



Japanese Canadian Evacuees Seek to Cancel Requests For Repatriation to Japan

Treatment of Nisei In Canada Compared With Actions of Nazis

TORONTO, Ont.—The official treatment of Japanese Canadians is bordering on Nazi ideals and is jeopardizing the victories won abroad, Rabbi A. L. Feinberg declared in Holy Blossom Temple on Dec. 2.

Stating that the Nazi race superiority complex is being applied to the treatment of Japanese Canadians, Rabbi Feinberg declared: "A wrong idea does not become right because it hurts immigrants from enemy territory. No nation should espouse racialism under any circumstance."

The political and moral rights of Japanese Canadians are denied them when their disloyalty is assumed in advance by governmental agencies, the rabbi stated.

New York JACL Urges Support Of FEPC Move

Will Join Sponsors Of Mass Meeting at Madison Square Garden

NEW YORK—A resolution urging full support for the passage of a permanent FEPC was adopted by those attending the meeting sponsored by the New York Chapter, Japanese American Citizens League on December 14 at the American Common.

Telegrams were sent to the President asking for his immediate support, and to Senator Alben Barkley, Senator John E. Murray and to Representative Mary T. Norton that they continue their good work in pushing for passage of a permanent FEPC.

The messages sent to the President asserted that increased discrimination during the reconversion period prompted the mass meeting sponsored by the New York Chapter JACL to pass resolutions urging the president to get behind the immediate passage of a permanent FEPC bill.

George Hunton, executive secretary of the Catholic Inter-racial Council; Joe Ishikawa, Nisei, formerly of Los Angeles, California and B. F. McLaurin, organizer for the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters addressed the group.

Hunton told the assemblage the importance of having FEPC, the need of extending the right to work of all Americans regardless of race, color, or creed.

McLaurin gave the historical background on the famous presidential order signed by the late President Roosevelt, creating the FEPC. He also told of the numerous efforts being made to have this bill passed.

Ishikawa gave the advantages of having a permanent FEPC and about the giant rally to be held at Madison Square Garden on February 28th.

A discussion period followed the talks. Literature given to those who attended the meeting was furnished by the National Council for permanent FEPC.

It was announced by President Alfred Funabashi, that the New York Chapter will be one of the many sponsoring organizations for a rally to be held at Madison Square Garden. Funabashi and Peter S. Aoki have been asked to serve on the planning committee of the metropolitan council for permanent FEPC by Miss Maeda Springer, executive secretary of that organization.

Theft of Farm Tools Under Investigation

POMONA, Calif.—Sheriff's deputies are now investigating the theft of miscellaneous farm tools and household equipment reported by Heiichi Ota, 584 Francisco St., Baldwin Park, while he was away in a war relocation center.

2,000 Petitioners Ask Prime Minister for Right to Remain

WINNIPEG, Man.—More than two thousand persons of Japanese ancestry have forwarded petitions to Prime Minister Mackenzie King, Minister of Justice L. S. St. Laurent and Minister of Labor Humphrey Mitchell asking for the right to stay in Canada.

The petitioners seek to cancel requests for repatriation, declaring that they had signed the repatriation forms not from a desire to go to Japan but for other reasons. In general the petitions state that evacuees signed the repatriation documents because of a belief that signing them meant economic security in the future and permission to remain in the evacuee housing centers.

The petitions pointed out that during the registration period the evacuees were informed that those who did not sign the repatriation requests would be required to leave the camps for relocation in eastern Canada and that only those signing the requests would be permitted to remain in British Columbia.

The petitions were mailed from the evacuee centers to the newly-created Civil Rights Defense Committee in Winnipeg which, in turn, forwarded them to Ottawa.

The petitioners—Japanese nationals, naturalized persons and Canadian citizens represent a substantial section though not all of the people who applied for cancellation of repatriation requests. Signatures of persons under 16 were not included.

"Incidents and circumstances" listed in the petitions as affecting the decision on repatriation were enumerated as:

1. Sale of their property without consent.
2. The government's declaration on April 21, 1942, that all persons of Japanese ancestry moved to other provinces from British Columbia during the war would be moved again after the war.
3. Restrictions against ownership of property and the right to do business.
4. Problems of family obligations.
5. Lack of suitable jobs in the East.

6. Lack of economic security and lack of hope of permanent resettlement east of the Rockies because of restrictions.

Most of the 2,010 signatures were for persons now segregated in British Columbia repatriate camps. There were 550 signatures to petitions from Tashme, 976 from Slocan City—Bay Farm—Popoff and 297 from Lemon Creek. Other names came from scattered areas in British Columbia.

About half of the petitioners were Japanese nationals and the rest were Canadian—born or naturalized citizens.

Army Announces Inactivation of "Red Bull" Division

WASHINGTON — The 34th (Red Bull) Division, in which Japanese Americans of the famous 100th Infantry Battalion first saw combat in Italy, has been inactivated, the War Department announced recently.

The 34th was the first American division to be sent to the European theater of operations and later landed in North Africa on Nov. 8, 1942. Fighting stubbornly against Germany's best, the 34th slugged through the African campaign, which was highlighted by its capture of famous "Hill 609." Salerno, Cassino and Anzio were but few of the later objectives of the "Red Bull" Division.

The 442nd (Japanese American) Combat Team fought with the "Red Bull" division when it was first committed to combat in June, 1944.

Tule Lake Expatriates Will Receive New Hearings Soon

Movietone Newsreel Shows Stilwell's Visit to Masudas

Fox Movietone this week released pictures of Gen. Stilwell's presentation of Sgt. Kazuo Masuda's posthumous DSC to Mary Masuda in ceremonies on Dec. 8 at the Masuda ranch at Talbert, Calif.

The newsreel clip carried the head "Nisei Hero Honored Posthumously by Gen. Stilwell" and was accompanied by a narration by Lowell Thomas.

Navy Citation Received by Nisei Soldier

WITH THE NORTH PACIFIC FLEET — Vice Admiral Frank Jack Fletcher, commander of the North Pacific Force, United States Pacific Fleet recently commended a Japanese American soldier, Tech. Sgt. Lawrence Mihara, for "excellent service in line of his duty" with the Navy forces in the emergency occupation of Northern Honshu and Hokkaido in Japan from Sept. 7 to Sept. 20.

Admiral Fletcher's commendation to the Nisei read:

"Tech. Sgt. Lawrence L. Mihara faithfully served this command as interpreter and translator. He proved himself on all occasions to be competent and versatile. He was equal to all demands, ranging from impromptu interpreting of ordinary conversation to the formal presentation in military Japanese of the occupation terms required by the Command. His skillful handling of this difficult task was excellent in all respects. His conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Armed Services."

Tech. Sgt. Mihara is a graduate of the Army's military intelligence language school at Fort Snelling, Minn.

Plan to Move Granada Camp To Denver Termed "Impossible"

Governor Vivian Wanted To Use Barracks to House Veterans

DENVER, Colo.—Colorado Governor Vivian's plan to move the abandoned Granada camp of the War Relocation Authority at Amache to Denver to provide housing for war veterans and their families was termed "impossible" by WRA officials here.

Governor Vivian had suggested that the relocation center's buildings which are now unoccupied be dismantled and moved to Denver by freight cars or trucks. He told a press conference that the camp which once housed 7,500 persons had been declared surplus by the government.

WRA officials in Denver, however, pointed out that the barracks buildings which housed the Japanese Americans at Granada were not built to be set up again once they were torn down.

"We might salvage some two-by-fours and some plumbing equipment from the camp but that is about all," Everett Lane, WRA director, said. "The buildings were of a very temporary type. They are made largely of celotex siding and could not be transported and rebuilt."

"The only purpose such an operation might serve is to save some materials which now are hard to get. Reestablishing the entire settlement is impossible because of the nature of construction."

Requests for Cancellation of Renunciation of Citizenship To Be Considered by Panel

Immigration, Naturalization Service Expected To Undertake New Program to Determine Validity Of Charges of Duress from Ex-Citizens

PHILADELPHIA—All potential deportees at the Tule Lake center of the War Relocation Authority will receive one more chance to remain in the United States under new hearing procedures which are expected to be announced by the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice.

The new program will affect some 3,000 American-born Japanese who have renounced their citizenship while in relocation centers, as well as aliens who had requested repatriation.

It is believed that the new program was instituted by the Department of Justice as a result of a flood of petitions from renunciants who have sought to cancel their renunciations of citizenship and to avoid deportation.

A suit is already on file in the United States District Court at San Francisco, involving the petitions of 985 persons at the Tule Lake center who seek to cancel their renunciation actions and hope to regain American citizenship.

It is believed that the proposed hearings which will get under way in January will give all renunciants an opportunity to show that the renunciations were made under duress or because of resentment as a result of the evacuation and detention policy of the government in its treatment of persons of Japanese ancestry on the West Coast. This evidence will not be taken for the purpose of upsetting the renunciations but will be taken into consideration as one of the factors in the determination of the question of deportation.

The right to hearings will not be extended by the Immigration and Naturalization Service to the renunciants who are recognized "pro-Japanese zealots" and who have been given hearings by the Enemy Alien Control Unit of the

Department of Justice. Government officials see no need to include these men in the proposed hearings as the earlier hearings covered much the same ground. Members of this group, which constitute only a small percentage of the renunciants, have been transferred from Tule Lake to alien enemy internment camps at Bismark and Santa Fe.

The new procedures are expected to be instituted at Tule Lake on Jan. 2.

Responsibility for the deportation was recently transferred from the Department of Justice to the Immigration and Naturalization Service under Ugo Carusi in Philadelphia.

It is believed that 15 to 20 officials who have experience in previous hearings have been selected to comprise the boards which will hear the renunciants.

Monroe Sweetland Condemns Racial Policy of Services

WASHINGTON — Stressing the experience of Japanese American soldiers "who lived and fought with every Army and Marine combat unit" in the Pacific, Monroe Sweetland, who served 23 months in the Pacific as American Red Cross field supervisor, on Dec. 12 condemned both the Army and Navy for their undemocratic policy with respect to Negro troops.

Because the Nisei were assigned to every Pacific unit, Sweetland said that in his opinion every soldier returning from that theater would fight any mistreatment of the Japanese American group in the United States, and he added that this would also have been true in the case of Negroes if the Army and Navy had employed integrated units to a similar extent.

Mr. Sweetland, who was national director of CIO War Relief before joining the Red Cross, termed the segregation of Negro personnel in separate Army and Navy units as a "tragic blunder in the policy of a democratic Nation" and emphasized that no such discrimination was practiced against Mexicans, Puerto Ricans, Chinese, Koreans, American Indians or citizens of Japanese ancestry.

He cited numerous examples of non-segregation in Red Cross activities and emphasized that he never had seen or heard of a single incident engendered through this "pan-racial" policy. Hospital libraries, canteens, recreational facilities, and athletic tournaments were all conducted on non-discriminatory basis, by both white and Negro supervisors.

Two More Nisei Reenlist in Army

LEGHORN, Italy — Two more soldiers of the 442nd (Japanese American) Combat Team have reenlisted in the Army.

They are Staff Sgt. Tetsuya Ariyasu of Seattle, Wash., and Sgt. Robert Chino of Chicago. Both will receive furloughs in the United States before returning for European duty.

1945: GIs Wrote Year's Major Nisei Stories

Terrorism Made Headlines as California Racists Opposed Return of Evacuee Group

For Americans everywhere and for the whole of the Allied world, the year 1945 was a year of victory. It was not entirely a year of peace, for the aftermath of war rumbled in Indonesia, in Iran and in China, where the signing of peace treaties did not bring an end to bullets and bombs and dying men.

For Japanese Americans it was the year of terrorism—of threats and intimidation and fearful nights, the year when the Nisei's opposition took to guns and dynamite and fire to prevent the return of the Japanese Americans to their homes. It was also the year that found the Nisei would not be intimidated.

It was the year the 442nd Regimental Combat Team fought with valor and honor on foreign fields, a year when not even lengthy casualty lists were a measure of the devotion of these men to their country.

It was the year of relocation and the close of nine war relocation centers, the year that began with 80,000 persons in these desert camps and the year that ended with all but 15,000 of these resettled in other parts of the country.

It was a year of heroism everywhere, among the allied forces on two vast fronts, among a united American population and among a small segment of that population known as the Japanese Americans.

It began in: **JANUARY**, when the current Nisei furore concerned the erasing of 16 Japanese American names from the Hood River, Oregon's American Legion honor roll. In that month, too, Carey McWilliams exposed a pending deal between the Teamster's Union of Los Angeles and dealers in that city for a closed shop agreement, with the bargaining pawn the exclusion of Nisei from membership. It was a month of terrorism, too, when a carload of persons, including two AWOL soldiers, tried to dynamite a packing shed on the ranch of Sumio Doi, returned evacuee. It was also a month of casualties for the Japanese Americans. The War Department reported in the last two weeks of January a total of 487 casualties.

In **FEBRUARY** the issues were resolving. The Hood River post defied an order from Commander Edward N. Scheiberling to restore 16 Nisei names to their honor roll. Four men were indicted for the terroristic attack upon Doi's ranch. And the acts of terrorism increased. In Selma on the night of Feb. 16 hoodlums fired on the home of S. J. Kakutani. At approximately the same time, others burned down the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Morishige, and on the tenth, the home of Frank Osaki near Fresno was shot upon. Said Frank Osaki after the attack: "If someone plugs me, I'll just have to get plugged. . . I'm not going to leave, either." On the 23rd, six rifle shells were fired into the home of John Shiokari, 14 miles north of Lancaster. On the night of the 26th, three shots were fired into the home of Sam Uyeno near Visalia, and a small building owned by Frank Sakaguchi was burned down. And February was also the month when Lt. Gen. Jack L. Devers, commanding general of the Allied Sixth Army Group, awarded two Distinguished Service Crosses, 19 Silver Stars and 12 Bronze Stars to Nisei American soldiers, and the 442nd received its first Presidential Unit Citation. At home the case of Dr. George Ochikubo, Elmer Yamamoto and Kiyoshi Shigekawa on the right of the military to continue the exclusion of Americans of Japanese descent on an individual basis went to the Federal court in Los Angeles. And in Chicago Dr. Selig A. Shevin of the Jackson Park hospital resigned his post over the refusal of the hospital to take 19-year-old Toyoko Murayama.

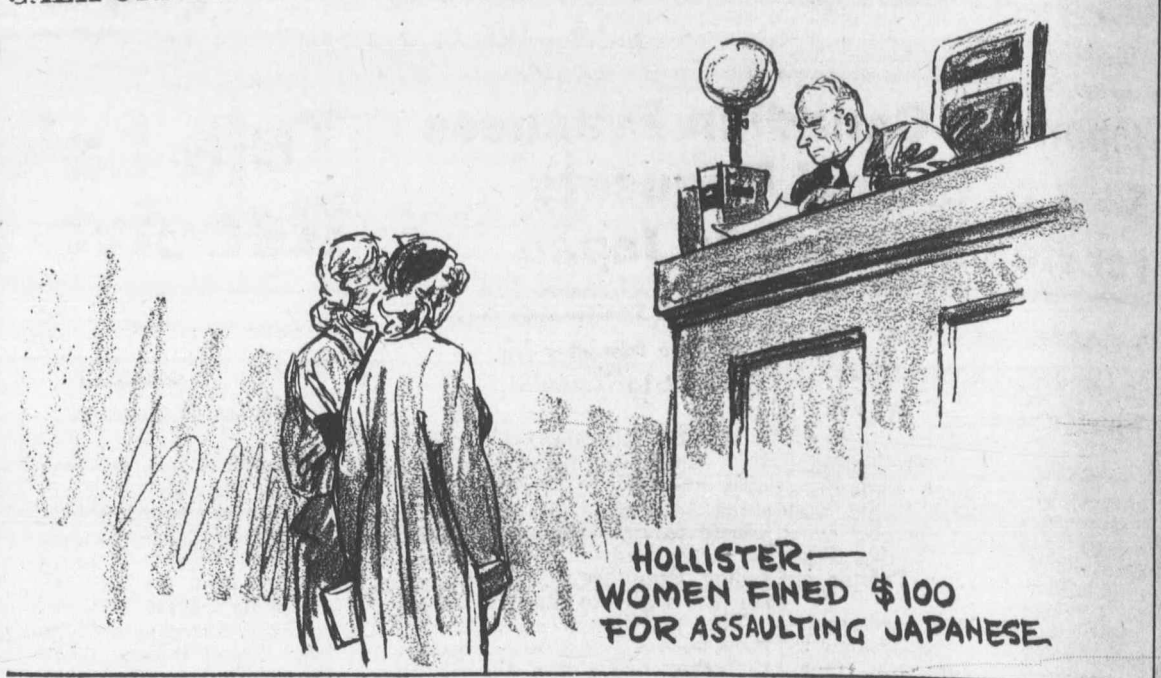
In **MARCH** the issues were the same. The night-riders were still having a spree. They shot into the Takeda home in San Jose. In Pasadena they defaced the garage doors of Dr. Linus Paulding, who had hired an evacuee, and they attacked the homes of Japanese Americans in Gardena and Madera. They continued their criminal acts in Fresno, where they desecrated the graves of persons of Japanese ancestry. And at the same time the U. S. Sixth Army announced that the 100th Infantry Battalion, whose soldiers were all men of Japanese descent, had been awarded 1,547 Purple Hearts, 21 Distinguished Service Crosses, six Legions of Merit, 73 Silver Stars, seven Soldier's Medals, 96 Bronze Stars, 16 Division Citations, and two awards from the Italian government and the War Department Distinguished Unit Citation. In the Pacific Ben Kuroki was reported in action "somewhere in the Marianas," and he wrote home that he wanted to

drop some "roses" on Tokyo Rose. On March 17 the War Department reported that 17,600 Nisei Americans were serving in the U. S. Armed Forces. . . . And in Sacramento Attorney General Kenny condemned West Coast citizens who wanted to cover their "selfish economic urges with a pretense of patriotism."

APRIL saw the legal and extra-legal attacks against California's Japanese Americans on the increase. The California Senate Judiciary Committee approved a grant of \$200,000 to the Attorney General's office for the prosecution of violations of the anti-alien land law, paving the way for California's later persecution of Nisei property owners. . . . And while Interior Secretary Harold L. Ickes expressed his confidence that the people of the West Coast would not tolerate the campaigns of "economic greed and ruthless racial persecution" against the Nisei, a Placer county jury gave its stamp of approval to the confessed dynamiters of the Sumio Doi home by ruling the defendants "not guilty," and unidentified gunmen fired into the homes of evacuees in Merced. This incident took place on the eve or early morning of Easter Sunday. . . . But on the credit side, more than 150 University of Washington students routed a meeting of the Remember Pearl Harbor League, Inc., in Seattle on April 5. . . . And from New York City came one of the first stories on Japanese American participation in the Pacific battle, when the New York Times told the story of the Nisei and Kibei in the OWI. . . . Meanwhile, 78-year-old Jusuke Takemoto returned home to California to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Joe Yip, in Lodi, Chinese friends with whom he had lived before the war for 35 years. . . . And everywhere at home Japanese Americans waited for news from Italy, where the 442nd was spearheading a new Italian drive.

MAY saw the Allied forces moving swiftly into the Rhineland, and V-E Day came suddenly to an anxious, waiting world. For a brief moment the U. S. rang bells, laughed in the streets, showered ticker tape and paper strips from office windows, and then the country went back to winning the war in the Pacific. The toll for an European victory was high, and the Pacific Citizen that month reported the following Nisei casualties; May 5, 30 killed, 188 wounded; May 12, 40 killed, 324 wounded; May 19, 37 killed, 104 wounded; and May 26, 17 killed and 16 wounded. The casualties from Europe were to go on for long weeks afterwards, unabated, as the U. S. counted her war dead and wounded in the costly battle. . . . It was a month of headlines, the month of May in the year 1945. The Nisei's own Sergeant Ben Kuroki achieved his long-wanted wish and participated in B-29 raids over Tokyo, the raids he was later to speak of in many radio engagements home in the states. . . . The International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union suspended the Stockton unit because of the refusal of some of its members to work with Americans of Japanese ancestry. Said Harry Bridges, international president: "The position of the ILWU on the question of equality for all, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin, is clear and unequivocal. We cannot and will not compromise on it for one moment." . . . The night-

CALIFORNIA DATELINES



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riders did not take a holiday, this month of victory in Europe. They attacked two homes in the Fresno district, they defaced the home of Mr. and Mrs. Shigeo Nagaishi in Seattle, they broke into the San Jose Buddhist church. . . . And the country was reminded of the "Hood River incident" when Japanese American soldier Tech. 3 Frank T. Hachiya of Hood River was posthumously awarded a Silver Star medal for valor in the Pacific campaign. . . . Another American city, however, Sparta, Wisconsin, remembered its Nisei soldiers in another way, and moved to erect a memorial to the men of the 100th Infantry Battalion, who once trained at Camp McCoy, near Sparta. And so the year moved on into the warm days of

JUNE. The European war was over, the country was concentrating upon winning its Pacific battle. Nisei deaths were increasing in that area of war, but this month the first Nisei were being liberated from German prison camps in Europe. Special teams of Nisei soldiers were training to assist in the Pacific war. . . . In Washington the WRA reiterated its determination to close its camps by the end of the year, and in Los Angeles Director Dillon Myer estimated that half of the evacuees in the camps would return to the West Coast. Already 49,000 had moved to other parts of the country. . . . In San Francisco the Rosenberg Foundation gave the JACL a \$6000 grant to establish and maintain a district office in San Francisco and to promote JACL activities in Northern California. . . . The terror raids were still on, and this month they fired onto the home of a WRA official in San Jose, the home of James Edmiston. Other California cities, too, contributed their share of "terror" cases. . . . And in New York the first returning European veterans were coming into the harbor. Among them were Nisei from the 442nd.

That month of June the War Department announced the total of Nisei casualties for World War II: 558 killed, 2376 wounded, 50 missing in action, and 20 captured.

And the year moved on into the hot days of

JULY: There were three big news stories for Nisei Americans during the month of July. The first was the announcement from Washington, that the WRA camps would be closed Dec. 15, beginning

with the first complete closing on Oct. 15 of the Granada, Colorado camp. The story, long-awaited, half-believed, was met with mixed pleasure and worry. The new question arose: "Where would the remaining evacuees go?" . . . The second story told of the scheduled return of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, and their families were told they could expect their sons and husbands home at least by February, 1946. . . . The third story, not necessarily third in importance but third in emotional impact, reported that Nisei paratroopers were in action in the Pacific, where thousands of others were already in use as interpreters and linguists. Though many of these were actual combat troops, the paratroopers were the first whose announced duty was combat. . . . The first of the "special trains" to California began about this time. They were special trains holding evacuees from the relocation centers—but this time, unlike the evacuation trains, they were taking people home. In Rohwer 425 persons signed for the first special. . . . In Stockton twenty-eight Pacific war veterans voluntarily restored a desecrated Japanese cemetery. . . . Los Angeles had this month eight evacuee hostels, serving returnees to the area. . . . The American Civil Liberties Union asked the Navy Department to rescind its ban on the enlistment of Japanese Americans, and in the relocation program was Y. Yahiro, 91, who left Heart Mountain for Chicago. In July, too, an 81-year-old miner, Thomas Fehr, who remembered the kindnesses of a Japanese American family, travelled by daycoach from Los Angeles to St. Louis, to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Yamato Hara, who had been evacuated from Los Angeles and then moved to St. Louis. When Fehr reached St. Louis, he went directly to their home, gave them \$1500, and died shortly afterwards from heart strain.

So the year came into **AUGUST**, month of victory, month of a long-awaited peace, the month when the world ended its second and most disastrous world war. This was the month, and the 14th was the day. Nisei troops, 10,000 in Europe and 7,000 in the Pacific, greeted the day with unrestrained jubilation, as did the country at home. The peace they had fought for, however, was not complete at home, and among the inci-

dents that made this true were the following.

The VFW post in Spokane, Washington, rejected an application for membership for Pfc. Richard H. Naito, wounded veteran. Anti-evacuee interests were stirring themselves on the West Coast. The old raids were continuing. . . . But relocation was going along in stride. Already Hopi Indian families were moving into Poston Camp II units, which had been "evacuated" by Nisei families. The special trains were going back to California with their trainloads of evacuees. And as the month went on, Pfc. Richard Naito was sent an apology from the National VFW; was also offered membership in other VFW posts throughout the country.

SEPTEMBER saw the lifting, finally, of the secrecy surrounding the movements of Nisei GIs in the Pacific. The story of Fort Snelling, which trained thousands of these soldiers, was told for the first time, and an Okinawa dispatch revealed that the war in the Pacific would have been far more costly in lives and money, had it not been for the Japanese American troops stationed there. Tales of heroism and ingenuity began now to come from island outposts in which the Nisei had served for months and years against the Japanese enemy. And Maj. Gen. Clayton Bissell declared that the Nisei would play a major role in the occupation of Japan. . . . In San Francisco this month of September more than 100 members of the AFL Machinery Union threatened to strike with the employment of a Nisei, Takeo Miyama. The strike was averted. The Nisei stayed on the job. . . . And the Army revoked all wartime military exclusion orders affecting persons of Japanese ancestry. Harper's magazine also printed a widely-quoted article by Eugene G. Rowntow, professor of law at Yale, who called the evacuation "our worst wartime mistake." . . . And in Loomis the home of four American soldiers, one of whom was killed in action in France, was burned to the ground, the home of another soldier in Lodi, California, was attacked by gunfire.

In **OCTOBER** the War Department announced the full casualties of the 442nd and the 100th as numbering 5,333 of whom 569 were killed. The Army also revealed details of the ATIS, Allied Translator and (Continued on page 3)

Little Opposition Against Nisei Remains in West Coast Area

(Continued from page 2)

Interpreter Section, which was revealed as the human "secret weapon" of the Pacific war. Most of the men of the ATIS were Nisei trained at Camp Savage and Fort Snelling, Minn. . . This month the WRA was speeding along with its relocation plans, and the camps at Hunt, Idaho, Central Utah, and Granada were given back to the deserts from which they sprang. The last trains from Minidoka brought 2,258 out from the camp, two-thirds of these going home to the West Coast . . . In Auburn the Baptist church began a drive to supply the family of Sgt. Cosmo Sakamoto, whose home was burned to the ground on the eve of the family's return, with funds to begin rebuilding. . . Several federal agencies modified or removed restrictions on Nisei employment. . . and the California State Board of Equalization, which attempted to withhold sales tax permits from Nisei and Issei petitioners, reversed its policy when State Attorney General Kenny declared he would not defend the state board in its program of discrimination. . . Certain of the Tule Lake renunciants began their campaign to rein the citizenship they renounced, charging undue persuasion and hardship. . . The war over, it was reported from Tokyo that many Nisei caught in Japan at the outbreak of war were imprisoned, were beset with great difficulties, but did not renounce their American citizenship.

In NOVEMBER the Navy Department at long last announced it would open its ranks to Americans of Japanese ancestry. Throughout the war the Nisei were ostensibly kept from its ranks, though in actuality the Navy had "borrowed" many Nisei from the Army in prosecution of the war on the sea. . . November saw, too, the closing of the Gila River and the Heart Mountain relocation centers, which at one time held 16,658 and 14,054 persons respectively within their barbed-wire enclosures. . . It saw the evacuees returning to farms and homes and schools on the West Coast, and despite the wide publicity given the terrorists' tactics, most of the returnees felt they were once again "at home." . . One thousand Tule Lake renunciants this month began their court fight to regain their citizenship rights, which in a forgotten but bitter moment had been renounced. . . On Thanksgiving night Sergeant Ben Kuroki, home from the Pacific, told radio audiences from coast to coast that he still had a fifty-ninth mission after 58 missions in Europe and the Pacific. That mission, he said, was a mission against intolerance. . . In Oakland, readers of the Tribune donated \$350 to buy 23-year-old Aiko Kuroki a seeing-eye dog, and in Salt Lake City JACL President Saburo Kido asked to be relieved of his duties in March, declaring he would not run for the presidency in the JACL March elections. . . And Nisei hearts all over the country lifted to hear that 1300 high-point veterans of the 442nd were enroute home to the United States.

So the year passed into its last Month,

DECEMBER: On Pearl Harbor day of this year, the Los Angeles wholesale produce markets ban on the employment of Nisei was broken with a vote by a mass meeting of the Produce Drivers and Employees Union, Local 630, to open its ranks to Japanese Americans. . . Gen. "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell, bold and bluff, flew across the continent to present the DSC to Mary Masuda of Santa Ana, California, for her brother, Sgt. Kazuo Masuda, killed in action. . . Issei members of the Japanese American Civil Rights Defense Union petitioned Congress for the right of naturalization. . . Wartime restrictions on enemy aliens were rescinding, including all travel regulations. . . and the War Department revealed that Nisei GIs served with 130 Army, Navy and Marine units in the war against Japan. . . And the first group of Tule Lake repatriates returned to Japan to be greeted by cold, filthy barracks, and the taunts of their chosen countrymen. . .

The war was over. The year had seen out its appointed days of sorrow and joy and hate and love. The year, begun in war, had ended in peace. For thousands of evacuees it began in wartime centers and ended in a free zone. Despite the handicaps of housing shortages and unemployment, the year 1945, which had begun in despair, ended with hope at least for the coming year.

Consequences of Prejudice: Pearl Harbor Has Shown Racial Fear, Hostility Can Endanger National Existence

(The following article by Abe Fortas, Undersecretary of the Interior, was originally published in the Washington Post on Dec. 7, 1945.)

By ABE FORTAS

The War Relocation Authority has announced that on November 30 the last relocation center for Japanese Americans closed its doors. Most of the unfortunate people who were removed from the West Coast in the spring of 1942 have been relocated throughout the country. The Tule Lake Center, occupied principally by persons of Japanese ancestry who have been detained for security reasons, is still operating.

With the final liquidation of the activities of the War Relocation Authority now clearly in view, I take this occasion to express my personal thanks to the leadership which it has provided in its editorial columns, in the fight for decent, democratic treatment to Americans of Japanese ancestry. The Post has recognized the vital importance of this issue to the maintenance of American democracy. It is a dramatic part of the struggle for decency and individual freedom which cannot survive in a society which tolerates racial prejudice.

The consequences of racial prejudice are, of course, much greater than individual instances of gross injustice. Thoughtful people now generally recognize the debasement of character and the degeneration of civilized values which afflict a community in which racial persecution and discrimination are rampant. It is equally notable that racial fear and suspicion are apt to becloud the vision and distort the judgment.

I cannot escape the belief that one of the factors which contributed to the Pearl Harbor disaster was the groundless fear and uneasy distrust of the Japanese Americans resident in Hawaii. You will recall that in December 1941, about 37 per cent of the people of Hawaii were of Japanese ancestry. Of the Territory's total population of 423,330, about 157,905 were in this category.

The Japanese Americans had for many years lived harmoniously with Hawaii's other Americans of many racial strains. In an imperfect world, indeed, Hawaii was about as good a model of racial living-together as one could find. Nevertheless, as tension between the United States and Japan mounted, uneasiness about the Japanese Americans began to be felt even by people who had lived in Hawaii all of their years. And, of course, many of the continentals who were in Hawaii in those crucial days—both civilian and military—did not have to acquire suspicion and hostility toward the Japanese Americans. They had it when they left our West Coast, and they were not examined for it as they were for other contagious diseases.

The testimony before the Boards of Inquiry into the Pearl Harbor disaster indicates that this community malaise had its effect upon our responsible military officials in Hawaii. There can be no doubt that they were bothered by the presence in Hawaii of so many Americans of Japanese ancestry. I would not contest the reasonableness, in the circumstances, of additional precautions against sabotage and espionage. But the evidence indicates that the suspicion of the loyalty of the Japanese Americans was so great as to affect profoundly the judgment of some of the influential members of the Hawaiian community and even some of our own officials.

This was an important part of the reason, I believe, why the response of the Hawaiian command to an urgent warning of danger of attack was to order not a general alert, but merely an alert against sabotage. In our moment of peril, we mobilized our available man power and concentrated our attention upon a nonexistent menace to the neglect of the terrifyingly real menace that eventually dealt our naval power in the Pacific a crippling blow. We were mobilized in an alert that faced in the wrong direction.

The irony of this is that not a single instance of actual or attempted sabotage occurred at Pearl Harbor or anywhere in Hawaii. We have no evidence whatever that it was even planned or intended. Far from constituting a menace to us in the prosecution of the war, Hawaii's Japanese Americans were responsible for some of the most glorious chapters of our war record: for example, the heroic exploits of the famed 100th Battalion.

This is not the only time that racial prejudice—the fear and distrust of a group of people because their ancestry, the color of their skin or their religion happens to be different from that of the majority—has misdirected the energies and attention of people, with disastrous consequences. It is about time that we learned that a racial minority is not the cause of insecurity or of economic difficulties and that an alert directed toward the supposed menace which they represent will result in turning our guns in the wrong direction. It is about time that we came to realize the power of the American idea. We are too ready to doubt and mistrust the ability of our democratic ideals and institutions to command the loyalty and unswerving adherence of people who live under our flag, regardless of nation or racial origin. The American way, as has been demonstrated time and again, has the power to capture and hold the devotion and loyalty of people who have come to live with us from every part of the globe, from every race and nation.

The Japanese Americans, as well as German Americans, the Italian Americans, and many others proved, prior to Pearl Harbor and since that time that their assimilation to American life and their attachment to our institutions are complete and durable. People who profoundly believe in the greatness and nobility of American ideas and methods do those ideas an injustice when they ignore their power to command and hold the loyalty of all segments of our population.

When we remember Pearl Harbor, I hope that we will not forget one of its lessons: that racial fear and hostility can insidiously blind us to realities, even military realities, and can endanger our national existence.

Waterfront Jobs Opened to Nisei In Hawaiian Islands

HONOLULU—Official word that discrimination against Japanese American stevedores on the Honolulu waterfront had ceased came recently in a letter to Local 137, ILWU-CIO, from John H. Ohly, deputy chief, labor branch of the Army's industrial personnel division in Washington, D. C.

The letter assured that wartime waterfront restrictions on Japanese American stevedores had been ended.

It was also announced that Japanese aliens may also be employed on territorial docks but may not handle ammunition or work at Pearl Harbor.

Citizens of Japanese ancestry, however, may unload ammunition, work for which stevedores receive premium pay.

California CIO Convention Calls for Protection of Rights Of Japanese American GIs

Rep. Engle Asks Ickes to Investigate Miller's Statements

AUBURN, Calif.—State headquarters of the California Preservation Association, an organization formed for the purpose of excluding persons of Japanese ancestry from the State of California, announced the receipt of a letter from Congressman Clair Engle severely condemning Charles F. Miller, area supervisor of the War Relocation Authority, for his recent criticism of persons, organizations and newspapers opposing the return of the evacuees to California.

The congressman revealed he had written to Secretary of Interior Ickes, enclosing newspaper clippings of statements made by Miller.

Engle said he is demanding that Ickes make full investigation of Miller's statements condemning the individuals and organizations who have opposed the return of the evacuees.

Seek Relocation Camp Lands For Veterans

WASHINGTON—Sen. O'Mahoney, D., Wyo., is sponsoring legislation which would make available to veterans 57,000 acres of irrigated land which was used during the war by the War Relocation Authority.

The bill will be considered by the Senate's military affairs committee this week.

The lands covered by the O'Mahoney bill were included in the war relocation centers at Heart Mountain on the Shoshone reclamation project in Wyoming, the Hunt relocation center on the Minidoka project in Idaho and the Tule Lake center on the Klamath project in California.

The Heart Mountain and Hunt centers have been closed by the WRA and the Tule Lake camp is scheduled to be shut down before Feb. 1. Agricultural operations at Tule Lake have not been terminated.

Most of the land in the projects was obtained from the reclamation service and since has been declared surplus. Under the present surplus property law they would be sold by the general land office, O'Mahoney explained.

Veteran of 442nd Comes Back to Home In Michigan City

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — Sgt. Mitsuke Fujimoto, 28, winner of the Silver Star for gallantry in action with the 442nd Combat Team in Europe, arrived in Grand Rapids last week to make his home with his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Kikuhei Fujimoto, at 3608 Lake Dr., S. E.

The Fujimotos lived in Santa Barbara, Calif., before the evacuation.

He is the first of four sons of the Fujimoto family to return home since the war.

Two are still in the Army, one

Labor Group Adopts Program to Insure Rights of Minorities

SAN FRANCISCO — The California CIO called for the protection of the rights of American war veterans of Japanese ancestry at its state convention in San Francisco last week.

The State CIO group also declared it would fight discrimination against veterans because of color, creed or national origin and asked for the investigation of the handling of minority groups by various veterans agencies.

The CIO convention also adopted a report by its Minorities Committee which advocated a program to strengthen the fight of racial minority group workers to job rights. Such a program was necessary, the CIO report declared, "to eliminate any vestiges of bigotry from our own ranks and to mold our CIO into one fighting organization."

The report also called on the State CIO "to take the offensive for the fights of minority peoples in the political, cultural and social fields by establishing in the minority groups in the communities a relationship that will make the strength and vigor of the CIO program felt and understood."

The report asked that "each union review its present contracts with an eye to devising clauses against all forms of job discrimination by management."

State and local CIO councils were also asked to push a program vigorously "against the now discriminatory practices and weseled capitulation on the part of the United States Employment Service and the Federal, State and City Civil Service which has also discriminated against minority group workers."

CIO unions will see to it that seniority of all minority workers on the job will be safeguarded, the report added.

Nakama, Smith Join Honolulu Organization

HONOLULU—An ovation greeted Kiyoshi (Keo) Nakama and Bill Smith, Jr., world's champion swimmers, as they became members of the Honolulu Junior Chamber of Commerce at a recent meeting.

Nakama and Smith recently figured in front-page news in Hawaii when Mr. Smith, a lifetime member of the Outrigger club, attempted to take the Japanese American to dinner at the club as a guest but was refused admission because of a regulation against admission of persons of Oriental ancestry.

The board of directors of the Outrigger club subsequently issued a public apology describing the incident as "unfortunate," but did not change its regulation.

Smith and Nakama became members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce by special invitation of the board of directors. Nakama, who recently graduated from Ohio State university, is a teacher and coach at Farrington high school.

in Tokyo, and another at Camp Crowder, Mo.

The fourth son was studying in Japan at the time of the outbreak of war and was reported interned by the Japanese government.

675 Job, Housing Offers for Evacuees Received in Berkeley

BERKELEY, Calif. — The Berkeley Interracial Committee has made an impressive record in its assistance toward the resettlement of Japanese American evacuees returning to the Berkeley area, it was stated last week in the Y's Bear, publication of the University of California YMCA.

Early this year the Interracial Committee distributed 4,000 questionnaires, with the aid of the UC YMCA, seeking jobs and housing for returning Japanese Americans.

Six hundred and seventy-five offers for housing and employment were received from January to November.

Sixty-five Japanese American students at UC and at Armstrong's were helped to find room and board jobs. Forty returnees received temporary shelter and hospitality until

they could get re-established.

Fifty trains on which evacuees returned were met and special trains from relocation centers were met by 6 to 15 cars to take returnees to their destinations.

Thirty-six returnees were helped to find rooms to rent.

Forty-five received employment as full-time domestics.

Forty-eight were helped to find non-domestic employment.

Four were helped to get telephones necessary to their occupation.

Six were helped to find houses to rent.

Thirty others were helped to find day work.

Twenty students received part-time jobs to supplement their incomes.

Assistance in resettlement problems was given to 346 persons.

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LARRY TAJIRI EDITOR

EDITORIALS:

Tule Lake Hearings

Word comes that the United States government will allow Tule Lake residents who chose deportation another chance to remain in this country.

While only these persons are directly concerned, the news is good news also for others interested in the rapid democratization of Japan.

It has been pointed out that the forced deportation of these persons can have only the worst possible effects in Japan. The American army, aided by thousands of Nisei soldiers, is putting into effect a program of democratic procedure in the country. It includes votes for women, the breakdown of huge financial empires, reduction of the power of the emperor and blotting out the powers of the fascist-minded.

But returning to that country several thousand embittered and forlorn people, will retard disastrously our Army's program in Japan. Today the Japanese people are reacting positively and eagerly to the American GI conquerors, who come not as conquerors but as liberators and the bringers of peace.

The indiscriminate return of Tule Lake renunciants, many of whom renounced their citizenship under duress, will retard our program and undermine all efforts to further the welfare of democracy in Japan. For this is a group which has been embittered and which has mistaken the cry of the California terrorist for the voice of the American people.

Only the most searching socio-psychological research will unveil the true story of Tule Lake and its residents, for their story did not begin at this WRA camp. It began long years ago in the race-tension areas of California, and it continued through the forced evacuation, the forced detention, and it would have ended with forced deportation except that the government has announced new hearings for potential deportees.

As a general rule, those who went to Tule Lake, before any suggestion of a segregation center was made, were those from some of the worst of the race-tension spots of the West Coast.

Prevailing racial attitudes in the areas around Tule Lake made even worse the isolated, insular feeling of the evacuees. These conditions made much easier the growth of nationalistic and terroristic groups at the center.

Tule Lake cannot be explained away in one editorial or in a dozen. But it is important that some day thorough research be done in this subject. One good article on the "disloyal" at Tule Lake appears in the Winter, 1946 issue of Common Ground magazine. Written by Eleanor Kimble, head counselor at Tule Lake, the article divides the "disloyal" into the following groups: the disloyal, those who wished to go to Japan, the Californians, the disillusioned, the Japanese "schoolboys" of forty years ago, the sick and disabled, young people still under parental control and children too young to understand the concept of loyalty. Even this mere listing of groups indicates that loyalty and disloyalty were not the actual criteria for selecting persons for the Tule Lake segregation center.

Only exhaustive research on the subject of Tule Lake and its unhappy residents will reveal what conditions in this country made second-grade citizens of them, and will show what conditions we must obliterate to prevent a recurrence.

In the meantime the news that the government will again give them a chance to

signify their wish for deportation or for staying may prevent our sending thousands of desperate and disillusioned ambassadors of anti-democracy to Japan.

There is a high quotient of mercy in democracy. Perhaps this act will swing the scales again in favor of democracy for these Tule Lakers.

A Happy New Year

This week, as the Pacific Citizen goes to press for the final time in 1945, we approach the most hopeful new year since the war's beginning.

We see in the coming year the end of the once-large "Nisei problem" as it existed during the war. From here on out, the problems will exist in small, isolated instances, but the great barriers to Nisei participation in the full American life are over—the evacuation and the war are done with, the anti-Nisei leagues are gradually weakening, the Navy is accepting enlistment, the Japanese American's part in the U. S. Army is history.

This is the year when we should concentrate not on our special problems but on the relation of our problems to those of other religious and racial minority groups. The Fair Play committees on the West Coast, formed to fight the Nisei's cause, are already branching out into the wider problem, in fighting for the FEPC.

Nisei can well follow their example in realizing that the cause of one minority group is tied up with the welfare of millions of other Americans. Beginning this year we can look out toward the wider horizons.

Education in California

"Education for Cultural Unity," the seventeenth yearbook of the California Elementary School Principals' association, appeared quietly this week.

Edited by N. D. Myers of Palos Verdes, the book covers the following general subjects: experiences of members of ethnic groups; intergroup problems as viewed by students of anthropology, sociology, economics, psychology and religion; some issues in intercultural education (minority side of intercultural education, the return of the Nisei, segregation in public schools, and foreign language instruction at the elementary level); techniques for developing intergroup understanding, cooperation and goodwill; and a general survey of the literature and teaching aids in the field of intercultural education.

Special articles on the Nisei include "Return of the Nisei" by Afton Nance, rural supervisor, Riverside County, and "Barriers to Acculturation," by the editor of the Pacific Citizen.

The yearbook's special significance lies in the realization of California's teaching profession that cultural unity and education in interracial democracy are the responsibility of the school system. And California, with its new Negro population, its returning Nisei, and its large number of other minority groups, will prove within the next decade to be a testing place of democracy. To what extent racial democracy succeeds in California will depend a great deal upon the attitude and success of the state's teachers.

In the past, however, it has been true for many minority group persons that they found their greatest democratic experiences within the school system. As Larry Tajiri points out in his article, "The classroom in California was singularly free of the various aspects of discrimination and segregation which exist outside the school grounds. On the basis of my personal experience, the principles of democracy have been put to better practice in the schools than anywhere else."

It might perhaps appear that the value of this intercultural exchange was in the main to the benefit of the minority group person, and that the benefits to the majority group individual did not carry over past the age of schoolday experiences. It is hard otherwise to reconcile the democracy of California's school system and the un-democracy of the state's government and residents toward its non-white members in the fields of employment, housing and social life.

Nevertheless, we believe most Americans of minority groups would concede the success of California's school system in teaching democracy. "Education for Cultural Unity" indicates the even greater responsibility felt today by California's educators. The book is a constructive study of intercultural relations, and should be useful source material for all persons interested in this phase of work.—M. T.

Nisei USA
by LARRY TAJIRI
The Forty-Ninth State

The magnificent war record of Japanese Americans from Hawaii in the Army in World War II has demolished a major obstacle in Hawaii's march toward statehood. This week, spurred by Interior Secretary Harold L. Ickes' forthright recommendation that Hawaii be admitted as the forty-ninth state "in the immediate future," territorial proponents of statehood had reason for optimism. Sixteen times before in the past 89 years Hawaii's delegates have petitioned for statehood rights but this time two major developments resulting from the war challenged the opposition in Congress.

One wing of Congressional opposition has been represented by the ubiquitous demagogue from Mississippi, John Rankin, who has sought to raise the race issue in any discussion on Hawaiian statehood. Rankin, who has actively opposed statehood since 1934, asked in 1937: "Do you think we want two Jap senators from Hawaii?"

Rep. Rankin was referring to the fact that one-third of Hawaii's population of 500,000 (larger than Vermont, Delaware, Wyoming and Nevada) are persons of Japanese ancestry, 75 per cent of whom are American citizens. In addition to persons of Japanese descent, there are 25,000 Chinese Americans and a sizeable number of other non-aryans.

Congressional and government liberals (including Mr. Ickes for a time) also opposed statehood because of the oligarchic control exercised by the "Big Five" industrial and financial interests over the economy of local government of the territory. Many liberals felt that continued Federal intervention was all that prevented the common people of Hawaii from complete subjugation under the "big five" — Alexander & Baldwin Ltd., American Factors Ltd., Castle & Cooke Ltd., O. Brewer & Company and Thos. H. Davies Company — organized for political and economic action as the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association (HSPA). Today such reasoning is outmoded. "Big Five" domination of Hawaii has been successfully challenged on the plantations and in the sugar mills and the pineapple canneries by an awakened labor movement, organized mainly in the CIO's International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union. ILWU-CIO already has 20,000 members, a large percentage of whom are of Japanese ancestry, and expects to reach 30,000 before the end of its present organizational drive.

In the 1944 elections Hawaiian labor and liberals united in political action which has broken the "Big Five" control of the territorial legislature. In their first test of strength, using the campaign pattern of the CIO's PAC on the mainland, Hawaii's progressives elected 15 out of 19 candidates nominated for the 30-seat assembly and six senators.

Secretary Ickes stressed last week that, although Hawaii's population included many racial groups, the people of the territory "live and function as a unified American community" with "little evidence of bloc voting along racial lines." The Nisei in Hawaii, known locally as the AJAs (Americans of Japanese Ancestry) have the largest number of votes, potentially at least, of any race group in Hawaii. But the representation of AJAs in the territorial legislature as well as in local government offices has been far below that of their ratio in the population as a whole. In the 15-seat Senate in 1941 there was only one member of Japanese ancestry. The Japanese American vote in Hawaii usually has split on economic lines and the voters are divided between the Republican and Democratic parties. In many election districts where the voters have been predominantly Japanese American, non-AJA candidates have been elected. The menace of a "Japanese bloc vote," envisioned by the Rankins in Congress, does not exist.

AJA candidates in 1942 elections

withdraw from the balloting under double pressure — from military government authorities and from Japanese Americans, the latter fearing that the continued activity of AJA politicians in wartime would serve as an irritant in the relations of the group with others in the territory. These AJA leaders still stoutly defend their action which has been challenged by many progressives. Also, it is doubtful whether the temper of the military government in Hawaii in 1942 and 1943, at least, would have permitted the participation of Japanese Americans in territorial legislative affairs.

Because there are 160,000 persons of Japanese ancestry in Hawaii opponents of statehood in the past have raised the question of the loyalty of the group in the event of war in the Pacific. That question was answered on Dec. 7 and after. Today there is no doubt in Hawaii or on the mainland, except in the minds of the totally unreconstructed, of the loyalty of the group. It is significant that Hawaii's 12,000 Japanese Americans in service have comprised 60 per cent of all island men in uniform. More than 450 Japanese Americans from Hawaii were killed in action or died of wounds in World War II and 1,651 were wounded. This can be compared to Hawaii's 72 non-AJA deaths during the war.

Spokesmen for the HSPA, who have spearheaded the statehood movement since 1934, after opposing it for two generations, have soft-pedaled the "Japanese issue." Pre-war publicity for Hawaiian statehood virtually ignored the presence of Japanese Americans in Hawaii. In doing so the publicists were fooling no one, since the opposition continually raised the "Japanese question." Today, however, the record of AJAs from Hawaii in the Army provides the advocates of statehood with a powerful argument.

It should be noted that the HSPA's campaign for statehood is not completely altruistic. Territorial status has meant Federal supervision through Harold L. Ickes' Department of Interior. The "Big Five" attitude on statehood was changed following the election of Franklin D. Roosevelt and the invocation of the New Deal. Some HSPA officials undoubtedly feel that state's rights will release them from much Federal regulation. At the same time it has been demonstrated that territorial status places Hawaii at a disadvantage in Congress in competition with the sugar cane states of the Deep South and the sugar beet states of the Intermountain West.

Hawaiian labor also favors statehood for much the same reasons. Labor and progressives generally fear that a national "return to normalcy" under a reactionary administration, whether Republican or Democratic, can mean a loss of most of the economic and social gains under the New Deal. Organized labor in Hawaii is confident that it can stand on its own feet in future industrial relations. Thus both big business fearing liberalism, and labor-fearing reaction are afraid of continued territorial status which will mean direct Federal supervision over which they will have little direct control.

In the plebiscite of 1940, in which the citizens of Hawaii went on record for statehood by a 2 to 1 vote, a great majority of Japanese Americans voters favored statehood. For this group statehood would mean vindication from the baseless charges which has been flung against them by their opponents and this vindication is completely justified in the light of the conduct of the AJAs under fire on Dec. 7, 1941, as well as on foreign battlefronts.

In the era before Pearl Harbor most AJA politicians in Hawaii were conservatives who were content to ride along with the controlling powers. With the changing character of leadership in Hawaii, it is expected that many Nisei progressives, chiefly from the ranks of labor where they have distinguished themselves, are in the political picture. Nisei candidates will enter the 1946 elections but they will not be judged as Nisei. In multi-racial Hawaii, they will

(Continued on page 5)

Vagaries

War Criminals . . .

Most of the evidence against Japanese war criminals is being assembled by Nisei soldiers who have been especially trained for the work . . . The Greater Illinois office of the WRA which closed recently helped more than 400 Japanese Americans resettle in Illinois cities outside of Chicago . . . Bob Cozzens, WRA chief on the West Coast, recently suggested the use of lumber, plumbing materials and wiring from the Manzanar and Colorado River relocation centers to help ameliorate Southern California's housing shortage. Federal housing authorities, however, point out that their hands are tied on the utilization of this available material unless Congress decides to vote Lanham Act funds for the dismantling and transportation of relocation center buildings.

Nisei-Baiter . . .

The Coast's latest Nisei-baiter is an ex-public relations officer with the Navy named Tom Clark. Clark in a speech recently to the Studio City Rotary club in California called for exclusion of Japanese Americans from the state. "Every Japanese has two birth certificates and owes his first allegiance to the emperor," Clark told the Rotarians . . . The names of 76 Americans of Japanese ancestry are on the honor roll of the little cities of Kent and Des Moines in Washington. The group includes two Nisei WACS and one cadet nurse.

Press Notes . . .

The Nisei Weekender, the New York paper which publishes its first issue this week, has a staff headed by Tom Komuro. Chief cog in Nisei Press Associates, which is listed as the publisher of the paper, is Harry T. Oshima of Hawaii who worked in Bill Donovan's OSS until recently . . . Another new New York paper is the Hokubei Shinpo (North American News), Japanese vernacular weekly which has announced it will publish an occasional English section . . . Meanwhile, with the Rafu Shinpo in Los Angeles, formerly one of the biggest of the Coast English-Japanese dailies, resuming publication with a four-page daily newspaper, there are rumors that plans are afoot to start newspapers in San Francisco and Seattle . . . The three intermountain papers (Utah Nippo, Colorado Times and Rocky Shinpo) which have boomed in circulation after the coast dailies were forced to abandon operations at the time of the evacuation, have announced plans for expansion to meet the competition.

Commander . . .

Major General Henry C. Pratt, commanding general of the Western Defense Command, who ordered the restoration of the right of persons of Japanese ancestry to return to the West Coast area, has been promoted and is being succeeded by Brig. Gen. Harold F. Nichols . . . The Los Angeles Times reported recently that 478 returned evacuees from relocation centers are being housed in Army barracks and trailers at the Winona project at Burbank and that 129 others were at the nearby Magnolia project. Two weeks after the returnees had occupied the emergency housing projects only seven of them had found other homes.

Canadians . . .

Canadian Nisei who are fighting against the deportation policy of the Dominion government have a strong supporter in T. C. Douglas, CCF premier of the province of Saskatchewan. "The Federal government has no right to deport Japanese nationals or Canadian-born Japanese provided they have committed no act of treason," the head of the Saskatchewan government said recently. Saskatchewan, under the left-wing CCF, is the only Canadian province which has indicated a willingness to accept a number of displaced Japanese Canadians . . . Because of the opposition of James Sinclair, member of Parliament for North Vancouver, the Canadian Army is moving its Japanese language school, where a number of Nisei Canadians are in training, away from the West Coast.

Tech. Sgt. Ben Kuroki's talk at the Herald Tribune Forum will be published in the January issue of Reader's Digest . . . A national magazine may carry an article by Rackham Holt, noted biographer, on the experiences of Henry Gosho with Merrill's Marauders.

Washington News-Letter War Dept. Fights Anti-Nisei Discrimination on West Coast

By John Kitasako

No better proof of the War Department's condemnatory attitude toward West Coast terrorism can be offered than the manner in which it made the presentation to Mary Masuda of the Distinguished Service Cross won by her brother who was killed in Italy.

The War Department is not in the habit of doing much talking. It operates on the principle of action. And in the battle against West Coast bigotry and fascism, it has scored at Talbert, California, a big victory for the Nisei. With a typically well-planned strategy, the War Department took pains to make the presentation ceremony as emphatic and dramatic as possible so that its full impact would be felt up and down the Pacific Coast.

In the first place, it sent a top-flight, big-name officer, Gen. Joseph Stilwell, from Washington headquarters to make the award. It marked the first time in U. S. Army history that a four-star general traveled the distance of some 3,000 miles to present a medal. Usually it is handed perfunctorily by the highest ranking officer of the area in which the recipient is resident.

Secondly, the presentation was made at the humble farm home of the Masudas and not at an army installation, which is the usual procedure. This departure in regulation had a purpose. General Stilwell desired to have the significance of the ceremony strike right at the core of the Talbert community. This could not have been accomplished if the ceremony had taken place at the nearest military headquarters, which was miles away from Talbert.

Arnold Serwer, WRA information chief who flew out to Talbert for the presentation and rode back with General Stilwell, says the effect of the ceremony on the town of Talbert was "terrific." To add further to the Nisei touch, says Serwer, General Stilwell had a Japanese American GI drive his four-star bannered car the entire time he was out there.

Thirdly, the medal was presented officially to Mary Masuda, the sister, and not to the parents. That also was a sharp deviation from

army regulation. The War Department had a good reason in doing this. It was intended as a tribute to Mary Masuda's bravery. It was the War Department's way of commending her for staunchly holding her ground against the hoodlums who tried to run her out of town when she returned from the Gila relocation center last May. It was the Army's way of telling Talbert's riff-raff to keep their dirty hands out of the affairs of people who have proven themselves first-class Americans.

This striking gesture by General Stilwell and the War Department is one in which Nisei can take great pride and for which they can give unbounding thanks. But credit is also due to the War Relocation Authority for its part in the Masuda presentation ceremony. The whole idea originated at WRA headquarters in Washington and was snapped up by the officials in the Pentagon. This is typical of the working methods of the WRA. It presses the first button on many public relations projects, but stays in the background when the bouquets are passed out.

People who think the WRA is asleep in its public relations endeavors fail to realize that almost 90 percent of WRA's energies in this field are below the surface. It is able to operate on this basis because it enjoys valuable contacts with commentators, *columnists, press services and magazines.

Walter Winchell's mention in a nation-wide broadcast of the intimidation of Mary Masuda back in May was based on information shot to him by the WRA. The national spotlight focussed on the wounded Nisei veteran who was refused service in the Parker, Arizona, barber shop; the build-up of the Hood River American Legionnaires' erasure of Nisei names from their honor roll; and the Harold Ickes blast at West Coast terrorism, which effectively caused a big drop in vigilante acts, are other examples of WRA's constant efforts to arouse the forces of fair play.

It is extremely reassuring to know that branches of the federal government are working in such splendid teamwork with the press and fair-minded individuals. It is evidence that the American sense of justice continues to express itself in patching up the breaches in democratic processes brought on by the war.

General Outlook On Education In Seattle Is Encouraging

By Helen Amerman

Generally speaking, the administrative staff and the teachers in the Seattle Public Schools are cordial in their welcoming home of the Japanese American students. In talking with a considerable number of them, no unsympathetic attitudes were expressed; all contacted were warmly disposed, with varying degrees of insight into the youngster's problems resulting from the evacuation experience.

From the students' point of view, conversations have brought out that, with few exceptions, the reception has been much better than expected. Neither the teachers nor students have discriminated against the resettlers, much to the Nisei's surprise and pleasure.

Before November the Public Schools had recognized that returning Nisei might present special problems, and the Child Guidance Department made a survey based on the following questions: number that have returned, the attitude of teachers toward them, the attitude of other pupils toward them, their participation in social activities in the school, their home life, housing, etc., their ability to find work in the community, their social acceptance in the community, and their success and adjustment in English classes.

Miss Virginia Lee Block, Director of the Child Guidance Clinic, was very optimistic about the adjustment of the returning children, and pointed out as one instance of their acceptance by others, the following case: "in one of our grade schools the distribution of population is as follows: about a hundred and eighty-five Japanese children, eighty Chinese, one hundred Negroes, sixty-five Filipinos, four hundred and fifty whites. In a recent election for the patrol which is an honorary position the following

results were tabulated: thirteen white children were chosen, seven Negroes, six Chinese, six Japanese, one Filipino, and one Hawaiian."

Likewise, one of the visiting teachers in a junior high school commented that out of eighty Nisei enrolled, there had not been a single problem case brought to her attention. Mr. Allasina, Principal of the Bailey Gatzert School, was enthusiastic about the interest which the fathers and mothers of the Nisei pupils were showing in the Parents Teachers Association. Several of the teachers at Broadway High School who had been there prior to evacuation remarked, "It's just as though they had never been away."

On the other hand, there are a few problems which need to be faced squarely by the school authorities, and which they seem to overlook in their pleasure at the generally favorable conditions. These points were presented by Rev. Joseph Kitagawa in a panel discussion on inter-cultural relations before a dinner meeting of the Seattle School Principals. They aroused no comment. Briefly stated, the questions raised were: first, the need to make special provision for the youngsters returning too late in the semester to be accepted into the regular school program; second, the worry felt by high school students about Seattle schools' interpretation of their credits from relocation center schools and the requirements for graduation from high school in Seattle; third, the Nisei's special need of stability after the frequent changes of teachers in the project schools; and fourth, the difficulty some students have felt in achieving integration into the activities of the school program—especially reaction of high school age boys to athletics and social affairs.

From the Frying Pan

By BILL HOSOKAWA

Tragic Story of Tule Lake Expatriates

One of the war's most tragic stories is that of the Nisei who lost faith in their native land and cast their lot with an enemy nation.

Perhaps it is too early to pass final judgment on the decision of this unhappy group. Perhaps there is good reason to support the logic and wisdom of their choice.

But as of today, this much is known: The Nisei whose faith in America never faltered have passed the test the United States asked of them, and they now are honored citizens of a great democracy.

The justice of the test they underwent is another matter. Perhaps it can be said the test never

should have been imposed, but many regrettable things take place under the pressure of war.

And now for the first time we have been getting reports from a few Nisei expatriates who finally have reached Japan.

It may be that their story is incomplete. But the story that has reached the United States is one of bitterness, remorse, disillusionment, deep depression and bewilderment.

The promised land is not as they dreamed it was. Japan is not the land it was pictured to be by the latrine prophets in the WRA centers. And the deflation was the greater because these visions conjured in the galling bitterness of American-style detention camps were embellished with liberal portions of wishful thinking.

It was the physical discomforts that struck the expatriates first, just as it was the desolation and dreariness of the relocation centers that first antagonized the evacuees.

The expatriates found Japan a cold country and without central heating. They found their first meal was of traditional rice, pickles and tea, and they long for something more substantial which would stick to their Americanized ribs.

They found their barracks filthy and vermin-ridden. And suddenly it dawned upon them that they weren't arriving in Japan as conquering heroes. Rumor had it, while they were in the states, that the Japanese government in propaganda broadcasts had urged them to keep their spirits high, their time was to come.

But they weren't greeted with open arms. They were the expendables, and now that they had come, they were just a few extra mouths to feed in the coming bitter winter. They were unwanted in the land which they had been led to believe would welcome them.

And then they made another discovery. Associated Press Correspondent Duane Hennessy tells how an expatriate named Satoshi Yoshiyama learned the truth.

"That's funny," Yoshiyama said after talking to some Japanese who were digging in a garden outside a cave used as an air raid shelter. "They don't hate Americans; they say they're glad the Americans are here."

No doubt it will take a long time for the expatriates to understand this basic truth: The common people of Japan were oppressed, exploited, regimented, kept in ignorance and half-starved to carry out the mad ambitions of the imperialists—both military and civilian bureaucrats.

The fire raids of the vast B-29 fleets brought with them the promise of liberation from a feudalism long since outdated by other nations. Now the American army of occupation is implementing the Potsdam declaration under which the militarism of Japan will be purged.

In the process there will be progress for the common people—dissolution of the zaibatsu and a more even distribution of the wealth, expropriation of the great estates of land barons and a chance for the tenant-farmer-peasant to purchase his own fields, the right of women and a larger number of men to vote, the opportunity to learn the uncensored truth and consequently the opportunity to draw one's own conclusions based on that knowledge.

It was Joe Louis who gave the perfect answer to the Axis contention that America oppressed her minorities. Said the Champ in words to this effect:

"America may not be perfect, but Hitler ain't got nothing that could help us any."

The same words could be applied to Japan. The Nisei expatriates have been sorely disappointed. Their lives can be embittered by that mistake. Or they can put that error in judgement behind them and help the Japanese people to understand the meaning of democracy. Surely these Nisei expatriates will have a deeper, more realistic understanding of democracy having once spurned it in anger and confusion, only to learn the alternative was infinitely less satisfactory.

EDITORIAL DIGEST

Medal for Masuda WASHINGTON POST

"A Medal for Masuda," the Washington Post of Dec. 8 calls an editorial on the awarding of a DSC to Mary Masuda for her brother, S/Sgt. Kazuo Masuda, who was killed in the Italian campaign.

"Mary Masuda herself was one of those Americans whom it was thought unsafe to leave at large on the Pacific Coast," says the Post. "She spent the war period in a war relocation center. Early in May, however, her loyalty to the United States having been satisfactorily determined, she was authorized to return to her home. But the first night that she was there, she was visited by five men who sought to terrorize her into leaving. When she reported the incident to the local sheriff, he said he could do nothing to protect her, although she named the men who threatened her. Mary Masuda, we think, displayed some extraordinary heroism, too."

So it seems "peculiarly fitting," the Post says, that General Stilwell should present Staff Sergeant Masuda's posthumous award "at the home which he was fighting to defend."

"We are glad," the Post says, "that it is to be presented by a great American soldier who more than once has spoken forthrightly in defense of such citizens as Mary Masuda. The act will be symbolic, and it should have a meaning for all of us."

Fighting Man's Tribute SALT LAKE TRIBUNE

The Salt Lake Tribune on Dec. 11 was among the country's newspapers that commented editorially upon the awarding to Mary Masuda of the Distinguished Service Cross her brother died to earn in Italy. In an editorial titled "A Fighting Man's Tribute A Rebuke to Hoodlums," the Tribune said:

"General Joseph Stilwell, known to the service as 'Vinegar Joe,' has a streak of sweetness in his composition. He has nothing in common with those intolerant individuals who hate human beings because of racial kinship and strike innocent victims because of prejudice against the features with which they were born.

"The hard-fighting, clear-headed old veteran flew across the continent the other day to present the sorrowing sister of a Japanese American boy," Sergeant Kazuo Masuda, with a token of appreciation from a grateful government for which he died fighting with thousands of other Nisei heroes in Italy. . . .

"The old general, accompanied by his wife and son, spoke as a patriot and a worthy defender of the flag when in the course of his remarks, he said:

"The distinguished service cross is only a little thing, but in making this presentation, we want to convey to you and your family the deep respect and admiration of every decent American."

NISEI U S A: 49th State

(Continued from page 4)
stand and fall on the basis of their political and economic convictions.

With impending statehood, an old Hawaiian proverb which Alexander MacDonald noted in his book on present-day Hawaii, "Revolt in Paradise," is a pertinent comment on contemporary conditions. The proverb is "puali ka hau i ka hau iki."

Translated, it means: "The common people have won over their rulers, have come into their own." This is Hawaii, our "forty-ninth" state.

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**California Sergeant
Honored by U. S.
Army in Japan**

WITH THE SIXTH ARMY IN JAPAN — Staff Sergeant Ben I. Nakamoto, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Nakamoto, Box 216, Sanger, Cal., has been awarded a Bronze Star by Major General P. W. Clarkson, commander of the battlehardened 33rd Division now occupying the Kobe-Osaka-Kyoto area of Japan, as a part of General Walter Krueger's Sixth Army.

A member of the 33rd Language Detachment, Sgt. Nakamoto was cited for meritorious service during the Northern Luzon campaign.

Sgt. Nakamoto came overseas in May, 1943, and participated in the New Britain and Admiralty Island campaigns before joining the 33rd Division in August, 1944. He later participated in the New Guinea, Morotai, and Northern Luzon campaigns as a member of the "Golden Cross" Division.

Sgt. Nakamoto is entitled to wear the Asiatic-Pacific ribbon with four battle stars and the Philippine Liberation ribbon with one star. He also is entitled to wear the Combat Infantryman badge.

**NISEI SOLDIER
LOSES IN FINALS
OF CYO TOURNEY**

CHICAGO — Yoshito Yoshino, Army private at Fort Warren and a Hawaiian amateur boxing star, was defeated in his bid for the CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) featherweight boxing championship by the defending titlist, Joe Plummer, at the finals of the CYO tournament in the Chicago Coliseum on Dec. 18.

The Chicago Times said that the Nisei boxer gave Plummer "as tough a fight as he ever will want" and reported that Yoshino "drew a tremendous ovation."

The Japanese American was awarded the tournament's coveted sportsmanship trophy for his performance.

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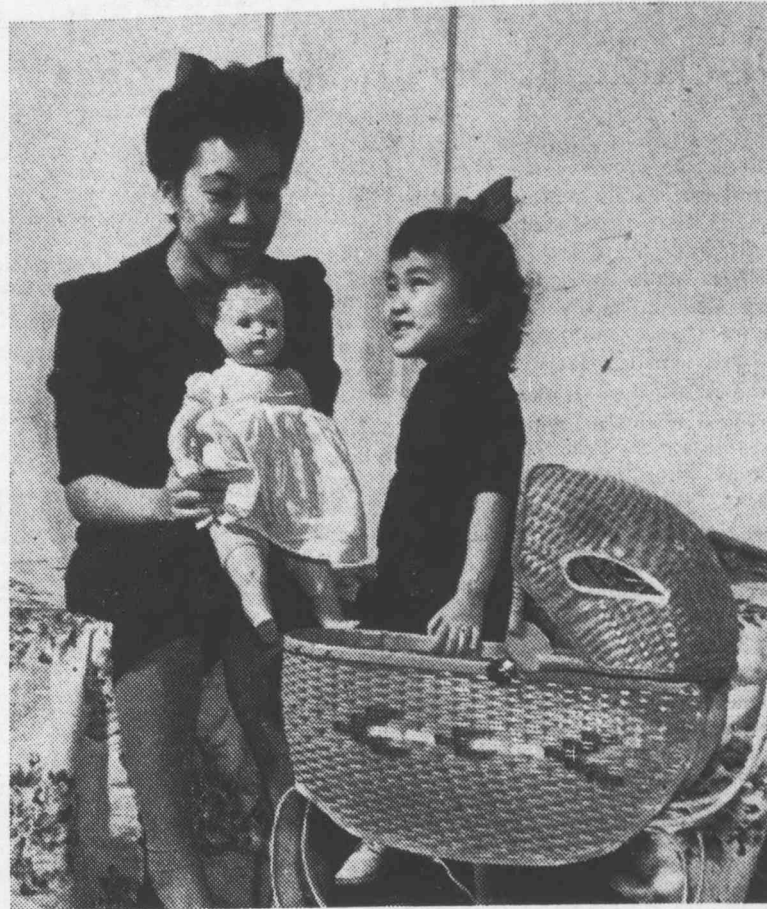
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Home In New York City

NEW YORK CITY—Ann Louise Yamanaka and her mother in their New York apartment, which is just off Riverside Drive in upper Manhattan. Ann's father, Tadao Yamanaka, brought

his family to New York from the Granada relocation center in November, 1944, after he had secured work managing the produce counter at a Brooklyn co-operative store.—WRA Photo.

**Nisei Service in Pacific War
Told By General Willoughby**

FORT SNELLING, Minn. — Major General C. A. Willoughby, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, GHQ, Pacific, in a report to the War Department, recently greatly complimented the Military Intelligence Language School at Fort Snelling here in training the graduates who have served under his command throughout the war. Thousands of Japanese American GIs received special training at the school.

"As senior intelligence officer in the Pacific from the outbreak of the war in 1941, I have been the principal user of the product of this language school in the employment of graduates, principally Nisei, in the translator and interrogation service (ATIS), in detachments ranging from GHQ to division and regimental teams," the General said.

"The work of ATIS and its detachments, in combat and on staffs, in exploitations of captured enemy documents and the interrogation of prisoners of war, has been indispensable to the war effort and our final success. This achievement was wholly predicated on the possession of a fine tool—the graduate product of the Japanese Language School."

From Colonel Sidney Mashbir, Coordinator of ATIS (recently changed to TIS), came these

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Clarifies Stand
On Evacuees**

WRA Supervisor Thanks
Post for Clarification
Of Attitude on Group

SAN FRANCISCO—Charles F. Miller, supervisor of the War Relocation Authority for the Northern California area, on Dec. 17 thanked the Richard W. Townsend Post No. 84, American Legion, in Auburn for a five-point report made by a post committee following study of the employment of aliens of Japanese ancestry at Clipper Gap by the Southern Pacific Railroad Company.

According to the WRA announcement, the report which was prepared and submitted by a committee from the Legion post with Donald Knudsen as chairman, declared:

"1. As to the American-born Nisei Japanese who have served in the United States armed forces and thereby have proven their loyalty, we consider them to be entitled to the same consideration as any other citizen.

"2. As to the other concededly loyal citizens or aliens of any national origin, we consider them to be entitled to all the rights guaranteed under the Bill of Rights and the Constitution of the United States.

"3. As to all other persons of any race whatsoever, whether American-born or alien, who have proven themselves either by act or utterance to be disloyal to the United States of America, we believe they should be dealt with in strict accordance with existing laws governing such cases.

"4. That the absolute enforcement of the United States immigration laws and the California Alien Land Law be carried out without undue delay.

"5. It is our opinion that no man can serve two masters nor can he be loyal to two countries and we strongly oppose the holding of dual citizenships by persons of any nationality or national origin."

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Master Sgt. BEN MAYEWAKI

U. S. Army

RELOCATION DIGEST

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Ken Ito, formerly of Granada and Los Angeles, has purchased the Southern Market, a grocery store, at 1402 O Street, N.W. Mr. and Mrs. Ito came to Washington from Dayton, Ohio, last October, to join Mrs. Ito's father, Chimata Sumida, 2951 McKinley street, Chevy Chase, Maryland. Mr. Ito's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Kenjiro Ito, also came to Washington with their daughter, Toshiko Alice, from Granada. Mrs. Ito is employed by the Veterans' Administration. . . . Harvey Iwata, formerly of Dinuba and Poston, who was employed in Cleveland by the Army Map Service until his transfer to Washington in October, is presently living at 1030 South Scott Street, Arlington, Va.

BUFFALO, N. Y.—Newcomers to western New York include Mr. and Mrs. Masato Miyamura, now at 39 Plymouth Ave., Buffalo 13; Mrs. Florence Nakazawa, and her son, Roger, who joined her husband, (Pfc.) Karl Nakazawa, now at 134 Fulton street, Rochester; Torao Onishi, 136 Cottage street, Buffalo; and Mr. and Mrs. Juji Kumasaka, 1527 Main Street East, Rochester, and Mrs. Junjiro Takaki, mother of Mrs. Kumasaka. . . . Martin Shimizu, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Shimizu, formerly of Granada and Petaluma, California, was elected vice president of his high school junior class at Girard, Pa. . . . Miyako Nishimura, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Toshio Nishimura, formerly of Poston and Salinas, California, was elected secretary of the freshman class at the Sherman Central High school in Sherman, N. Y. . . . Buf-

falo visitors recently included Pvt. George T. Aihara, Pvt. Harry Tsujimoto, and Sadaichi Asai.

NEW YORK CITY—Under the auspices of the Resettlement Council of Japanese Americans in New York City, about 25 former Tuleans have organized a committee to welcome newcomers from Tule Lake and to help them become adjusted to the city. The reception committee, with Miss Katherine Hobie, former student teacher supervisor at Tule, as chairman, will make arrangements to meet newcomers at Grand Central Terminal or Pennsylvania Station and will help them become acquainted with the city and its transportation lines. The social committee consists of Mary and Florence Sasajima, Kiyoshi Yamashita, Steve Matsumura and Yoshiye Watanabe.

NEW YORK CITY—Some 150 persons, many of them long-resident New Yorkers, attended an informal house warming and welcoming party for newcomers on Nov. 23 at the new Manhattan hostel, 58 East 102nd street, New York. Speakers were Percival Brundage, chairman of the Unitarian service committee; Dr. Leonard Covello, principal, Benjamin Franklin high school; Rev. Ediver Nichols Rodriguez, First Spanish Evangelical church; Father R. G. Scanell, St. Cecelia church; Clyde E. Murray, executive director, Union Settlement Association; and Kenji Nogaki, chairman, Resettlement Council of Japanese American Organizations in New York City. Rev. Donald Harrington of the Community church was master of ceremonies. Mrs. Chiyo Suzuki and Miss Nellie Lewis, specialist in boogie woogie, entertained. In charge of refreshments were Mrs. Giichiro Mitani, housemother of the hostel, and Mrs. Henry Muller of the Unitarian church.

Vital Statistics

BIRTHS

To Mr. and Mrs. Yoshio Taniguchi, 5208-C, Tule Lake, a girl on Nov. 26.
To Mr. and Mrs. Satoshi Takagi, 5902-E, Tule Lake, a boy on November 28.
To Mr. and Mrs. Shizunobu Nakao, 1505 B, Tule Lake, a girl on Nov. 28.
To Mr. and Mrs. Kitsuemom Ito, 3401-D, Tule Lake, a boy on November 29.
To Mr. and Mrs. Tadasu Fukushima, 4715-F, Tule Lake, a boy on Dec. 1.
To Mr. and Mrs. Shizuo Morioka, 435 East Seventh South St., Salt Lake City, a girl on Dec. 14.
To Mr. and Mrs. Korry I. Seino, 1768 Bryant Ave., So., Minneapolis 5, Minn., a boy, Dennis Jiro, on Dec. 6.
To Mr. and Mrs. Garry S. Taniguchi, 915 W. State St., Springfield, Mo., a girl, Ellen Gail, on Dec. 6.
To Mr. and Mrs. M. Tachibana a boy in Denver, Colo.

DEATHS

Mrs. Chiyo Muranaka, 66, in Longmont, Colo., on Dec. 19.
Nawo Horiguchi, 42, of 8006-I, Tule Lake, on Nov. 26.
Tsuruzo Harada, 74, of 4503-A, Tule Lake, on Dec. 1.
Mrs. Junta Koga on Dec. 12 in San Francisco
Jirosaburo Fujihara, 68, on Dec. 1 in Chicago.
Tsunejiro Hashimoto on Dec. 4 in Chicago.
Bunjiro Kosugi on Dec. 5 in Los Angeles.
Iwakichi Morimoto on Dec. 1 in Los Angeles.
Bunshu Matsumoto on Dec. 3 in Los Angeles.

MARRIAGES

Betty Iriye to George Morita in Denver on Dec. 15.
Setsuko Doi to Satoru Kagehiro on Nov. 28 at Tule Lake.
Yoshiko Nakayama to Hideo Morisawa on Nov. 28 at Tule Lake.
Masako Mayeda to Haruo Takeshita on Dec. 1 in Chicago.
Chiyo Takeda to Sadao Nishinaka on Dec. 8 in Chicago.
Katherine Sasaki to Wallace Nunotani on Dec. 16 in Dayton.



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Snelling Five Wins First Four Games

Japanese Americans Defeat Minnesota College Teams

FORT SNELLING, Minn.—The Fort Snelling All-Stars, composed of American soldiers of Japanese ancestry, have opened their 1945-46 season with four straight victories.

The Nisei cagemen, coached by Lieut. Fujii, defeated the Wold-Chamberlain Navy team, 37 to 33, on Nov. 27. In their second game of the season the Japanese Americans defeated the powerful Bemidji State Teachers college team in a 38 to 36 thriller. Lieut. Nishibayashi, the team's only six-footer, was high man with 16 points.

With Johnny Okamoto finding the basket for 21 points, the Fort Snelling five defeated the Rochester All Stars, 42 to 31.

In their fourth game the team invaded Wisconsin to defeat Stout Institute at Menomonie, 49 to 32.

The Nisei GIs will meet St. Mary's college at Winona, Minn., on Jan. 6 and will play at Camp Crowder, Mo., in the Seventh Service command tournament on the week following.

They have also scheduled games with the Austin All-Stars, Albert Lea All-Stars, St. Cloud Teacher's college and Carleton college.

Ministerial Group Holds Meeting

FRESNO, Calif.—After a long absence the Central California Ministerial Association met at the Japanese Methodist church in Fresno on Dec. 20.

The major topic of discussion was on methods to raise funds and collect food and clothing for Japanese civilians.

Gen. Clark Hails Combat Team's Role in Italy

LEGHORN, Italy—The actions of the men of the 100th Infantry Battalion and the 442nd Combat Team in the drive on Rome and again in the offensive from Massa to Gena "were indispensable to the success of our Allied victories in Italy," General Mark W. Clark, commanding general of United States forces in Austria, declared recently in a letter to Col. Virgil R. Miller, commander of the Japanese American unit.

Gen. Clark sent his best wishes for the continued good fortune of all members of the 442nd Combat Team.

Organize New Activities Group

SEATTLE, Wash.—Representatives of various Nisei groups in the Seattle area, including industrial girls, university and high school committees, the Buddhist Young People's Association, Christians and the JAACL met on Dec. 9 to form the "Nisei United Activities Committee" with Toru Sakahara as permanent chairman.

Sakahara will also serve as head of the coordinating committee, a subdivision. Others on the committee are Mits Uyeta, Tatsumi Goto, George Minato, and Sally Shimanaga, recording and corresponding secretary.

The committee will integrate the work of various groups in the city.

Engagement

CHICAGO—The engagement of Miss Imelda Kinoshita, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Fred S. Kinoshita of Seattle, Washington, to Pfc. Henry I. Kiga of Fort Snelling, Minnesota, was announced to her friends in Chicago on Sunday, Dec. 9.

Railroad to Use Evacuees on Tracks in Utah

Recruiting of Workers Now Under Way at Tule Lake Center

OGDEN, Utah—The Southern Railroad has extended its policy of recruiting workers of Japanese ancestry to Utah to meet an acute shortage of section hands, it was announced here.

The first six workers of Japanese ancestry went to work this week and additional help is being recruited.

When nationwide efforts to recruit men in the open market for track work failed to meet the railroad's urgent needs, recruiting of workers of Japanese ancestry was instituted at the Tule Lake camp in California at the suggestion of the War Relocation Authority. Recruiting at Tule Lake has been carried on only among those persons eligible to leave the camp.

About 200 evacuees have been signed up by the Southern Pacific in recent weeks.

They are being assigned where most needed, according to L. B. McDonald, vice president in charge of operations, who said that the railroad is playing a major role in getting soldiers back home.

"Unless our tracks are adequately maintained, we cannot continue to meet our pressing military assignments," Mr. McDonald declared.

Protested Section Dropped from Canadian Bill

OTTAWA, Canada—Proponents of fair play for Canada's evacuees of Japanese ancestry won an important victory recently when the Emergency Powers bill, Bill No. 15, was redrafted and a provision, which would have given the government authority over the matter of "entry into Canada, exclusion and deportation and revocation of nationality" was dropped.

Hawaii Nisei Commended for Work in Pacific

SHOWA ARMY AIR BASE, HONSHU, Japan.—Minoru Hamada, son of Mr. and Mrs. Kwanchi Hamada, Honohina, Hawaii, has been promoted to staff sergeant and commended by Major General K. B. Wolfe, Fifth Air Force commander, for his work as interpreter and translator with the Fifth Air Force service command.

While acting as a language specialist with the command, which supplies and maintains fighters and bombers of the occupational air force, Sgt. Hamada was recognized for "initiative, efficiency and capability . . . he has been rendering a service," reads the official commendation, "that is not only unique but indispensable to the function of this headquarters. Only by his earnest application and devotion to duty has the language problem of occupation duty been overcome with the success that it has."

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INFORMATION concerning the whereabouts of EUGENE AMABE, formerly of Seattle, is sought by his friend, Sgt. Gerald Shapiro, 83rd Div. FRO, APO 83, c/o Postmaster, New York City.

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