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COLORADO RIVER WAR RELOCATION PROJECT

Poston, Arizona

July 21, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Evans  
FROM: Theodore H. Haas  
SUBJECT: Temporary Community Council

In accordance with your request, I submit a list of some of the pressing problems which will face the new Community Council. Although the Council will be sworn in tomorrow at an outdoor meeting to be addressed by you and Mr. Head, it will desire to organize the next day.

It seems to me that it might be made clear that the Council is not paid for its services, but time spent by a councilman or woman in attending meetings of the Council would be counted as time spent on their regular job. This is a thought, merely a suggestion concerning the policy to be adopted regarding the Temporary Community Council work.

The Council at its meeting on Thursday, which will be held indoors at a place not yet decided, will have the vital task of organizing. Some of the council's initial tasks are: An election of a chairman, vice-chairman, secretary, sergeant-at-arms, etc., as well as of an executive committee of some five to seven members and a judiciary committee to consider the problems of law and order, which may or may not be the same as the executive committee, and the adoption of a system of simple rules of procedure and organization - problems at my request the Law Department has been considering.

Among the committees or subcommittees, in addition to the executive and judiciary committees, may be the following - this, too, is merely suggestive, since the Council may desire other committees - committees on health, housing, public assistance, family relations, press, education and recreation, work projects, community enterprises,

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July 21, 1942

sanitation, fire and police, and post-war planning - in short, committees covering all important subjects of internal management. Immediate problems, in addition to the necessary job of becoming acquainted with the policies and administrative framework of this Project and the War Relocation Authority and of the plans of the heads of divisions, will be the following:

1. The establishment of a system of permanent self-government. Although the civic planning group and the Law Department began a study of a constitution, their plans were not completed and in some respects were not feasible.
2. The establishment of a system of law and order, including a system for the investigation of crime and determination of guilt or innocence of offenders.
3. Supervising elections of other community council members from blocks in Camp Two and in Camp One which were not fully settled. This may include an examination of the election regulations in order to determine whether they are best adapted to the election of permanent Government officials.

You might consider it advisable to mention the question of an Issei advisory board to the Community Council. This may be one of the important problems, on which you may wish to secure a recommendation from the Council as soon as feasible.

Theodore H. Haas

THH yy



August 11, 1942

Memorandum to: Dr. Kneier  
Dr. Provinse

The following suggestions for assisting the Community Council and other civic matters have been jotted down hastily because you were leaving today. I may supplement them by additional suggestions. If there are any questions concerning these items, let me know and I will write you further concerning them.

IMMEDIATE CONSIDERATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

1. Communication system to Blocks.  
Telephone (emergencies)
2. Immediate availability of automobile for Council work. To be used for communication and contact work.
3. If possible, to appoint certain individuals to be a "go-between" for the residents and W.R.A. or Indian Service (To be citizens of Japanese ancestry). Probably has more effectiveness than Council in the fact that there is a "direct pipe line".
4. Periodic "get-together" of these representatives from all centers to discuss problems with bonafide representatives of the government necessary especially in considering "over-all" problems of the people. Possibly also system of communication between them.
5. Daily paper to be distributed to all residents.
6. To get necessary equipments as soon as possible to alleviate problems concerning work projects.
7. Forming of plans for future use -- in employing and acquiring the services of men and women who have gained practical experiences in the project.



8. Regular meeting place and also council office with proper equipment and necessary stenographic and clerical help. Place should provide space for Chairman of Issei advisory representatives. The Isseis should be permitted to elect representatives who shall be an Advisory Board. They, in turn, will elect a chairman who will occupy an office adjoining the Chairman of the council.
9. As soon as the more basic needs like housing and food and schools are met, a town hall with offices for the most important community officials who are residents should be built. This community office building should contain a council chamber, judicial chamber, place for council committees to meet, and office for Chairman of Council and Issei representatives.
10. The question of equipment for the Police Department exemplifies another problem. The Law and Order committee ~~has~~ suggested a permanent location for the Police Department which shall contain a jail, Police Department, and Municipal Court.

The following recommendations for equipment for the Police Department are now under consideration by the Council,

1. Means of identification

- 1 Police Chief badge
- 5 Captain badges
- 10 Sergeant badges
- 40 Patrolmen badges
- 5 Lieutenant badges

2. One dozen handcuffs

3. Fifty Nightsticks

4. Uniforms and Shoes

- 2 Large First Aid Kits
- 2 Large Pyrene Guns

6. Telephone Communication

7. Permanent location for Police Department

Municipal Court  
Jail  
Police Station



They would also like to have the Chief, 2 captains, 2 desk sergeants, and 3 lieutenants deputized as special deputy sheriffs of Yuma County, Arizona.

Perhaps a uniform khaki shirt and an identification badge might suffice in view of the difficulty of securing equipment. This is merely as an example.

A similar problem also exists in relation to the Fire Department and certain other officials and employees of the Community Service. Such equipment will boost the morale of the force.

Dr. T. G. Ishimaru  
Chairman  
Temporary Community Council

TGI/as  
THH/as



File

September 29, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Robert Sakai  
Councilman, Block 43

FROM: Dr. T. G. Ishimaru  
Council Chairman

Understanding about the new work you are about to accept, we, as council members, regret that you must resign as councilman from your block. As explained to us we understand that the Bureau of Sociological Research requires certain qualifications for their workers, and inasmuch as we hate to lose you, we feel that you may be of more service in this bureau.

Thank you for your participation as member of the Educational Committee, and we hope that you will enjoy your new adventure.

You are hereby officially notified that your resignation is accepted by the council members, and also, you are welcome to attend any of our meetings.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. T. G. Ishimaru  
Council Chairman



October 1, 1942

George B. Corwin  
715 S. Hope Street  
Y.M.C.A.  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Corwin:

I took up the matter of organizing YMCA at the Council meeting on September 30, 1942, and the Council has gone on record to accept YMCA work at this Center.

You are hereby duly informed that you may follow up the discussion we had last week.

I have contacted some of the "Y" leaders in this community and they are interested in forming a "Y" group.

This is just to inform you of the action taken by the Council so that you may go ahead with your plans accordingly.

Yours very truly,

Dr. T. G. Ishimaru  
Chairman of Community Council

TGI:mmm



TEMPORARY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

POSTON 3

October 5, 1942

Mr. Morris Burge  
Administrator Poston 3  
Poston, Arizona

Dear Sir:

*Capt  
Al  
Leader  
Poston*

We, the Council wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your presence at our last council meeting and for clarifying many doubtful points. At the meeting you requested that we write you a letter in regard to questions that you chose not to answer at that time, but questions and points that we as Council after due deliberation consider as necessary to clarify our positions and at the same time try to represent the feeling of the people in general.

Point #1 from Mr. Ichiro Okada's letter of resignation states "Criticisms of the people directed to my office for which I am in no way responsible and over which I have no authority whatsoever." Concerning this point, we would like to ask whether full cooperation was given to the Block Managers as well as some authority to the Block Manager's Supervisor that they may think for themselves. In connection with this, it has been pointed out to us that other departments have met the same difficulties. For instance, we understand that at one time due to certain emergency, the supply manager requested you to sign a requisition for a supply of tissue paper, but that you did so after much deliberation upon ruling to sign requisitions only once a week and rather unwillingly. In another case we understand that trucks



were offered to Poston 3 but in spite of the fact this camp needed trucks badly, you replied that we did not need them. In another instance, it has been put to our attention that in spite of a dire necessity for a supply of ropes, the requisition for same could not get your approval. Although these things may seem trivial to you, it appears to the Council that full cooperation has not been given Poston 3 by you.

Point #3 from said Mr. Okada's letter states: "Your attention to trivial matters such as the scrap lumber or small irregularities of the office and overlooking matters of more importance by dismissing them with an excuse." For instance, we understand that any and all announcements that were to be made at the mess halls had to be cleared through your office. Should not such clearing of notices be given to the supervisor especially in cases you or your assistant could not be reached in cases of emergency? It has been pointed to our attention that you have been too technical in your rulings, such as bothering too much with furniture requisitions of various departments, and technical rulings on scrap lumber. You state that the Council should not bother with trivial matters that concern the people of this camp. It may sound impertinent, but does not the same hold true in the case of the Administrator?

Point #4 states, "You do not mingle with the residents of the camp and give them the feeling that you are a part and for the people." Of Course, we realize how busy you are and needless to say, it is a physical impossibility for you to intimately know even the minority of the residents or the various organizations.



But we do feel that if you will try to know the people here better, and make the mass of the residents feel that you are definitely a part and for the people, much more harmony and ease of tension will result. We are not telling you how to act or how to know the people better, but merely suggesting, stating our opinions as to this condition. You stated at our meeting, "I am not concerned with the grievances of the people---." Concerning this statement, we would like to ask, "Why are you not concerned with the people and their complaints and grievances?" We, as the Council and you as our Administrator, believe that we are certainly concerned with the people and should at least consider their grievances. We believe that in order to have a harmonious and smooth-operating unit here, the cooperation of the people certainly is vitally essential, especially in the present Administrative set-up. To get this harmony and cooperation, the Council believes that your personal actions and feeling towards the people are most important. Concerning this point, it is our belief that Mr. Crawford at Poston 2 has been very successful in winning the people over to him by his democratic actions.

Point #6 states, "No justified reason for Albert Kaniye's dismissal and no notice until six days later." We would like to know the definite reason for Mr. Kaniye's dismissal, and the reason by Mr. Okada or the Block Managers were not told the facts concerning the dismissal.

Point #8 states, "The Ford sedan is not easily or not even available for the use of the administration duties even though the other taxi is in use and the Ford is parked at the office." It is our understanding that the Ford is for administrative use. The Block Managers, the Block Managers' Supervisor and the Assistant



Supervisor are a part of the Administration. Therefore, as long as the sedan in question was not in use, why could not the administrative officers use it, as per Mr. Okada's request? In connection with this, the Council feels that the said Ford should be available for emergency use as in case of Red Cross flag signs and other such emergency use when other vehicles are not available nor appropriate.

We fully realize, just as Mr. Head stated that unless the Administration and the Council work together, a good harmonious unit here is hard to form. And so, it ~~is~~ is the resolution of the Council to do so, and you may count on us for every cooperation. Likewise we take this opportunity to request full cooperation from the Administration.

We would appreciate an answer to this letter at your earliest convenience.

We remain,

TEMPORARY COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
Poston 3

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Chairman



Nov. 24, 1942

R E S O L U T I O N

TO:

Mr. Wade Head, Project Director  
Poston, Arizona

Temporary Community Council, Block  
Representatives of Advisory Board,  
Block Managers and Emergency Committee  
of Poston 3, Poston, Arizona

WHEREAS there has been a disturbance of a serious nature in Poston I, and

WHEREAS the residents of Poston III are vitally concerned over the situation because our community life is so closely inter-related that the residents of Poston III are largely dependent on the proper functioning of all activities of Poston I for our daily necessities, and

WHEREAS due to the fact that there is an intense feeling on the part of the people arising out of the present existing conditions in Poston I as above mentioned, it became necessary to specially elect an emergency committee to cope with the local situation, and

WHEREAS the Temporary Community Council, Block Representatives of Advisory Board, the Block Managers and the said Emergency Committee have been exerting their very utmost effort to help maintain order in Poston III, and

WHEREAS the feeling of unrest is increasing to such an extent as to create a hazardous situation throughout Poston III,

Therefore, be it so resolved that the Administration exert every possible effort to bring about a speedy and satisfactory solution in order to effect a restoration of normal conditions in Poston I.

Signed by: 15 Councilmen  
15 Advisory Board Representatives  
17 Block Managers and Supervisor and Ass't. Supervisor  
of Block Managers  
24 Emergency Committee

*Sup*



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December 13, 1942

To Central Executive Board:

To Mr. Head:

We, the temporary Council Representatives of Quad 7 respectfully request the postponement of the election of Council Members scheduled for Tuesday December 15, 1942 until further notice.

Signed by,

Block 37	<u>/S/</u>	Tsuneo Doi
	<u>/S/</u>	T. Murata
Block 38	<u>/S/</u>	Geo. Y. Kakuda
Block 43	<u>/S/</u>	Jack H. Kohama
Block 44	<u>/S/</u>	Koichi Nakamura

File,



December 14, 1942

Memorandum to: Signers of Petition of  
December 13, 1942 of  
Quad 7, Unit I

From: W. Wade Head

Administrative Instruction No. 34 issued by Dillon S. Myer, Director of the War Relocation Authority, Washington, D.C., dated August 24, 1942 reiterates a provision of a memorandum issued by the then director, Eisenhower, of the War Relocation Authority on June 5 establishing a Temporary Community Council elected by a majority vote of each populated block in the relocation centers.

The memorandum of June 5 requires the Project Director to fix a date for the holding of elections of block representatives, to cause notices of such election to be posted at least five days before election at public places, and to provide for the nominations of persons and the method of voting.

At the present time in your blocks, no temporary community council representatives legally holds office pursuant to W.R.A. rules. I have, therefore, in compliance with the request of many people in Unit I, promulgated regulations pursuant to which an election of a Temporary Community Council will be held on Tuesday, December 15, 1942. No reasons are assigned in your petition for postponing this election. The vast majority of blocks in Unit I have made nominations and will elect representatives to the Community Council.

THH/as

W. Wade Head  
Project Director

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## JUDICIAL COMMISSION I

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT  
INTERNAL SECURITY  
PUBLIC WELFARE

## PART I (CM)

Month Ending DECEMBER, 1942  
COLORADO RIVER WAR RELOCATION PROJECTCOMMUNITY SELF-GOVERNMENT:

## 3. JUDICIAL COMMISSION

<u>Types of Cases Handled</u>	<u>Number of Acquittals</u> M	<u>Number of Convictions</u>	<u>Types of Penalties</u>
Traffic	4		1 remanded Welfare Dept.
Gambling		1	probation
Trespassing	1		
Petty theft	1		
Cases pending investigation			2



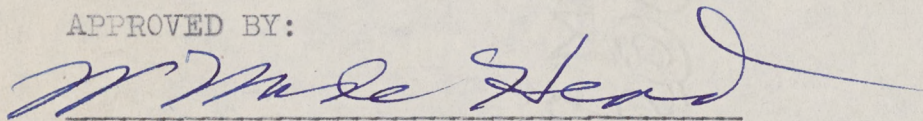
February 3, 1943

The Temporary Community Council of Unit I has elected Mr. M. Nagai (Block 3) as Chairman of the Central Executive Board; Masaru Kawashima (Block 19) has been elected Vice-chairman.

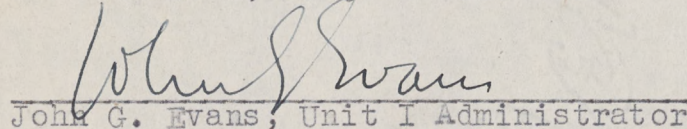
Mr. H. Nakaji (Block 19) has been elected Chairman of the Labor Relations Board and Smoot Katow has been elected Vice-chairman.

I will accept these men for these positions.

APPROVED BY:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. Wade Head", written over a horizontal line.

W. Wade Head, Project Director

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John G. Evans", written over a horizontal line.

John G. Evans, Unit I Administrator



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TEMPORARY COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER

Poston III  
Poston, Arizona

February 22, 1943

The President of the United States  
Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

We, the members of the Temporary Community Council of Poston 3, COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER, Arizona, upon the request of the loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry of this relocation unit, do hereby present this letter to you for your utmost deliberate consideration.

We here are fully cognizant of our national emergency and requirements; we realize that in the immediate future, further sacrifices and hardships may be in store. Being aware of the situation, we wish to extend our aid in bearing our share of the responsibilities, hardships, and sacrifices, as our duty to our country is absolutely paramount. We believe in the fulfillment of this supreme obligation.

We are here in this relocation center, not only without sacrifices and hardships, but also with the understanding of the military necessity which required this unprecedented and unfortunate condition. We have given the United States Army and the United States Government every cooperation before as well as after evacuation.



February 22, 1943

In reference to the new ruling by the United States War Department, whereby the said citizens are given the opportunity to volunteer for induction in the near future into the armed forces of the United States Army, our impression of the procedure is as follows:

It is our understanding that a special combat team composed entirely of Americans of Japanese blood is to be formed mainly for the purpose of the American public's education and benefit--so that any deeds of merit executed by this unit may be cited and recorded in history as an outstanding achievement for the benefit of the American citizens of Japanese ancestry as well as for the general American public.

This procedure seems to us as being merely an extension of the principles of segregation and discrimination, which has been greatly magnified by the evacuation, and especially recently by subsequent actions of various counties' and states' political and legislative bodies. We are opposed to the governmental policy of further perpetuation of the idea of racial consciousness. On the contrary, a democratic government such as the United States should at any and every opportunity set an example of democratic treatment of all its racial components on an equal basis as American citizens only.

The American soldiers of Japanese blood who are now members of the United States Army or who may hereafter become soldiers of the said army are and will be fighting to uphold the principles of democracy, and not for the purpose of furthering propaganda. We sincerely believe that individual deeds of merit can be and are being cited as well as any meritorious deeds executed by a group.

The Americans of Japanese ancestry have suffered tremendously from the psychological and political pressure of actual segregation and evacuation, based on racial differentiation alone. The fact has also been proven that not all alien Japanese are disloyal; therefore, we strongly urge the return of full privileges similar to those restored to alien Germans and Italians on the Pacific Coast, after the loyalty of alien Japanese has been determined by a board established for this specific purpose. We feel that if these pressures were to be alleviated by ignoring the racial question, the



February 22, 1943

psychological as well as the actual performance of the American soldiers of Japanese ancestry may be greatly enhanced.

By serving shoulder to shoulder with the Caucasian Americans, knowing that persons of Japanese ancestry are not being discriminated against nor segregated, be it in any combat zone or be it on the production line, the post war benefits derived from such associations will be of an enduring and harmonious nature socially, politically, and economically.

We are loyal and willing to fight and serve this country in this great crisis, as every American should be, but our one and fervent wish and desire is to fight and work as Americans and not as hyphenated Americans.

While we have cooperated to the fullest extent in the evacuation program, it cannot help but be our one big grievance, and we believe that a great injustice has been done to us. Although we have been informed that our evacuation was necessitated for military reasons alone, we cannot help but feel that it was greatly due to racial discrimination. We know that it is against the principles of democracy such as the Government of the United States stands upon, to segregate any people or a group of people on account of racial reasons without proof of disloyalty.

The great majority of the evacuated people have undergone much humiliation, but more than that, they have in general lost their businesses and homes, or have had to sacrifice their life earnings. While we reiterate our loyalty and we believe in serving the nation in this immediate crisis as well as in the future, our greatest desire is to have our citizenship rights fully restored not only in principle or words alone, but in actuality; namely, our freedom to travel, reside, work, and to operate our businesses in any state in the Union, including the Pacific Coast States, which privileges and freedoms were deprived us as a result of the evacuation.

As citizens of this great democratic nation, we shall not be satisfied until we are granted the above mentioned rights and privileges.



February 22, 1943

In conclusion, we repeat that we have shown complete loyalty to our country in the evacuation program; we have cooperated with the Government in the war effort, as for example by buying war bonds and by working to save agricultural crops; and a considerable number of us have volunteered our services for the armed forces of the United States. We believe that the proof of a nation's good faith is to be found in whether it moves to restore full privileges at the earliest opportunity; and since our belief in the said good faith of the United States Government is steadfast and true, we have taken this opportunity, upon the request of the loyal American citizens of Japanese ancestry of this relocation center, to present these facts and requests for your kind consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

Temporary Community Council

COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER

Poston 3, Poston, Arizona

*K. J. Takashima*  
K. J. Takashima, Chairman

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COPELY

February 26, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. W. Wade Head, Project Director

SUBJECT: Charter of the Community of Poston.

In our conversation yesterday morning, I mentioned that I had some comments on the proposed community charter which might be of interest to you and you suggested that I include them in a memorandum to you. They are as follows:

1. Section 1 of Article VIII of the charter provides that the Judicial Commission shall have jurisdiction "to try all offenses committed within the Colorado River War Relocation Project as may be defined in the penal code, laws and regulations of the Community of Poston, the State of Arizona, and the United States Government, except however it shall not have jurisdiction of felony cases."

Administrative Instruction No. 34 provides that a Judicial Commission shall be established to hear cases and to apply penalties for violation of law and order regulations prescribed by the Community Council. The Administrative Instruction apparently does not authorize the Judicial Commission to try any cases involving violations of state or federal laws unless the substance of those laws has been enacted in the form of law and order regulations of the Community Council.

The provision might be changed to read:

"The Judicial Commission shall hear all cases involving violation of any law and order regulations enacted by the Community Council."

2. Section 10 of Article VIII provides for appeal to the Project Director of decisions by the Judicial Commission and further provides that failure by the Project Director to certify in writing within two days, his decision on the appeal shall constitute a denial of such appeal. Administrative Instruction No. 34 does not provide for an appeals procedure and such a procedure apparently was not contemplated by the



Instruction. The Instruction provides that every decision of the Judicial Commission shall be reviewed by the Project Director and the right of the accused to have the decision reviewed is not limited to those cases where he requests that the decision be reviewed.

I suggest that this provision might be deleted.

3. Articles V, VI and VII of the Charter provide in detail for the processes of initiative, referendum and recall. It is very difficult to foresee exactly how these processes can best work. It will be even more difficult for the residents to understand all of the details of these processes as outlined in the proposed charter. The details of how these processes will be put into effect could be left to the Community Council, and the charter provisions could be worded somewhat as follows:

#### ARTICLE V

X "Section 1. Initiative. A regulation may be initiated by a petition signed by \_\_\_\_\_ hundred electors and when so initiated shall be submitted to the electors. Such a bill shall become effective upon the approval of a majority vote of the qualified electors.

X "Section 2. Referendum. Any regulation that has been enacted shall be referred to the electorate if a petition signed by \_\_\_\_\_ hundred electors is submitted to the Community Council. The majority vote of the qualified electors shall prevail. ✓

X "Section 3. Recall. Any member of the Community Council, except the Chairman and the Vice-chairman, is subject to recall from office by the qualified voters of the block represented by such member. A proposed recall may be initiated by a petition signed by 25 per cent of the qualified voters of the block and filed with the Community Council. The Community Council shall order an election to be held not less than 20 nor more than 30 days after the petition is filed and the majority vote in the special election shall prevail.

X "Section 4. Regulations. The Community Council shall adopt regulations prescribing procedures for carrying out the foregoing sections of this article."

4. There is some doubt as to the constitutional authority of the Judicial Commission to issue search warrants, as provided in Section 6 (b) of Article VIII. I understand that the



Office of the Solicitor in Washington has been doing some research on this question and that an opinion will be issued within the near future. I suggest that it would probably be desirable to have the legality of the search warrant procedure cleared up before authorizing the Judicial Commission to issue search warrants. I shall be glad to discuss this point with you, if you wish. *no change*

5. Section 2 of Article IV provides that the Local Council shall enforce the regulations passed by the Community Council. I understand that the enforcement of rules and regulations prescribed by the Community Council is a function of the internal security office and the local police force. If I am correct, this section could be changed to read as follows:

X "The Local Council may enact regulations concerning only the internal affairs of its unit, provided the regulations are not inconsistent with the regulations enacted by the Community Council." *OK*

It is possible that some of these suggestions have been thought through and vetoed. However, some of them may not have been considered and may be helpful to the Organization Commission.

There are some other provisions in the Charter which I believe could be clarified somewhat by editing. I understand the Organization Commission plans to edit the Charter before submitting it to the people for approval and I assume that these minor points can be taken care of at that time.

There is every indication that the people responsible for the community government have made a great deal of progress and that they have learned very much about community government processes. I am sure that adoption of the permanent Charter will enable them to assume even more responsibility.

C. Moxley Featherston  
Acting Project Attorney



March 4, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. WW Head  
Mr. JG Evans  
Mr. RE Gelvin

FROM: Franklyn S. Sugiyama

SUBJECT: Representation in Washington, D. C.

In our Council meeting held last night at Block 27 messhall, it was pointed out that the newspapers revealed the fact that a new WRA budget was going to be taken up by Congress very soon. We presume that the budget planning will occupy one phase of your trip to the Capital.

Representation was one of the grievances that the original 13 colonies had against King George. It later was proven by history that the Colonist were justified in their complaints because Parliament was not taking the right course of legislation. Skipping over the intervening years to the present, Alaska, Hawaii, Porto Rico and Panama have their representatives in the Capital. By law they are not given the ballot on the Congressional floor but their presence leads to legislation that is beneficial. Unfavorable laws to the insular possessions do pass the Congress but the insular delegates resist them vehemently before the final vote and the publicity given the delegates sometimes leads to a change by the following Congress.

This information is to show that the theory of representation is a recognized one that is universally practiced in our country. These points were brought out to me last night.

I was instructed to request that you take one member from Poston with you to Washington to advise you on our peculiar problems. The Council feels that a Japanese evacuee who could interpret his feelings toward the WRA policies to be formed would immensely benefit all the relocation centers.

The above request would have taken shape as a recommendation but we did not have a quorum present at our last meeting. I would appreciate a reply on this matter as soon as convenient.

Delegates for our proposed manpower survey were selected and the preliminary meetings will continue today with Mr. Evans, Mr. Powell and Mr. Kennedy.

Very truly yours,

*Franklyn S. Sugiyama*



March 15, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO:

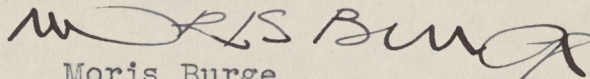
Mr. John G. Evans ✓  
Mr. James Crawford

FROM:

Moris Burge  
Administrator Poston #3

I enclose for your information a memorandum received from the Block Managers' Supervisor of Poston #3, in which he recommends a change in the Block Manager's system to meet the emergency caused by block managers and their staffs leaving for camouflage and outside work.

I believe that this is an intelligent way ~~of~~ meeting this problem, and thought you would be interested.



Moris Burge  
Administrator Poston #3

MB:ym  
Enc. 1

cc: Block Managers' Supervisor



COLORADO RIVER WAR RELOCATION PROJECT  
Temporary Community Council, Unit I  
Law Department, Division I  
City Hall  
Preston, Arizona

March 22, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: A. W. Empie  
John C. Evans  
Ralph Calvin ✓

FROM: Franklyn S. Sugiyama

SUBJECT: Conservation of man-power

Today I was awarded my clothing allowance. I noticed that in the line there were people working in various departments. These people were forced to leave their jobs to get their clothing allowance in person, or run the risk of not getting any until some future time. The present procedure is wasting man-power. I was thinking that the total amount of hours wasted for the whole three units would run into many work days. To think that this procedure is carried through for clothing allowances and pay days the sum total of man power wasted would amount to several man-hour years.

I should think, in view of our present man-power shortage, this evil should be corrected. In civil life, a power-of-attorney is sufficient evidence to accept payments. I would suggest that the block managers be given some adequate form, similar to the power-of-attorney, allowing some member of the family to collect the money in place of the persons working, thus saving valuable man-power. Anything that you might suggest to correct this evil would be very much appreciated.

To change the subject the uniforms for the nurses' aides in the hospital have been promised but have not been made a reality. Since we are short of personnel in this particular branch I would recommend that this particular promise be carried out immediately as an inducement for the prospective candidates.

Yours very truly,

*Franklyn S. Sugiyama*  
Franklyn S. Sugiyama, Chairman  
Temporary Community Council, I



*Mess Hall Employees*

*60*

March 29, 1943

Memo to: Mr. W. W. Head  
Mr. L. L. Nelson  
Executive Board ✓  
Temporary Community Council

From: The Kitchen Committee, Unit 1

The attached is the resolutions adopted  
by the Mess Hall Employees of Boston, Unit 1 at their  
mass meeting which was held on March 25, 1943 at  
Block 37.

Your consideration upon the matter is  
appreciated.

The Kitchen Committee Unit 1

*James S. Yehio*  
*Chairman*



March 25, 1943

Whereas, the food shortage in Poston, Unit I is more apparent every day, thus threaten to create dis-satisfaction and disturbance among evacuees, and

Whereas, the amount of subsistence we receive in the kitchens are far below the ration allowed by the Government, and

Whereas, the present meat ration in the project is far below that of what Mr. Dilan Myer, the W. R. A. Director, testified before the hearing of Senatorial Sub-Committee on Military Affairs on January 23, 1943 and no attempt had been made by the Chief-Steward to acquire the substitute for the shortage, and

Whereas, the Chief-Steward failed to alleviate these situations by negotiating with the War Department, and

Whereas, the Chief-Steward further decreased the Japanese staple food "rice", from even then, the insufficient amount, and

Whereas, the Chief-Steward found to be, without consulting the evacuee chefs, ordering certain food stuff unfit for Japanese consumption, and he is causing the shortage of sugar, rice, meat and meat substitute in the project, and

Whereas, the Chief-Steward isolated himself from the direct contact of the evacuees by establishing a private office where no evacuee could enter without a permission from the girl at the "Information Desk", and

Whereas, the Chief-Steward has organized the staff in such a manner that the best interest of the mess halls are entirely disregarded with respect to their requirements and desires, and

Whereas, the Chief-Steward has shown the ignorance of the actual man power condition in the evacuees mess halls by asking the mess hall employees to furnish man power in some other departments, voluntarily, and

Whereas, the Chief-Steward, Mr. C. E. Snelson, is inefficient and incompetent as a man to manage and supervise the food problems in the Center as large as this and he is indifferent toward the requirements and the welfare of the evacuees.

Therefore be it resolved that the Chief-Steward,



Mr. C. E. Snelson, be replaced by more capable and efficient person who will work for the best interest of the evacuees, and the food situation within this center be improved within the limit of the Government ration applied in outside of the relocation centers.

Mess Hall Employees  
Poston, Unit I



March 25, 1943

Whereas, the present national food shortage necessitates the manufacturing of the certain food stuff consumed within this Center, and

Whereas, in spite of the repeated promises of Japanese food manufacturing such as, tofu, shoyu, miso etc. by the Industry Department nothing has been materialized excepting of the moyashi, and

Whereas, the Industry Department, up to now, failed to recognize the shortage of certain essential materials required for the building of the up-to-date manufacturing plant, due to the national war effort and ignored the possibility of the food manufacturing by the practical methods, and

Whereas, we are firmly convinced as to the capability and the efficiency of the Kitchen Committee, which is the representative of the evacuee mess hall employees of Poston, Unit I, to manage the manufacturing of certain Japanese food, and

Whereas, we have voluntarily pledged to support the decision and the activities of the Kitchen Committee in order to surmount the serious problems caused by the food shortage which are confronting us now, and

Whereas, we have lost the faith in the capability, the efficiency, and the dependability of the Industry Department for a department to supervise the food manufacturing in this Center.

Therefore be it resolved that the management of all of the food manufacturing within Poston, Unit I and all the equipments available to this date for this purpose be transferred to the Kitchen Committee.

Mess Hall Employees  
Poston, Unit I



C  
O  
P  
Y  
*Mr. Head*

COLORADO RIVER WAR RELOCATION PROJECT  
Peston, Arizona  
April 12, 1943

*RR*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Franklyn Sugiyama, Chairman  
Temporary Community Council

FROM: Nell Findley, Chief of Community  
Services

As you requested, I am giving you a brief written statement about the funeral of which you and I discussed sometime ago. The total cost of the funeral was \$175.50. The Project paid \$95.00 and the family assumed the \$80.50 additional expense. The family was most willing to pay this amount and made their own special arrangements with the undertaker to have the body placed in a private cemetery in Yuma, Arizona. The grave had to be cement lined and will receive careful care.

After arrangements had been completed and the agreement for the plot had been signed, one of the council members informed the family that they should not pay the extra amount of money but should have the Project assume the entire responsibility. The directive which stated that the Project should pay for certain parts of a funeral were explained to the family when they expressed the desire to have the body placed in a private cemetery. They understood perfectly and are most willing to pay the additional expenses.

In my discussion with you, you stated that you would see what could be done about the matter. The undertaker is now asking me about the settlement. May I have a prompt reply from you concerning the decision which the council has reached about this matter?

---

Nell Findley  
Chief of Community Services

NF:mt



April 13, 1943

In reply, please refer to:

John Nakamura, Chairman  
Temporary Community Council  
Poston Unit Two  
Poston, Arizona

RE: REQUEST FOR RAISE IN  
CASH ADVANCE

We of the Colorado River Relocation Authority request the raise of the monthly cash advance from the present status of \$12 for Unskilled laborers, \$16 for the Skilled laborers, and \$19 for the Professional workers to minimum of \$30 for the Unskilled, \$40 for the Skilled, and \$50 for the Professional, due to the following reasons:

1. The cost of living, such as clothing, soap, and miscellaneous at Community Enterprise store has increased considerably since our evacuation. Tremendous necessity of soap is present, due to the hot and dusty weather when evacuees are not furnished as promised by WRA at time of war.
2. The small amount of financial support which we had brought into camp with us is now exhausted.
3. We cannot maintain the healthful living of those who live in camp with us and are employed by the garnishing factory or on the project work and earning regular prevailing wages.
4. At present, there is a tremendous shortage of manpower, and this condition steadily increasing daily. If the earnings in the center are not sufficient to meet the expenses of the evacuees, they will be forced to apply for public assistance. In many cases, the entire family is unable to find outside employment since all of the household goods have been left behind, and they have been unable to have it sent into camp.

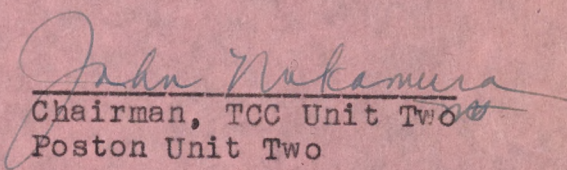


- 2 -

The expenditure is far more than the WRA estimate; thus, if there is a raise of the Cash Advance to the evacuee workers, there will be an increase of benefit to the welfare of the community and to the project.

Trusting that you will look into this critical situation at your earliest convenience, we await your prompt reply.

Sincerely yours,

  
Chairman, TCC Unit Two  
Poston Unit Two

mfh.



copy

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

April 14, 1943

Mr. Wade Head, Project Director  
Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Head:

The proposed charter for the Community of Poston which was transmitted with your letter dated March 27, 1943 has been reviewed by this office and it is approved subject to the following changes:

1. The number of electors needed to sign an initiative or referendum petition was left blank in the copy submitted by you. These blanks should be filled in. The Organization Commission may wish to consider the advisability of changing these provisions to specify the percentage of signers required to initiate such a petition.

2. Section 6b of Article IV, which authorizes the Judicial Commission to issue search warrants, should be deleted. Study is now being made of the conditions under which a search warrant may be legally issued, and the Director will probably issue a uniform Instruction to govern all searches and seizures.

3. Section 1 of Article VI provides that the Judicial Commission shall hear all cases involving alleged violations of law and order regulations enacted by the Community Council. To make this provision consistent with Administrative Instruction No. 85, it should be changed to indicate that the jurisdiction of the Judicial Commission extends only to those cases which the Commission is permitted to try by applicable Administrative Instructions of the War Relocation Authority.

4. Administrative Instruction No. 34 provides that a signed petition to amend the Charter shall have the signatures of 25 per cent of the qualified voters. Section 1 of Article IX should be changed accordingly.

In addition to the changes enumerated above, there are some additional changes in the charter which we recommend in order to clarify some of the provisions.

Article II

Section 3 makes no provision for the terms of office of the Community Council members first elected. The following language would clarify this point:



"3. Only members of the Local Council shall be eligible for election to the Community Council. Each Community Councilman shall serve for a term of six months which shall expire on the third Monday of April or the third Monday of October, except that the Councilmen first elected shall serve until the third Monday of the following April or October, whichever comes first. Each Councilman shall serve until his successor has been elected and has qualified."

Under Sections 9 and 10, regulations enacted by the Community Council would become effective before they are published. It was apparently the intention of the persons who drafted the charter to provide in these Sections that regulations shall be effective 15 days from the date of their adoption and shall be published within 10 days after their adoption. Sections 9 and 10 should probably be changed accordingly.

### Article III

Article III of the charter is ambiguous in several respects. Was it intended that the officers listed in Section 1 should be officers of the Community Council or officers of the Community Government? What is the difference between "appointive" officers and "elected" officers? Both appointive and elected officers are apparently selected by the Community Council. Should not the terms of office of all of these officers be the same as the terms of office of the Community Council members that selected them? The following language is clearer and it contains all of the provisions of Article III:

"1. At its first regular meeting, the Community Council shall select from its members a chairman, who shall be known as the mayor, and a vice-chairman. The chairman of the Community Council shall preside at all meetings of the Council at which he is present. He shall not have a vote except in case of a tie vote. In the absence of the chairman, the vice-chairman shall be the presiding officer, and in the absence of the chairman and the vice-chairman, the city manager shall serve as the presiding officer.

"2. The Community Council shall select and, subject to the other provisions of this charter and the regulations of the War Relocation Authority, shall prescribe the duties of, a city manager, city clerk, city attorney, city treasurer, and such other officers as the Council shall deem necessary. Such officers shall serve only during the term of office of the Community Council members selecting them. Any resident of the Community of Poston above the age of 18 years shall be eligible for appointment to any such office. The local Council may recommend candidates to the Community Council. Any officer selected under the provisions of this Section



may be removed at any time by a two-thirds vote of the Community Council.

"3. The Community Council shall provide for the establishment of such departments, committees or commissions as it shall deem necessary for carrying out the duties and powers conferred upon it by this charter."

#### Article IV

Section 2 provides that the first election of the Community Council shall be held within 15 days after the adoption of the charter, and Section 10 of Article IV provides that the first election for the local Council shall be held within 15 days after the adoption of the charter. It is necessary that the election for the local Council be held before the election for the Community Council, since under Section 3 of Article I the Community Council members are required to be elected by the local Council of each Unit. To clarify this point, Section 10 of Article IV might provide that the first election of the local Council shall be held within 10 days after the adoption of the Charter.

#### Article V

As now worded, Section 3 on recall applies to the Community Council only and not to the Local Council. If it is the intention to have this Section apply to both groups a change should be made.

#### Article VIII

It is not entirely clear how the appeals procedure outlined in Section 10 would work. Would a person sentenced to jail be required to remain in jail while the Project Director reviews his case under Section 10? Inasmuch as Section 9 provides that the sentence shall become final, is not this provision in the nature of a pardon or parole procedure? I believe that Section 10 could be clarified.

Please extend to the Organization Commission my appreciation of their work in the preparation of this document.

Sincerely yours,

/Signed/ E. M. Rowalt

Acting Director



COLORADO RIVER WAR RELOCATION CENTER

TEMPORARY COMMUNITY  
COUNCILS

Poston, Arizona

April 21, 1943

Mr. Dillon S. Myers, Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the residents, may we extend you  
our hearty welcome.

At this time, we would like to present you with  
a few of the problems that are confronting the com-  
munity of Poston, which we feel that with your  
cooperation and assistance will greatly aid us in  
solving these difficult problems.

- Myers  
Reply  
Indicated*
1. Actual observations made by visitors from Poston to other relocation centers; namely: Topaz, Granada, and Heart Mountain, we gather the following information: that in those centers, residents are supplied and furnished with linoleum, sheet-rock insulations, double flooring, sufficient iron cots for all, sufficient sheetrock and other materials for the construction of partitions, closets, shelves and other necessary furniture such as tables, chairs, etc. Furthermore, in the latrines, porcelain lavatories, individual mirrors, individual porcelain urinals, and bath tubs in the women's latrines besides the showers. Construction of school buildings are about to begin with lumber instead of mud as in Poston.

Whereas, we in Poston do not see the above mentioned facilities, and leads us to wonder why Poston which



is under the same authority as any other relocation center is not furnished similarly.

2. For the coming fiscal budget year, we would like to see in Poston that we are given \$1,500 per month for the community recreational fund. We know that Congress has made an appropriation realizing the necessity of recreation to keep up the morale of the men in the United States Armed Forces who are of adult status. We firmly believe that those of us who are forced to live under abnormal circumstances in the centers, some means of recreation is necessary for the welfare and morale of the people.
3. In our last letter of April 15, 1943, we have requested a clothing allowance to be paid to evacuee residents in Poston on the basis that clothing is considered a part of subsistence. At this time, we would like to have your utmost consideration for raising the clothing allowances to \$7.50 per person irrespective of age and sex. This amount we believe is very reasonable for clothing allowances when we consider much higher prices we must pay for the clothing, including shoes and hats absolutely necessary in this scorching climate of heat, dust, and perspiration. We are confronted with the necessity of laundering three to four times than before, and consequently the wear on the clothing and expense of soaps and other supplies used have increased tremendously.

It is a known fact that hardly any one person could buy with the \$3.50 received, if received, for clothing allowances to clothe himself respectively and whatever clothing brought with him is wearing out rapidly.

4. The difference of figures of income and expenses of residents in Poston as a whole indicates that the latter greatly exceeds the former. These figures we have computed from clothing allowances plus cash advances less the expenses paid out by the residents for purchases through mail orders, canteens and other media, and show about 3 times as much expenditures. The figure up to December, 1942, the total income to residents was \$450,000 whereas the expenditure through the canteens, money orders show about \$1,000,000 and the amount paid out with personal checks must be around \$500,000. This is the expenditure of keeping up to a minimum standard of living conditions.



April 21, 1943

We believe that \$50.00 or the minimum army pay for doing the project work is justifiable. Furthermore, with the great advances for the increased incentive to work, we may be able to alleviate to a certain extent the manpower shortage we are facing at present.

5. Although the newspapers and other publicity emphatically states that the Japanese in relocation centers are being pampered by abundance of good food, both quality and quantity of food is very unsatisfactory, and recently more noticeably so. The proof of insufficient diet is shown by the fact that many people are necessitated in taking vitamin pills in order to keep their health. Japanese people as a rule like fish; however, herring smelt, sharkmeat and spoiled fish as well as neckbones and beefhearts are not usually consumed.

It is our understanding at present that canned prepared baby food are fed to babies under the age of one year. We believe that the older babies do require such specially prepared foods, considering the food prepared for the adults are not very well consumed by the youngsters. Therefore, we sincerely request that you exert your utmost influence in seeing that we are given a minimum of army standards in food rations.

6. There is no doubt that education of the younger generation is most essential in our minds. Prior to evacuation the Japanese people as a whole have carried out the policy of giving all opportunities to acquire the highest education. However, due to evacuation with the resulting depletion of funds and limitations of income, most students cannot obtain that desired education. Since the Student Relocation Funds is not available except in very exceptional cases, if any, we request that the War Relocation Authority give such assistance for student relocations to the amount of \$500 per person per year.
7. It is<sup>a</sup> fact that various types of tools and equipment of the evacuee-owned are being used on project work due to the lack of such tools which should be furnished by the War Relocation Authority. We firmly believe that for the use of these tools at least a rental of 10% of the present value of such tools and equipment should be paid to the owners, retroactive to the beginning date of use. Also we request prompt payments be made to previous lease and rental contracts made to evacuees.



8. We request that all physicians, surgeons, dentists, pharmacists, registered nurses, attorneys, and teachers employed by the project be given Civil Service ratings and corresponding remunerations. It is necessary that these professional services be retained here in Poston, serving a community with whom they are familiar and to whom they can be of greatest benefits.
9. Those who are on jobs besides the regular WRA work are being charged \$20 and \$25 per month for subsistence. We request that this fund be used in the respective project from which subsistence charge is made for general improvements of that particular project.
10. The kitchen equipment is very inadequate. For example: we are furnished with camouflaged wood burners which are extremely hazardous with the incomplete combustion of oil causing a plentiful collection of soot and resulting in fire hazards already to date with the complete demolition of two mess halls and on adjoining barrack and scores of mess halls which would have met the same fate only saved by the vigilance of the residents nearby. Also we have been promised for about six months that the ~~the~~ stove tops will be replaced; to date we have been unable to see a single such replacement.

In order to keep the food wastages down to a minimum due to spoilage, we request that more adequate iceboxes be placed in each mess hall. It is a fact that half of our kitchens are equipped with a second icebox that require conversion from gas to electricity. The other half do not even have such iceboxes.

Each mess hall is now furnished with one cooler by the War Relocation Authority; however, in this scorching climate of Arizona desert, it is hardly sufficient to keep the kitchens at a temperature bearable to be able to eat in. Hence, we desire 4 additional coolers for each mess hall.

Although dieticians are maintained in each mess hall for the preparation of food for the babies and dietetic patients, as well as invalids, they cannot adequately prepare such food by trying to share the stoves and



April 21, 1943

utensils with the regular cooking. Therefore, we request the WRA to furnish separate stoves and cooking utensils for this sole purpose.

11. To date all the residents of Poston have not received iron cots, whereas in other centers they are supplied to everyone. Why aren't we given equal consideration? Even in our base hospital, we are faced with the acute shortage of iron beds. We feel that certainly this matter should be given your immediate attention.
12. For our schools, we are faced with a greater lack of teachers, books, physical education equipment, and educational supplies. In order to give a fair education to the students, we request that you exert your undivided efforts to obtaining these absolute necessities.
13. The barracks constructed of wood and tarpaper are undoubtedly vulnerable to fire hazards and in the event of fire, the personal properties of the evacuees are likely to meet with total loss. In order to protect the evacuees from such losses by fire, we believe that the United States Government should cover the properties of evacuees with fire insurance to full coverage in relocation centers. We urgently request your attention on this matter.
14. The California legislature is attempting to confiscate evacuee properties in California. Is the WRA ready to take steps to protect these evacuee properties?
15. Pertaining to California State Unemployment Compensation and Washington State Unemployment Compensation, is the War Relocation Authority taking any action on this matter?
16. In view of the fact that in other centers, the evacuees are supplied with daily project paper free of cost, we believe that same should be true here in Poston also. At present there is a charge of \$1.30 per month being made for each subscription. Is this charge justified for the reason that this center is in some ways connected with the Indian Service?
17. We believe that the use of cameras on the Poston project is not injurious or hazardous to the Western Defense Command; therefore, we request that we be permitted to obtain and make use of them as in the other centers.



April 21, 1943

18. We are informed of the fact that the War Relocation Authority has been successful in saving \$45,000,000 of the present fiscal year's budget period, and also we are informed that unless the WRA utilizes this sum by June 30, 1943, the end of the fiscal year, the sum would not be available for the relocation centers, and furthermore, next year's budget may be reduced accordingly. THEREFORE, we request that the War Relocation Authority will expend at least a greater portion of this sum for the general improvements of the various projects.
19. We believe that Japanese evacuees are more familiar with problems concerning themselves than the Caucasian administrators alone, and it would be more helpful if they were given an opportunity to participate in the policy making functions of the War Relocation Authority.

These above facts are many problems and questions that are confronting the residents of this relocation project, and the Temporary Community Council of Poston request that you give each and every problem your undivided consideration. We are desirous of your earliest possible replies. May we extend to you our heartiest appreciation and hope that you will visit us again shortly.

Very sincerely yours,

K. J. Takashima, Chairman  
Temporary Community Council  
Poston III

John Nakamura, Chairman  
Temporary Community Council  
Poston II

Franklyn Sugiyama, Chairman  
Temporary Community Council  
Poston I

KJT:may



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY  
Tule Lake Project  
Newell, California

05

April 26, 1943

Mr. K. J. Takashima, Chairman  
Temporary Community Council  
Poston Unit 3  
Poston, Arizona

My dear Mr. Takashima:

Thank you for your letter dated April 14, and the copy of your letter addressed to Mr. Dillon Myer, regarding transportation, expenses, etc., to evacuees leaving the center.

As Executive Secretary of the Tule Lake Community Council, I am taking this opportunity to inform you of our Community Council's present status.

At the height of the recent registration, the Community Council resigned "en masse" as a protest to the Administration on the manner by which the registration was forced on the colonists. All vital matters concerning the evacuees have been tabled until our new Council is elected. We expect to have a new Council reelected soon.

Mr. Dillon Myer was in Tule Lake recently, and at that time, various problems concerning the evacuees were brought up by the colonists in a project-wide meeting. According to Mr. Myer, the WRA will assist all evacuees resettling on indefinite leave with the following: transportation, meals enroute, \$50 cash, and \$25 for every two dependents he is taking with him, provided that he is unable to furnish the expenses for them.

I hope this will answer your question regarding the above matter and that we may hear from you again on any matter which may seem necessary for all of us to



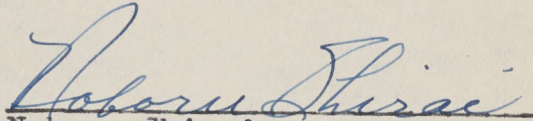
Mr. K. J. Takashima

4/26/43

Page 2

cope with. In the meantime, I will endeavor to keep you posted on developments in our community.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Noboru Shirai", written over a horizontal line.

Noboru Shirai  
Executive Secretary of  
Tule Lake Community Council

NS:MY



Colorado River War Relocation Project  
Poston, Arizona  
May 8, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. K. J. Takashima, Chairman  
Temporary Community Council  
Poston III

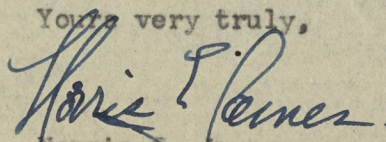
FROM: Norris E. James  
Reports Officer

Thank you for your memorandum of May 5. We appreciate the interest the Temporary Community Council of Poston III has shown in the Chronicle and its sincere expression for improving our project newspaper.

1. Mimeographing. There are only three mimeograph machines on the Project and only one is assigned to the Chronicle. With a six-day production schedule, and a daily run of 4000, this is inadequate for our needs. We have purchased an additional machine from Denver, and this should reach us next week. Too, the stencils we are using are not able to stand up for a circulation run of this size, and they deteriorate or break after the first 1500 copies have been run off. We are endeavoring to secure heavier stencils.
2. Printing. The ultimate solution to our production problems is, of course, the printed Chronicle now being issued on Sundays only. We are having the news stories set in Phoenix, while the hand set material and the press work is performed in the Unit I Print Shop. We are now negotiating with Community Enterprise for the purchase of a linotype machine which will permit us to print two editions a week. This will then enable us to drop the mimeograph newspaper completely, except for the Japanese section.
3. Under WRA directives, we cannot expect WRA to pay the costs of paper and printing, since we are accepting advertising and it is through this advertising that Community Enterprise has been able to acquire valuable printing equipment such as the big Whitlock press, type, casting boxes, etc.
4. If the people of Poston want free distribution of the Chronicle, this can be accomplished by petitioning Community Enterprises. The Heart Mountain Sentinel, Minidoka Irrigator and Manzanar Free Press circulate their publications without charge, owing to just such a subsidy.

I hope this is the information you want.

Yours very truly,

  
Norris E. James  
Reports Officer

NEJ/mo  
cc: Mr. Wade Head



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER

Poston, Arizona

May 24, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: Temporary Community Council

Chairman Seiichi Nomura  
Camp I  
Chairman Kenneth Sato  
Camp II  
Chairman K. J. Takashima  
Camp III

FROM : Thos. Masuda, Acting Project Attorney

In accordance with Mr. Head's instructions, the local council shall meet on May 27, 1943, and the Chairman of the Temporary Community Council of each Unit is asked to call the first meeting of the local council in his particular Unit. The Chairmans are asked to act as Chairman pro-tem of the meeting.

You should get the names of the local councilman either from this office or from the block manager supervisor's office, and send notices to those individuals elected. Arrangements should be made for a place and time.

You should also contact your Unit Director, Mr. Nelson, Mr. Crawford, or Mr. Burge, and have them present to administer. <sup>the oath of office</sup> Copies of the oath of office have been sent to them.

After the permanent Chairman has been seated, we wish you would call to his attention the necessity of electing community councilmen immediately. Nine community councilmen for Unit I, and five from each of the Units II and III, and have the names forwarded to the project attorney's office, immediately. Also, three Judicial Commissioners from each Unit should be selected, and those names also submitted to the project attorney's office immediately.

---

Acting Project Attorney

*See*



*See  
Return  
Return to Bureau*

July 12, 1944

Mr. Itaru Kubota  
Acting Chairman  
Community Council  
Poston 1, Arizona

Dear Mr. Kubota:

The Board of Directors of the Poston Community Enterprises, at its meeting held July 11, 1944, decided to allocate the sum of \$4800 annually to be expended strictly for the welfare of the residents of Poston. The Board wishes to turn this appropriation over to the Community Council to be disbursed by that body for various worthwhile purposes. This allocation will be effective as of July 1, 1944.

Previously, the Community Enterprises have been spending \$68.00 a week to present movies to the residents but have not been given the authority to select the films or the personnel. The Board feels that the Community Council is the proper body to be given the responsibility and the authority for providing this means of entertainment and, therefore, wishes to make this allocation for the people of Poston through the Council.

We should appreciate your accepting this proposal in the interests of the residents. May we have a reply as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

POSTON COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES

*R. T.*

Roy Tazawa  
Executive Secretary



Duncan Mills  
Moris Burge  
Dr. J. Powell  
P. B. Brown  
Charles Harper  
Dr. W. Balderston



July 12, 1944

Mr. Harry Kubota  
Acting Chairman  
Community Council  
Boston 1, Arizona

Dear Mr. Kubota:

The Board of Directors of the Boston Community  
Enterprise, at its meeting held July 11, 1944,  
decided to allocate the sum of \$4800 annually to be  
expended entirely for the welfare of the residents  
of Boston. The Board wishes to turn this approxi-  
mation over to the Community Council to be allocated  
by that body for various worthwhile purposes. This  
allocation will be effective as of July 1, 1944.

Previously, the Community Enterprises have  
been spending \$50.00 a week to present movies to the  
residents but have not been given the authority to  
select the films on the personnel. The Board feels  
that the Community Council is the proper body to be  
given the responsibility and the authority for pro-  
viding this means of entertainment and, therefore,  
wishes to make this allocation for the people of Bos-  
ton through the Council.

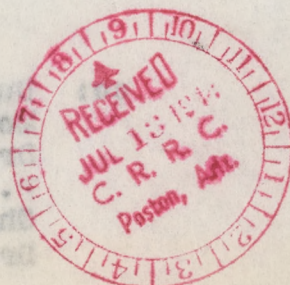
We should appreciate your accepting this pro-  
posal in the interests of the residents. May we have  
a reply as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

BOSTON COMMUNITY ENTERPRISES

Ray Brown  
Executive Secretary

Wanda Miller  
Alice Wright  
J. L. Brown  
J. B. Brown  
Charles Wright  
Dr. W. H. Hildreth





COLO DO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

July 17, 1943

To: Mr. Tom Sakai, Block Managers Supervisor  
From: T. H. Haas, Project Attorney  
Re: Youth Counseling Board

Messrs. Masuda, Yamamoto and I have drafted the attached memorandum regarding the Youth Counseling Board. Attached is the draft which you submitted to me over a week ago.

Under the proposed penal code submitted to the Community Council by the Law Division, the Judicial Commission would be empowered to submit cases to the Youth Counseling Board involving juvenile delinquents. Since under the charter, the Judicial Commission enforces the penal code, the recommendations of the Board would have to be submitted to the Judicial Commission for its action. However, I feel confident that they would be given great weight.

thh:yy  
atts.

Theodore H. Haas  
Project Attorney



YOUTH COUNSELLING BOARD

WHEREAS, problems concerning juvenile delinquency are peculiarly vested with a public interest, and

WHEREAS, in the interest of the residents of Unit I, it is hereby resolved and ordained as follows, to wit:

1. That a Youth Counselling Board is hereby established with a membership of not less than three (3) and not more than seven (7) to be appointed in the manner and for the periods as hereinafter more specifically set forth.
2. Within a period of two weeks after the adoption of this resolution, the Chairman of the Local Council of Unit I, Block Manager Supervisor of Unit I, Chairman of Executive Board of Unit I, and the Unit Director of Unit I, shall select or appoint the Youth Counselling Board and shall also determine the number of people that shall serve on this board. The Chairman of the Local Council, Unit I, shall call the first meeting of the Youth Counselling Board and shall act as Chairman Pro-tem of said meeting until the board elects its own chairman.
3. The term of office of the Youth Counselling Board shall be for a period of one year commencing the first day of July, 1943, and expiring on the thirtieth day of June, 1944, or until their successor has been appointed or designated.
4. The Youth Counselling Board shall investigate any and all cases involving juvenile delinquency and make recommendations to the Judicial Commission, the Project Director, the Police Department, or to any other official or department

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concerning the disposition of the particular problem. The board shall also act as probation officers for juvenile delinquents and to act generally as a Counselling Board on any and all problems affecting juveniles.

5. This Board shall be under the jurisdiction of the Judicial Commission of Unit I, and any and all disciplinary orders shall be exercised only under the direct supervision and order of the Judicial Commission or the Project Director.

6. The Youth Counselling Board shall hear all matters involving minors under the age of eighteen (18) years referred to it by the Judicial Commission, and shall also hear all other matters involving the moral or delinquent conduct, and any other misconduct of minors under the age of eighteen (18) years.

7. The Youth Counselling Board may confer with the Judicial Commission, the Police Department, Department of Education, Social Welfare Department, Block Manager Supervisor's office, and any other law enforcing and all administrative agencies for such information and reports as said board may find necessary.



July 29, 1943

As you undoubtedly know, the War Relocation Authority has drastically changed their policy in regards to employment within all the centers. The former policy was to give all who wished ~~to work some kind of employment~~, and that all those not desiring employment did not get any clothing allowance. However, upon the latest policy, for instance, in the Colorado River War Relocation Center, out of 8,000 who were employed, practically one third of them are to lose their employment, making the total actual employees in this Center to number 5,600. Therefore, many of those who may wish to work will not be able to find employment. We strongly request, therefore, that clothing allowances be given to everybody regardless of the fact as to whether they are in employment or not. Also, costs of clothing have arisen considerably from the time the first clothing allowance schedules were made up. It is our request, therefore, that all clothing allowances be paid at double the present rate.

The present War Relocation Authority ruling states that where there are no family heads and also old people who are unable to work who have nobody to depend upon will not automatically get clothing allowances but they must apply for same through the social welfare for grants. It is our suggestion and request that for these people, clothing allowances be given to them automatically without making applications through the social welfare.

Also, the basic wage throughout the United States has increased considerably and for this reason we request that all the basic wages for center workers be increased to the extent equaling that of the minimum pay for the members of the United States armed forces.

We further request that better hospital facilities be furnished to this center, especially in regards to the equipment and materials, equipment especially in regards to the dental clinics. Also, due to the fact that many doctors who were originally here have relocated, we request that more doctors be replaced at least upon the same quota per capita as before. We realize that doctors are very scarce, and if more doctors are impossible to get for this center, it is our suggestion that the War Relocation Authority get the Japanese doctors, many of whom are now in the internment camps, for this center.

Since this special relocation center is divided into three different units, we request that better and more transportation facilities be given us, especially for hospital patients and hospital visitors.

As you undoubtedly are fully aware, this relocation center, aside from the Gila River Relocation Center, is the hottest



July 29, 1943

of the ten different centers. Therefore, we request that coolers for each apartment be installed as soon as possible. True, a considerable number of coolers have been installed through personal purchases by those who were financially able but there are a great number who are financially destitute who were not able to install same.

Like the cooler situation, there are a number of individuals who have, through their own purchases, lined each barrack with pipeline to carry water to their individual apartments, but a great number of barracks are lacking pipes because of the financial inability to do so. It is our request that every barrack be lined with pipes for the double purpose of general convenience as well as for temporary fire prevention purposes.

It is our further request that we receive a better quality of food. A number of the menus are not well balanced but are highly starch in content.

In closing, we wish to thank you again most sincerely. Again, we shall repeat, any and all efforts upon your part on the above requests will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Poston 3

July 30, 1943

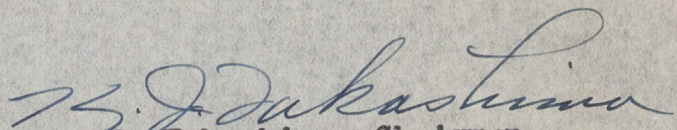
Memorandum to: Councilman

From: K. J. Takashima, Chairman, Community Council, Poston 3

Attached hereto please find copy of instructions regarding repatriation procedures, information, etc., which is being forwarded to you in the event there are residents in your Block who may be interested in the information. Please make same available to such residents.

Also attached is a mimeographed canteen investigation report which may be used at the time of the block meeting of the Cooperative Enterprises in order to get some clarification on the items given. This information is not to be regarded as any accusations, but just to find out why or get explanations of these points in doubt.

The calling of the block meeting is left to the discretion of the Councilmen, acting in the capacity of resident of the block and not in an official capacity.

  
K. J. Takashima, Chairman  
Community Council, Poston 3

may



August 9, 1943

[from Unit IV]

MEMO TO: Mr. Chairman of the Poston Community Council

FROM: Mr. Wade Head

It is my desire to have the evacuee participate to the fullest extent in the handling of the segregation program. I am therefore, most anxious to have a body represent the resident and work closely with the administration in all phases of this program.

I therefore am requesting that the Community Council appoint a committee to represent the entire project who will act as consultant and advisor on segregation. It is my suggestion that some three to five members be appointed from each unit and that these members include representative of such organization as PTA and Women's Club. It should not necessarily be composed of the members of the local council.

As you know the work of segregation has already started and I will appreciate your taking action on this matter as soon as possible so that we may have the benefit of such a committee at the earliest stages of the program.

[Wade Head]

Frank Kagiwada

325-2-D

Rev. K. Inai

309-10-B

Rev. S. Sakai

309-4-C

M. <sup>egawa</sup> Ozawa

306-9A

M. <sup>matsumoto</sup> Matsumoto

306-10A

~~J. [unclear]~~

407



208  
September 23, 1943

Memo To: Block Managers

From: Community Council

A repetition error has been called to our attention in the REGULATIONS FOR ANNUAL ELECTION OF LOCAL COUNCIL on Item "c" of Nomination. The sentence - "The names of such nominee or nominees shall be filed with the City Clerk not later than fifteen (15) days before election" - has been struck out. Also "on or before" a date, is to be inserted in the succeeding sentence. Attached herewith is a corrected copy of the filing date. Will you kindly paste the corrected form on top of the original.

POSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

*K. Kuroiwa*

K. Kuroiwa  
City Manager

an



OFFICE OF WAR INFORMATION

WASHINGTON

(25)

January 3, 1944.

23

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Mr. K. J. Takashima  
Chairman, Poston Community Council  
Colorado River Relocation Project  
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Takashima:

Mr. Myer has sent me your letter of December 11.

This office is keenly aware of the many distorted and unfair reports about the various relocation centers throughout the country. We have no authority to prevent the publication of such stories as much as we may deplore them. The only course of action open to us is to attempt to give the public the true facts about the centers and the people who live in them. To this end we are working closely with the War Relocation Authority.

While I have no reason to believe that any action of ours will deter certain newspapers and radio commentators from publishing such inaccurate and unfair information, I do believe a much larger segment of the press is trying to deal fairly with the subject.

Very truly,

*Elmer Davis*

Elmer Davis  
Director





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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

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Office of the Director

January 10, 1944

Mr. K. J. Takashima  
Chairman, Poston Community Council  
Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

Through Mr. Moris Burge, Acting Project Director

Dear Mr. Takashima:

I wish to acknowledge my appreciation for the spirit of cooperation expressed in the resolution of the Poston Community Council of December 28, and in your accompanying letter recommending that Poston be considered as a center to which evacuees be transferred. As you have recognized in your resolution, the time will come when one or more centers will justifiably need to be closed because of decreased population.

It is gratifying to know that the Poston Community Council has given serious thought to this eventuality and is prepared to meet problems which will arise in connection with the transfer of evacuees from one center to another.

Sincerely,

/s/ D. S. Myer

Director



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

January 22, 1944

Memorandum to: CHAIRMAN, COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
CHAIRMEN, LOCAL COUNCILS 1, 2 AND 3

From: Thos. Masuda

I wish to call your attention to Manual Release No. 42 which is W.R.A. Manual Sections 50.1.50 to 50.1.55. This manual covers the granting of grants by the W.R.A. for professional expenses and public liability insurance. I believe that this manual will be of interest to you and to the professional people working in your unit.

Thos. Masuda  
Acting Project Attorney

TM/es



H  
please read  
advise  
Smith  
Memo To: Mr. Burge, Deputy Project Director ✓  
Mr. Nelson, Assistant Project Director  
Dr. Powell, Assistant Project Director

From : K. J. Takashima, Chairman  
Poston Community Council

In order to formulate plans for all future memorial services for deceased Nisei soldiers, a meeting of representatives from the administrative staff and the evacuees has been scheduled for Friday afternoon, February 11, 1944, from two o'clock at the Unit I Conference Room.

Your presence and assistance in the planning at this meeting will be greatly appreciated.

K. J. Takashima  
K. J. Takashima  
Chairman



WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Minidoka Project  
Hunt, Idaho

April 13, 1944

Mr. K. J. Takashima  
Colorado River Community Council  
Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

Dear Sir:

Subsequent to ratification of charter on December 28, 1943, and elections of officers during January and February, 1944, the residents of this Minidoka Relocation Project formally adopted a form of community government, with inauguration ceremonies held February 28, 1944, for the newly elected seven members of the Community Council and the thirty-five Block Commissioners constituting the Community Council Coordinating Commission.

The Councilmen, who are to serve on the Community Council until expiration of term at the end of August, are:

Mr. Yoshito Fujii - Chairman  
Mr. Genji Mihara - Vice-Chairman  
Dr. Paul Shigaya  
Mr. Roy Akiyama  
Mr. Shigeru Osawa  
Mr. Jack Chikata  
Mr. Kintaro Takeda

To date, six standing committees have been organized under the Council, namely: Education, Food, Health, Public Relations, Welfare, and Juvenile. A Cemetery Board has been organized, and is functioning under the Welfare Committee. Formations of a Judicial Commission and a Fair Labor Practice Board, are currently under discussion.

The Community Council, the Community Council Coordinating Commission, and the six Committees have all held at least preliminary meetings intended to clarify and coordinate functions generally.





WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Minidoka Project

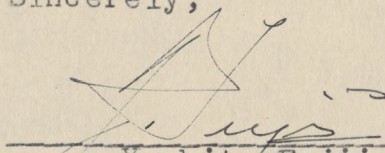
Hunt, Idaho

-2-

With the foregoing self-introduction and brief summary of our history, we, the youngest member of relocation project community organizations, respectfully solicit your good-will and cooperation. Permit us to greet you with the assurance that we will make every effort to do our part towards being accepted by you and your brother organizations.

From time to time we doubtless will have occasion to ask your guidance and assistance, as we naturally desire to profit by your experiences. We humbly beg that your responses will be given in a big-brotherly spirit. We, of course, will be most appreciative and grateful.

Sincerely,

  
Yoshito Fujii  
Chairman, Community Council





POSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
Colorado River Relocation Project  
Poston, Arizona

July 20, 1944

Mr. Roy Tazawa, Executive Secretary  
Board of Directors  
Community Enterprises  
Poston, Arizona

Dear Mr. Tazawa:

At the meeting of the Community Council held today, it was unanimously agreed to accept the proposal in the disbursement of the sum of \$4800 by this body as suggested in your letter of July 12, 1944.

With the welfare of the residents uppermost in our minds, we assure you that every effort will be made to expend this fund in a satisfactory manner.

Very sincerely yours,

---

Itaru Kubota, Acting Chairman  
Poston Community Council

cc: Duncan Mills  
Moris Burge  
Dr. J. Powell ✓  
P. B. Brown  
Charles Harper  
Dr. W. Balderdon



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COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
POSTON, ARIZONA  
August 21, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. H. K. Yoshimine  
Chairman, Food Committee, Community Council

SUBJECT: Waiting Room for Refrigerated Warehouses

Reference is made to your memorandum directed to Mr. Duncan Mills, Project Director, dated August 21, concerning waiting room for workers at the refrigerated warehouses.

It will be impossible to follow your suggestion that a waiting room be constructed without first establishing this as a project and obtaining approval of the project and allotment of funds from the Washington Office, also approval of the War Production Board for the construction. It is doubtful that the required approvals could be obtained.

It is our opinion that the same end could be served by installing a cooler in the anteroom of No. 2 reefer at Unit I and the use of the Warehouse offices in Units II and III as waiting rooms.

While the installation of a cooler in the anteroom is not the most desirable thing to do, it is a very decided improvement over the present condition and will not result in the spoilage and mildew that you anticipate. If you will assume responsibility for Units II and III, where in our opinion, present facilities are ample if they are put to use, we will proceed with the installation of cooler at Unit I immediately.

/s/ Charles A. Popkin  
Construction Engineer

Originals  
Captions

cc to: Mills  
Rupkey  
Snelson  
Haverland  
Bowman

Block Mgrs'. Supv. I, II, & III  
Local Community Council, Unit I  
Community Council, Unit II



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION PROJECT

UNIT II COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
Poston, Arizona

September 28, 1944

Duncan Mills, Capt. Gilbert, Tsuneo Sumida I, Gerald  
Umino III, Kenji Uyeno II, Okamoto I, Sakamoto II,  
Mamiki III, Capt. Mitaji, Reverend Noji, Reverend  
Takeda, Reverend Fujimura, Reverend Iwanaga, Mr. Nishi ,  
and the fifteen Block Managers. John Kubota.

Dear Rev.

We wish to inform you that the Unit wide  
funeral service for First Class Private Harry  
Madokoro will be held at the Cotton Wood Bowl  
on Saturday night, Sept. 30th, at 8:00 P.M.

Your attendance on this occasion will be  
greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

---

S.G. Sakamoto  
Unit II Local Council Chr.

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UNIT III  
EXECUTIVE BOARD  
310 - 6 - D  
POSTON, ARIZONA

October 10, 1944

TO: Mr. Duncan Mills, Project Director  
FROM: Executive Board, Unit 3

After a study of the functions of the Colorado River Relocation Project, Poston, Arizona, we understand the power and the authority vested upon the Project Director, of the appointment of the Poston Unit 3 Administrator.

We, the Executive Board, feel it is a great honor to be bestowed the authority to make a selection for a candidate as an Administrator for the benefit of the people of Unit 3, as well as, to maintain harmony and cooperation with the Project.

We have studied our function to ascertain the power and duty to make the recommendation and the selection for a candidate.

We have read the record, history, and procedure of the appointment made by Unit 1 and 2 for their Administrator. After much discussion we have decided to take the following steps:

/// We chose ten employed and unemployed people from each Block and obtained their recommendations of prospective nominee. The Executive Board chose five people from each Roku with the highest record, from the names recommended by the ten people of each Block. From among fifteen people of three Roku with highest record, we chose five people. For the final selection, we voted three persons whom we could recommend as a candidate for Unit 3 Administrator. ///

We recommend the following three candidate in alphabetical order:

1. Kubota, Haru, 308-11-D
2. Sumida, Kaichi, 326- 3-A
3. Toyama, Takeo, 329- 5-D

We, the Executive Board, believe we have tried out utmost in cooperating with the Project in making the recommendation for the candidate, as well as, for the good of the people in Unit 3.

Trusting the above recommendation will be of benefit to you.

EXECUTIVE BOARD UNIT 3

George Horibe, Chairman

cc; Mr. Morris Burge, Deputy Project Director

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Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

October 12, 1944

Memo To: Central Block Managers  
Units I, II, and III

From: Itaru Kubota, Chairman  
Poston Community Council

The Public Health Committee of the Community Council has drawn up the following tentative plan for soliciting and distributing trust fund to the hospital staff. An estimated sum of \$4800 was agreed upon, and \$4000 of this amount will be divided among the physicians, dentists, technicians and remaining employees, with \$800 being retained for general expenses.

Following is the suggested distribution:

- 12 Physicians, dentists & optometrists - \$1800 annually  
\$900 this year
- 14 Technicians (X-ray, pharmacists) - \$700 annually  
\$350 this year
- 200 Other employees - \$1500 annually  
\$750 this year

This means of appreciation will be presented to the medical personnel in June and December of each year. The drive for this year's allotment of \$2000, covering the last six months, will begin in the very near future. From January, 1945, monthly contributions may be asked of the residents as this method is felt to be the most feasible.

Please consult the above arrangement with your unit residents for any suggestions and changes to be made. Comments are particularly requested on the amount of distribution to the three groups; whether or not the ratio among the classifications is fair. Further information may be obtained by contacting your unit local Council Chairman.

We will greatly appreciate your views on the above matter by the end of next week so definite plans may be formulated.

/s/ Itaru Kubota  
Itaru Kubota, Chairman  
Community Council

OCT 17 1944



Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

October 14, 1944

TO: Br. John Powell

The retiring and in-coming members of the Poston Community Council have planned a chicken dinner party for Wednesday evening, October 18, from seven o'clock at messhall thirty-two.

We would like to have you join this group and spend an evening of relaxation with us. Each person attending this informal "get-together" social will be assessed \$1.50 to defray expenses.

It is sincerely hoped that arrangements can be made for your presence on Wednesday evening. Please let us know if you will be able to attend this gathering.

Cordially yours,

Itaru Kubota  
Itaru Kubota, Retiring Chairman  
Poston Community Council



Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

November 9, 1944

Memo To: Dr. John Powell, Chairman  
Project Manpower Commission

From : Minoru Okamoto, Chairman  
Unit I Local Council

Reference is made to your memorandum of November 6 with regard to the decision of the Manpower Commission concerning male mess hall workers quota. Considerable discussion on this matter was conducted at the Local Council meeting held yesterday, and we are submitting, herewith, a revision of our original recommendation for your consideration.

1-a. The Council still supports the proposal that all male over 65 years of age be exempt from release.

1-b. As accepted by the Commission.

1-c and 2. The Council is not in accord with the Commission in having matters taken to the unit mess hall committee, but would suggest that all requests be brought directly to the unit Executive Board; however, in order to avoid any friction which may arise among the evacuees if this group were to decide the issue, the Executive Board will only investigate the facts and submit its recommendation to the Manpower Commission for consideration. The final decision will be issued by the Chairman of the Commission with the approval of the Project Director.

The Local Council feels that the above revision will be more acceptable to the community. May we ask the Commission to discuss this proposal at its next regular meeting for immediate action.

---

Minoru Okamoto, Chairman  
Unit One Local Council

310  
Com. Copy



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Judicial Council  
Poston, Arizona

November 10, 1944

Mr. Tsuneo Sumida  
Unit I Administrator  
Poston I, Arizona

Dear Mr. Sumida:

It has been brought to the attention of the Judicial Council, by Mr. James LeBerthon, Chief of Internal Security, that there seems to be, on the part of certain irresponsible persons in our community, an increase in the tendency to mis-use government equipment and property placed here on the center, for the people's use. Mr. LeBerthon has stated that although his office will do all it possibly can, to handle cases reasonably, without filing a complaint, at the present time, violations of regulations established for the center, by the War Relocation Authority, are becoming more flagrant. Where individuals will not co-operate with the Internal Security Office and desist from ill-considered acts, complaints will necessarily have to be filed by the Internal Security Office, against the irresponsible persons; and these individuals will have to be tried by the Judicial Council or the Project Director, according to law.

We are all mindful and cognizant of the fact that the equipment we have on the center today, particularly motor vehicles and all mechanical equipment and devices, cannot easily be replaced in part, much less in whole. For the duration of our stay (which we sincerely hope, will not be too much longer), our present center equipment will have to suffice. This means that every bus or truck which is rendered useless in whole or in part, will force the people to be denied the service to which they are entitled and which the War Relocation Authority is attempting to provide.

Not only the impairing of the use of motor equipment, but also the breaching of the public peace, disrupts smooth community life and makes more difficult an existence which at best, cannot be termed too normal.

We believe that much of the mis-use of government property and the breaches of peace, in the past, have been due to the fact that irresponsible individuals did not fully realize how much they were harming us all. Once they are made fully aware how much

050.24



Mr. Tsuneo Sumida  
Unit I Administrator  
Poston I, Arizona

November 10, 1944

one thoughtless, wilful act by anyone, can reflect upon us and hurt us, we are sure they will intelligently reconsider and co-operate by being good community citizens. For those who refuse to co-operate for the common good, the Judicial Council will not be reluctant to administer corrective measures.

But because we of the Judicial Council sincerely feel that our duty is not to penalize and punish individuals, but to help create orderly, intelligent and constructive living conditions in the center, we are asking you, today, to help us by conveying to the people of your unit, the message above.

A copy of this letter has been sent to your block managers' supervisor, Mr. Nishimoto. We would appreciate it if you will work together and bring your combined influence to bear upon the people of your unit when you deliver the message.

Yours very truly,

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

George S. Takaoka  
George S. Takaoka, Chairman

GT/ms



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Judicial Council  
Poston, Arizona

*Now is  
down*

November 10, 1944

Mr. Sandy Sunahara  
Block Manager Supervisor  
Poston III, Arizona

*OS*

Dear Mr. Sunahara:

It has been brought to the attention of the Judicial Council, by Mr. James LeBerthon, Chief of Internal Security, that there seems to be, on the part of certain irresponsible persons in our community, an increase in the tendency to mis-use government equipment and property placed here on the center, for the people's use. Mr. LeBerthon has stated that although his office will do all it possibly can, to handle cases reasonably, without filing a complaint, at the present time, violations of regulations established for the center, by the War Relocation Authority, are becoming more flagrant. Where individuals will not co-operate with the Internal Security Office and desist from ill-considered acts, complaints will necessarily have to be filed by the Internal Security Office, against the irresponsible persons; and these individuals will have to be tried by the Judicial Council or the Project Director, according to law.

We are all mindful and cognizant of the fact that the equipment we have on the center today, particularly motor vehicles and all mechanical equipment and devices, cannot easily be replaced in part, much less in whole. For the duration of our stay (which we sincerely hope, will not be too much longer), our present center equipment will have to suffice. This means that every bus or truck which is rendered useless in whole or in part, will force the people to be denied the service to which they are entitled and which the War Relocation Authority is attempting to provide.

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We believe that much of the mis-use of government property and the breaches of peace, in the past, have been due to the fact that irresponsible individuals did not fully realize how much they were harming us all. Once they are made fully aware how much

*OS*



Mr. Sandy Sunahara  
Block Manager Supervisor  
Poston III, Arizona

November 10, 1944

one thoughtless, wilful act by anyone, can reflect upon us and hurt us, we are sure they will intelligently reconsider and co-operate by being good community citizens. For those who refuse to co-operate for the common good, the Judicial Council will not be reluctant to administer corrective measures.

But because we of the Judicial Council sincerely feel that our duty is not to penalize and punish individuals, but to help create orderly, intelligent and constructive living conditions in the center, we are asking you, today, to help us by conveying to the people of your unit, the message above.

A copy of this letter has been sent to your unit administrator, Mr. Yoshimine. We would appreciate it if you will work together and bring your combined influence to bear upon the people of your unit when you deliver the message.

Yours very truly,

JUDICIAL COUNCIL

George S. Takaoka  
George S. Takaoka, Chairman

GT/ms



*Mr. Mills  
this has  
my approval.*

*MB 12-30*

Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

*File SM 1/3/45*

*NOTED*

*DEC 26 1944*

*Maurice Lipian*

December 19, 1944

*Burdick*

Memo To: Mr. Duncan Mills  
Project Director

From : John Kubota, Chairman  
Community Council Food Committee

At a recent meeting of the Food Committee, it was agreed to submit the following recommendations for your approval:

1. That the new Chief Project Steward work in close relationship with the evacuee subsistence staff, namely Messrs. Kobayashi, Tanaka and Ogata, and consult them in every possible way.
2. That an evacuee Advisory Board to the Chief Project Steward be created composed of the following representatives from various organizations:

Food Coordinator	- K. Takiguchi
Community Council Chairman	- Itaru Kubota
Food Committee Chairman	- John Kubota
City Manager	- Minoru Okamoto
Unit I Food Committee Rep.	- Undecided
Unit II Food Committee Rep.	- George Mukai
Unit III Food Committee Rep.	- George Horibe

Since the food problem vitally affects the daily lives of the residents, it is our belief that the above proposals will be of great assistance in providing for a happier community. We will appreciate your authorization of the Advisory Board for an early establishment of this group.

*John L. Burdick*

*John Kubota*  
John Kubota, Chairman



# POSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE

STATEMENT OF CONDITION AS OF DEC. 31, 1944

## Receipts:

From Poston Cooperative Enterprise  
allocations for the months of July,  
August, September and October, 1944  
less movie expenses paid by Coop. \$760.25

Hospital Fund '44, Unit 1-2-3 2325.30 \*  
Total Receipts - - \$3085.55

## Disbursements:

Hospital Fund distributed to  
270 employees - - - - - 2200.50 \*

Balance - - - - - \$885.05  
Cash on hand- C. C. Treasurer 58.20  
Total \$943.25 \*\*

**Cash on hand-treasurer \$58.20	General Fund \$818.45
Cash on hand- Fin. Comm. 10.90	Hosp. Fund 124.80
Cash in Bank 874.15	
Total 943.25	Total 943.25

## STATEMENT OF THE HOSPITAL FUND '44 AS OF DEC. 31, 1944

### Receipts:

Unit I- 36 Blocks - - - - - \$1296.70 \*  
(Shinshu Buddhist Church) 10.00  
Unit II- 15 Blocks - - - - - 450.00 \*  
Unit III-16 Blocks - - - - - 568.60 \*  
Total \$2325.30

### Disbursements:

Total amount of checks issued to 270 employees 2200.50 \*  
Balance \$ 124.80

\* Details available at the office for inspection.



January 15, 1945

Memo to: Dr. John W. Powell

From: Finance Committee

Subject: Optometry Fund

*of Comm. Council*

I have been instructed by the Finance Committee to submit the following matter to you for your approval.

At the meeting of the Finance Committee duly called and held on Friday, January 12, 1945 at 2:00 p.m. in the Unit I Conference Room, the following decisions were made:

To establish an Optometry Fund Committee consisting of three members, one from the Optometry Department, one from the Community Council Hospital Committee and one from the Finance Committee, with authority to administer and audit the Optometry Fund and books;

The committee shall elect one of its members to replace Dr. Powell and Miss Vickers as to the countersigning of checks; Mrs. Onami shall be retained as one of the two co-signers as before;

The committee shall submit a monthly statement of its financial condition to the Finance Committee.

Mr. G. Y. Katow was elected as a member of the said committee to represent the Finance Committee.

Your approval is respectfully requested.

G. Y. Katow, Chairman

GYK:at



C O P Y

Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

January 16, 1945

MEMO TO: Mr. George Y. Katow  
Chairman, Finance Committee

SUBJECT: OPTOMETRY FUND

The organization of the Optometry Fund proposed by the Finance Committee on January 12 and reported in your memorandum of January 15 is satisfactory to me.

Inasmuch as you and Mrs. Onami are from Camp I, and the Optometry Fund includes a sizable amount from the Camp II office which serves both Camp II and III, I hope it will be possible for the third member of the committee to come from one of the other two Units.

John W. Powell  
Assistant Project Director  
Community Management Division

JWP:mf



# POSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE

Statement of Condition as of January 31, 1945

Balance as of December 31, 1944

\$835.05

## Receipts:

January 3, 1945- Received from Girl Scouts Club  
for movie films shown December 14-15, 1944 \$ 21.29

January 5, 1945- Received from Community Enter-  
prise, allocations for the months of November  
and December, 1944 800.00

Total receipts \$821.29

## Disbursements:

January 5, 1945- Paid to Films, Inc.,  
for film rental and postage, Oct. 16- Dec. 21. \$447.82

January 5, 1945- Paid to R. C. Roshon,  
for film rental and postage, Nov. 13- Dec. 18. 34.72

January 5, 1945- Paid to W. O. Cutlohn  
for film rental and postage, Oct. 2- Dec. 28. 82.49

January 5, 1945- Paid to Movie Commit-  
tee, for Japanese pictures, "Oka" and "Gokoku No Haha" 80.15

Total disbursements \$645.18

Balance \$ 176.11

Balance on hand- Finance Committee \$1061.16

Balance on hand- Com. Council Treas. 35.90\*\*

Total Balance on hand \$1097.06\*

*Cash on hand- Com. Council	Com. Council	
Treasurer \$ 35.90	General Fund \$ 930.48***	
Cash on hand- Fin. Com. 32.19	Hospital Fund 124.80	
Cash in bank <u>1028.97</u>	Movie Fund <u>41.78****</u>	
Total <u>\$1097.06</u>	Total <u>\$ 1097.06</u>	

Details available at the office for inspection

\*\*Cash on hand- Community Council Treasurer



\*\*\*COMMUNITY COUNCIL GENERAL FUND

General Fund- December 31, 1944  
Receipts as per statement

\$ 818.45  
800.00

Total

\$1618.45

Deductions:

Film rental and postage up to 11/30/44  
Films, Inc. \$294.93  
" " " " R. C. Roshon 16.83  
" " " " Gutlohn, Inc. 13.76  
Japanese Movie Expenses 80.15  
Transferred to Movie Fund for the period  
of Dec. 1-28, 1944 @ \$65.00 per week 260.00

Total deductions

655.67

Balance

\$ 952.78

Expenses:

Express and mailing charges for "mochi"  
sent to sanatoriums and camps, 1/3/45 \$ 21.06  
Donation of "Go" set to Camp McCoy, 1/12/45 10.00  
Night letter to Topaz Council, Re: Center  
Conference, 1/12/45 .58  
Movie Expense- Return postage .86

Total Exp.

\$ 32.30

Deduct:

Returned from Mr. Hiroto for loan of  
movie projector

10.00

Balance

22.30

Balance on hand

\$930.48

000

\*\*Cash on Hand - Community Council Treasurer

Cash on hand- Community Council Treas. 12/31/44 \$ 58.20  
Add- Returned from Mr. Hiroto for loan  
of movie projector 10.00  
\$ 68.20

Less Expenses:

32.30

Balance on hand- Community Council  
Treasurer, Jan. 31, 1945

\$ 35.90



\*\*\*\*Movie Fund

Jan. 3, 1945- Received from Girl Scouts Club for the film rental and postages, 12/14-15/44	\$ 21.29	
December 1-28, 1944 Allocation @ \$65.00		<u>260.00</u>
Total		\$281.29
Film rental and postage for the month of Dec. 1944 - - - - Films, Inc.	\$ 152.89	
Film rental and postage Rashon	17.89	
" " " " Gutlohn, Inc.	<u>68.73</u>	
Total		<u>239.51</u>
Balance		<u>\$ 41.78</u>



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COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
POSTON GENERAL HOSPITAL  
Poston, Arizona

February 12, 1945

MEMO TO: Mr. G. Iseda  
Acting Chairman  
Community Council, Poston, Arizona

FROM: Akira Hedani, Nurse Aide

SUBJECT: Nurse Aide Graduation Party

In honor of the Nurse aides who have graduated this month after a year's training and attaining their caps, a party is being planned for them.

They, the aides as a whole, have had to sacrifice time and recreation by working at odd hours here at the hospital caring for the patients. I believe that they deserve the financial aid needed for the party through the Finance Committee.

A sum of twenty dollars, I believe, will cover the expense of the affair.

The aides who have graduated are: Miss Sue Mori, Miss Aiko Fujisaki, Miss Toshiko Nakamura, Miss Shima Nakamura, Miss Jayne Okajima, and Miss Sumie Watari.

We as aides and orderlies hope to serve the community by giving the patients the best of care that we could possibly render them.

*Akira Hedani*



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

May 1, 1945

MEMO TO: Hagemu Arita  
Executive Secretary of the Local Council

SUBJECT: Council Petition Regarding Road Maintenance

I have your letter of April 19 requesting that asphalt be laid on the road running north and south between Blocks 17, 18, 31, and 32.

I have long recognized that the section of road referred to required repairs. This section, along with other streets in the units, have had hard usage and have been deteriorating for the last year. At the time the contract was made for laying the main road from Unit I to the Parker warehouse area, a request was made in that contract for extra work for the repairs to some unit streets, among which was the portion referred to in your letter. In the contract for seal coating the main road, a similar article was requested in the contract. In both cases, these articles for extra work were denied by the Washington office which insisted that the work be done with project labor and equipment.

*to the Employment Office*

A request was then submitted for road maintenance workers to patch the street surfaces using ready-mix black topping material similar to the patching now going on. This request was first made in June of 1944. Later a request was submitted on September 29, 1944 asking for road maintenance workers which read in part as follows:

"Ten Road Maintenance Workers: From the time the original road and street surfacing was made in the center, very little maintenance has been done on the streets. Consequently, there are many areas which are badly in need of reconditioning. Chuck holes and ruts have been made in the streets which are, in a measure, the cause for many breakdowns of project automotive equipment. Therefore, in order to place the streets in a safe and serviceable condition, it is desirable for all concerned that these ten employees be obtained."

Mr. Parnell also appeared before the Manpower Commission and requested that workers be allocated for this work. Finally, in January, workers were recruited for road maintenance and have been employed since. By this time, however, the road in question had become depleted to the point where we were unable to repair by patching, but in order to secure a smooth surface it was necessary to place gravel and make a gravel surfaced road.

215-



Hagemu Arita

May 1, 1945

On the 13th of April, 1945, the road maintenance crew and the road maintainer worked over this particular piece of road along with the main intersection between the Administration Building and Block 32 and this portion of the road was left in a smooth condition.

In our fourth quarter budget estimate, 3,000 gallons of emulsion were requested for use in maintaining streets. However, this was denied by the Washington office.

We have used every means at our disposal to place the road in good condition, but it appears impossible to comply with your request that asphalt be laid.

Duncan Mills  
Project Director

DMills:eeh



M E M O

Colorado River Relocation Center  
Poston, Arizona

May 10, 1945

TO: Unit Council

FROM: Unit 3 Council

After much discussion after our last meeting held on May 9, 1945, Wednesday afternoon, it was decided to ask the Units 1 and 2 residents refrain from coming to Unit 3 Dental Department. Our dentist, Dr. Takeda, is unable to help the patients to a great extent because of his ill health, which leaves Dr. Nakadate practically all the patients. Our over worked dentists must work twice as hard because one half of the patients come from Units 1 and 2.

We shall greatly appreciate your benignity and cooperation in taking this matter in consideration. Thank you.

Masao Otani  
Unit 3 Council Chairman

ah



June 19, 1945

TO: Local Council

FROM: Troop 100

Dear Sir:

We have at the present \$70.00 and will need more than \$350.00 because we are sending 24 scouts to a camp, costing \$23.00:

train fare	\$12.00
camp fee	11.00
	<del>\$23.00</del>

\$23.00	\$552.00
24 boys	-70.00
<u>92 00</u>	
460 0	
<u>\$552.00</u>	
	To earn ---\$482.00

If we can put on the show and earn own money, it will make it possible to go camping. If we earn the \$350.00, the scouts will pay the rest of the money.

Yours truly

Akio Iwamoto

入 132.00  
宛 付  
5.50 国  
左 出 金 入  
金 入

Buy



June 30, 1945  
317-3-C  
Poston, Arizona

Mr. Henry Uyeki  
Mr. Tosaku Nishi  
Unit 3 Co-Supervisors  
Poston, Arizona

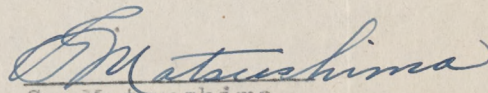
Dear Mr. Uyeki & Nishi:

I will be relocating in a few days so this will be my last day in the office. But before I leave I have a few departing thoughts that I would like to say, It was a great pleasure for me to receive from you and your staff such generous and kind assistance during my office, which enable me to carry on and enjoy to this day.

Your ability and experience is a valuable aid to the community as well as it was to me, and I know as long as you are at the desk, no matter how difficult or strenuous your job may be, shall never get you down.

Thanking you and your staff, I remain

Sincerely yours,

  
G. Matsushima



COLORADO RIVER RELOCATION CENTER  
Poston, Arizona

July 17, 1945

MEMO TO: Mr. Gyoosuke Iseda, Chairman  
Poston Community Council

SUBJECT: Closing of Units II and III

I have your memorandum of July 13, asking for a definition of the term, "special cases" used in my message to the residents of Units II and III regarding the closing of those units on October first.

Our instructions from Washington recognize that there may be a very few cases in the two units in which families will require continuing public assistance after relocation, or where a family member may require institutional care, in which we may not have been able to complete all arrangements by the closing date. It should be remembered that the determination regarding such cases will be made by the Center administration and that any transfers which may be permitted will be only for such time as is necessary to complete the family plan.

Let me emphasize what I have said previously, that applications for transfer of any resident of these two units will not be considered unless the residents have taken their problems to their relocation advisers and have cooperated in every reasonable way to secure the satisfactory completion of their plans before the closing date. Persons who neglect or refuse to discuss their problems with their relocation advisers cannot expect their applications for transfer to receive any consideration whatsoever.

*Duncan Mills*  
Duncan Mills  
Project Director

DMills:eeh  
cc: C.R. Carter / Advisory Board  
Relocation Library (3)  
Chronicle

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File  
August 22, 1945

MEMO TO: Block Managers' Supervisors- I, II & III  
Local Council Chairmans - I, II & III

Subject: Aid to Evacuee Property Pick-up Crew

As everyone on the project knows, the evacuee property pick-up crew is rendering a very valuable service to the departing evacuees. The work is heavy and back breaking, and the number of men employed is very small. Lately the work has increased to such an extent that the men are experiencing considerable difficulty in carrying out their assignments.

They find crates scheduled to be picked up scattered from one end of the block to the other. Particularly in Unit One, where the ground having been broken up the trucks cannot be driven in, these men have to carry the heavy crates from Apartment B, C & D to Apartment A where the trucks are parked. In order to relieve the situation, it has been suggested at our meeting today, that a volunteer crew be organized within each block and assist the departing evacuee in transporting all the crates to the front of A Apartment. This will enable the men of the crew to pick up crates without much difficulty, and they will not have to carry these heavy loads from the other end of the barrack.

Another suggestion has been brought forward as follows:

That each departing evacuee contribute the sum of \$1 for 10 crates or less to a fund to be distributed to the members of the crew as gifts for their extra heavy labors. For every crate above 10 the evacuee would be required to contribute 10 cents. The contributions are to be collected by the block managers and forwarded to the office of the block managers' supervisors who will see that proper distribution is made. We request that these suggestions be discussed with your associates, and after due deliberation we would appreciate your reactions to the same.

Gyosuke Iweda, Chairman  
Poston Community Council



Memo To:

From : City Manager's Office

Subject: Agricultural Problem

For this coming year, we are confronted with a very vital problem. The issue is the serious food shortage and the allotment of only 31¢ per person per day for food. It may be impossible to secure food with money, and from time to time, some essential commodities may not be available. Therefore, it is necessary for us to produce our share of about \$500,000 worth of vegetables, meat, and poultry.

The Community Council is taking this means as its first step to inform the public of this situation, and furthermore, we earnestly request your full cooperation to solve this problem together with our Agriculture Department.

Your presence at this conference is earnestly requested.

Date: - Saturday, July 3rd  
Place: - Mess Hall 30  
Time: - 9:30 A.M.

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COMMUNITY COUNCIL

(0202)