationalized advance publicity by the Dies Committee, the first day's hearings failed to create much interest in capital circles.

## Dies to Investigate Race Riots in Connection With Present JACL Hearings

WASHINGTON — Advance press reports early this week indicated the Dies Committee on un-American activities will open a nation-wide investigation of recent racial disturbances, including the Detroit race riot, in conjunction with its hearings to air evacuee relocation and relations between the Japanese American Citizens League and the War Relocation Authority and other government agencies.

Congressman Martin Dies, chairman of the House committee, told capitol reporters that the hearings, originally called to inquire into the evacuee question, will be broadened as a result of reports from committee investigators whose findings purportedly show the Detroit rioting resulted from "combined operations" of foreign and domestic propaganda groups.

Dies announced that first witnesses to be called before his group will be officials of the JACL, now in the armed forces, and Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority. Also scheduled to appear at the hearings are the three evacuees recently hired by Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes for work on his Maryland farm.

The committee members will base their questioning on reports and files of the Washington office of the League which were seized two weeks ago, reports said.

"The League," Dies charged, "has put itself on record as being in opposition to the segregation of loyal from disloyal Japanese in this country, and has urged the immediate release of all Japanese

from the camps irrespective of the question of loyalty."

He said the seized documents revealed "details of contacts between government officials and the League, conversations, agreements made, suggestions adopted regarding the release of Japanese, their absorption into industry and into government positions."

He added that Japanese agents had been active in creating race trouble at Detroit, according to reports received from a committee representative there. "Politically-minded people in this country who ignore the vast differences between the protection and coddling of a race" were also blamed for the nation-wide outbreaks of racial antagonism.

Dies stated that statements found in the seized files of the JACL, if true, show a "very close contact" between the league and the WRA and indicate that the nisei organization "has largely dominated and dictated some of the policies" of the government agency.

Many evacuees recently released from relocation centers had been so released through co-operation of the League and "without any check whatsoever" except several questions dealing with their loyalty, he said.

The objective of the League, he added, is to "bring about the release of all the Japs, irrespective of their loyalty."

An important topic to be discussed at the hearing, it was stated, will be the actual operation of the relocation camps probed in the past two weeks by the sub-committee.

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## California Legislature Will Demand Voice in Postwar Plan for Evacuee Problems

Assembly Appoints Five-Man Committee As Interim Group on Japanese Question; Declares Issues Will Become More Acute

SACRAMENTO — The California legislature last week officially served notice upon the nation that it intends to demand full consideration of California's interests in postwar settlement of the evacuee problem.

The intention, according to the San Francisco Examiner, was expressed bluntly in a lower house resolution and activated when Assembly Speaker Charles W. Lyon of Los Angeles named five legislators to comprise an interim committee on evacuee questions.

Members named on the committee were Assemblymen Chester F. Gannon, Sacramento; Alfred W. Robertson, Santa Barbara; R. Fred Price, Ontario; Vincent Thomas, San Pedro, and C. Don Field, Glendale.

While other legislative and organizational committees investigating the evacuee situation have concerned themselves primarily with the problem as it affects the war, the Examiner report stated, the new assembly group will devote its inquiries exclusively to post-war issues.

This objective was fully outlined in an assembly resolution authorizing the study which declared:

"The problems of this State arising out of the presence of great numbers of Japanese, native born and alien, will become even more acute upon the termination of the war than ever before.

"The Japanese problem is one of great concern to the people of the State, but a matter of considerably less consequence to the people of the Nation as a whole.

"Many of the problems have arisen out of treaties between the United States and Japan in the making of which the desires of the people of this state may not have been fully considered.

"The existence of the present state of war and the suspicion of treaty rights affords an opportunity to settle these problems in such a manner as will prove fair to the individuals affected and at the same time satisfactory to the people of this State."

The committee will include but be expressly limited in its studies to "constitutional and other legal factors involved, and the possibilities that treaty rights may again be acquired to an extent not desired by the people of the State."

## Luxury Foods Not Bought For Evacuees

Army Buyer Says Government Provides Necessities Only

EL CENTRO, Calif. — Roy E. Smith, civilian buyer for the army Quartermaster department, said last Thursday reports that the government is buying luxury foods for evacuees in the relocation centers are false.

"About \$40,000 worth of Imperial Valley cantaloupes are bought daily for the army by myself and other buyers, but all melons are sent to the armed forces in the United States and overseas and not to relocation centers," Smith declared.

While the government provides only necessities, he said it might be possible for the Japanese American evacuees to purchase certain luxuries in camp concessions at their own expense.

## Yasui, Hirabayashi Ready to Serve Their Sentences

PORTLAND, Ore. — "There is not much left for me to do but go to the federal road camp and serve whatever sentence is imposed on me," declared Minoru Yasui, 26-year-old attorney, when apprised last week of the Supreme Court's decision on his case.

"Like General MacArthur, I would say let's get on with the war now," Yasui said.

The federal prison to which he will be confined will be determined by the attorney general through the federal bureau of prisons, U. S. Attorney Carl Donough said.

HUNT, Idaho—Gordon Hirabayashi, who must serve a three-month prison term as a result of the recent decision of the U. S. Supreme Court on his case, was a visitor here last week and told his friends that he was "ready to go," the Minidoka Irrigator reported.

The Irrigator said Hirabayashi was "smiling and jolly as if he didn't have a worry to beset him" and that he said, "I expect somebody to come after me any day now so that I can be taken back to the coast to begin serving my sentence."

## Tule Lake WRA Director Deplores False Charges Directed at Newell Camp

California Veterans Praise Gen. DeWitt

SAN FRANCISCO—The California Department of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in closing sessions of its twenty-third annual encampment last weekend approved a resolution praising Lieutenant General John L. DeWitt for his policies with respect to handling of the west coast evacuee problem, the Sacramento Bee reported Monday.

Granada Saves Four Tons of Waste Fat

AMACHE, Colo. — Approximately four tons of waste fat saved in the Granada center were sold last week to the Pueblo By-Products company, according to the Granada Pioneer.

Waste fats are turned into the war effort.

Harvey Coverly Scores American Legion Report On Conduct of Camp

DUNSMUIR, Calif. — Harvey M. Coverly, director of the War Relocation Authority's Tule Lake evacuee relocation center, in a talk before the local Lion's club last Thursday, deplored gossip, rumors and half truths as the basis for much of the adverse criticism directed at the camp at Newell, the Sacramento Bee reported.

Coverly said time alone will tell whether the job being done at the center was good or poor, but that the camp is being operated under peculiar difficulties, especially since it is located in a community of World War I veterans who homestead land in the area and resent the presence of the evacuees.

He disclosed two strikes were instigated while the camp was under construction and added the center became the topic of gossip and mistrust by people who did not visit the camp but only speculated on the activities there.

"Half truths spread into facts," he said, and soon became widely spread and distorted.

The director told of a carload of coal that was consigned to the military police for their personal use and was unloaded by them, resulting in a rumor the evacuees refused to unload their supplies. At another time a car was seen on an obscure road with radio equipment, and rumors had it the evacuees were operating a radio station, when in fact the automobile belonged to a division of federal communications and was there on request of camp authorities to test for short wave machines. He added none was found.

On another occasion soldiers drilling in fatigue iniforms were mistaken for evacuees with guns.

During May, Coverly said he read in a paper that a department of the State American Legion had sent a committee to investigate the Tule Lake center and the members had issued a comprehensive report.

Investigating for himself, Coverly said he found that one member of the committee "had been behind the camp fence for one hour and visited the captain of the police," but did not visit Coverly. In the span of one hour, Coverly declared, the investigator "ferreted out the complex problems of a city of 15,000 persons, a city which runs her own amusement and her own business." The center owns a 3,900-acre crop farm, a poultry and hog farm and a furniture factory.

Coverly quoted statements contained in the Legion report and gave his answers as follows:

First charge: Houses and conveniences built by the WRA are superior to those in army camps.

The answer: The WRA had nothing to do with housing plans or construction. The houses were made by the army and are inferior to those in standard army camps.

Second charge: WRA would not permit evacuees to work for neighboring farmers.

Answer: Any criticism of this is a criticism of the army. The Western Defense Command gives all military orders.

Third charge: Evacuees were given liberty to roam at their own pleasure.

Answer: All movement has been restricted by the army and it is doing an efficient job.

Fourth charge: The project is so loosely administered that citizens are afraid of physical harm and property damage.

Answer: The evacuees are not running loose; some sneak out of bounds and are tried in the project trial courts and punished. Only nine court trials have occurred in the history of the camp and none in the last month and a half.

Fifth charge: The evacuees are pampered.

Answer: If you think they are pampered, come over and try their way of living for a few days.

Coverly said one prominent Siskiyou county citizen visited a mess hall in the center and decided "to eat up town."

## Evacuation of Hawaiian Japanese Population Asked

WASHINGTON — The Associated Press reported last week that J. A. Balch, former chairman of the Mutual Telephone company of Hawaii, recently told the department of interior that at least 100,000 Hawaiians of Japanese descent should be moved permanently from the islands to inland farming states on the mainland to protect the territory from internal trouble and to secure its future against political and economic domination by persons of Japanese parentage.

Benjamin Thoron, director of the territories, said last Thursday he had a letter from Balch in which the latter said that opposition to removal of this number of Hawaiian Japanese was coming from sugar and pineapple interests there because of the labor shortages that would result, and from various other groups.

The letter to Thoron stated that if 100,000 territorial residents of Japanese ancestry were moved to the mainland, the percentage of their numbers to the total population in the islands would be reduced from its 37.3 per cent to 13.68 per cent, and would offer security from future domination of the territory by that race.

Balch advocated that Hawaiian Japanese be prevented from acquiring real estate in the islands and that steps be taken to prevent the federal, territorial, city and county civil service there from being "absolutely dominated" by Americans of Japanese ancestry.

He also suggested that Puerto Rican labor be imported to the territory as a means of meeting the labor shortage which would result from his program. If shipping shortages prevented this, he added, Filipinos could be brought over from California. The Filipinos, in turn, could be replaced by Mexicans in California jobs.

Balch said he had submitted his plan to Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, commander-in-chief of the Pacific Fleet, to Lieutenant General Delos Emmons, former army commander in Hawaii, and to the California Joint Immigration committee.

## Hawaiian Japanese Inducted Into Army Interpreter Unit

HONOLULU, T. H. — Induction of 243 volunteers of Japanese ancestry into a special combat interpreter unit was completed recently at the Schofield Barracks replacement depot, according to the Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Lt. Col. Henry Dupree, post executive officer, administered the oath to 179 Oahu volunteers at a mass ceremony. The remaining 64 were inducted at outside islands.

Of 773 men who applied for voluntary induction, 297 were selected after passing physical examinations and qualification tests. The call for men qualified for combat interpreter duty went out a month ago.

Among the inductees are many men who had previously applied for induction into the combat team organized in March from among 9,507 volunteers of Japanese ancestry here.

Many of the men have brothers or other relatives in the army undergoing intensive training on the mainland, and several have large families.

Yoshio Shitabata, 34, of this city, is married and has five children. A graduate of the Lincoln law school at San Francisco, Private Shitabata was interpreter in the district court, Honolulu, and a district court attorney.

Other inductees with large families are Edward T. Fukunaga, 33, South Kona county agent of the

see what they are like. Both native-born and alien troublemakers have been permitted to leave the camps."

## Legion Commander Releases Nisei Reply to Own Charges

BOISE, Idaho — Dan S. Banks, commander of the Boise American Legion post, released this week a letter he received from a nisei in reply to criticism about "unrestricted movement" of evacuees in this area, the Associated Press reported.

The letter, written by Suetou Murakami, 17-year-old evacuee living in Caldwell, said evacuees are helping American war efforts.

"We did not come out to get a foothold in Idaho, but we came out to work, and that's what we intend to do," Murakami wrote. "As long as you need our help and wish us to work, we will. We are working to help the nation's efforts, as well as pay back what you taxpayers have spent on us.

"Just because we, the United States, are at war with Japan is no reason why we should not be allowed to settle here. This is not permanent, but temporary, for most of us. We lost farms, homes, stores and so on when Pearl Harbor was attacked by the Japs. We hate them as much as you do."

Earlier, Banks had been critical of WRA policy.

"The Boise Legion post is not satisfied with the practice of bringing Japanese from Oregon, Washington and California to the relocation center at Hunt and then permitting them to roam throughout the state without supervision or restriction," Banks declared.

"They seem to like Boise especially, and many have moved to this city. Some are living in the homes of Boiseans now in the military service or working in war plants.

"We have no desire to see them obtain a foothold in Boise, and we believe that is what will happen if some solution is not worked out immediately," the commander said.

He urged that various civic organizations in the city should discuss the problem and submit their recommendations.

"If times were normal, and a few Japanese families moved into Boise, there probably would be no

complaint. In fact, half a dozen resided here before the war.

"But the fact remains that we now are at war with Japan. We simply don't want them living here without being under some guard. Idaho, too, has dams and canals and railroads of vital need to the nation. They should be protected as well as similar projects along the coast."

He added that the Legion favors curtailment of the practice permitting residents to obtain young evacuees from the Minidoka relocation center for household work.

"If they don't like the looks of the place, or the taste of the water, they leave and do what they want," Banks said.

Dies Committee Probes Race Riots

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tee headed by Representative Costello (D.) of Hollywood.

Upon his return from Los Angeles where he conducted preliminary hearings of the subcommittee, Costello repeated accusations that "lack of aggressive leadership" by the War Relocation Authority resulted in virtual seizure of control over the camps by disloyal kibi elements.

Concurring opinions were voiced by another member of the subcommittee, Representative Mundt (R.) of South Dakota, who echoed demands that administration of the relocation centers be turned over to the War Department.

Costello, Mundt and Representative Eberharter (D.) of Pennsylvania will submit a 300,000-word transcript of testimony to the full committee and lead the inquiry into WRA policies. Costello said his subcommittee will not file any written report advancing conclusions.

"There has been no thorough check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation into the past history of these people," he charged. "The WRA does not even get in touch with the evacuees' employers to



## Lieutenancy Is Given Nisei Dentist

Dr. Carl Hirota, former San Francisco dentist and JACL leader, was inducted this week in Salt Lake City as a first lieutenant in the Army Medical Corps. He is to report for active duty at Camp Shelby, Miss., on July 7.

Without previous military experience, Dr. Hirota volunteered during the registration earlier this year at the Topaz WRA center, and applied for a commission at the same time. Formal appointment was received June 22, and after passing his final physical examination Lieutenant Hirota was sworn in June 29.

Another nisei officer to be called to active duty recently was Second Lieutenant Kei Tanahashi, infantry officer, formerly of Los Angeles and ROTC graduate at the University of California at Los Angeles. Lieutenant Tanahashi was taking graduate work at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln at the time he was called up. After a visit with his parents at Heart Mountain WRA center, Lieutenant Tanahashi reported to Fort Benning, Ga., for a refresher course in combat tactics.

Dr. Minol Ota, Cheyenne, Wyo., nisei, now practicing as a veterinarian at Powell, Wyo., has passed his physical examination and is expecting to be called up soon. He holds a reserve commission as first lieutenant in the Army Medical Corps.

## Evacuee-Held Businesses Are Threatened

SACRAMENTO, Calif.—A petition requesting the 62 "inactive" evacuee-held business licenses on file in the county license department be forfeited immediately was referred to the district attorney last week by the county board of supervisors, the Sacramento Bee reported.

The petition, bearing 50 signatures, had been handed to the board by A. J. Harder, a local attorney.

County Executive C. W. Deterding and members of the board, according to the Bee, said they believe the licenses may be considered to have expired when they were not renewed at the beginning of the current year.

The board also heard a report by Joseph Hunter, secretary of the California State Supervisors Association, in which he stated the board of directors went on record "very strongly" opposing the release of evacuees from any of the relocation camps and expressing confidence in Lieutenant General John L. LeWitt.

## Denson USO Center Opens Doors For Nisei Servicemen

DENSON, Ark.—A permanent USO house has been established at Jerome center, and all center girls have been asked to register with Chairman Mary Nakahara to aid in entertaining visiting servicemen, reports the Denson Tribune.

Camp Savage soldiers were entertained last week end at the USO.

### CORRECTION

An item on the California Citizens Council, in the June 24 issue of the Pacific Citizen, was concluded erroneously with the notation that "Maurice E. Harrison of San Francisco is chairman of the group, and Mrs. Ruth W. Kingman of Berkeley is executive secretary."

Mr. Harrison and Mrs. Kingman are not members of the California Citizens Council, but hold the positions mentioned in the Pacific Coast Committee on American Principles and Fair Play. This error was caused through an inadvertent transfer of the concluding paragraph of an item on the Fair Play committee to the item on the Citizens Council.

# Major Constitutional Issues of Evacuation Undecided by Supreme Court, Says Wirin

## Special JACL Counsel Asks for Immediate Institution, Prosecution of New Test Case On Legality of Military Exclusion Orders

By A. L. Wirin, Special Counsel, JACL

On June 21 the Supreme Court of the United States passed upon the rights of American citizens of Japanese ancestry, as affected by military orders.

What the Supreme Court decided was that:

The curfew orders issued by Lt. Gen. J. L. DeWitt, prohibiting Japanese, alien and American citizens alike, from leaving their homes between the hours of 8:00 P. M. and 6:00 A. M., were valid and constitutional. A unanimous court speaking through Chief Justice Stone made it clear that:

"We decide only the issue as we have defined it—we decide only that the curfew order as applied, and at the time it was applied, was within the boundaries of the war power."

What the court did not decide, but expressly left open for later consideration is:

1. Whether or not the military orders of evacuation, excluding some 70,000 American citizens of Japanese ancestry from the entire Pacific Coast, are constitutional;

2. Whether or not the military orders of detention, either in detention or relocation centers, following the evacuation, are legal;

3. Whether or not the military orders continuing to exclude American citizens of Japanese descent from return to the Pacific Coast AT THE PRESENT TIME, violate constitutional rights.

The Supreme Court accordingly decided only a minor question in connection with the treatment of American citizens of Japanese ancestry. Indeed, as the Court itself stated, the validity of the evacuation orders were not challenged by either Yasui or Hirabayashi, and was not an issue in the case. The Court concluded, however, that since Hirabayashi was convicted for a violation of both the curfew and exclusion orders and the sentence imposed was to run concurrently, upholding of the curfew orders was sufficient to affirm the conviction, and hence it was unnecessary for the Court to pass upon the legality of the exclusion orders.

Although deciding a narrow issue, the Supreme Court used broad language upholding the authority of the military in war-time. Thus the Court observed:

"The war power of the national government is 'the power to wage war successfully'. It extends to every matter and activity so related to war as substantially to affect its conduct and progress. The power is not restricted to the winning of victories in the field and the repulse of enemy forces. It embraces every phase of the national defense, including the protection of war materials and the members of the armed forces from injury and from the dangers which attend the rise, prosecution and progress of war. Since the constitution commits to the Executive and to Congress the exercise of the war power in all the vicissitudes and conditions of warfare, it has necessarily given them wide scope for the exercise of judgment and discretion in determining the nature and extent of the threatened injury or danger and in the selection of the means for resisting it. Where, as they did here, the conditions call for the exercise of judgment and discretion and for the choice of means by those branches of the Government on which the Constitution has placed the responsibility of war-making, it is not for any court to sit in review of the wisdom of their action or substitute its judgment for theirs."

The court then reviewed the military situation on the Pacific Coast in the early months of 1942, and concluded that "reasonably prudent men charged with responsibility of our national defense had ample ground for concluding that they must face the danger of invasion, take measures against it, and in making the choice of measures consider our internal situation, cannot be doubted."

It held the curfew orders as being reasonably designed as a defense measure to safeguard the Pacific Coast at a time or threat-

ened air raids and invasion by the Japanese forces from the danger of that:

"In a case of threatened danger requiring prompt action, it is a choice between inflicting obviously needless hardship on the many, or sitting passive and unrestricting in the presence of the threat. We think that constitutional government, in time of war, is not so powerless and does not compel so hard a choice if those charged with the responsibility of our national defense have reasonable ground for believing that the threat is real."

Chief Justice Stone then went on to analyze the status of the Japanese population on the Pacific Coast, declaring:

"... that social, economic and political conditions which have prevailed since the close of the last century, when the Japanese began to come to this country in substantial numbers, have intensified their solidarity and have in large measure prevented their assimilation as an integral part of the white population. In addition, large numbers of children of Japanese parentage are sent to Japanese language schools outside the regular hours of public schools in the locality. Some of these schools are generally believed to be sources of Japanese nationalistic propaganda, cultivating allegiance to Japan. Considerable numbers, estimated to be approximately 10,000, of American-born children of Japanese parentage, have been sent to Japan for all or a part of their education.

"Congress and the Executive, including the military commander, could have attributed special significance, in its bearing on the loyalties of persons of Japanese descent, to the maintenance by Japan of its system of dual citizenship. Children born in the United States of Japanese alien parents, and especially those children born before December 1, 1924, are under many circumstances deemed, by Japanese law, to be citizens of Japan. No official census of those whom Japan regards as having thus retained Japanese citizenship is available, but there is ground for the belief that the number is large.

"The large number of resident alien Japanese, approximately one-third of all Japanese inhabitants; are of mature years and occupy positions of influence in Japanese communities. The association of influential Japanese residents with Japanese Consulates has been deemed a ready means for the dissemination of propaganda and for the maintenance of the influence of the Japanese government with the Japanese population in this country.

"As a result of all these conditions affecting the life of the Japanese, both aliens and citizens, in the Pacific Coast area, there has been relatively little social intercourse between them and the white population. The restrictions, both practical and legal, affecting the privileges and opportunities afforded to persons of Japanese extraction residing in the United States, have been sources of irritation and may well have tended to increase their isolation, and in many instances their attachments to Japan and its institutions.

"Viewing these data in all their aspects, Congress and the Executive could reasonably have concluded that these conditions have encouraged the continued attachment of members of this group to Japan and Japanese institutions. These are only some of the many considerations which those charged with the responsibility for the national defense could take into account in determining the nature

and extent of the danger of sabotage, in the event of invasion or air raid attack. The extent of that danger could be definitely known only after the event and after it was too late to meet it. Whatever views we may entertain regarding the loyalty to this country of the citizens of Japanese ancestry, we cannot reject as unfounded the judgment of the military authorities and of Congress that there were disloyal members of that population, whose number and strength could not be precisely and quickly ascertained. We cannot say that the war-making branches of the government did not have ground for believing that in a critical hour such persons could not readily be isolated and separately dealt with, and constituted a menace to the national defense and safety, which demanded that prompt and adequate measures be taken to guard against it."

The Court recognized, however, that:

"Distinctions between citizens solely because of their ancestry are by their very nature odious to a free people whose institutions are founded upon the doctrine of equality. For that reason, legislative classification or discrimination based on race alone has often been held to be a denial of equal protection. We may assume that these considerations would be controlling here were it not for the fact that the danger of espionage and sabotage, in time of war and of threatened invasion, calls upon the military authorities to scrutinize every relevant fact bearing on the loyalty of populations in the danger areas. Because racial discriminations are in most circumstances irrelevant and therefore, prohibited, it by no means follows that, in dealing with the periods of war, Congress and the Executive are wholly precluded from taking into account those facts and circumstances which are relevant to measures for our national defense and for the successful prosecution of the war, and which may in fact place citizens of one ancestry in a different category from others. 'We must never forget, that it is a constitution we are expounding', a constitution intended to endure for ages to come, and, consequently, to be adapted to the various crises of human affairs'. The adoption by government, in the crises of war and of threatened invasion, of measures for the public safety, based upon the recognition of facts and circumstances which indicate that a group of one national extraction may menace that safety more than others, is not wholly beyond the limits of the Constitution and is not to be condemned merely because in other and in most circumstances racial distinctions are irrelevant."

The Court arrived at the conclusion accordingly that:

"We cannot say that these facts and circumstances, considered in the particular war setting, could afford no ground for differentiating citizens of Japanese ancestry from other groups in the United States. The fact alone that attack on our shores was threatened by Japan rather than another enemy power set these citizens apart from others who have no particular associations with Japan."

Upon the foregoing reasoning the military curfew orders were upheld as applicable to American citizens of Japanese descent. The reasoning of the Supreme Court, particularly of a great liberal like Chief Justice Stone, seems to me to be faulty, and carrying in its wake dangerous consequences to other minority groups. At a later time, after opportunity for deliberate reflection, I shall want to point out in the columns of the Pacific Citizen the dangerous precedents to the democratic way of life which the decision establishes. At this time, however, I am content to refer to the courageous expression of views, which are in entire accord with mine, by Justice Murphy who wrote a concurring opinion:

"The broad guaranties of the Bill of Rights and other provisions of the Constitution protecting essential liberties are not suspended by the mere existence of a state of war. It has been frequently stated and (Continued on page 8)

## Myer Denies Charges Against Nisei on Radio

### WRA Head Answers Relocation Critics On "March of Time"

Speaking on the March of Time radio program over the NBC network Thursday of last week, Dillon S. Myer, WRA director, refuted charges made against the WRA relocation program by the Dies committee and appealed to his audience that the problem be handled in "the American way."

The Dies committee had charged that the WRA was releasing thousands of evacuees from the relocation centers without thoroughly investigating their loyalty.

"In regard to those accusations made by some committees against the WRA, I wish to say in defense that in spite of the number of people that have been released into private industry there has been not one report of sabotage or disloyalty among these people," Mr. Myer said.

The WRA director pointed out that "the future of these 100,000 people of Japanese ancestry is of concern not to the WRA alone, but to the nation as a whole."

"Remember that a basic principle of the Axis philosophy which we are fighting is oppression of racial minorities," Myer said. The United States is fighting for principles of democracy which include rights of citizenship regardless of racial ancestry.

"Let's not deal with the problem as Hitler would handle it under his Nazi regime, or as Tojo would deal with it in Japan. Let's do it the American way."

In the course of his talk, which was a featured part of the March of Time program, Myer explained the work of the WRA. He said the task of the WRA in the beginning was to give temporary housing to 100,000 persons evacuated from the Pacific coast, and that the agency's second task was to "assist eligible evacuees to relocate in normal communities where they can contribute to the war effort like other citizens and law-abiding aliens."

"These evacuees are not prisoners of war," Myer said. "They are not internees. Two-thirds are American citizens by right of birth. Seventy-two per cent of this citizen group have never seen Japan. They are products of American schools and know no other country."

"No immigrant of Japanese ancestry has been allowed to enter this country since 1924, and so all aliens of this group have lived here at least 19 years—many of them more than 40 years."

## Nisei Private Assigned to Special Study

HUNT, Idaho—Private Hiroshi Nakashima, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. U. Nakashima, residents of this center, has been assigned to special study at Pomona college in Sacramento, Calif., according to information received by the Minidoka Irrigator. Private Nakashima will be trained in foreign area study under the United States Army specialized training program.

Private Nakashima joined the U. S. Army on January 15, 1942, and has been trained at Paine Field, Fort Leavenworth and Fort Riley. A graduate of Broadway high school in Seattle, Wash., he attended the University of Washington.

His training at Pomona college will be over a period of 24 weeks, in subjects that will fit him for special duty. Studies are under the supervision of the Pomona college faculty, and military instruction is coordinated with the program under a staff of army officers.



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LARRY TAJIRI ..... EDITOR

## EDITORIALS:

### Race Riots vs. Our War Aims

"One white man, his shirt in tatters, boasted before a group of onlookers: 'I killed one of them this morning'."

Thus succinctly did a newspaper describe the temper of the men who made up the mobs roaming the streets of Detroit in search of blood last week.

The lengthening lists of race riots—Detroit, Beaumont, Vallejo, Los Angeles, Fort Bliss—are a sordid and shameful commentary on the unwillingness of a portion of the American people to forego the luxury of bigotry and race discrimination during war in order to practice one of the United Nations' war objectives.

A mob is a fearsome and unforgettable sight to anyone who has seen men, turned suddenly bestial and sullen and murderous, racing in violence, and yet scarcely knowing why they have dropped the thin cloak of civilization. There is no reasoning in a mob. Only hate and fierce animal passions that are a throwback to a less enlightened age.

These recent exhibitions of mob violence are a matter deserving of immediate national concern. If we cannot prove to ourselves that we as a nation of diverse racial extractions can live together in harmony, there are serious doubts cast on the validity of our war aims.

No one has been able to place his finger on any one reason as a cause of the race riots. Suggestions of Axis fifth column activity behind the rioting have been discounted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. To place the blame abroad, however, seems to be an attempt at sidestepping the issue, at deliberately overlooking one of America's fundamental problems because of its unpleasantness.

Racial discrimination has long been a cancer in American democracy. We as a nation have been too willing to wink at it; we have not had the courage to face the issue squarely, to brand it as wrong, and to take steps to overcome it. Because we have chosen the easy way there must be an accounting. We must pay the price of expediency by a weakening of the moral standards that are an indivisible part of true democratic living. The nation's treatment of its minorities must undergo a radical change for the better before we can accept the plaudits of lesser nations for our lofty ideals without a twitch of conscience and blush of shame.

In great sections of the nation citizens are segregated into first and second class by the color of their skins. Patriotic Americans elsewhere are incited almost to violence at the mere mention of equal treatment for all persons regardless of race, creed or color, which is one of the fundamental guarantees of this nation's common man.

There is nothing favorable to be said for these recurring race riots, except, perhaps, that they are a tragic but pointed reminder of a basic problem in our midst. The needless loss in human lives, property, time and prestige need not have been in vain if every American as an individual will probe his innermost conscience for traces of the bigotry that is the essence of racial discrimination.

In the final analysis the problem is one

## And Now We Speak

The Dies Committee this week began in the nation's capital a series of hearings on certain alleged activities of the Japanese American Citizens League. The hearings have been preceded by sensational press releases in which fantastic charges—flattering in their assumption of the power wielded by this organization—have aired the prosecution's allegations without giving the defense a chance to be heard.

Now, under the workings of the American democratic system, the accused is being given a chance to speak in his own defense. We trust that the dignity and prestige of the Congress of the United States will not be violated by a gagged hearing which, as the records show, is not an unfamiliar tactic of this Committee.

Columns of this publication could be filled with detailed, factual and documented refutation of the Dies Committee's allegation against the JACL, but that would be so much wasted effort except for the limited number of persons reached by the Pacific Citizen.

Rather, we welcome the opportunity to be heard in a public session of a Congressional committee, in full view of the press and the people, where we may present our side of the story. Our defense is the straightforward truth, unembellished by any of the subtle tactics known to propagandists with axes to grind. We have no other desire than to stand on that defense, and leave the judgment to the inherent sense of justice of the American people.

## The Obstructionists

While the nation, with a few deplorable exceptions, goes about the grim business of winning a total, global war, the yellow section of an otherwise commendable press continues its rollicking ways with all the responsibility of the Rollo boys on their annual cruise.

American democracy and human nature being what they are, there isn't a great deal that can be done about the journals whose yesterdays are forgotten without so much as a twinge of conscience.

The manner in which a portion, fortunately small, of the U. S. press has seen fit to vent its uninformed hates, to malign to the very borders of libel the characters and intentions of individuals who do not see eye to eye with the editors, to dictate in high-handed fashion what it thinks every American should believe, to flaunt the profession's code of ethics with dishonest editorializing in headlines and news columns, are collectively a blot of shame on the record of a profession ennobled by countless journals, editors and reporters of high ideals.

In many communities served by scurrilous journals it is almost suicidal for a citizen to speak up in defense of an unpopular issue. Take for instance the case of a Colorado woman who wrote to the Denver Post to protest its policy toward the evacuees. The unwritten code of the trade demanded that her voice be heard even though her arguments were at odds with those of the publishers. So the editor wrote a front page editorial about the letter, subjecting the woman who had only exercised her constitutional prerogative to speak her mind, to public ridicule, scorn and hatred.

This business of collecting, editing and publishing matter for public intelligence bears with it all the mature responsibility of judgment and public trust borne by the older professions such as medicine, law or government. Unfortunately that trust is not being maintained, and we as a nation are suffering thereby, in confusion, in distrust, in muddled thinking, and worst of all, in fear.

of individuals. Race hatred cannot be legislated. A Presidential declaration calling on Detroit citizens to restore order went unheeded, and in the end it was force that finally curbed violence until the lynch-mob fever cooled of its own accord.

Racial discrimination cannot be removed from American life until there is a nationwide public opinion which will refuse to condone special treatment for certain citizens because of the color of their skin or the country of their ancestors. Nor can the war be considered won until this tolerance and broad-mindedness is translated into action and accepted by all peoples as a sacred and fundamental precept of democratic living.

# Nisei USA

by LARRY TAJIRI

## Journey Around America II

Coming up out of the subterranean depths of Penn station into the summer sunlight, New York seems to have changed little from the city we left sixteen months before. And returning to the crowded streets and all the varied sights and sounds of the city, all the events which have transpired in those sixteen months take on a peculiar, dream-like quality. For here is New York, going about its daily business, the noisy business of eight million people living together. All the ugliness of the segregation that is based on race, the special discrimination of military orders, the fears and frustrations of evacuation seem suddenly unrealistic. There is no longer the feeling of being singled out because of race. All the cities of the east have this quality, but New York most of all.

When the night comes you suddenly know that war and all the grim blackness of war have touched this American shore. The nocturnal city is an eerie place. The dimout is strictly enforced. The familiar lights are gone and the Wrigley fish no longer play in a sea of colored Mazda. The flickering tape of lights which brought the news and the baseball scores to the crowds in Times Square is gone until victory. The signal lights at the intersections are thin crosses of green and red, while the taxis cruise down the darkened streets with only thin slits of light to give warning. Walking down the street, you find arrows pointing to air raid shelters. But the lights are dimmed, not so much because of a fear of attack from the air, as to safeguard coastwise vessels which would otherwise be silhouetted at sea against the glare of the lights of the cities on the shore. The predatory wolf-packs of the enemy are not far away.

Probably less than two thousand of the eight million human beings in New York are persons of Japanese ancestry. The war has not treated them as harshly as it has the 115,000 on the western coast. The people of Japanese ancestry in New York have an academic, if warmly sympathetic, interest in the events which have transpired. But the relocation centers are far away.

At the same time there is prob-

ably greater constructive interest in New York in the fate of Japanese Americans than anywhere else in America. For New York is the hub of the great religious, social welfare and civil liberty organizations which have helped bring before the people of America the manifold ramifications of racial evacuation.

Although New York has not felt the manpower shortage as keenly as other cities, there is probably less unemployment among persons of Japanese ancestry in the city than before Pearl Harbor. Many nisei have obtained work in war plants in the city and across the Hudson in industrial New Jersey. A score or more work in a shop, sometimes called the "43rd street relocation center" grinding and polishing semi-precious stones. Many are in restaurant work. Four of the larger restaurants down in Greenwich Village are completely staffed with workers of Japanese ancestry.

The cost of living does not seem to have risen as sharply in New York as it has in the over-crowded war production centers of the west. Wages are correspondingly nearer pre-war levels. But housing of sorts is still available in New York and the possibility is that several thousand evacuees may be relocated in the city. There is no "little Tokyo" in New York and there never should be, for there seems to be relatively little discrimination in housing as far as the nisei are concerned. And anti-Oriental housing ordinances of the west coast was an important contributor to the growth and maintenance of the "little Tokyos" and the "Chinatowns." However, congested Harlem in uptown Manhattan, the home of some 300,000 Negroes, is witness to the fact that the "color line" in housing is not entirely absent.

Some day after the peace has been won, it will be good to come back to New York again. And while the war is still being waged, and the assorted bigots and hysteria-mongers are about their ugly business of building a wall of racial prejudice against the evacuees on the western coast, it is good to know that there is still a New York and that the bands are still playing in the smoky cellars in the Village and the Dodgers are still defending Ebbets Field.

## WASHINGTON LETTER

### Enemy Propaganda at Work

By PETER WOOD

The enemy is trying to play a new cat and mouse game with the peoples of the United Nations via the propaganda route. This time they're trying to use a powerful weapon, the war of nerves, against the American people, with terror and weakness as their primary tactical ammunition.

For almost a month, axis radios have been warning of an imminent invasion of the continent of Europe. They have spread this warning over every broadcasting medium they control. On one day, it may be the Belgrade radio, or the Paris radio, or the Antwerp transmitter, not to mention daily blasts aimed at the United States from Radio Rome and Berlin.

Now no one in Washington will tell you that we will not invade the continent of Europe this summer. However, no one outside of the few highest military leaders of the government know just when and where such an invasion will take place. They, of course, are not telling. If they did, the lives of every boy in uniform overseas might be endangered.

At the same time, the axis has definite and fairly efficient ways of knowing approximately what our military men are planning. Their reconnaissance craft which fly several miles high over our lines in North Africa every day take pictures showing troop concentrations, supply lines and ammunition depots. They can spot invasion crafts being loaded at the docks in North Africa if they are being loaded there. They also maintain vast espionage networks

in neutral countries like Portugal and Spain, not to mention Sweden and Switzerland, where they can pick up pertinent military information that may leak out.

Of late, Hitler and Mussolini, who have long been boasting that the allies could never mass enough power to attack and destroy the evil gains which fascist aggression has amassed in more than 20 years of violence, are beginning to change their tune. Stalingrad and North Africa have changed the strategic picture of military events. The allies are on the offensive and our strength mounts daily. This has posed tremendous problems for Dr. Goebbels, Virginia Gayda and all the other fascist mouthpieces. They've got to explain this "remarkable phenomenon" to their people and to the conquered peoples of the satellite governments.

Statements on axis radios in the past fortnight are proof of the eagerness with which the people of conquered Europe look forward to the salvation which can only come with an invasion of the continent. Pierre Laval, prize Quisling puppet of France, frankly admitted it in his most recent harangue to the French people. Laval denounced the vast enthusiasm which had been generated in France for the allied cause when word was first flashed of the successful American invasion of North Africa.

The enemy is now trying to strengthen its people against invasion. They have been telling for weeks just what an allied in-

(Continued on page 7)



## From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

### The Evacuee: An Unwitting Rip Van Winkle

An exasperatingly slow milk train makes the run daily from Billings to Denver. It has been an old faithful for evacuees from Heart Mountain, Wyoming, who catch it at a bleached-out little place called Deaver and head south for Denver or Cheyenne, and from there for points east and west.

There were only about a dozen of us evacuees on the train that day, and the others must have shared my surprise when at Casper, a girl in soiled overalls climbed aboard and began to sweep out the coaches.

Another girl ran about on the platform with a rubber hose to fill the water tanks, and when she was through with this task she found a mop and swabbed down the floors of the train.

This incident brought home more pointedly than ever the unprecedented manpower shortage the nation is facing. Everywhere there were evidences that persons considered unemployable in the past are being hired to take over jobs left by men leaving for the armed services and defense factories.

Negroes and whites are working side by side on section gangs, at soda fountains, around railroad stations. Some of the sales girls and waitresses one meets betray by speech and action a none too high mental capacity. Consequently service is bad, but there is nothing to be done about it.

Except for the omnipresent soldiers, sailors and marines and their feminine counterparts, one would hardly realize that this country is at war. But one is struck by the absence of young men in civilian clothing. The manpower situation is something that one can almost feel as he makes his way across the country.

The amazing thing is that those of us in the centers have not had it brought home forcefully that the nation is rapidly being stripped down to total war. Although the radio and daily press are open to us, it is not possible except by first hand contact to realize and understand what war is doing to the United States.

In short, evacuees in the centers are becoming unwitting Rip Van Winkles while the world passes them swiftly by. There is a need now, more than ever before, for making the residents of the centers cognizant of the changes that are coming over this country's economic system while they are so engrossed with the petty problems of their isolation.

There are two reasons to push the WRA's resettlement program. The first might be considered selfish, for one wonders how much more severe the problem of individual rehabilitation will be during the inevitable disruption of economy when war production is suddenly frozen by the armistice.

But far more important is the necessity for getting every available pair of hands into useful and full-time production. Granted the 100,000 still behind barbed wire include the unemployable old and little children, there are enough usefully employable persons still in confinement to make a concerted effort for them a vital project.

If the minds and hearts of our detractors, opponents and persecutors cannot be impressed with the argument of lofty Americanism and humane treatment of an innocent people, then surely in their super-patriotism they should be made to listen to the tale of willing hands forced to remain in idleness because of their unthinking attacks against a loyal minority group.

Admittedly there is an inertia within the centers against wholesale resettlement, but a considerable portion of this is due to fear of the outside. This fear has been enlarged and exaggerated by the attacks of men of the Dies committee and the California politicians who promise lynch-law for evacuees.

If these zealots will listen to no other argument, they must be impressed that their chauvinism besides providing the Axis with propaganda ammunition, is actually depriving our nation of food and materials which might be produced by our Americans in exile behind barbed wire.

## JACL Forms Library for Its Members

League Purchases Fifty Books for Basic Collection

Some fifty books forming the basis of the Japanese American Citizens League circulating library were received by the Salt Lake office this week and will soon be dispatched to the thirteen active league chapters, according to Hito Okada, national treasurer.

The books range from recent non-fiction to humor and form a well-round selection of American writing.

The books will be sorted into thirteen sets so that each league chapter will have one set of books for each lending period, which will be two months.

"While we do not pretend to have selected the 'fifty best books' or a complete reading course, each book has been chosen carefully with an eye toward giving our chapter members an educational and balanced reading diet," said Mr. Okada.

The titles include "Report to Tokyo," by Ambassador Joseph C. Grew; "How War Came," by Forrest Davis and Ernest K. Lindley; "Behind the Face of Japan," Upton Close; "Inside Asia," John Gunther; "One World," Wendell L. Willkie; "Remember Pearl Harbor," Blake Clark; "American Unity and Asia," Pearl Buck.

Carey McWilliams' "Brothers Under the Skin," "Ill Fares the Land" and "Factories in the Field," all three of his well-known books, are included.

"From Many Lands," by Louis Adamic, the story of the people of America, is included, as well as several books dealing specifically with the Negro race: "12 Million Black Voices" and "Native Son," Richard Wright; "The Big Sea," Langston Hughes, and the biography of George Washington Carver.

Other books on the American scene include "And Keep Your Powder Dry," by the anthropologist, Margaret Mead; "The Argonauts," written by "five young Americans who discover their country," "Bound for Glory," by Woody Guthrie.

Some of the lighter titles include "The Human Comedy," by William Saroyan; "See Here, Pri-

## Vagaries

Clyde Shoemaker, who as assistant district attorney in Los Angeles was one of the most violently outspoken of all of California's race-baiters, was recently fired from his Los Angeles city post. Testifying before the Tenney "little Dies" committee, Mayor Bowron has blamed "CIO pressure" for Shoemaker's departure. However, the state CIO disclaims any credit, although the CIO did object to Shoemaker's conduct of a case involving Mexican Americans in Los Angeles. Shoemaker has been a spearhead of the American Legion's attacks upon nisei in Los Angeles. . . . California state legislators recently made a "complete" report of conditions at the Tule Lake relocation center. Officials at Tule Lake report that Dies subcommittee arrived at 5:30 p. m. on June 3 to conduct an investigation of the centers and left at 6:15 p. m. the same day, spending only 135 minutes at the center. State Senator Hugh Burns, chairman of the subcommittee, did not even visit the center.

Although scores of nisei soldiers have returned to the West coast evacuated area, only one report of any "incident" has been reported. However, news reports of this "incident" were not entirely correct. Newspapers reported that workers at a packing house walked off when the nisei soldier appeared and indicated that a general demonstration had taken place. The truth is that "only a few" workers were involved and those participating in the demonstration were not permanent residents of the vicinity.

Mary Arakawa, former El Monte girl who was accepted into the WAACs in Casper, Wyo., will not be the first nisei woman to join auxiliary units of the U. S. armed forces. A Nebraska nisei is a lieutenant in the Army nurses corps, reported stationed somewhere in Colorado. . . . Dr. Minol Ota, Powell, Wyo., veterinarian, who is entering the U. S. Army medical corps as a first lieutenant, went to school with Captain Robert Saibara; first nisei to graduate from Randolph field, famed army flying school in Texas. Captain Saibara is now in the army signal corps, stationed at a midwest camp. Both matriculated at Texas A. & M., where All-American John Kimbrough was a classmate. . . . First Lieutenant Okuno, also stationed in the midwest, was formerly an engineer with the Wyoming state highway commission.

Private Hargrove," by Private Marion Hargrove, and Pardee Lowe's "Father and Glorious Descendant."

## TIMELY TOPICS

By SABURO KIDO

### Race-Baiters Will Discredit Themselves

The Japanese American combat team volunteers are now being inducted at a rapid pace. The delay of many months was most unfortunate. The boys thought they were going to be called to the colors immediately and therefore resigned from their jobs to put their personal affairs into shape. They waited week after week, month after month, and finally when their patience was at an end, they obtained leaves from the War Relocation Authority to go into the free zone to work. There are many cases where after only a few days after their departure, they were notified of their induction. If they had known that the procedure would require time, most of the volunteers would have gone out to earn spare cash to help their families or some farmer in dire need of labor.

The morale of the volunteers was going down week by week. Rumors began to float around that the local draft boards in California were intentionally sabotaging the induction because they were conspiring with the race-baiters who were opposed to any Nisei taking up arms for the USA. If this were true, criminal action should be instituted against these obstructors of national defense. Such un-American activities should be investigated.

The California race-baiters are going to such an extreme that they are discredited. Any fair-minded person would accept the willingness to offer one's life to his country as the ultimate test of loyalty. This would be especially true in the case of a combat team. As the New York Times reported, the boys are training with the idea they have only "twelve months and three minutes" to live; that is, twelve months of training and three minutes once they go into action. Our race-baiting friends of California are trying to stigmatize even these volunteers. They accuse the Nisei as disloyal on the one hand and then desire to refuse the Nisei the opportunity to prove their loyalty. It reminds me of the amusing accusation leveled against the Japanese as being unassimilable when California had a law prohibiting intermarriage.

There is no doubt in my mind that most of the Nisei are better American citizens than most of these race-baiting politicians and pseudo civic leaders. At least the Nisei are not hypocritical. The example of Mayor Bowron of Los Angeles is a classic one. In the good old days prior to the outbreak of war, L'il Tokyo of Los Angeles used to stage the Nisei Week. Mayor Bowron received the Queen and her retinue at the City Hall, attended

(Continued on page 7).

## Nisei Rookie Finds Army Keeps Democratic Habits Of U. S. Civilian Life

By Taro Katayama

If we should ever attempt a volume of reminiscences about our life since evacuation, we think we might call it "Our Days Were Numbered." Ever since that already incredibly remote day, a little over a year ago, when the WCCA (Wartime Civilian Control Administration. Remember?) slapped on our first brace of Arabic tags—family and ID numbers—our existence has been a numerologist's opium dream. Bed number, stall number, barrack number, train group number, block number, apartment number, resident identification number—in that procession of digital combinations lies the whole story of our career as an evacuee, from civil control station to WRA.

And now that we're in the Army, we can see that we're going to be harried and hedged about by a new set of tags and markings for an indefinite period to come. Right now, we've received only our serial number as a rookie, but lying beyond our present pre-training furlough is the whole zodiac of letters, numerals and insignia by which our military identity will be fixed.

Of course, the writing of our projected autobiographical tome is premised on the assumption that we will still be around to do it. For we are lugubriously aware that, war and soldiering being what they are, our days may be numbered in another, and less numerous sense. In any event, the present piece is our last journalistic chore for some time to come. By the time this sees print, we expect to be engaged in somewhat less sedentary activities than flatterer our podex in front of a typewriter keyboard.

A rookie's furlough, such as ours, belongs to a different category from the usual run of military leaves. Not a respite from a period of active duty, it is rather a period of confused suspension between civilian and military life. We have our uniform and feel the weight of special obligations that go with our new clothes, but most of our instincts and behavior habits are still those of the ordinary man in the street. The new garb sits awkwardly on our frame, and we advertise the unaccustomed weight and bulk of our GI shoes by a self-conscious compromise between prescribed Army briskness and habitual civilian shuffle in our walk.

Then, we are all too aware of the vast naked expanses of our shirt and blouse sleeves and glance enviously at even the single hash-mark of every passing private first class. As for our demeanor in the proximity of commissioned officers, we still have to stifle an occasional impulse toward headlong flight in the opposite direction from their approach down the street. Our saluting is not yet a precise and automatic response to bars and leaves and stars looming on our visual horizon. In our anxious fledgling obedience to military ritual, we have caught ourselves several times flicking our right hand upward at some sudden encountered hotel doorman, policeman or other specimen of uniformed civilian. In his summer sun-tan outfit, a lieutenant is sometimes indistinguishable from a gasoline station attendant at 20 paces. Thus, between the need for maintaining an anxious eye forward at all times and the painful awareness we have of our raw greenness, we sometimes feel that we are carrying on an uncomfortable impersonation rather than being a bona fide, if unprocessed, member of the armed forces.

### No Special Favors For Army Officers

We realize, however, that our discomfort and trepidation are largely self-engendered and not the result of our suddenly stepping from civilian life into any flexible caste system. Certain formalities are inevitable in a highly specialized organization like the military, but they are not arbitrarily imposed on every wak-

ing hour of a soldier's life. An officer on the street, the post or the field of action is a superior to whom deference is due, and given. But in any public building or on any public conveyance, he has no special prerogatives and expects none. A captain rubs shoulders with a rookie at a bar, a major-general waits his turn behind a corporal in the line before a railroad ticket window, if circumstances throw them to-

(Continued on page 8)

## the copy desk

That most distinctive of center publications, "Trek," appeared again this week with its usual goodly quota of art, articles, humor and fiction. Featured is an article by Larry Tajiri of the Pacific Citizen titled "Relocation." Four-star ratings will be accorded by readers to "Evacuee Characters and How to Analyze Them," and to artist Mine Okubo's cover-drawing. With most of the staff scheduled for relocation, this will probably be the last issue of this magazine.

As Jim Yamada writes: "For us, this is 30 . . . 30 not only to magazine publication, but also, we hope, to center life.

"It's customary to close shop, we suppose, with bugles blowing and banners fluttering from the masthead. This is the cue to take the reader in hand and stagger with him down memory lane, unearthing incidents calculated to evoke nostalgia in a brass Buddha.

"But we'll dispense with the pageantry. No grandiloquence. No remember this, remember that? And no fancy technical stunts.

"We remember when the old Totalizer made a concession to tradition and emblazoned big red 30's on the front and back pages of its final issue. For some time afterward, the staff was plagued by individuals who demanded, 'Hey, how come my Totalizer only has 28 pages? You must have left out a sheet.' And so, if you don't mind, we'll go quietly."

### 'As Others See Us'

"Pete and I went downtown the other night to see a movie. While standing in line, I became aware of a little girl and boy, obviously brother and sister, who couldn't have been over six and five years old.

"The little boy, seeing me, whispered to his sister, 'Look a Chinese.' His sister didn't even bother to turn around. Miffed, he repeated, this time a little louder, 'Hey, look, a Chinese.' The girl turned around, looked up for a moment, and didn't say a word. The little boy kept nudging her. 'Loo-ook, a Chinese.'

"Finally the girl stamped her foot in exasperation. 'So what?' she said. 'Ain't you German?'" —From a letter in the Heart Mountain Sentinel from Warren Tsuneishi, Syracuse, New York.

### 'We Are Not Alone'

Our memory fails us, but somewhere, sometime, we recall a warning about taking personal humiliation too seriously. One of the intents of the people who shove us around and brand us while we are down is to make us so angry that we lose sight of what we are aiming for. Nevertheless, we must continue to be freedom-lovers, to be believers in the essential equality of all men regardless of race, color or creed, even though many whom we have believed were faithful, too, do fail to live up to their trust. We can be certain that we are not alone—that there are men and women, millions of them, who seek the same end that we do.—from the Gila News-Courier.



## CALLING All Chapters!

By Teiko Ishida

### IOWA REPORTS

submitted by our Chicago representative regarding conditions for relocation in that state provide much encouragement for those interested in pursuing agriculture:

"The week end of the 18th (June), took my family and myself to Centerville, Iowa, to attend the district conference of the Brethren Churches. Arrived there early Saturday morning, was taken around to meet the leaders of the community. People there have never seen Japanese before, and if any were to come in, they had planned to ride them out. I had been apprised of this and went prepared. It actually turned out that they were more surprised than we. The fact that we didn't look like Japanese, according to their imagination, and that we spoke better English than they made them very inquisitive. In fact, the conference was more of a success than they planned, for more people than anticipated came just out of curiosity to see us. Mary (Mrs. Yatabe) attended the ladies' tea, which was an added program because so many people other than those connected with the conference came.

"Saturday night in the sweltering heat, enough to melt anyone, Dudley (son) gave a half-hour recital which stole the show of the conference. The demand was such by those who missed him that night forced us to put him on again Sunday.

"Sunday morning from 10 to 11 o'clock was given to me. Over 200 people attended. The main speaker of the day, Dr. Kurtz, president of the La Verne college in California, spoke right after me. He, instead of going right into his speech, spoke for 15 minutes in our behalf to substantiate and elaborate more on what I had said. This, of course, was a big boost to our cause, for he commands a great deal of respect and influence. The oddest thing of all was that two of the community's most outspoken anti-Japanese people came to me and asked me to find someone for their farms. Of course, I didn't know them, but after remarking about this to the pastor of the church, it just about floored him. After the conference was over, many individual invitations were extended to us to stay at their homes, have dinner, etc., but Dudley still had school, so we had to leave Monday.

"Iowa is a wonderful farming country with plenty of rich soil. Can't help feeling at home seeing the farm community somewhat similar to California. If you know of any couple wanting to resettle in a farming community, I have an offer for farmhands on a 500-acre ranch fully equipped, \$70 a month with maintenance plus cows, hogs and chickens for themselves."

Our past national president, Dr. T. T. Yatabe, is doing an excellent job along public relations and employment assistance lines from our Chicago office. . . . Dr. and Mrs. Yatabe and their son, Dudley, present an unmatched combination as a typical American nisei family.

### JACL BOOSTERS

drive recently concluded in Topaz has brought in a grand total of \$304.50 in associated memberships and P. C. subscription renewals . . . the last few solicitors who participated in the drive are Tsuyako Kataoka, Toshio Yoshida and Mary Shinoda . . . to these active JACL supporters — our deep appreciation — and the hope that national headquarters may count on you and other members of the boosters' group, previously mentioned in this column, when we require your assistance on future occasions . . . immediately after bringing this drive to a close, Chairman Henry Tani departed from Topaz on June 30 on a two-month

### SPEAKING TOUR

of the midwestern states at the invitation of the Board of Christian Education of the Evangelical and Reformed Church . . . his first stop is St. Louis, Mo., where several speaking engagements are

## Nisei Will Work Out Own Salvation, Says Writer

By Molly Oyama

Yes, there is a definite place for the American of Japanese descent in American life. Since coming out of a relocation center, I realize this more than ever. Only recently, the Reverend Edgar Wahlberg, pastor of the Grace Community church and outstanding leader of Denver, remarked, "There are several Japanese American families attending my church, and I hope to goodness they keep right on coming regularly. It's good for my congregation!"

Then I was told of a Presbyterian minister who is still hoping that some nisei will attend his church, because none has as yet. Despite my personal experience with a certain writers' group, I still maintain that I have encountered very little prejudice. And in regard to that "tempest in a teapot" incident, I felt that the lady who caused the rumpus only acted as she did because she had never known any nisei. Acting upon this assumption, I proceeded to write to her in a friendly tone, paying my respect to her as a War Mother of three sons in the service, explaining to her who and what the nisei were, and their part in our U. S. defense.

To my surprise, I received a letter from her saying: that she was deeply touched by my promise to pray for the welfare and safety of her soldier sons, that we should heed Madame Chiang's words about "no bitterness and recriminations no matter how much we have suffered," and thanking me for my letter. Of course, the Denver Post won't acknowledge this fact, but I think that this lady

and I now see eye to eye as fellow Americans.

At any rate, these leaders who had vision enough to pull themselves and others with them through the days of trial deserve credit along with those who volunteered for service in the U. S. Army. They carried the burden of proving the nisei to be good American citizens even when the going was the hardest. The majority of the nisei now agree that these people had foresight although they might have been skeptical of both volunteers and "optimists" at the time.

Tardily but surely the mass of nisei eventually discover that what their leaders have been exhorting all this time is more than often right. So for this reason we firmly believe that the nisei will be able to work out his own salvation, even if slowly.

Although the nisei does not realize it himself and would most unwillingly admit it, his political ideas — what little ideas he possesses along this line — are greatly influenced and colored by the ultra-conservative and even reactionary political ideas of the issei. Many are anti-labor, suspicious of unions, and view any form of progressivism or liberalism as some shade of pink or rose. Semantically confused by all sorts of catch words and phrases, they are afraid to venture forward in their political thinking.

Yet there is hope. Until now the nisei was not very social conscious, but the tremendous experience of evacuation and all its attendant ramifications is generally forcing him to realize his peculiar relation to society as a whole.

## News from the Combat Team: Center Girls Entertain Camp Shelby Volunteers

CAMP SHELBY, Miss. — News notes from Japanese American combat team in training here:

The second dance and week-end entertainment program given by the Japanese American combat team for 86 nisei girls from the Jerome and Rohrer relocation centers June 19 and 20 were even more successful than the first which was held May 1.

Chaperoned by a half dozen matrons and officials from the two centers, the girls came to Camp Shelby in three busses and were lodged overnight on the post.

The Saturday night dance was the most colorful ever seen at Service Club No. 5. The grand

march was led by the Commanding Officer, Colonel C. W. Pence. Miss Mary Kishiuye from Jerome led the girls' line. The girls wore lei two or three deep given to them by their dancing partners and also were the recipients of souvenir gifts and programs.

On Sunday the girls attended open air church services, had noon mess in the various companies and attended an afternoon Open House dance, also at the Service Club.

As usual, reunions of nisei boys now combat team soldiers with girls they had not seen in years proved to be a popular feature of the weekend.

Three hundred soldiers of the combat team will visit the Rolfin stock farm near Hattiesburg, Miss., this weekend as the guests of the owner, Mr. Earl Finch. Impressed by the appearance and conduct of a few who had visited his farm previously, Mr. Finch invited a large group. Bronco busting, horseback riding, boxing and wrestling matches will be on the program with iced watermelon and sandwiches for refreshments.

Thirty-nine non-commissioned officers were graduated June 19 from a four-weeks' course of instruction designed to further their competency as leaders. Certificates for proficiency were handed to them at graduation exercises by Regimental Adjutant, Captain Harry B. Farr.

The graduates were William I. Oba, Harry I. Takagi, Frank K. Sakamoto, Albert A. Koby, Toyo Sakamoto, Jimmie T. Shimizu, George M. Matsumoto, Thomas O. Mita, Jimmie Kanaya, Shaw Sakamoto, Mitsuo D. Tsuruda, Edward S. Tanabe, Thomas T. Utsunomiya, Kay M. Mio, William K. Nakako, John H. Koby, Kazuo Ohka, Susumu Yamada, Hideo Yasui, Dick Z. Masuda, William S. Oda, Herbert M. Sasaki, Joe Iwaoka, Charles M. Sugi, Hero Shizaki, Phillip N. Ichino, Richard H. Hata, Kazuo Kimura, Ben T. Kumagai, James N. Yamamoto, Frank Okusako, K. Uchida, Thomas H. Imai, M. Sumida, Henry Harada, Max A. Marutani, Hideyuki Noguchi, Jimmy Sakimoto and Tami Takamoto.

Just as suspicion and enmity spread, so does kindness and courtesy evoke similar emotions.

UNIONIZATION is apparently still for many nisei purely a mercenary matter. They are hesitant about joining a union unless their membership fees are balanced by profitable wage increases. They are unaware that many social advancements and betterment of working conditions are a result of union activity in days gone by. Unknowingly, they are parasitizing on the results of labor successes.

Concerted action and organization for the achievement of common purposes is not compellingly vital in their thinking. Most of them associate unions with their power of striking, ignorant that labor relations is a fine art in human relations.

Whether in joining a union or the JACL, ingenious arguments are made in resistance to the organizational idea. They are like old discussions on unions that we used to hear, such as:

"If we join, we ought to join the oldest union."  
"What union is that?"  
"That would be the building trades union. They built the pyramids and the sphinx."

"Then it ought to be the stone masons union; they fitted the stones together."  
"No, you're wrong there. It ought to be the carpenters union; they

## JACL News Colorado Calling!

By JOE MASAOKA

GENESIS OF A RIOT. Two men swayed out of a tavern. As they tottered around the corner, they came face to face with two diminutive nisei.

The two burly inebriates burst forth into abusive profanity and caught the startled nisei. Although they tried to twist loose, the tipsy celebrants had them in a firm grip and pushed them around to the accompaniment of insulting and taunting language.

Several husky nisei came upon the struggling group. The loud commotion attracted the attention of a staff member of the National JACL. She hurried down from her hotel room and as a couple of the nisei, angered by jeering words pushed into the fray, she darted between the would-be combatants and with stern commands rebuked the nisei to desist.

Then, turning on the disorderly men, she gave a fiery and forceful talk on the common cause of all peoples in the United States. She pointed out how nisei, as well as they, were serving on the fighting fronts.

By this time a number of Caucasian soldiers had gathered around. They cheered the little girl's sentiments and shamed the instigators into shaking hands with the little lady. Thus was the fireworks of a riot averted recently on Denver's Larimer street.

QUICK ON THE TRIGGER was the retort of a waitress when a soldier, whose dinner check was not priced, asked her, "Is this on the house?"

"We serve free meals on Mondays," she replied, as she pointed to the sign: THIS CAFE IS CLOSED MONDAY.

Beside it was another sign: BE KIND TO OUR WAITRESSES; THEY'RE HARDER TO GET THAN CUSTOMERS.

MISDIRECTED AGGRESSION is a common characteristic of underprivileged and disadvantaged groups in general, regardless of race.

I often wonder whether the inferiority complex of frustrated groups doesn't manifest itself in zoot suits and the chip-on-the-shoulder attitude as seen in some Negroes, Mexicans, nisei and others.

Recently, a Caucasian friend chanced to walk down a deserted side street. He encountered two Negroes in zoot suits who almost leered at him in resentment. Entirely oblivious of their attitude, he cheerily called, "Hi, boys!" They were almost bowled over by his unconcern and friendliness. Their hostile features relaxed and they returned the salutation.

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## Ann Nisei Says: Home-made Cooler Will Keep Foods Fresh This Summer

While a few centerites may have installed their own refrigerators in their rooms, the majority of those in evacuee camps will manage without them. However, most persons do need a cooler, at least to hold perishable foods.

A completely efficient cooler can be made at home in an hour or two and by using the simplest of materials—scrap lumber, muslin and a gallon tin can.

This cooler is merely a wooden frame covered in muslin. The muslin extends over the top of the cooler and its ends are inserted into the can, which is kept filled with water. The sides are kept damp by the water. This cooler is certainly no refrigerator, but you'll find it amazingly efficient at keeping left-over foods, etc., fresh.

Doubtless this principle has been used by a good many of you who have made coolers for your homes. Its value, of course, lies in its simplicity and adaptability. Proceeding from the very simplest form we will describe, you'll be able to make a cooler to suit your own needs.

A small cooler of this type would be good for all-day or overnight hikes and picnics where it's necessary to keep milk and butter fresh.

For a two-shelf cooler, 18 inches deep, 1 inches across, and 36 inches in height, you'll need the following materials: three pieces of wood eighteen inches square, 1 gallon size tin, four wooden strips 36 inches in length, 3 yards of 36" muslin.

Nail the four strips to the squares so that you have three shelves held together by the four posts at the corners.

Slit the muslin in half, then cut each piece in half so that you have four strips 18 inches wide and 1 and 1/2 yards long. Now cover three sides of your wooden frame in the following manner: lay bottom of muslin strip against bottom shelf, tack in place. Stretch material, then tack along sides and at top. There will be a strip of material left at the top. The fourth side will be the front of the cooler, so just tack the material along one side, leaving free at top and bottom.

The cooler is now ready for use. If possible, keep outside in the shade or on your porch. Put the tin can, filled with water on top. Spray the muslin sides with water, put loose ends at top into the tin can.

The water in the tin will keep the muslin damp, and you'll have a completely efficient system of refrigeration.

This cooler described is the simplest possible, of course. Using the principle described, however, you'll be able to design your own cooler, making it as large and elaborate as desired. A cooler that's to be set in one place permanently could be backed in wood, of course, and certainly should have a door—a frame, screwed on, and covered with cloth.

## 250 Evacuees Leave Poston Each Month, Report Says

PHOENIX, Ariz. — Dr. E. H. Spicer, assistant project director at the Poston war relocation center, said last week that approximately 250 evacuees are being released from that camp every month, according to the Associated Press.

Dr. Spicer told a local civic club the population of the camp on the Colorado river has been reduced from 1,000 last spring to 16,000 at present.

He said that as the sifting process continues only persons to remain in the camp will be those definitely known to be disloyal to the United States. In a typical block in the camp, he said, 75 will be natives of Japan, 60 years of age or older; 125 will be American-born children of these parents, and the remainder will be second generation Americans.

erected the scaffolding." And so on ad infinitum.

The main fact well considered is worth a library full of arguments. Unity makes for security.



# Nisei Volunteers Show Natural Aptitude For Work, Says Army Surgeon

## Timely Topics

(Continued from page 5)  
 the festivals, and praised the loyalty and citizenship of the Nisei to the sky. Even after war began, he continued to pretend to be a good friend of the Nisei. All of a sudden something went wrong. The Nisei of Southern California were dumbfounded when their friend, the great liberal, Mayor Bowron, began to lambast them and campaign for evacuation. His aspirations to ride into the governorship of the state of California on this issue were whispered around. Anything would have been believed by the Nisei who felt they had been double-crossed. They left Los Angeles with the sad memories of the days when the campaign managers and the Mayor himself begged for their votes and promised to be fair-minded on racial questions.

The Japanese American combat team is the symbol of Nisei loyalty to the United States. The boys are going to show that they are not afraid to die for their country. It is good news to learn that the volunteers are getting their induction notices at long last.

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## Court Ruled On Curfew Only

The newspaper accounts of the Supreme Court decision pertaining to the Yasui and Hirabayashi test cases were meager, and therefore I drew the hasty conclusion that the curfew and evacuation orders were declared constitutional. It now appears that only the legality of the curfew order was decided. Inasmuch as Hirabayashi and Yasui were both sentenced for violation of the curfew order, the court took the stand that the evacuation issue need not be decided at this time. It was unfortunate because even though an adverse decision had been rendered, the Nisei would have been able to know what rights were left to them under the Constitution.

I was afraid of the evacuation order because of the element of "military necessity" involved. Together with all the Nisei, I had a firm conviction that the curfew order was a clear violation of our rights as citizens. If the reasoning of the court is to stand as a precedent, there will be no protection for any minority in this country. Strange phrases were used by Chief Justice Stone which were alien to the concept of equal protection regardless of race, color or creed.

The validity of the evacuation order must be tested sooner or later. There are some who interpret the decision as indicating that the military commander had the right to make the decision for national welfare. On the hand, the perennial optimists interpret the hesitancy of the court to decide on the evacuation question as a hope. Inasmuch as the more fundamental civil rights are involved in the evacuation, the justices may decide that individual hearings are necessary.

Justice Murphy has indicated that he has doubts whether the government has the right to intern citizens and as to the validity of the curfew order today. In order to expedite resettlement it may be necessary that a test case be pushed vigorously. Each case will bring out new affirmation of our rights as citizens during peace time. This will serve to encourage those in the relocation centers to keep up their

## Captain Praises Men In Camp Shelby's Medical Unit

CAMP SHELBY, Miss. June 24 — Japanese American soldiers serving in the Medical Detachment of the Combat Team here show a greater natural aptitude for their work than any other soldiers he has encountered as a group, according to Regimental Surgeon Capt. C. H. Buckley, who commands the Detachment.

"Assignment here brought my first extensive contact with Japanese Americans," said Capt. Buckley, "and I have been highly pleased with the personnel of the Medical Detachment.

An exceptional number of them have had pre-medic, pharmaceutical or hospital experience and their zeal for continuing their studies and gaining further practical experience goes beyond any obvious degree. To some of them off-duty means only more time to work at self-improvement and to widen their scope of Army learning."

The Medical Detachment has six battalion surgeons, four of them Japanese American officers, and two Dental officers, one of whom is Japanese American. Capt. Melvin E. Smith of Newman, Ga., is Executive Officer. In the basic training period these officers instruct the enlisted men of the Detachment in first aid, splinting and bandaging, transfer of patients, material medica, pharmacy, medical and surgical nursing and field sanitation.

Specialized training for the most efficient and detailed care of the wounded and sick will follow the basic training period. All this training is supplemented of course with physical training, map-reading, litter drills, marching and bivouacking for the hospital corpsmen. So far, in basic training, the men have made above average progress, according to Capt. Buckley, and their marching and drilling have been particularly commended.

Capt. Buckley is a graduate of the University of Minnesota Medical school. He interned at Grant hospital in Chicago and Eitel hospital in Minneapolis. He served in the Army Medical Corps from 1933 to 1935 as a first lieutenant and then resigned to take up general medical practice in his home town, Menomonie, Wis. Rejoining the Army in 1942, he was with the 39th Division during four months' maneuvers in the Louisiana-Florida area, and came to the Japanese American Combat Team in February, 1943.

The battalion surgeons in the Detachment are 1st Lt. Robert Y. Katsuki of Honolulu, 1st Lt. Wallace S. Kawaoka of Lihue, Hawaii, Capt. William Belinkin of New York, 1st Lt. California S. Ushiro of Los Altos, Cal., 1st Lt. Irving R. Chrenstein of Chicago and 1st Lt. Katsumi Nakadate of East Chicago, Ind. The Dental officers are Capt. Wayland F. Hogan of Ocala, Fla., and 1st Lt. George S. Takahashi of Topaz, Utah.

courage and undergo privations until the war comes to an end. It will make one and all realize that all the rantings about taking away our citizenship, deporting even citizens to Japan, and so forth, are mere empty threats.

When evacuation of citizens was in the whispering stage, I was one of those who brushed it aside as "impossible." Now it is difficult for me to assure the Nisei with any confidence pertaining to our civil rights. It has happened once and it may happen again. But the Supreme Court is gradually defining the limits to which we may be persecuted and discriminated.

There is small consolation to know that the military cannot be arbitrary during war time. As long as racial classification is acknowledged as reasonable, we know that there is little protection for us within the danger zone as long as Japan is the common enemy.

## Vital Statistics

### BIRTHS

- To Mrs. Yoshio Imoto, Manzanar, a boy, Katsumi Allen, on Feb. 15.
- To Mrs. Masako Kawaguchi (32-11-1, Manzanar) a boy on June 10.
- To Mrs. Morito Takata (43-6-B, Jerome) a girl on June 10.
- To Mrs. Tamaye Tochioka (34-4-4, Manzanar) a boy on June 11.
- To Mrs. Toshiko Miyamoto (28-11-2, Manzanar) a girl on June 12.
- To Mrs. Tama Matsuoka (40-12-C, Topaz) a boy on June 13.
- To Mrs. Mitsue Hiratsuka (30-2-E, Topaz) a boy on June 13.
- To Mrs. Shizuyo Honda (25-13-2, Manzanar) a girl on June 13.
- To Mrs. Rose Shioji (10-8-2, Manzanar) a girl on June 14.
- To Mrs. Morio Yamagata (17-5-F, Jerome) a boy on June 14.
- To Mrs. Jack Nakashima (7-1-D, Jerome) a girl on June 14.
- To Mrs. Mary Wada (36-8-A, Topaz) a boy on June 15.
- To Mrs. Anna Uta Sugimoto (1-3-1, Manzanar) a girl on June 16.
- To Mrs. Sumie Yamagishi (16-5-D, Topaz) a girl on June 17.
- To Mrs. Frank Kobuma (7G-4A, Granada) a boy on June 17.
- To Mrs. Keichi Hanada (16-8-F, Rohwer) a girl on June 17.
- To Mrs. Frank Dairiki (3204-A, Tule Lake) a boy on June 18.
- To Mrs. Tokiuchi Kamimura (9E-11F, Granada) a girl on June 18.
- To Mrs. Masato Shimatsu (18-1-B, Jerome) a boy on June 18.
- To Mrs. Kazunori Kuriishi (2-7-B, Rohwer) a boy on June 18.
- To Mrs. Kiyoshi Asasa (9-10-B, Gila River) a boy on June 18.
- To Mrs. Masaharu Okamoto (3-9-D, Rohwer) a girl on June 19.
- To Mrs. Masataka James Tanabe (49-8-B, Gila River) a boy on June 19.
- To Mrs. Miyajo Yumibe (6912-C, Tule Lake) a boy on June 19.
- To Mrs. Kojiro Yoshida (31-1-A, Minidoka) a girl on June 19.
- To Mrs. George Kaneko (36-7-B, Rohwer) a boy on June 20.
- To Mrs. Hanako Hata (16-5-3, Manzanar) a girl on June 20.
- To Mrs. Yoshimi Tada (1703-C, Tule Lake) a boy on June 20.
- To Mrs. Kyuemon Watanabe (7K-1C, Granada) a boy on June 21.
- To Mrs. Henry Matsunaga (34-5-D, Minidoka) a girl on June 22.
- To Mrs. Masahisa Tanaka (2-6-D, Minidoka) a boy on June 22.
- To Mrs. Kanichi Nomura (23-10-A, Heart Mountain) a boy on June 23.
- To Mrs. Robert Yoshio Kodama (24-2-A, Heart Mountain) a boy on June 23.

### DEATHS

- Eijiro Kojima (17-3-D, Jerome) on June 12.
- Tsunosuke Matsui, 64, (1-3-D, Jerome), on June 13.
- Mrs. Sho Fujii, 56, (9K-4B, Granada), on June 18.
- Ken Yoshida, 58, (19-1-A, Minidoka), on June 19.
- Mikio Miyaguchi, 63, (27-4-B, Heart Mountain), on June 20.
- Kyutaro Matsubara, 69, (1-8-D, Jerome), on June 20.
- Infant son of Mr. and Mrs. Kosaku Tamura (11H-11D, Granada), on June 21.
- Roy Noboru Tada, 11, (24-5-D, Minidoka), on June 22.
- Sehei Shoshi, 63, (13-5-E, Minidoka) on June 23.
- Matsusaburo Ohashi, 60, (8-2-C, Heart Mountain), on June 25.

### MARRIAGES

- Ruth Sakai to Private John Matsuo on June 10 at Fort Riley, Ky.
- Kaoru Tanabe to Seiichi Nomura on June 12 at Jerome.
- Rose Nakashima to James H. Nawa on June 17 at Rohwer.
- Kaory Kimura to Jack Yoshitomi on June 18 at Twin Falls, Idaho.
- Chizuko Fujimoto to Richard S. Yoshimura on June 20 at Minidoka.
- Mitsuko Takaki to Shoji Sato on June 20 at Rohwer.
- Shizue Sakogawa to Yoshimasa Kawano on June 20 at Tule Lake.
- Aiko Ogata to Dick Iseri on June 20 at Granada.
- Kiyo Ajiura to Oliver Noji on June 20 at Tule Lake.
- Rose Nakagawa to Joe Ikeda on June 23 at Cody, Wyo.
- Margaret K. Yorimoto to Richard K. Sakamoto at Lamar, Colo.

# National Figures Praise Heart Mountain Volunteers

## Vallejo Body Seeks Evacuee Deportation But Is Opposed

VALLEJO, Calif. — A meeting of the city council last week became unexpectedly lively when a group of men and women representing the Vallejo Committee of Inter-Racial Affairs filed formal objection to a resolution urging deportation of all evacuees and upholding Lieut. General John L. DeWitt in his evacuee policy.

The verbal fireworks started, the Oakland Tribune reports, when City Commissioner Frank Brew accused the Reverend Lester F. Eisel, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church and a member of the Inter-Racial group, of seeking to force his opinions on the city council.

"It's not the first time you have tried this," Brew said. "Everyone is entitled to his opinion, but in this particular matter there are other organizations who have given much time and research to this and are better qualified to express an opinion than you and these others who have taken this attitude on the council's resolution."

In registering their protest against the council resolution, Rev. Eisel and his co-members of the committee declared that the "statement of the city council that all persons of Japanese ancestry are all unqualified and unsuited to be citizens and residents" of the United States was too sweeping a declaration and that "we are opposed to any statement constituting a blanket charge in the resolution."

The minister continued: "We feel that the Japanese who are guilty of disloyalty should be duly punished and those who are proved dangerous to the country's welfare should be confined. I feel that others who are not disloyal and who have proved themselves loyal should be liberated and encouraged to return to normal civil life and to contribute their part to the winning of the war."

Mayor John Stewart backed up Commissioner Brew in his stand.

"I feel that our resolution was proper in every respect and should stand," he said.

Mrs. Ruth W. Sears, chairman of a sub-committee of the Inter-Racial organization, and the Rev. David L. Kratz, pastor of the Methodist Church, also a member of the racial group, followed the Rev. Eisel in speaking against the resolution.

## The Washington Letter

(Continued from page 4)

vasion will mean to the Nazis and Fascists. In other words they have been using fear propaganda, once employed against the allies, on their own peoples to stiffen their sagging morale.

All manner of mysterious lies are being conjured up by the fascist propagandists, including warnings of atrocities to be wrought on the Italian and German people after the allied invasion. However, Hitler and his vassal, Il Duce, know that this will not be enough to jell the supine and sagging backs of their one-time supporters into the sort of firm, stubbornly resisting mass needed to halt an invasion.

The enemy has to destroy the tremendous prestige which the growing allied strength has developed in the minds of the peoples in the occupied countries. How to do this is quite a problem when the evidence of Stalingrad and North Africa loom so large in the minds of the people of Europe. They know that the master race has been punctured and beaten badly at least twice.

Thus, Hitler and Mussolini are trying to show their people that the allies are uncertain of their next moves. That Europe is still impregnable and that the allies are afraid to attempt an invasion. To do this, the enemy has been spreading invasion reports by the thousands. They go so far

- Fumiye Nishimura to Kiyoshi Fujiwara at Cody, Wyo.
- Fumie Alice Masuda to Harry Nouchi at Cody, Wyo.
- Mae Uno to Private Jack Matsuzawa at Hattiesburg, Miss.

## Interest in Nisei Welfare Expressed; "Credo" is Praised

HEART MOUNTAIN, Wyo. — Public figures throughout the nation have written letters expressing favorable comments in response to messages sent to them by the Heart Mountain volunteers for the Japanese American combat team, according to the Heart Mountain Sentinel. The messages sent by the volunteers gave notice of their organization and presented their "Credo."

Among those who replied with letters of commendation were Milton S. Eisenhower, former associate director of the OWI; Congressman Will Rogers, Jr., Calif.; Congressman Jerry Voorhis, Calif. Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War; Senator Elbert D. Thomas, Utah; W. S. Gamertsfield, acting president of Ohio university; Caleb F. Gates, Jr., chancellor of University of Denver; Supreme Court Justice Felix Frankfurter; Edward J. Ennis, director of alien enemy control unit, Department of Justice; W. C. Giersbach, president of Pacific university, Oregon.

The letter from the president of the Pacific university said, in part: "... I want to express my appreciation for the fine spirit which you have revealed in it. I have always felt that the evacuation of Americans of Japanese ancestry was a mistake. I do not feel that it was necessary, any more that it would be necessary to set aside those people like myself who are of German or Italian ancestry. The policy is mischievous. One of these days someone may suggest that segregation be carried on for certain religionists, or certain other nationals. We have done it now for the Indians, the Negroes, and those of Japanese ancestry.

"To me it is un-American to segregate any group because of race, culture, creed or previous condition of servitude. We are looking forward to the day when our fellow citizens will be free to come and go according to the civil law of the land."

The letter from Ennis said: "The letter from the Heart Mountain volunteers which accompanies the credo contains the expression of sincere sentiments of which our department has been aware since before the establishment of the relocation centers. The credo is a noble expression of these same feelings.

"The Attorney General has stated on numerous occasions an opinion with which I heartily concur that the overwhelming majority of persons of Japanese ancestry in this country are not only devoted to the every-day practices of peaceful co-operation which is part of American citizenship, but are also loyal in a deeper sense to those principles which make a soldier serve his native land in time of emergency.

"I know that members of your volunteer groups and those from other relocation centers will establish a fine record of service which will reflect credit upon their families and friends. It is unnecessary for me to add that I know that our country will also be proud of them."

as to name the day when we will invade Europe—in the full knowledge that such reports are made of whole cloth. Then, once the alleged invasion date passes, enemy propaganda to their own people boasts about how afraid the allies are to attempt an invasion. This is designed to calm the upset nerves of their seething peoples. It is also designed to delude us—the peoples of the United Nations—into false hopes of premature victory which will make us ease up on the job of bending every effort on the production front, the home front and the fighting front. We cannot permit this newest enemy propaganda ruse to work. If and when we invade Europe, we will hear about it from our own leaders. Until then, we will do well to take all reports of an "imminent invasion" with a grain of salt.

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## Nisei Rookie Finds Army Keeps Democratic Ways

(Continued from page 5) gether in such juxtapositions in the shuffle of public contact.

On part of our train trip to Cleveland, we held a comfortable lower berth, while a tall and massive major squirmed his lengthy frame in the upper directly above. It was this same officer's seat in the smoking room that we absentmindedly usurped when he got up to get a drink of water. When we blushing became aware of our brigandage, we offered his seat back, but he smilingly declined and finished his cigarette leaning against the hard edge of the lavatory. We remember wondering at the time, where else on this earth democratic habits of behavior were so strong as to make it unthinkable for an officer to take a seat back from an enlisted man six or seven whole rungs below him in the military hierarchy.

So far as our experiences to date indicate, military service has had little or no effect on the men of this country with respect to their basic modes of thought or conduct. They exemplify the democratic tradition that a man can be a topflight soldier without being a military zealot or an exponent of fascist principles of unbridled force and hate. An occasional soldier or sailor will show signs of departure from rationality and tolerance of spirit as a consequence of grim and terrible experience on the fighting front. But such an individual is the exception rather than the rule. And we have a feeling that

his prototype is more common in the civilian population than among those who actually do the fighting.

The pleasantest fellow we met on our trip was a young sergeant just invalided home from Guadalcanal after being there during the whole bitter business of clearing the enemy off that island. Despite his long and arduous contact with the unlovely aspects of fighting an unlovely foe, he evinced no trace of racial animosity or bigotry in his description of that fighting. As one American talking to another American, he gave us vivid, humorous, terrifying sidelights on the operations in that jungle arena. But like most U. S. soldiers and sailors on furlough, his talking and thinking embraced non-military matters as much as the war experiences so fresh in his memory—the virtues of Cincinnati, his hometown, the wonderful food that his mother was undoubtedly preparing for his return and, most of all, the past, present and future fortunes of the Cincinnati Reds ball club.

Our brief contact with this sergeant and with the other assorted members of our fighting forces cemented our long held belief that in this country we shall never see or hear grim-lipped, hard-eyed legions heiling or banzai-ing any Hitler or Tojo. Not so long as our young men can return from kicking hell out of any enemy and still talk lovingly of matters that have nothing to do with war directly but everything to do with the spirit of democratic men everywhere. We like to think that this country is, in a war, waging this war so that the Cincinnati sergeant can once more return to a leisurely contemplation of the exploits of his beloved Reds. (From "Trek", published at Topaz, Utah).

## Pray to Retain Evacuees in Centers, Says Missionary

CHICAGO, Ill. — "If we Christians will write letters to Washington, and pray, we can keep the Japs in the detention camps."

This statement was credited by the Herald American to Dr. Ralph Leonard Phillips of the South China Gospel Mission, former head of 29 Protestant churches in China, speaking last week in Los Angeles, Calif., to the Sunday Evening Club at the First Congregational church.

Dr. Phillips declared evacuees from California should not be allowed to return at least until the war is over.

## California Minister Defends Nisei, Urges Race Tolerance

SAN FERNANDO, Calif. — The opinions of the Reverend E. Alexander Gray on the evacuee question were important—or startling—enough to make a lead story with a banner headline across the front page of the San Fernando Valley Times on June 18.

Opposing a resolution before the members of the local Kiwanis club the pastor of the First-Methodist church warned that the rising tide of race prejudice in the nation is leading to a terrible Third World War. The resolution he spoke against had been introduced for adoption by the Civic Affairs committee of the club and urged the

government to stop releasing Japanese Americans from war relocation centers.

"We ought to trust the established agencies of our government, the army, navy and the Federal Bureau of Investigation who check and approve of all American-born Japanese so released from war relocation centers," the minister declared.

He added that there are more than 4000 United States soldiers of Japanese parentage who are serving in our army trying to prove their loyalty, and quoted Readers Digest for February, 1943, to support the statement. And quoting Drew Pearson's column, The Washington Merry-Go-Round, of June 14, he revealed that there are some American citizens in the relocation camps who won their citizenship by fighting for the United States in World War I.

The Reverend Gray was further quoted:

"No disloyal person should be released, but . . . those who wish to prove their loyalty by serving in the factories and fields of production should be given that opportunity."

"I believe in the Constitution—we ought not to treat people differently because of their color or race or class. Racial prejudice is growing against the Negro, against the Mexican, against the Jew and the Japanese American—and in our moments of sanity we should stem this growing tide. It's our America."

## JACL Council Recommends New Test Case on Evacuation

(Continued from page 3) recognized by this Court that the war power, like the other great substantive powers of government, is subject to the limitations of the Constitution. We give great deference to the judgment of the Congress and of the military authorities as to what is necessary in the effective prosecution of the war, but we can never forget that there are constitutional boundaries which it is our duty to uphold. It would not be supposed, for instance that public elections could be suspended or that the prerogatives of the courts could be set aside, or that persons not charged with offenses against the law or war could be deprived of due process of law and the benefits of trial by jury, in the absence of a valid declaration of martial law.

"Distinctions based on color and ancestry are utterly inconsistent with our traditions and ideals. They are at variance with the principles for which we are now waging war. We cannot close our eyes to the fact that for centuries the Old World has been torn by racial and religious conflicts and has suffered the worst kind of anguish because of inequality of treatment for different groups. There was one law for one and a different law for another. Nothing is written more firmly into our law than the compact of the Plymouth voyagers to have just and equal laws. To say that any group cannot be assimilated is to admit that the great American experiment has failed when confronted with the normal attachment of certain groups to the lands of their forefathers. As a nation we embrace many groups, some of them among the oldest settlements in our midst which have isolated themselves for religious and cultural reasons.

"Today is the first time, so far as I am aware, that we have sustained a substantial restriction of the personal liberty of citizens of the United States based upon the accident of race or ancestry. Under the curfew order here challenged no less than 70,000 American citizens have been placed under a special ban and deprived of their liberty because of their particular racial inheritance. In this sense it bears a melancholy resemblance to the treatment accorded to members of the Jewish race in Germany and in other parts of Europe. The result is the creation in this country of two classes of citizens for the purposes of a critical and perilous hour—to sanction discrimination between groups of United States citizens on the basis of ancestry. In my opinion this goes to the very brink of constitutional power.

"Except under conditions of great emergency a regulation of this kind applicable solely to citizens of a particular racial extraction would not be regarded as in accord with the requirements of due process of law contained in the Fifth Amendment. We have consistently held that attempts to apply regulatory action to particular groups solely on the basis of racial distinction or classification is not in accordance with due process of law as prescribed by the Fifth and Fourteenth Amendments. It is true that the Fifth Amendment, unlike the Fourteenth, contains no guarantee of equal protection of the laws. It is also true that even the guaranty of equal protection of the laws allows a measure of reasonable classification. It by no means follows, how-

ever, that there may not be discrimination of such an injurious character in the application of laws as to amount to a denial of due process of law as that term is used in the Fifth Amendment. I think that point is dangerously approached when we have one law for the majority of our citizens and another for those of a particular racial heritage."

Justice Murphy concurred in the view, however, that the urgency of the military danger on the Pacific Coast warranted the curfew orders but noted the reservation: "Whether such a restriction is valid today is another matter." He concluded his notable and historic concurring opinion thus:

"In voting for affirmance of the judgment I do not wish to be understood as intimating that the military authorities in time of war are subject to no restraints whatsoever, or that they are free to impose any restrictions they may choose on the rights and liberties of individual citizens or groups of citizens in those places which may be designated as 'military areas.' While this court sits, it has the inescapable duty of seeing that the mandates of the Constitution are obeyed. That duty exists in time of war as well as in time of peace, and in its performance we must not forget that few indeed have been the invasion upon essential liberties which have not been accompanied by pleas of urgent necessity advanced in good faith by responsible men.

"Nor do I mean to intimate that citizens of a particular racial group whose freedom may be curtailed within an area threatened with attack should be generally prevented from leaving the area and going at large in other areas that are not in danger of attack and where special precautions are not needed. Their status as citizens, though subject to requirements of national security and military necessity, should at all times be accorded the fullest consideration and respect. When the danger is past, the restrictions imposed on them should be promptly removed and their freedom of action fully restored."

Justices Rutledge and Douglas wrote separate concurring opin-

ions, Justice Rutledge observing: "Given the generating conditions for exercise of military authority and recognizing the wide latitude for particular applications that ordinarily creates, I do not think it is necessary in this case to decide that there is no action a person in the position of General DeWitt here may take, and which he may regard as necessary to the region's or the country's safety, which will call judicial power into play. The officer of course must have wide discretion and room for its operations. But it does not follow there may not be bounds beyond which he cannot go and, if he oversteps them, that the courts may not have power to protect the civilian citizen. But in this case that question need not be faced and I merely add my reservation without indication of opinion concerning it."

With the major constitutional questions arising out of the evacuation, detention, and continuing exclusion of American citizens of Japanese ancestry from the Pacific Coast, still expressly undetermined by the Supreme Court, the challenge for continuing and renewing aggressive action remains. An appropriate legal proceeding testing the legality of the military exclusion orders as applied to loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry, at the present time, should be instituted immediately and prosecuted vigorously.

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