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FINAL REPORT

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT

The Community Management Division of the WRA at the Jerome Relocation Center has consistently adhered to four objectives in its relations to community government. First, it gave the Community Council as much freedom as possible within the framework of the agency; second, encouraged the Council to accept as much responsibility as possible; third, kept the Council informed in order that it could disseminate information to residents; and fourth, it fostered interest in relocation planning by the Council.

The temporary Council was organized November 26, 1942. The first officers were Johnson Kebo, chairman, and James Hashimoto, vice-chairman. The election was held November 17, 1942. December 4, 1942, the Council elected its chairman. On December 31, the Project Director approved the charter and the Council adopted rules and regulations. As its headquarters, the Council selected an end apartment in Block 14. Meetings were held every Wednesday afternoon. During organization stages the Project Director, Assistant Project Director in charge of Community Management, and Project Attorney usually attended the meetings. First temporary Council was made up entirely of Niseis. They lacked experience not only because of age but also because the Pacific Coast evacuees had never been given an opportunity to participate in local government.

Since Issei could serve as Block Managers and not infrequently were the recognized community leaders, there was a tendency for the residents to look to the Block Managers for many of the things that came under the jurisdiction of the Council.

From the beginning, the Council hesitated to take aggressive action on many matters presented to it. For instance, the Judicial Committee was reluctant to impose fines or give jail sentences. They preferred to secure some sort of compromise.

The temporary Council did a very commendable job in preparing the charter and setting up the election machinery in such a way that all the people might be informed and given an opportunity to vote, first to ratify the charter and later to elect block representatives. The election of a permanent Council was delayed at the Jerome Relocation Center much longer than would normally seem necessary; however, the temporary Council and the Block Managers thought it unwise to hold an election while so large a group of segregants were resident in the center. Hence, they waited until after the transfer of most of the segregants to Tule Lake.

The proposed charter was translated into Japanese and two copies, one in English and one in Japanese, distributed to every household. On November 13, the residents voted on the adoption of the charter. This vote was unanimous. Then came the election of Councilmen by the blocks. All blocks had two or more candidates and, in the main, the natural leaders in whom the people had confidence were elected. The voting was by secret ballot and was open to all residents 21 years of age or older.

The newly elected Council held its first meeting Wednesday, November 17, 1943. The Project Attorney administered the oath of office to the members and brief talks were made by the Project Director, the Assistant Project Director in charge of Community Management, and the Project Attorney.

During the early meetings, the Council concerned itself chiefly with

the appointment of committees and the preparation of the first ordinance. This ordinance defined offenses and provided penalties for violations and was passed January 12, 1944. See appended Tribune account for detailed listing of committees, resolutions and dates.

A Judiciary Commission composed of 12 persons was appointed to hear and try all cases except felonies, civil cases that require hearings in regular courts, probate cases, adoption of children, etc.

Although the administration had expressed a desire to have the permanent Council ready to function some months before its election, the temporary Council members were doubtless right in their contention that a well balanced, acceptable Council could not be elected until after segregation. The success of the election, the caliber of the men elected by the blocks and vigorous way in which the new Council proceeded with its business all augured well for a responsible and effective instrument of local government. Unfortunately, the Council had barely gotten under way when the closing of the center was announced. The future of local government in the Jerome Relocation Center was now of less concern to the community and the Council. All thinking was directed toward the new residences of the evacuees. However, the Council continued valuable functions in advising the administration, in disseminating information to the residents and in planning for an orderly closing of the center.

Conclusions drawn from this experience with a local Council:

1. The Council should be given greater authority and responsibility by letting it select either its chairman or its executive secretary to serve as Community Manager. Community Manager should appoint all Block Managers with approval of the Council.

2. The administration should channel everything through the Council and the Block Managers.
3. The local government could then operate practically all facilities in the community. Veto power should rest in the Project Director.
4. Place all block work, including mess, under the Block Managers.
5. Set up standards--health, sanitation, farm, motor pool, etc.-- and hold the Council and the Block Managers responsible for the results.
6. The Council should appoint as many advisory committees of Council as necessary. Avoid too complete separation of legislative and executive functions of the Council and Block Managers.

FINAL REPORT

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT

From the Denson Tribune an historical account of the Council, printed during May and June, 1944.

TEMPORARY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Nomination meetings for councilmen candidates for the Jerome Temporary Community Council were held in 29 out of the 30 occupied blocks on the evening of November 10, 1942.

The list included 162 nominees of whom nine were women.

Block 8 held its nominating meeting on the evening of November 12, 1942, naming five candidates.

Prior to the election date, three candidates were nominated by petition but seven candidates withdrew from the race, leaving 163 nominees vying for the 30 Council seats.

Qualifications for candidates were American citizenship, 21 years of age or over and residence in the block which they represent. All residents of the Center, 18 years old or over, were eligible to vote.

General elections of councilmen for the Temporary Community Council were held on November 17, 1942 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the polling booths in the offices of the respective block managers.

Out of a total of 5,080 eligible voters, 3,685 or 72.54% cast their secret ballots, according to figures compiled by Election Commissioner, John L. McCormick.

Block 41's tie between Toshio Nakagawa and Hayomi Arakawa--both polling 25 votes each--was decided by lot on the morning of November 18, 1942. Arakawa won the seat.

Original members of the Temporary Community Council follow:

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>COUNCILMEN</u>	<u>VOTES</u>
1	Gunji Matsui	185
2	James Imahara	69
3	Frank Ishii	90
4	Hideo Takayama	21
5	Paul Kanow	66
6	Eddie Shimano	44
7	Mrs. Ruth Yomogida	65
8	James Hashimoto	53
9	Harold Ouchida	50
11	William Yamamoto	40
12	Harold Higashi	53
14	Johnson Kebo	50
15	Jim Kawano	74
16	George Arita	72
17	Kay Kawachi	54
18	Masato Shimatsu	52
19	Mas Ikeda	74
20	Henry Ema	73
28	Jiro Omata	39
29	Mamoru Takemoto	43
30	Dick Iwamoto	47
31	Joseph K. Sano	29
32	Ryoji Fujii	34
38	Junichi Nakagawa	68
41	Hayomi Arakawa	25
42	Charles Mori	27
43	Masao Nakata	52
44	Dr. T. T. Yatabe	99
45	George Oba	65
46	Harley Nakamura	33

First regular session of the Temporary Community Council was held on November 25, 1942 at 2:10 p.m. in the administrative mess hall with Project Director Paul A. Taylor in the chair. Roll call showed 26 out of the 30 regularly elected councilmen present, four absent and two proxies.

The meeting was attended by Project Director Taylor, WRA Regional Attorney Robert A. Leflar, Reports Officer Charles R. Lynn, and Evacuee Attorney Rene Miyake.

Leflar described the Temporary Community Council as a "transition between complete administrative control and a purely democratic form of government."

He called attention to the importance of an organization commission to be recommended by the council and approved by the administration--this commission to work out a constitution creating an elective permanent council and a judicial commission which will have the function of a court.

At the council's second regular meeting held on November 30, 1942, Assistant Project Director William O. Melton presided prior to the election of Johnson Kebo as council chairman. Melton pinch-hit for Project Director Taylor who was unable to attend on account of illness.

The Assistant Project Director then turned the meeting over to Rene Miyake who presented the following points for discussion:

1. Selection of a temporary judicial commission to take care of disciplinary matters (e.g. penalty for infringement of regulations).
2. Creation of an executive committee of the council.
3. Choice of a suitable Town Hall.
4. Selection of a paid secretary for the council.
5. Formation of a committee of three to draw up plans for a permanent government.
6. Election of a chairman of the council.

Elected council chairman, Kebo appointed Frank Issii, Dr. Thomas T. Yatabe and James Hashimoto to the organization committee.

Third plenary session of the council was held on December 9, 1942.

Chairman Kebo announced that meetings of the council will be held every Wednesday at 2:00 p.m. Minutes of this meeting were taken by Atsuko Ono, secretary pro tempore.

The charter of the Temporary Community Council call "Temporary Rules and Regulations pertaining to the Council" was adopted unanimously at the council's fourth regular meeting held on December 16, 1942. It was approved in the following week by Project Director Taylor.

Members of the temporary organization committee who drafted the charter were: Ishii, chairman; Dr. Yatabe and Hashimoto of the council and the non-council members, Block Managers William Hiroshi Konishi and William Kondo.

The chair appointed Dr. Yatabe, chairman; Joseph K. Sano, Harold Ouchida, Jiro Omata and Kay Kawachi as members of the appointment committee whose duty was to select members of the various committees.

Council Executive Secretary Misao Takeuchi took the minutes of the fourth session.

First special joint meeting of the councilmen, block managers and administrative staff was held on January 8, 1943 to deal with the "wood for fuel" emergency.

Present were 25 councilmen and 32 block managers. A 12-man wood committee was organized composed of six councilmen and six block managers.

The second joint councilmen-block managers session was held on January 15, to discuss the wood situation. It was the first time that the council met at 14-9-A which has been the council's assembly room or "Town Hall" since January 15, 1943.

The 14-man temporary judicial commission was appointed by the council at its special meeting held on February 23rd with the approval of Project Director Taylor.

The group included six Issei, six Nisei and two members of the appointed staff personnel. They were:

Chairman Katsuji Oyama, Rinichi Oda, Tomosaburo Otani, Fred Wakita, Eiji Kasai, Sataro Hiwano, Fred Yoshikawa.

James Yoshinobu, Joe K. Araki, Ted S. Yamada, Tom Kamikawa, George Yamagata, Community Activities Supervisor Gilbert F. Castleberry and Employment-Housing Division Head John L. McCormick.

At its special session on March 22, the council adopted the charter for the Permanent Community Council, by-laws and supplemental manual on judiciary submitted by the organization committee.

Chairman Kebo announced his resignation at the special Council meeting held on March 29, 1943 as he was relocating to Chicago, Illinois. Frant Futoshi Arakawa (Hilo, Hawaii), councilman from Block 39 was elected chairman, a post he has held ever since.

The 31st meeting of the council which was held on October 6, 1943 agreed on the following points:

1. Charter for the Permanent Community Council to be submitted to the block people not later than October 20, 1943.
2. Charter to be ratified or disapproved by the block people on October 23, 1943.
3. Block managers to submit nomination papers of the councilmen candidates by October 23, 1943.

4. General elections for councilmen to be held at designated places in each block on November 13, 1943 between 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

The Temporary Community Council held its last session on November 3, 1943.

William Konishi, newly appointed executive secretary, was introduced to the councilmen.

Chairman Arakawa announced that the plebiscite held on October 23rd was overwhelmingly in favor of ratification of the charter and that notices of the November 13th general elections will be distributed to each block and published in the Denson Tribune on November 8, 1943.

Before adjournment sine die of the farewell session of the Temporary Community Council, Chairman Arakawa expressed his deepest appreciation and thanks to his fellow-councilmen for their support and cooperation.

During its existence from November 25, 1942 to November 3, 1943, 60 elected representatives served as members of the Temporary Community Council.

They came from 24 places in California and three counties in the Territory of Hawaii--City and County of Honolulu and the counties of Hawaii and Kauai.

(For list of all members, see Denson Tribune, May 26, 1944).

In addition to the temporary organization committee, appointment committee, 12-man wood committee and 14-man judicial commission, the following committees were organized by the Temporary Community Council during its existence:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, December 23, 1942--Ishii, Dr. Yatabe and Hashimoto.

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, December 23, 1942--Sano, Chairman; Shimano and Rene Miyako.

RECEPTION COMMITTEE: January 27, 1943--Kobo, Ishii, Hashimoto, Shimano, Omata, Dr. Yatabe and Mrs. Yomogida. April 16, 1943--Hashimoto, Shimatsu, Kawachi, Yamamoto and Nakagawa.

SCHOOL WELFARE COMMITTEE, February 3, 1943--Kawachi, chairman; Higashi, Mrs. Yomogida, Tashiro, Ouchida and Shiramizu (April 7, 1943).

CONTRIBUTIONS COMMITTEE, February 24, 1943--Frank Arakawa, chairman; Ouchida, Takemoto, Takayama and Nakata.

MESS PROBLEMS COMMITTEE, February 24, 1943--Kawachi, chairman; Shimatsu, Arita, Omata, Fujii and Block Stewards Yoshio Imahara and Taichi Asato.

FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE, March 29, 1942--Councilmen Frank Arakawa, Hashimoto, Kawachi, Shiramizu, Takemoto and Non-Councilmen Sam Sono, chairman; Dick Itanaga, Kon Imamura, Dr. Roy Kiyoshi Tanaka, Min Endo and Sam Nakano.

ADVISORY BOARD OF INDUSTRIAL SECTION OF OPERATIONS DIVISION, July 14, 1943--Ouchida, chairman; Kawano, Oba, Takemoto and Hayomi Arakawa to deal with 1943-44 winter wood situation.

BUDGET COMMITTEE OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES ADVISORY BOARD, May 19, 1943--Hashimoto, chairman; Ouchida, Kawachi and Nakagawa (June 30, 1943), Tashiro (August 30, 1943, Abe (October 6, 1943).

SPECIAL HOSPITAL COMMITTEE, July 28, 1943--Hori, Ouchida and Yamamoto.

SHOE RATION COMMITTEE, August 18, 1943--Kawachi and Ouchida.

CHARTER COMMITTEE succeeded Temporary Organization Committee to re-draft and re-shape charter for Permanent Community Council--Hashimoto, chairman; Kawachi, Ouchida, Higashi and later Tashiro and Shiramizu.

During its existence from November 25, 1942 to November 3, 1943, the Temporary Community Council contributed to the improvement of the community self-government, the Center's food, shelter and clothing program, health and sanitation,

social and school welfare and various humanitarian campaigns.

An abbreviated list of its achievements follows:

1. Drafted and adopted working charter for Temporary Community Council.
2. Drafted and adopted charter for Permanent Community Council, by-laws and Manual on Judiciary.
3. Held plebiscite on ratification of charter on October 23, 1943.
4. Laid groundwork for holding of general elections of councilmen for Permanent Community Council on November 13, 1943.
5. Helped in selection of members of Judicial Commission.
6. Recommended street lights at every crossing, fire extinguishers in every apartment, first aid kits in every mess hall and better walks and roads in the blocks.
7. Endorsed proper heating system in schools, construction of additional bridges with handrails in the elementary school block, removal of soap factory and barber shop from Block 23, installation of more drinking fountains and better latrine facilities for school children in Block 23.
8. Approved afternoon snacks for children, special diet for medical cases, mosquito control, immunization of dogs in the Center against rabies, improvement in ambulance service and appreciation banquet for evacuee members of the hospital staff.
9. Advocated facilitation of shoe ration procedure and reduction of prices in shoe repairing.
10. Adopted recommendations for extension of kitchen chimneys, installation of coal bins and kitchen vents.
11. Participated in handling the winter wood fuel situation and housing problem.
12. Attended joint meetings with the block managers and administrative

staff held in connection with the Center-wide registration of evacuees 17 years and older in February, 1943 and the segregation movements in September, 1943.

13. Encouraged Center-wide participation in the Christmas Seal, March of Dimes and Red Cross campaigns on a voluntary basis.

14. Adopted on October 23rd, at its special meeting with the block managers in the Internal Security council room, an ordinance limiting the speed of all motor vehicles within the project area to 20 miles an hour and the speed of all moto vehicles in and near all school districts to not more than 12 miles an hour, except in cases of emergency.

15. In short, the Temporary Community Council served, without compensation, for the general welfare of the Center.

During the period from the first session on November 25, 1942 to November 3, 1943, the Temporary Community Council held 33 regular sessions, 8 special meetings and 9 joint meetings with the block managers and administrative staff.

In addition, the Jerome Temporary Community Council held two joint meetings with the Rohwer R<sub>e</sub>location Center Councilmen, a home-and-home series affair-- the first on April 3, 1943 in the Rohwer Public Service Hall 28, and the second on April 17, 1943 in Jerome Recreation Hall 36.

Moreover, the various committees of the council held numerous committee meetings, the could committee alone holding at least five sessions during the frigid days of the 1942-43 winter season.

FINAL REPORT

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT

COMMUNITY GOVERNMENT

PERMANENT COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Preliminaries to the first general elections of councilmen for the Permanent Community Council of the Jerome Relocation Center were completed on October 23, 1942. The preparatory phases included:

1. Ratification of the new charter by an overwhelming majority of the qualified electors of the Project, that is, all persons 18 years of age or over.
2. Organization of the election board of each block composed of the block manager as ex-officio chairman and three persons selected by the voters of each block.
3. Registration of all eligible voters of each block.
4. Filing of nomination petitions, each petition containing at least 10 names of the qualified voters of each block.

With 98 nominees competing for the 33 seats in the Permanent Community Council, the general elections were held on November 13, 1943 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., the eligible voters casting their secret ballots at a designated polling place in each block.

Only citizens were eligible to run for councilmen in the Temporary Community Council. The new charter, however, provided that all persons who are 21 years of age or over, whether citizens or aliens, are eligible to hold elective office in the Permanent Community Council, excepting:

1. Persons who have requested repatriation or expatriation and who have not withdrawn their request at least three months before the date of election.

2. Persons who did not give an unqualified affirmative answer to question No. 28 on Form WRA-126 Revised or Form DSS-304A and who have not subsequently been granted leave clearance.

3. Persons who refused to register during the military registration conducted in February and March of 1943 and who have not subsequently been granted leave clearance.

4. Persons who have been denied leave clearance.

Despite the block holiday for wood-cutting, illness and resettlement, there was a comparatively large turnout for the Center's first general elections of councilmen for the Permanent Community Council functioning under the provisions of the new charter.

Out of a total registered electorate of 4,124 voters, 76.89% or 3,171 qualified voters cast their ballots which percentage is 4.35% better than the 72.54% voting percentage for the Temporary Community Council elections held on November 17, 1942.

Of the total votes cast at the November 13, 1943 general elections, 48 were spoiled while 953 eligible voters or 23.11% of the total registered electorate failed to vote.

As the result of the general elections, 15 Nisei and 18 Issei were elected as councilmen for the Permanent Community Council.

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>COUNCILMEN</u>	<u>VOTES</u>
1	Tadashi Takeoka	99
2	George Abe	73
3	William M. Kondo	77
4	Riisuke Shikuma	29
5	Roy Yamagishi	57
6	Yasushi Nakamura	55

<u>BLOCK</u>	<u>COUNCILMEN</u>	<u>VOTES</u>
7	Frank Kusumoto	88
8	George Y. Hayashi	67
9	Fukuji Sasaki	68
11	Kiyoto Tanihara	38
12	Ryuichi Murakami	67
14	Kay Kawachi	35
15	Yuichi Hosoda	58
16	Jisaburo Kasai	81
17	Paul T. Matsusaki	100
18	Zenichi Imamoto	69
19	Masaaki Narita	46
20	George Y. Hieshima	68
28	Shigeichi Mitsuyoshi	39
29	Mamoru Takemoto	115
30	Suyemitsu Mochizuki	53
31	Richard Kunishima	36
32	Tom Fugita	45
35	Harry Mataichi Ono	38
38	Jack Y. Ota	57
39	Frank F. Arakawa	89
40	Ryuzo Hirai	30
41	Eldon M. Okada	29
42	Chikara Yoshimine	49
43	Yoshio Kiuchi	31
44	Masao Itano	99
45	George Oba	48
46	Harley Nakamura	20

First regular session of the Permanent Community Council was held on November 17, 1943, with an attendance of 31 out of 33 Councilmen.

Re-elected Councilman Frank Futoshi Arakawa from Block 39 was elected unanimously by acclamation as chairman of the Permanent Council.

Block 9 Councilman Fukuji Sasaki was elected vice-chairman and Block 18 Councilman Zenichi Imamoto by the same procedure as treasurer. William Konishi was re-confirmed as executive secretary.

Previous to his "surprise" resignation announcement, Project Director Paul A. Taylor congratulated the Councilmen and the people who elected them, saying:

"We are looking to you for great things and are hoping that we will not be disappointed. More and more the Council should assume greater responsibilities

for the operation and maintenance of this Center and you will, I know, assume these responsibilities."

In addition to administering the oath of office to the Councilman, Project Attorney Ulys A. Lovell, who rendered invaluable services in drafting the charter, Manual on Judiciary and Ordinance No. 1, also congratulated the Councilmen and their constituents.

"You gentlemen," he said, "have an unusual responsibility. More and more of the Center government will be passed to your hands. You have a typical American responsibility."

Chairman Arakawa announced the composition of the standing committee which is empowered to handle emergency cases as follows:

Council Chairman Arakawa, Vice-Chairman Sasaki, Treasurer Imamoto, Executive Secretary Konishi and Block Managers Chairman Kaoru Kamikawa. Recording Secretary Masako Mikami took the minutes of the opening session.

At its special joint meeting with the block managers held on November 24, 1943, the Council unanimously adopted a resolution of thanks to retiring Project Director Paul A. Taylor, who left here on Thanksgiving Day morning (November 25, 1943).

After adjournment of the joint session, the Council held a meeting of its own and Chairman Arakawa appointed the chairmen and members of the following committees: Fact-finding, Resolutions, Public Health, Education, Food or Mess, Fuel, Labor Relations, Finance and Social Welfare.

New Acting Project Director E. B. Whitaker, WRA Field Assistant Director in the Little Rock district, who assumed full administrative control and responsibilities of this Center on December 1, 1943, was introduced to the Councilmen at

their regular meeting on December 8, 1943.

At this regular fourth session the Council approved the appointment of the following persons to the Relocation Planning Commission:

Fukuji Sasaki	Council chairman
Suyemitsu Mochisuki	Council vice-chairman
Masao Itano	Councilman
Jisaburo Kasai	Councilman
Zenichi Imamoto	Councilman
Kaoru Kamikawa	Block Managers Chairman
Koichi Kamikawa	Block Manager
Henry T. Ishino	Block Manager
Shigeichi Kubo	Block Manager
Rev. Tatsuo Sakaguchi	Community Christian Church
Hisajiro Kimura	Denson Buddhist Church
Katsujiro Iseri	Jerome Cooperative Enterprises, Inc.
Sam Seno	Community Activities
Mrs. Michie Toshiyuki	Parent-Teachers Association
Umeichi Henmi	Buddhist Friendship Society
Mrs. Sam Matsumoto	YWCA
Rev. Gyodo Kono	Young Buddhist Association
Rev. Shinpachi Kanow	Protestant Fellowship
Harold Ouchida	Red Cross
Mrs. Sada Murayama	Denson USO
Dr. Joe D. Sasaki	Boy Scout Council
Joe Araki	Catholic Church
Harry Shiramizu	Denson Tribune
George Shigeyasu	Denson Jiho

The Councilmen also unanimously adopted the Manual on Judiciary and approved the Christmas Seal and March of Dimes campaigns on a voluntary basis.

The Council's fifth session on December 15, 1943 passed unanimously a resolution designating December 18, 1943 as Center-wide Cleanup Day.

Chairman Arakawa appointed the following to the Council's Cleanup committee: Hosoda, Kusumoto, Nakamura, Mochizuki, Okada, Oba, Mitsuyoshi, and Hayashi.

At its sixth session held on December 22, 1943, the Council approved the appointment of the foaling to the Judicial Commission composed of five Issei

and six Nisei:

Dr. Ernest K. Kuwahara (chairman), Sataro Hiwano (vice-chairman), Teiho Hashida (secretary), Joe Araki, Harold Hirasuna, Joe Ken Iida, Eiji Kasai, Paul Muraoka, Fusao Sakaizawa, Fred Wakita, Kumazo Yamada.

It also adopted two resolutions of thanks--one to the Wood Committee and the other to the Center residents.

The Council's eighth meeting held on January 12, 1944 introduced, read, passed and adopted unanimously Ordinance No. 1 which "defines and regulates offenses in this Center and provides penalties for violations thereof."

At its 14th session on February 23, 1944, the Council approved the sending of an appeal to Secretary of the Interior Harold LeClair Ickes for re-consideration of closing the Jerome Relocation Center.

The Council's 22nd meeting held on April 26, 1944 approved unanimously the following criteria in the order named for determining the Centers of destination of the transferees:

- 1st. Health considerations, medical cases to be certified by Medical officers.
- 2nd. Families of servicemen for convenience of visit and World War I Veterans.
- 3rd. Families of relocatees, including those contemplating relocation in the near future to the Central and Eastern States.
- 4th. Family ties, including father, mother and children living together.

The Permanent Community Council has held 28 regular sessions and three joint meetings with the block managers since the general elections of November 13,

1943. Fumiko Suda recorded the minutes from the third session on December 1, 1943 to the 28th meeting on June 7, 1944, with the exception of the 24th and 25th sessions recorded by Ruth Itogawa.

The final meeting of the Council was held on June 7, 1944 with only 17 of its members present. Since some of the members had already transferred to other centers and others were leaving within the following week, the Council voted to dissolve itself as of that date, and the Chairman volunteered to act in an ex-officio capacity until the final center closing.

During the last two meetings, communications or representatives had been received from Granada, Gila River and Rohwer Centers, inviting the Jerome Councilmen transferring to their respective centers to act on behalf of all people transferring from Jerome to their Councils until the time of new elections. No such invitation seems to have been received from Heart Mountain. The transfer of Councilmen to the various centers was as follows: Rohwer - 14, Gila - 11, Granada - 5, Heart Mountain - 3.

Since its organization meeting of November 17, 1943, the Permanent Community Council has "advanced the cause of responsible, intelligent democratic government, furthered the common welfare and provided for internal peace and order."

Although it has not yet adjourned sine die and its curtain has not dropped, the Council has served as "a representative, legislative body which shall function in accordance with the wishes of the people and the regulations of the War Relocation Authority, which shall have the power to enact regulations and do and make all other acts and things necessary for the general welfare of the residents of the Jerome Relocation Center and which shall create boards, commissions and agencies in respect to municipal affairs."

An abbreviated tabulation of its achievements follows:

1. Drafted and adopted the Manual on Judiciary and introduced, read and passed Ordinance No. 1 which "defines and regulates offenses in this Center and provides penalties for violations thereof." Project Attorney Ulys A. Lovell gave invaluable assistance in drafting the Manual and Ordinance.
2. Appointed and approved the members of the Relocation Planning Commission composed of evacuee leaders and also the members of the Judicial Commission.
3. Designated December 15, 1943 as Center-wide Cleanup day. As the result of the cleanup, WRA Sanitary Engineer Robert P. Lowe paid high tribute to the Project, saying, "I cannot help but notice the increased cooperation and civic pride in the Center."
4. Urged Center-wide cooperation in combatting the influenza epidemic which raged from December 23, 1943 to January 10, 1944.
5. Cooperated with the Wood Committee in handling the winter wood fuel situation.
6. Approved blood-typing and establishment of blood donor registry.
7. Recommended ambulance service for pre-natal and post-natal cases.
8. Endorsed Christmas Seal, March of Dimes and Red Cross campaigns on a voluntary basis.
9. Arranged utilization of \$100 donation from Camp Savage for benefit of Elementary School children.
10. Supported farm forum and other activities for the welfare of the residents.
11. Showed sound leadership on problems affecting Reinstitution of Selective Service procedures for draft-age citizens of Japanese descent, Segregation

nd General Transfer movements.

12. In short, contributed greatly toward the uplift and development of this Center which will write "30" on June 30, 1944.

During its existence from November 17, 1943, 43 elected representatives served as members of the Permanent Community Council.

They hailed from 22 places in California, two in the State of Washington and two in the Hawaiian Islands--Island of Hawaii and Island of Oahu. (For list of Councilmen, see Denson Tribune, June 6, 1944.)

Committees appointed by the Permanent Community Council follow:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, November 17, 1943--Chairman Arakawa, Vice-Chairman Sasaki, Treasurer Imamoto, Executive Secretary Konishi, Block Managers Chairman Kaoru Kamikawa, Executive Secretary Fumiko Suda (May 1, 1944).

FACT-FINDING COMMITTEE, November 24, 1943--Chairman Sasaki, Abe, Matsusaki, Yamagishi, Fujita, Harley Nakamura, Oba, Imazu (March 29, 1944).

RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE, November 24, 1943--Chairman Kawachi, Itano, Kunishima, Imazu (March 29, 1944).

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE, November 24, 1943--Chairman Mochizuki, Harley Nakamura, Kusumoto, Hirai.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE, November 24, 1943--Chairman Imamoto, Narita, Okada, Ono.

FOOD COMMITTEE, November 24, 1943--Chairman Hieshima, Hayashi, Tanihara, Otani (December 15, 1943), Asato (January 19, 1944).

FUEL COMMITTEE, November 24, 1943--Chairman Hosoda, Shikuma, Takemoto, Kawamura (January 19, 1944).

LABOR RELATIONS COMMITTEE, November 24, 1943--Chairman Yoshimine, Ota, Kiuchi, Takeoka, Hosoda (March 29, 1943).

FINANCE COMMITTEE, November 24, 1943--Chairman Abe, Kawachi, Oba.

SOCIAL WELFARE COMMITTEE, November 24, 1943--Chairman Kasai, Mitsuyoshi, Kondo, Oba, (January 5, 1944), Ota (January 5, 1944), Hirahara (February 9, 1944), Hashisaka (March 29, 1944), Mochizuki (March 29, 1944), Kiyomi Nakamura (March 29, 1944).

LAW AND ORDER COMMITTEE, December 1, 1943--Chairman Itano, Kawachi, Kunishima, Watanabe (March 29, 1944).

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FINAL REPORT

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

COMMUNITY ANALYSIS SECTION

The Community Analysis Section at Jerome was organized in spring of 1943. Mr. Frank Sweetser of the Washington office visited the Jerome Center in March and April and prepared the way for the appointment of an analyst. Mr. Edgar C. McVoy arrived at the center on April 23, 1943, to set up the section.

Since the Community Analysis Section was taking over some of the functions previously performed by the Documents Section, some of the personnel of the Documents Section was transferred to Community Analysis. This personnel included three field workers and one stenographer. It was also agreed that the artist on the staff of the Documents Section might do some charts for Community Analysis.

In June, two of the field workers relocated and a new field worker and a clerk-typist were added to the staff. The community analyst hoped to obtain one or more Issei but was unable to interest the few qualified Issei in the work of the section. The reason for their reluctance to join the staff was primarily a fear of becoming identified as of the government. The experience at the center with registration made it difficult to conduct an interviewing program because many of the evacuees believed the analysts were trying to get information concerning their loyalty.

The Community Analysis Section was allowed six evacuee workers although in June it was agreed to limit the staff to four people because of ceilings imposed on total employment in the center. In July, however, the staff was increased to six in order to carry on an extensive field survey at the center. The staff, at this time, was composed of four research assistants (formerly field workers) and two clerical workers. These were all Nisei, although most of them had some facility in the use of Japanese and in gaining rapport with the Issei. In September, the staff was depleted by the relocation of two members, segregation

of one and resignation of a fourth. During the same month, the community analyst was detailed to the Washington office, and the section was left in charge of the evacuee assistant analyst, Mr. Kiyoshi Hamanaka. Hamanaka carried on the section as acting head for a period of two months. He obtained the services of two newcomers to the center from Tule Lake. At the end of the two-month period, Hamanaka resigned, and in December the section was disbanded for an indefinite period.

Community Analysis Section occupied two rooms at the end of a barrack building in Block 36, next to the Community Activities Section. This was a desirable location because it was near the Welfare Section and the Community Activities Section and remote from the Internal Security Section. Thus, it was easier to identify Community Analysis as a service organization rather than a security organization. The office space consisted of a large outer room in which were located the research assistants and a smaller office which afforded privacy to the community analyst for interviews. The office equipment was adequate for the needs of the section although the lack of locks on desks or files endangered the security of some of the confidential information. The same lack of locking facilities led to the theft of one of the fans assigned to the section. In respect to accessibility to the community, a more central location might have been desirable, but for accessibility to the administrative buildings, the space was well-placed. The main difficulty in obtaining equipment involved typewriters. For the first three months the section had only one typewriter, a noiseless machine, which would make only a few copies. Thus, we had to make two runs of many of the reports of the section. Another typewriter was obtained in July.

When the section was set up, the following objectives were agreed upon by the community analyst, Project Director and the Chief of the Community Management Division:

- A. To take over the work of the Documents Section on evacuee trends of opinion.

- B. To analyze the population composition of the center.
- C. To study attitudes toward relocation.
- D. To make a special analysis of the Issei and Kibei.
- E. To assess the reasons for lax work standards among evacuees.

Most of these objectives were accomplished in part. The population analysis was major continuing project of the section and it continued throughout the summer and fall. The first portion of the project consisted of a breakdown of population by characteristics of age, sex, former occupation, religious affiliation, application for repatriation or expatriation, and other factors. These categories were summarized by blocks and rough correlations were made by means of block comparisons. For example, blocks high in percentage in relocation were low in percentage of application for repatriation. A series of maps was produced in order to show these characteristics graphically.

The other continuing project of the section was that of determining attitudes toward relocation on the part of evacuees. This problem was approached in several ways. The community analyst spent two weeks in the office of the Employment Division interviewing persons interested in outside employment and attempting to analyze their attitudes. In his formal interviews with various types of evacuees, attitudes toward relocation were emphasized. This topic formed a significant portion of the Denson Survey of Opinions conducted in July and August. Finally, trends in relocation were correlated with other developments at the center.

Studies of the Issei and Kibei were approached from both a statistical and an informal observer method. Practically all of the population categories were broken down by the categories of Issei, Nisei, and Kibei. The Denson Survey of Opinions was summarized on the basis of Issei, Nisei, and Kibei, and also on the basis of expatriation and repatriation. In the informal interview contacts of the Section, the community analyst made it a point to include representative Issei and Kibei in the sample.

Studies of work habits of the center were carried on through analysis of incidents related to employment, such as strikes and other conflicts in work relationships. The Denson Survey of Opinions contained a section on attitudes toward employment on the center.

The studies of trends of opinions on the center carried on by the Documents Section were continued in much the same way as before that of the observer. It became evident after a few weeks of experience with this method that it did not afford a broad enough sampling of the population. Therefore, the conclusions from these studies tended to give a distorted picture. There was also a considerable amount of criticism of the project administration and of the WRA generally in the reports of these opinions. Naturally, members of the administration questioned the validity of some of these criticisms since it could not be demonstrated that the report represented major opinion. Reports of this type, therefore, were discontinued during August. The Denson Survey of Opinions was carried on by techniques of random samplings. It was intended to follow up this survey of opinions with a continuing analysis based on better sampling methods.

The Denson Survey of Opinions deserves separate treatment because of the method used and the subject matter covered. The method was to develop a questionnaire covering certain points of major interest and to utilize this questionnaire as a basis for interviews with a representative samples of evacuees. The sample was selected on a random basis, with approximately 100 persons being interviewed. During the interviews an informal approach was used and no forms were filled out until later. Although some of the evacuees met interviewers with suspicion, in most cases the interviewers were able to reassure the people as to the purpose of the interview. The subject matter covered background prior to evacuation, life in the assembly center, several aspects of life in the relocation center, attitudes toward relocation and repatriation, and other topics. It was intended to be a fairly comprehensive study, with the possibility of correlating those factors in-

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involved. Analysis of the survey was done by topics and by a general major breakdown into classes of "loyal" Nisei, "loyal" Issei, "loyal" Kibei, expatriates and repatriates. Significant differences among these groups on many of the factors were found.

The first purpose of the community analyst was to gain the confidence of members of the evacuee community. This was particularly difficult following the registration experience and the attitude of suspicion prevalent on the part of evacuees toward the WRA. The analyst and his staff tried to overcome such attitudes by means of an informal interviewing approach and a reassuring explanation of the purposes of the Community Analysis Section. In most cases this approach apparently was successful. The analyst made it a point to try to gain confidence of various leaders in the evacuee community and to utilize these contacts in approaching others. During the Denson Survey of Opinions, some evacuees thought the interviewers represented the FBI and a few refused to talk. Where it was possible to get a full explanation of the study to gain the confidence of the evacuees, this suspicion was successfully allayed.

One of the main difficulties was that the evacuee community was split into several factions, mutually suspicious of each other. It was particularly difficult to gain the confidence of both "loyal" and "disloyal" groups. There were also other divisions based on place of residence in California, on religious affiliation, and other factors. Approximately 1,000 of the center residents came from Hawaii and were somewhat set apart from the Californians. Some of the "intellectuals" on the evacuee staff of the section were not particularly liked in the community.

The establishment of an advisory relation with the center staff was more difficult than gaining the confidence of evacuees. This situation resulted from the fact that the analyst's first efforts were to gain rapport with evacuees and that there was a mutual suspicion between a considerable portion of the evacuees

and some of the staff members. Therefore, staff members tended to identify the analyst as pro-evacuee and even with the more "radical" elements among evacuees. On some occasions the analyst was able to provide advice to the administration which was well received. This was particularly true with respect to the repatriate groups. On the whole, the work of the Community Analysis Section was little understood or appreciated on the part of the members of the appointed staff. Another factor which accentuated this relationship was the feeling on the part of some members of the center administration that the analyst was giving them a "black eye" with Washington. This feeling resulted partly from the bi-weekly reports of evacuee opinions which contained criticism of staff members. The portion of the work of the section which elicited the greatest interest on the part of the appointed staff was the population analysis and the maps and charts which were prepared.

The analyst had to be continually on his guard to avoid getting too deeply involved in administrative programs. In particular, certain other sections requested that the analyst do routine statistical analyses as a part of their work. There was also a tendency to consider the Community Analysis Section as the source for documentation of center history. The other type of work which tended to be assigned to the analyst was "trouble shooting" on individual disputes or difficulties. For the most part, however, the staff was reasonable in its attitude about the work of the analyst and the analyst was given a free hand in making whatever studies he desired. Most of the reports were transmitted by the project director to the Washington office without alteration, although on two or three occasions the project director objected to certain statements which he considered misleading. It was agreed that any reports containing criticism of center staff would be sent to the project director in a confidential form and he could use his discretion about forwarding them to Washington.

The work of the Community Analysis Section was most closely related to that of the Employment Division and the Welfare Section, although relationships were established with most of the other divisions and section.

From April 1 to June 23, 1944, an analyst from the Washington Office was detailed to cover the closing of Jerome. Community Analysis had not been functioning on the center since the previous November, so there was no continuity with the former period of analysis. The main purpose in the assignment was to obtain evacuee reactions to the closing decision and closing procedures, and to discover the evacuee problems caused by the closing.

Office space was secured in the Relocation Library, 20-1-A; it was thought convenient to work out in the blocks directly instead of from the administrative area, and this unit was already set-up (more as a reading room than an office) and not in much use. Facilities already at the library were used, no changes being made by the analyst. The library was satisfactory as an office in that it threw the analyst together pretty constantly with a few evacuees she got to know very well, and who proved very helpful. It was also good in that it was furnished with comfortable chairs and divan, and made a nice place to ask people to come and visit. The disadvantages were that the analyst had to be constantly explaining that she had nothing to do with relocation, and the one room serving also as an office for the Relocation Planning Commission, did not permit privacy when it was desired.

During the first two weeks on the project, some attempt was made to recruit evacuee assistants, but with no success. Neither qualified nor interested people seemed to be available.

First contacts with evacuees were made from suggestions supplied by the former analyst, and by the Chief of Community Management, and gradually new contacts were made. Relationships with evacuees ranged from very informal (of the "front-porch gossiping" variety), to more formal, where individuals were specifically asked in to the office to discuss definite topics, and community analysis was explained. Other contacts were made and information gained by attendance at Community Council, Block Manager, and Relocation Planning Commission

meetings and, for the first two months, flower-making classes. Weekly reports covering reactions to the closing, segregation, relocation, selective service, political organization, attitude toward the war, and so on, were submitted.

Most of the evacuees contacted were extremely cooperative. When Community Analysis was explained most of them were polite enough to say they thought it was a very good thing, and some of them seemed to really believe it. Others thought the idea was good, but that since there were no tangible benefits from it, some people were tired of going on answering questions. The feeling was that if members of the appointed personnel became their "friends" they might ultimately be "squeezed off" the center. Another point of view was that anybody showing as much curiosity as analysts do is suspect; the old FBI bogey was raised. A unique point of view about Community Analysis was expressed by a Kibei poet. He felt that it was unfair to provide the administration with tools by which they might more easily manipulate the residents - it seemed to him to be taking advantage of them.

No attempt was made to establish advisory relationships with members of the appointed personnel, due to the analyst's lack of project experience. Community Analysis was isolated from the rest of the local administration; there was some resistance to Community Analysis on the part of the staff, but it was of a negative rather than a positive sort, and cooperation was forthcoming from several. The staff as a whole did not understand nor accept the need for such a section; Community Analysis was something that Washington for some strange reason thought they should have, but it did not fit into the local picture. Upon arrival at the center the analyst was requested by the local administration to stress informal contacts since they felt that the evacuees had been subjected to too much in the way of questionnaires, interviews, etc.

The analyst's work was confined exclusively to analysis except for a period of eight days during which she served on a committee to sort and classify pre-

ferences for center of transfer. The work was mainly clerical.

For a week and a half before the analyst left the center, the office in Block 20 was abandoned in favor of a desk in the Welfare Office, since that section of the center had been pretty well emptied. People were too busy to just drop in and chat, and it was very difficult to make appointments, so continuing the type of contacts the analyst had been making was impossible.

# DUTY MANUAL



JEROME RELOCATION CENTER

Denson, Arkansas

F O R E W O R D

A large part of the tranquility of any people depends on the firm, courteous, cooperative helpfulness rendered by an active, intelligent, sympathetic police force. This pamphlet is designed to assist you in attaining that end. Your faithfulness to your duty will redound not only to your individual credit, but to the credit of the entire populace of the Jerome Relocation Center.

R. E. ARNE

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

APPOINTED PERSONNEL  
INTERNAL SECURITY

P. R. Cain	Acting Chief Internal Section
C. R. Felker	Associate Chief
O. D. Walters	Assistant Internal Security Officer
John J. Ball	Assistant Internal Security Officer
Mary Merritt	Secretary

INTERNAL SECURITY OFFICERS  
AS OF NOVEMBER 24, 1943

Lieutenants: Yamanaka, Sus  
Yoshiyama, Jerry K.

Dobashi, T.	Nikaido, Bill
Endo, H.	Odagiri, Joe
Endow, G.	Ohta, H.
Fujimori, K.	Ono, Harry
Hamaji, M.	Otani, T.
Hamatake, Ichiro	Sahara, T.
Higashi, T.	Sasaki, Eli
Ichiba, U.	Shigihara, Hiroshi
Iida, Harvey	Shinke, Y.
Kawaguchi, Ben	Tsubouchi, C.
Miyagawa, Ichiro	Uyemura, S.
Miyamoto, H.	Yabumoto, J.
Mochizuki, S.	Yamamoto, Geo.
Nakamura, Y.	Yanagisawa, T.
Niimi, T.	Yata, S.

Grace Matsuzaki - Typist & Record Clerk

Shozo Urushima - Typist

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MANUAL OF DUTY  
INTERNAL SECURITY SECTION

Chief of Internal Security. The Chief of Internal Security shall be the chief executive officer of the Internal Security Section and shall be responsible for the execution of all laws and ordinances and the rules and regulations of the department.

Assistant Chiefs Of Internal Security. The Assistant Chiefs shall carry out the regular and special functions assigned to them by the Chief, and in order of seniority shall assume the responsibility of the Chief when he is absent from the project.

Assistant Internal Security Officers. The Assistant Internal Security Officers shall serve under the direction of the Chief in a supervisory and investigative capacity.

Internal Security Officers. Other appointed Internal Security Officers shall be responsible for all passage in and out of the Center and shall perform other duties as assigned.

Desk Sergeants. Shall aid superior officers in checking officers on and off duty and in keeping an accurate time record.

Shall keep all unauthorized people from the inner office unless on official business.

Shall be responsible for the appearance and neatness of the office.

Keep informed as to the method of handling inquiries, complaints, etc.

Shall be in their office during their entire period of duty except when their presence is needed elsewhere. In this case they must assign someone else to carry out their office duties.

Shall aid the public in all requests for information.

Shall answer the telephone and greet promptly all persons coming into the office on business.

Duties Of Appointed Officers On Duty. Shall be responsible for keeping an accurate record and making reports of collections for visitors passes, car mileage, etc.

Shall be responsible for making a periodic check on all officers on duty, equipment and of the entire project area.

Shall be responsible for booking, care and disposition of prisoners and shall be responsible for investigation of circumstances of each arrest made by an officer under his supervision. He shall determine that the arrest is justifiable before permitting a prisoner to be committed to jail.

Shall require a written report on any matter on which action is to be taken by the department.

Qualifications of Police Officers. Must be of sound physical condition and of sufficient size and strength to perform the duties required; shall possess courage, self reliance, intelligence and a high sense of loyalty and duty; and shall be at least 21 years of age.

General Rules And Regulations. It shall be the duty of each employee of the Internal Security Section to perform efficiently the duties assigned.

Each employee shall inform himself of the laws, rules and regulations of the Center.

Shall have regularly assigned hours for active duty, but is subject to call at any time and shall report on and off duty at headquarters.

Shall attempt to perform all duties assigned.

Shall obey promptly all orders of superior officers.

Shall coordinate their efforts in such a manner as will tend to establish and maintain the highest standard of efficiency and cooperation.

Shall report all infractions of rules and regulations or violations of law to their superior officer and failure to report such infractions or violations will constitute cause for dismissal.

Shall discharge their duties with courtesy, tact, firmness and courage.

Shall treat as confidential the official business of this department.

Shall be truthful at all times.

Shall be punctual and shall not accept reward, gift or favor for services rendered in line of duty.

ANY EMPLOYEE, regardless of rank, shall be subject to reprimand and suspension from duty, reduction in grade, or dismissal, for violation of these rules and regulations, or any of the following causes:

Absence without leave.

Breach of discipline.

Conduct contrary to good order or discipline of the force.

Conduct unbecoming a gentleman.

Disrespect for superior officers.

Failure to properly patrol an assigned district.

Incivility to superior officers or citizens.

Incompetence or inattention to duty.

Indecent, profane or harsh language.

Insubordination.

Laziness.

Malingering.

Desertion of assigned district without cause.

Falsification of an official report, record or communication.

Public comment on official action of superior officer.

Purchase or other acceptance of any article whatsoever from persons arrested or detained.

Soliciting or acceptance of rewards, presents or gratuities for services rendered or for any other reason.

Refusing to give name and number to those requesting such information.

Sleeping while on duty.

Unnecessary use of force.

Lying.

Violation of any criminal law.

Neglect of duty.

Disobedience of orders.

Neglect of personal appearance.

Neglect to turn in evidence or property.

Failure to devote entire time and attention to duty.

General Rules For Field Personnel. All personnel shall be responsible for the protection of life and property, the maintenance of law and order, the investigation and reporting of violations and project regulations, crime prevention, vice control, (including gambling, liquor, narcotics, and prostitution), recovery of lost or stolen property, control of pedestrian and vehicular traffic, and the apprehension of all violators.

Each Officer: Shall take proper action in the face of any violation or infraction coming to his attention and the failure to do so will be regarded as neglect of duty.

Shall be alert and observing while on patrol and shall know the location of telephones and other means of communication.

Shall not leave assigned duties except on police duty and then shall notify the Officer in charge

before leaving, if possible to do so.

Shall be prepared to give information to the Officer in charge of all business conducted in his district.

Shall report to Officer in charge all suspicious persons and happenings.

Shall inspect periodically and irregularly the assigned district and shall be responsible for action on all crimes or violations committed in his district during his tour of duty.

Shall be observant of all persons seen in his district and especially of those out late hours or in unusual places.

Shall investigate carefully and promptly all reports assigned to him. He shall investigate and interview the complainant or informant, being prudent in his procedure and cautious not to divulge the complainant's identity to other parties, except when advisable and in accordance with good police practice. He shall submit a detailed report of his investigation and action before reporting off duty on the date and investigation is made.

Shall not disturb nor permit anyone else to disturb the scene of a crime until a satisfactory investigation and examination has been completed.

Shall report immediately all installations, situations or other physical conditions which are hazardous.

Shall take notice of all cases of sudden death and make such investigation as necessary to determine if death was due to crime, suicide or natural causes.

He shall render, or cause to be rendered, immediate aid in all cases of accident, ascertain all important facts, make a written record thereof, and communicate such information to the Chief of Internal Security.

Shall not have a key to any premises in his district.  
Shall not follow regular route in checking his

district, but be constantly changing routes so that maximum efficiency will be possible through the element of surprise. He shall be prepared for any emergency at any moment.

Shall give information and render such assistance as regulations permit when requested, doing so in a courteous cheerful manner. Shall not become servants of center residents. The relationship, however, shall be friendly, tactful and business-like rather than harsh, discourteous and ungentlemanly.

Shall make friends with the children in the center, care for their well being and instruct them on matters of safety and center regulations.

Shall not use unnecessary force in making arrests, or in dealing with prisoners or other people.

Shall avoid public expression of any opinion on religion, social, political or other questions, the nature of which is controversial.

Shall refrain from discussing the demerits of the project regulations or rules in public.

Shall use persuasion when dispersing a crowd or when restoring order. If all forms of persuasion and tact fail, necessary force must be used and the principals involved arrested. Immediate action shall be taken to disperse any unruly crowds that may assemble and to apprehend the instigators thereof.

Shall report immediately any fire discovered and keep the crowd away and control traffic.

Shall obey disagreeable duties and orders with cheerful willingness.

Shall not in any manner communicate any information to any person which may aid a person to escape or delay arrest or to dispose of stolen or embezzled goods.

Shall maintain strict and efficient cooperation and understanding with other officers and shall not interfere with cases of other officers without the consent of the other officer. Shall not interfere with other WRA employees not under their supervision.

Shall maintain their own and government equipment

in the best possible condition and shall make immediate report of loss or damage of such property.

Are forbidden to seek public or political aid or influence for promotion or change in line of duty for themselves or any other officer.

Shall inspect his district carefully and diligently as often as possible so as to prevent crime being committed thereon.

Shall proceed to any disturbances in his district or immediate vicinity thereof and use his best effort to restore peace and order. Any person observed committing a crime shall be arrested.

Shall refrain from visiting with officers of adjoining district except in the line of duty or to give or receive information.

Shall at all times keep a note book with him and shall enter thereon the names, ages, addresses, etc. of persons involved in any case in which he takes action. All other information relative to a case shall also be entered in the note book.

### ARRESTS

Definition Of Arrest. An arrest is taking a person into custody in a manner authorized by law. Mere words do not constitute an arrest unless the offender voluntarily submits to being taken into custody. In cases where an offender refuses to submit to arrest physical effort on the part of the officer or personal coercion may be used.

Classification Of Crime. A felony is a crime which may be punished by death or imprisonment in a state or federal institution. Every other crime is a misdemeanor.

How An Arrest Is Made and What Restraint Allowed. An arrest is made by the actual restraint of the defendant or by his submission to the custody of an officer. A person to be arrested must not be subjected to any

more restraint than is absolutely necessary for his arrest and detention.

Warrant Of Arrest. A warrant of arrest is an order in writing in the name of the people, signed by a magistrate or designated authority, commanding the arrest of the defendant.

When An Officer May Make An Arrest. An officer may arrest a violator without a warrant if the violator is committing an offense in the presence of the officer or if the violator confesses to the commission of a crime. An arrest of a center resident for an offense not committed in the presence of an officer may be made only with a warrant of arrest issued by the Project Director.

When A Warrant Must Be Shown. If the person making the arrest is acting under the authority of a warrant, he must show the warrant to the defendant if asked to do so.

Use Of Force. When the arrest is being made by an officer, after the information of the intention to make the arrest is given, force may be used in case the person to be arrested resists arrest or attempts to escape arrest. Only such force as necessary to thoroughly subdue the party to be arrested should be used. No killing or inflicting of bodily harm should be employed if possible to avoid. At no time is a person to be arrested to be subjected to unnecessary force. Officers are strictly prohibited from making an arrest in their own personal or private quarrels or those of their families. Persons arrested and in custody, charged with an offense, shall not be released without an order signed by the competent authority.

Insanity Cases. Except in emergency cases, alleged insane persons shall be taken into custody only under orders issued by the Project Director. Officers shall make a detailed report on any investigation made or

action taken as to alleged insane persons.

Officers are cautioned to be alert and tactful in attempting to disarm hysterically insane persons. In subduing such cases only such force as necessary to overcome resistance may be used.

### Prisoners

Handling Of Prisoners. All prisoners shall be searched at the time of arrest. They shall then be placed in detention quarters. No more force than necessary to overcome resistance may be used. The superior officer in charge shall be responsible for proper and humane treatment of all prisoners. Officers are strictly forbidden to argue with prisoners, or to speak to them unnecessarily, to address them in obscene or profane language or to offer personal violence to them. Any officer guilty of unnecessarily manhandling a prisoner or mistreating him in any manner will be subject to dismissal and/or prosecution.

Care of Prisoners. Prisoners are to be made as comfortable as possible, safe-keeping and not punishment being the object during the time they are in the custody of the department.

Persons desiring to visit prisoners must have the permission of the Chief Of Internal Security.

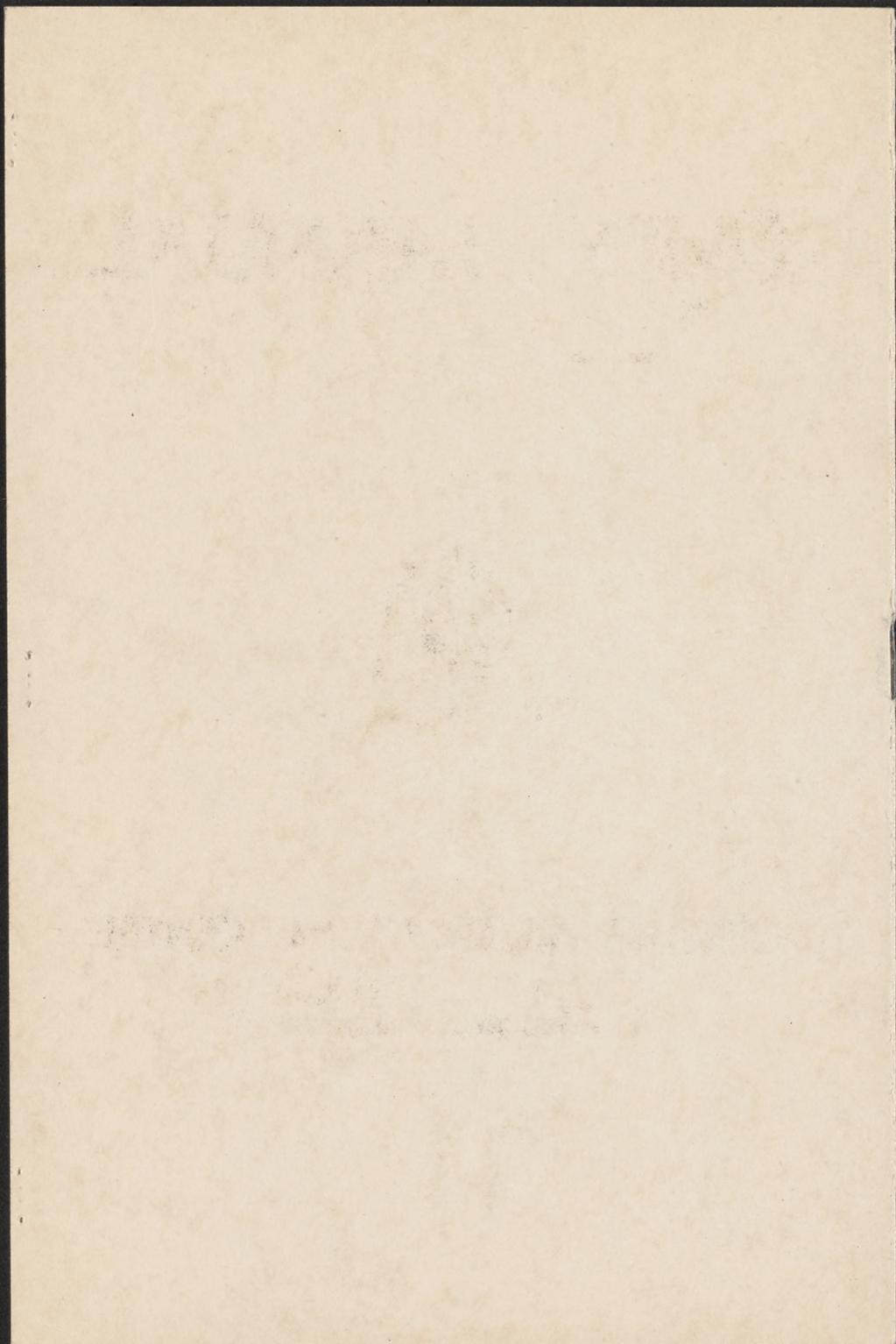
Juvenile Prisoners. Juvenile prisoners, under 18 years of age, shall not be assigned to detention quarters unless the prisoner constitutes a menace to other persons, in which case the juvenile shall be held in temporary quarters entirely apart from other prisoners. Cases of juvenile prisoners shall be referred to the Community Welfare Section of the center.

The Chief of Internal Security may release a juvenile prisoner upon written promise of the parents or guardian, to be responsible for the appearance of such juvenile before proper Judicial Body or Welfare Section. Parents of arrested juveniles must be

notified of the arrest.

#### DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONNEL

The patrol force is the backbone of any law enforcement agency. It is responsible for the performance of all police functions, including crime prevention, apprehension of violators, enforcement of law and suppression of criminal activities. The Internal Security Police in the center are entirely a patrol force to which have also been given all the functions of modern policing as may be required. It is not necessary to create separate traffic, detective, juvenile and vice divisions. These functions can best be handled by special assignment when necessary. When the center is divided into districts, the number and size of the districts will vary, depending on physical circumstances and type of the district. Districts shall be numbered and so far as possible will consist of natural areas. If the need of police service varies according to time and place, the assignment of men will vary accordingly. Special events, such as dances, athletic events and meetings will necessitate special assignment, as may the detention of prisoners, or an increase in the juvenile problem, but the patrol force must not be reduced below the point of maximum efficiency. Special details will be kept to a minimum.



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FINAL REPORT

Japanese Relocation Papers  
Bancroft Library

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

INTERNAL SECURITY SECTION

Organization of the Internal Security Section was begun immediately after the Center opened. The first organization consisted of one Caucasian peace officer, who entered on duty September 26, 1942. Under his supervision recruiting of a staff among the evacuees was begun and 28 people of Japanese ancestry added to the Internal Security Section.

The evacuees were rather reluctant to accept work in Internal Security because of their interpretation of the work, which they assumed to be more or less unpleasant, partly due to assembly center experiences. This newly recruited evacuee force, however, was not confronted with any serious security problems. During the period including October, November, and December, 1942, no evacuees were placed under arrest. Several individuals, however, were referred to Project Director for advice and instructions.

During the registration period, the evacuee force broke down completely. Toward the end of that period, early in March, it developed that the evacuee captain and a large number of his fellows were members of that group at this center which registered on the last day as a group and which as a group formally applied for expatriation and repatriation. As soon as these people were identified as members of that group, they were removed from the force. Their efficiency as police officers was not questioned but it was not considered advisable to keep repatriates in posts of responsibility.

This reduction left four evacuees still associated with the section, and these were relieved of duty a few days later, when it became apparent that they were too few to retain their personal effectiveness. During this time, the Internal Security force depended upon volunteers from among the appointed personnel. From sixteen to twenty persons were organized for this purpose. They served from four to six hours daily and constituted two-man patrol teams which cruised the area twenty-four hours a day. Most of the teams were armed with shotguns. They encountered no difficulties, but it

was felt that their roving presence was a strong stabilizing influence. They made themselves pretty noticeable wherever they could find a meeting in progress in the blocks during that short period of general tension and unrest.

With registration completed and the center administration back to normal, the evacuee police force was gradually increased to thirty-seven persons. These individuals, most of them older and many of them Issei, were recruited very carefully through the influence and under the recommendation of various trusted leaders among the evacuee residents.

The center administration at that time felt that the section should include a minimum of six appointed officers. Authority was granted by the Washington office for the appointment of five officers, but until the center closed this maximum number was maintained for only a very short period. All members of the staff worked beyond their normal hours however, and at least one man was on duty twenty-four hours every day.

Very little trouble was experienced among the evacuees, in spite of general unrest at the time for registration and in anticipation of segregation. During this three-month period, three persons were convicted and jailed for sale of liquor on the Project and one for having in his possession liquor for sale. One young man was tried before the Judiciary Commission for assault but no penalty was imposed. One man was convicted and sentenced to jail for permitting a pass issued in his name to be used by a resident who was ineligible to secure a pass. Three men were transferred to Leupp Center as aggravated trouble makers. ~~Details of offenses, arrests and dispositions are appended.~~

Originally the evacuee personnel in the Internal Security Section were known as block monitors, and their duties and responsibilities related primarily to their respective blocks. Their duties consisted largely in carrying out the instructions and desires of the block manager.

In November, 1943, the section was completely reorganized, the evacuee personnel

being relieved of their duties as block monitors and becoming members at large of the Center-wide police force. The Center residential area was divided into districts under a 24-hour patrol system. At this time the evacuee staff was composed of 25 men. Each working shift consisted of captain, lieutenant, desk sergeant, and two or more officers. Not only did this organization prove far more effective and efficient than the block monitor system, but there was a noticeable rise in esprit de corps among the officers. A total of 12 cases were taken before the Project Director or the Judiciary Commission between November 3, 1943 and the time for the Center closing, as compared to 98 cases during the previous year. Some of the credit for the reduction in offenses committed in the Center may be attributed to the alertness of the evacuee staff, working in cooperation and under the supervision of members of the appointed personnel assigned to each shift. The residential section of the Center was divided into six patrol districts, and at least two men were on duty on each district 18 hours of each 24. For the remaining 8 night-time hours, the Center was constantly patrolled by the evacuee and appointed personnel then on duty. The administration buildings and the warehouse area were patrolled by the personnel on duty in the Internal Security office.

It was hoped at the time for reorganization that uniforms could be purchased for the evacuee personnel. However, the difficult problem of obtaining suitable uniforms had not been solved when it was announced that the Center would be closed. The equipment for evacuee personnel consisted of police badge, whistle, and night stick. No fire arms were provided for either the appointed staff or the evacuees, but at all times the acting chief had personal firearms accessible.

At the time of opening of the Center, space facilities for Internal Security were very inadequate. There was one office and one large assembly room. Contraband articles were stored in the office.

Following the general reorganization additional space was allocated and remodeling provided a reception office, an office for personnel staff, an office for the chief of the section and one for the assistant clerk stenographer. Remodling was done by members of the Internal Security staff with used material but painted by the Center paint crew. In addition to these offices, an assembly room was provided for the members of the evacuee staff, and a storage room was constructed where contraband articles were stored. The Internal Security Section had at its disposal two automobiles, which were used for patrol duty and emergency calls. A mileage record was kept on each of the automobiles, during each 8-hour shift. Besides cruising the residential area during the night, frequent inspection tours were made through the outlying areas of the Center.

This center at no time maintained a jail or stockade of any kind. Arrangements were made with neighboring communities whereby prisoners could be incarcerated at the usual rate of \$1.00 per day. During the operation of the center, the jail at the town of Monticello in Drew County was used most regularly. Its capacity was limited to nineteen persons from this center at any one time, but the arrangements were simple and completely adequate. The only requirement was that they be called and advised that one or more prisoners were being brought to that town. WRA furnished transportation and called for the prisoners at any time that was desired. Throughout the operation of the center, a total of 11 persons were housed in the Monticello jail. Four offenders were housed overnight at the Dermott jail. One youthful offender, convicted of theft in connection with the mails, was sent to a corrective institution in Washington by federal authorities.

Arrangements were made in the early fall of 1943 whereby youthful offenders could be sent to the Arkansas Boys Industrial School at Pine Bluff or to the proper Louisiana institution through the Louisiana State Department of Institutions. These facilities were not used.

At all times either one or two appointed members of the section were registered and bonded as deputy sheriffs of either Drew or Chicot Counties. These arrangements contributed to the general cooperative situation under which the section worked with outside law enforcement agencies.

The assembly room for members of the evacuee staff was also used as a class room for all members. Effective November 8, class room instruction was begun in all phases of law enforcement. The course was conducted by members of the Section's appointed personnel, with the assistance of the Project Attorney. It was felt that there was a definite need for this course, in order to familiarize the evacuee personnel with basic federal, state, and local statutes applicable in a relocation center. A course was given in Red Cross first aid, and certain standards were set up for the physical fitness of each member of the staff. They were required to participate in either calisthenics or judo, in order to keep themselves in top physical condition. Patrolling instructions given evacuees included the requirement to call headquarters from their respective districts at 30-minute intervals. Telephones were available at various points throughout the Center. It was emphasized that a patrolling officer should not form the habit of a routine patrol, but should vary the route by which he covers his district. A "Manual of Duty" was prepared by the acting chief and later printed in booklet form at the request of Project Director. The manual outlined in detail the duties of all members of the force and general instructions regarding proper law enforcement. A copy of the manual was given to each member of the staff, who was held responsible for familiarizing himself thoroughly with its contents. The manual was also distributed to section and unit heads through the Center Administration and to block managers and members of the Judiciary Commission. Through the distribution of the manual the residents of the Center became acquainted with the duties and responsibilities of the Internal Security Section, and their respect for the

force was strengthened proportionately. A copy of this manual is attached.

This public acceptance was further strengthened by publication of the Community Government's regulations.

In addition to regular duties performed by a Police Department, the Internal Security staff at the Center was responsible for issuing visitor's passes for admittance to the Center and all one-day trip passes for evacuees leaving the Center. From the opening of the Center on August 6, 1942, to May 19, 1944, 14,336 visitor's passes have been issued, and approximately 3500 one-day trip passes. The Internal Security Section was also responsible for collection from evacuee visitors the standard charges for meals. Approximately \$14,500 has been collected for meals at the rate of 20 cents per meal for adults and 10 cents per meal for children under ten years of age. Daily remittance of the amount of money collected for evacuee meals was made to the finance section each day. A receipt for the amount was filed in the Internal Security office and a duplicate furnished Mess Management Section.

On March 15, 1944, responsibility for administering the motor pool was assigned to Internal Security for the hours from 5 p.m. to 7 a.m. nightly. The main responsibility during these hours involved meeting trains and transporting people from the Center to the station or vice versa. Statistics in the motor pool indicate that previous to the Internal Security Section's assuming responsibility for night-time operations, equipment was being driven an unnecessary amount of mileage. At the time of writing this report, there is an estimated saving of 75 miles per night.

Throughout the operation of the section and particularly during the closing three months, Internal Security was used regularly for delivery of important administrative mail to individuals and to block managers. This was not necessarily because of any inadequacy in the Post Office deliveries, but because the time element was particularly important during that period.

When center schools were in session, ten evacuee patrolmen were on duty around

the two school blocks primarily concerned with seeing that the traffic regulations of twelve miles per hour in those districts were complied with. During the two full years of school, only one traffic accident occurred. In this case, the boy jumped in front of a car which was being driven about ten miles per hour. He was not seriously injured.

There were no disturbances of any kind during the movement of persons from this center to Tule Lake.

All places of amusement, such as the recreation halls, mess halls, and the center auditorium, were protected by members of the section on each occasion when these buildings were being used for dances, picture shows, or other activities.

Internal Security worked closely with the Military Police Escort Guard Company in its job of controlling ingress and egress. The Military looked to this office for the interpretation and authentication of <sup>the</sup> many forms of passes issued for different types of leave. It was the function of this office to assist in keeping check on persons returned to the center, to take up ration books, and to control impounded personal evacuee automobiles. During special periods and regularly during the last few months of operation, this office was responsible for issuance of one-day trip passes and for holding these to the maximum allowed by the Project Director.

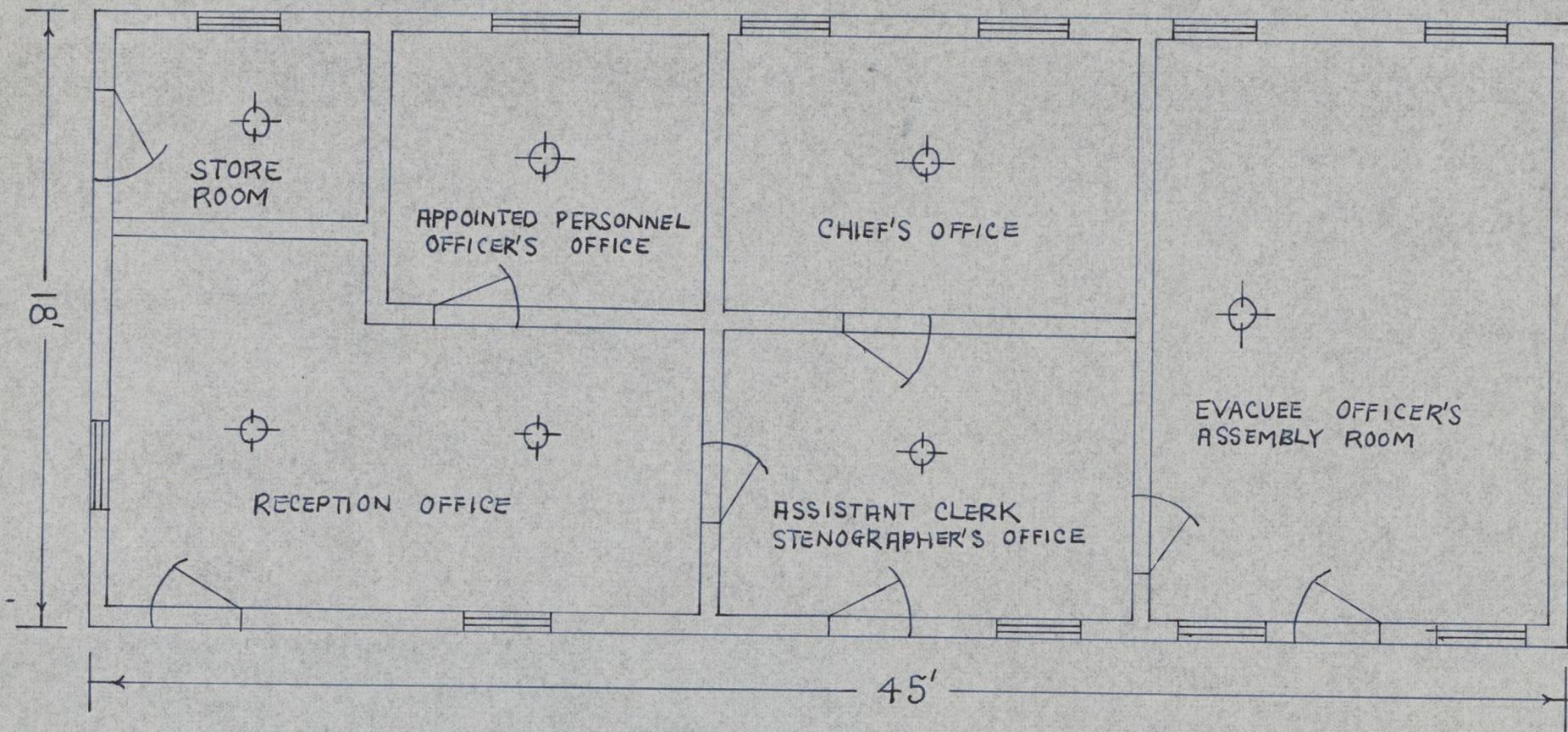
The program as set up in the Internal Security Section, was planned to give the Jerome Relocation Center an efficient and effective Police Department. The low crime record at the Center reflects the success of the program, particularly following the reorganization. Moreover it will be noted that at no time has the Internal Security Section been staffed to its allotted capacity, either with evacuee or appointed personnel.

The number of criminal cases recorded in this office during the life of the Center is 109, 97 of these cases filed prior to November, 1943. It is entirely possible that the decrease in the crime rate is in large part due to the effective and courteous

manner in which the members of the Internal Security force conducted themselves. A list of cases filed in the Internal Security office is attached. Only one major case has not been closed. It involved the posting of a mimeographed circular calling for a strike during wood cutting operations. Every effort was made on the part of this section to apprehend the author of the circular. The matter was referred to the Department of Justice and specimens run off on all mimeograph machines in the Center, specimens of Japanese handwriting and specimens of practically all typewriters were forwarded to the Technical Department of the F.B.I. It was their opinion that the typewriter used in cutting the stencil for the circular was a Woodstock, but no such machine has been located on the Center. There was no conclusive evidence regarding the stencil cutter of the Japanese language circular. However, the call to strike against cutting wood for fuel was ineffective, there being no attempt to strike.

It is impossible at this time to set down the total cost of the operation of this section. Cost figures were never available to this office, and because of the increased activities in the center Finance Section incident to the closing of the center, breakdowns are not available. However, as has been previously stated, the section has never been staffed to capacity with either appointed or evacuee personnel.

Active relationships were maintained between this section and federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. Appointed members of the staff attended all meetings of peace officers in this locality. These relationships and those maintained between the legal department and the various prosecuting attorneys and other such persons were highly successful and undoubtedly were responsible for the complete cooperation in this field that was enjoyed throughout the operation of the center.



## INTERNAL SECURITY APPOINTED PERSONNEL RECORD.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Resigned or Transferred</u>
Cook, J.B.	Chief, Internal Security	Sept. 26, 1943	Dec. 15, 1943 tr
LaFollette, I.N.	Asst. Chief	Jan. 12, 1943	Feb. 8, 1943
Robinson, M.G.	I.S. Officer	Feb. 24, 1943	Aug. 21, 1943
Merrit, Calmes	I.S. Officer	Mar. 17, 1943	Aug. 5, 1943
McCain, Miss E.J.	Clerk-Stenographer	April 27, 1943	Sept. 4, 1943
Cain, P.R.	I.S. Officer	July 27, 1943	
	Assumed responsibility as Asst. Chief	Sept. 6, 1943	
	Assumed Responsibility as Acting Chief	Nov. 3, 1943	June 30, 1944 tr.
Felker, C.R.	Asst. Chief	Aug. 26, 1943	May 16, 1944 tr.
Merrit, Miss M.R.	Asst. Clerk-Stenographer	Sept. 10, 1943	June 14, 1944
Reed, L.H.	I.S. Officer	Sept. 22, 1943	Oct. 27, 1943
Walters, O.D.	I.S. Officer	Sept. 29, 1943	
	assumed responsibility as Acting Asst. Chief	Nov. 5, 1943	June 30, 1944 tr
Ball, J.J.	I.S. Officer	Nov. 9, 1943	June 30, 1944 tr
Davis, J.B.	I.S. Officer	May 26, 1944	June 30, 1944 tr
Dameron, Z.T.	I.S. Officer	June 5, 1944	June 30, 1944 tr

tr - transferred to another Relocation Center

*File*

FINAL REPORT

COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES SECTION

The influx of the Inductees from the Fresno and Santa Anita Assembly Centers exodus had barely settled in their new homes when an aggressive group of first and second generation leaders organized singspirations (Community singing) and Talent shows. In spite of the Winter cold and drizzling rain, popularity of these monotony-destroying events helped quell unrest and encouraged friendly relationships among virtual strangers.

The Caucasian Personnel had not been completely formed as yet, and among the sections that suffered was the C.A. The supervisor, on arrival, was faced with numerous new problems and handicapped by not knowing the nature of these strange people. The majority of the Personnel knew nothing of the psychology of this new group, through no fault of their own. The newly appointed supervisor, with the help of a few evacuees started out by planning a tentative program. The only possible way to make an effective course to follow was the traditional trial and error method. This was a tedious procedure. The details, i.e. property transfers, requisition sheets, monthly report and activity papers were prepared with the idea in view of changes which would undoubtedly be necessary in the future.

The facilities for C.A. activities were as yet incomplete. Mess and recreation halls were still in the making and since the weather would only permit indoor functions, numerous handicaps were met.

The crowds that participated in these events were large, due to their infrequency, and another obstacle was brought to realization. The W.R.A. had not furnished a public address system. Luckily, it was possible to find a couple owned by evacuee individuals. These persons were contacted and asked to sign up

on a W.R.A. contract. Three electrician owners of such equipment cooperated with this department and were assigned to their duties as the need arose.

To enliven the first Thanksgiving in the Center, the virile youngsters picked the former High School stars from different parts of Southern California to make a traditional holiday football tilt possible. Rooters from both sides were enthusiastically awaiting the whistle to signify the opening first quarter. This event was brought about by the spontaneous efforts of evacuee leaders. All that the C.A. could do was to assist in any way that the two teams saw fit. This daytime program was enjoyed to the fullest extent and enhanced by the youth's socials which were being held throughout the center. Recreation halls were the only available spaces that permitted for such use but they were used to the greatest of advantage with decorations and band stands elevating the orchestra above the concrete floor. The Densoneer dance band which was still under the auspices of the C.A., livened the evening fetes. Their professional touch was augmented by guest vocalists.

The indoor activities were emphasized at this point by the entertainment section. Ping Pong, bridge, "shogi", "goh", and chess enthusiasts were seriously accepting challenges from all different cliques. These forms of competitive activity were designed for the persons not able to join in the more strenuous sports. Young, old, Male and female were enjoying these mild forms of physical exercise and mental stimulation.

This first holiday gave the opportunity to attempt social assimilation in this Center. The Dermott Baptist Church extended a cordial invitation to artists from the entertaining roster. A few persons with professional experience in classical renditions were sent to this nearby town and introduced themselves to Caucasians who had never heard this form of aesthetic endeavor from persons of Japanese extraction. The bright feature of this special trip was the actual contact with people who had never had any social dealings with the evacuees.

The foundation of the religious stability of the Center was well formed as different groups assembled. October 11th found the Long Beach district evacuees including such notables as Mr. E. Ambo, Elder; Mr. Kondo, Deacon; Mr. Nishimura, Deacon; and Mr. S. Kanow, Elder and student Minister, all from the Long Beach Presbyterian Church.

The Episcopal group of St. Mary's Church was the third contingent to arrive after the Terminal Island Baptist followers under the leadership of Rev. J.M. Yamazaki, the Pastor. In the meantime members of the Fresno Independent Congregational Church, the Methodist group of Fresno, the Fresno Salvation Army and the Hanford Presbyterian Church with their respective leaders, Rev. T. Sakaguchi, Rev. H. Hashimoto, Major M. Imai and Rev. K. Inori, arrived to strengthen the Community Church Federation.

On November 4, 1942, a first meeting was held of all the Ministers and laymen attached to the various affiliations to discuss and make future plans for the Center. Their efforts were well rewarded with a cooperative body forming the necessary core of religious responsibility.

Not long after the Christian group so ably organized, they together with the Buddhist leaders met with the Caucasian Comm. Service Chief and discussed the problems of center marriages, funerals, wages of religious workers and meeting headquarters. The details were amiably agreed upon.

The first scheduled sports event was a Center-wide ping pong tournament, which was held in Block 17 recreation hall. At that time district leaders on the payroll saw to it that their respective blocks held eliminations among the enthusiasts. The winners of the blocks were amassed for a district elimination and later for the finals. The winners were given decorative plaques which were made in center cabinet shops from native oak.

Meanwhile, Clubs and Organizations, Boy Scouts, Entertainments, Indoor Issei activities etc., were thought of and acted upon. A center-wide recreation

survey was conducted to form a program to suit the tastes of the residents. The best possible solution to the problems confronting us was to accept the suggestions derived from this sheet.

In December of 1942, a meeting was held for the purpose of discussing Sunday School and Church plans. Twenty persons interested in worship met, and after careful consideration, held a candle-light service in 32 mess hall.

A church choir was being formed at this time under the direction of an evacuee leader. The turnout was more than promising. 39 singers were present.

This month found the available recreation halls active with various groups preparing for future programs. The community caroling organization was formed. Before rehearsals were to start, music in four part harmony was needed. Musically-minded evacuees were rounded up and after requisitioning stencils, these apprentice musicians labored over copies of familiar Christmas Carols. Some 40 voices, practically all little trained, met in whatever cubby hold was available at the time. Under adverse weather conditions, the Caroling Chorus finished its final rehearsal and with the hospital as the first stop, and every third block mess hall as later stopping places, the Center was toured. A covered caravan of three motor-pool trucks furnished transportation and after canvassing the entire camp in this manner, the group ended up at the M.P. barracks.

Initiative was being shown by our Clubs and Organizations section in helping the various groups establish themselves as recognized bodies. Plans were being drawn up to strengthen the center's core of club activities by having an affiliated "Y". The Girl's section of C. and A. were now boasting 20 different clubs. All of these clubs were brought together through the combined efforts of the staff. The new environment had much to do with the reluctance witnessed among the young residents. New friends had to be made under new circumstances. Facilities were not yet adequate to meet the needs. Two Assembly Centers were now together. Tense feelings, whether it resulted from jealousy or from different

camp rumors, magnified by idle people with busy minds -- arose. Competition was keen in respect to jobs.

The organization of this section was formed after deliberation. Recognition of capable evacuees was still undetermined. Gradual placement by the Supervisor was undertaken.

One by one evacuees were assigned through the recommendation of respected people. Lines of duty were established and cooperation was high. All in all, the personnel was made up of persons who had great interest along special lines. Those who were specifically trained were few and far between. Through constant vigilance and experience, this picked body made a contribution both to the center residents and themselves. C.A. work offered the best field for personal contact. Getting to know the people with respect to the different phases of this work was half the job well done. Complete team work was necessary from all branches of the center's administrative section. Be it help from the administrative authorities, requisitioned work from the cabinet shop, motor-pool facilities, lumber yard, and mess division assistance, it all had to be given with the utmost of consideration. As stated previously, improvements on the present recreational facilities were still being made and any little cooperation was well appreciated.

The entertainment Section of this department was sending around the people responsible for all of the community singspirations. This variety of entertainment was needed to fill in the gap that was left without such things as movies, organized stage shows, Issel talent productions etc. We must note that all of these events would have been entirely impossible to hold if it were not for the complete cooperation of talented persons entirely outside the payroll of this Section. The morals-building aspects of the program was readily seen by this volunteer group of helpers. The audience ranged from 50 to a couple of hundred persons, depending on the weather.

As the cold weather was approaching, a greater portion of the staff was always absent from duty. This center was handicapped in that the winter fuel was not furnished and, consequently, all available manpower had to be shifted to the woods. This hampered the program in more ways than one. First, there were times when the person responsible for the arrangements for such events had to give up the evening's get-together. Possibilities were that even if the event was held, the song loving crowd would have dwindled because of the tiring work that was done during the day. There was, surprisingly, a great amount of work necessary before such an evening could be made possible. Since the recreation halls were just completed, the facilities were inadequate and makeshift stages and seats were unavailable.

The woodcutting situation in itself brought out some of the creative instincts of an otherwise idle group of evacuees. It seems that people are prone to make their own recreational activities to a great extent. As woodcutting progressed, the workers must have kept their eyes open for artistic formations of the trees. A new art was created by the residents when some one person discovered the beautiful luster that could be brought out of a "Kobu" (Tree Burl). The woodcutting trips were, somewhat, made enjoyable by souvenir hunters seeking these treasured "Kobu". Since so much enthusiasm was shown in this activity, the C.A. Issei Activities Department met the needs of the residents by sponsoring a "Kobu" contest. This is a very good example of what the C.A. program had to do to fit into the desires of aggressive elements of the center.

During all of November and part of the preceeding month, a dance band was being formed under the leadership of a very able Caucasian. Their debut was on November 24, 1942. This group of performers was a continuation of the Fresno Assembly Center Band which had come over as a complete body. It later developed that this group, at first on the C.A. payroll, had to be terminated. As paid employees, they had been asked to do other things for this Department besides

their routine orchestra practice. Their schedule was to play for one community dance a week and in their time between performances do whatever the staff saw necessary. The breakup of this orchestra came about in this manner. There was a discussion on this dissolution, however, with ideas that the band could be put on the Jerome Cooperative, Inc., payroll and act as an enterprise unit. This was turned down by their evacuee leader due to the fact that the work hours and scheduling of playing dates were so severe for the amount of money involved. We could see that the Enterprises had to put up such hard playing schedules to keep this unit of investment out of the red. The Caucasian supervisor was willing to sponsor this band but the agreement of the Co-op members had to be gotten and if red figures were present on the monthly statements the continuation of such an enterprise was impossible.

In April, 1943, the facilities in the play area of the blocks were yet to be developed. At this time the supervisor of C.A. saw that there was a necessity for having individual block representatives, so with the recommendation of the block managers a select group was picked. Lumber was requisitioned through the cooperation of the assistant project director and senior engineer. This material was utilized by the recreation staff and conscientious people of the blocks to construct basketball goals, ping pong tables, card tables, and spectator benches.

The staff of the C.A. was filled to capacity at this time due to the immediate need for recreational activities. After the big Center wide Carnival job was done, they were reluctantly dismissed.

The financial aspect of this Department up to this time was not adequately met by W.R.A. Some way to further and keep up the planned program was necessary. After much deliberation, the appointed staff found it advisable to stage a money-raising carnival. Committees for all the different problems involved in this enterprise were chosen and after castaway lumber was provided, the entire staff

cooperating with the Clubs and Organizations of the center amassed the necessary manpower to construct and manage this gigantic festival. Practical prizes were bought by a selecting committee at Little Rock. Pre-carnival sales were held on a big raffle ticket sale. Twenty booths were set up for the club groups to alter or decorate as they saw fit. Among the concessions that were so successful were: Raffle, Bingo, Baseball throw, Dart throw, Penny throw, Duck-a-Zorro, Dart poker, Wheel of Fortune, Ring 'em, Fish 'em, Sandwich stall, Peanut and Pop corn booth, Shuffle Board, Caricature Booth, Basketball free throw, Horse race, Souvenir shop and shaved ice stall. The intricate designs and crepe paper streamers together with fresh branches or foliage from the forests reflected artistic touches heretofore dormant. This is an example of what the evacuees contributed voluntarily to life and well-being of existence here. From the recorded reports of the finance committee, the carnival netted in the neighborhood of \$1100.00. This fund was accepted by a Trust Fund Committee, which was formed to guide and advise on all expenditures. This Committee was later to be recognized as custodian for funds derived from the C.A. movies.

Much credit should be given the persons responsible for effective organization and operation of The Denson U.S.O. This part of the C.A. was first planned by the charter members of the YWCA. Mrs. Mary Tsukamoto and Amy Murayama, Co-chairmen, forwarded a written outlined plan to the Regional U.S.O. Supervisor to obtain national recognition. The answer to such a request had but been mailed when the volunteer group of hostesses were written an invitation to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, for a dance which was given by the 442nd All Nisei Combat team.

A well pre-meditated plan was carried out by a nucleus of eight enthusiastic members by selecting a few influential Center residents in various departments as supporters. Response was none too good at this point and were it not for the persistence of Mrs. Mary Tsukamoto, it is doubtful whether this important organization would have been born.

As everything progressed, momentum was being gained rapidly. The response was better since definite planning was developed and better possibilities were seen for recognition from the National Organization. Center interest in the USO was still lax and a definite need was, unfortunately, not seen. This interest did come about when the doors were opened on June 21, 1943. A small room was set aside for this specific purpose and the girls got together concentrating on homey decorations.

As the days wore on, this hospitality house became more popular. The increasing number of visiting service men gave the elated leaders an incentive to double their efforts. The U.S.O. Advisory Board was organized and thirty volunteer hostesses were signed.

One of the greatest contributions made by these hostesses was the numerous letters sent out to soldiers both in the camps and overseas. Heartwarming replies were received by the girls from boys on the Italian battle front.

Mr. William F. Temple of the U.S.O. Divisional offices made his visit here in November of 1943 and met with the advisory board. The possibilities of national recognition and monthly allotments from the national were discussed. In March of the following year, we received the much awaited recognition. Up to the time that the National gave us the allotment, our Carnival raised fund was broken up into C.A. Sections, and \$250.00 was given this worth while project. The \$75.00 a month received after the recognition was a God send, facilitating the operations toward showing the Nisei uniformed men a delightful time.

Definite progress was recognized on October 16th, when the Denson U.S.O. made arrangements to move into a complete barrack. This building was sectioned off into an office, kitchen and assembly room. Improvements were made to give it a homey atmosphere.

Near the close of this Center, the U.S.O. staff made a survey of the

families who had boys in the armed forces. The object behind this was to make an Honor Roll on a permanent panel which was to be erected at the main entrance of this project. A further gesture to honor the service men's mothers was under way. With donations from the visiting men themselves, service pins were ordered with the required stars representing the number of sons serving. There was one five star pin, 14 three star, 18- 2 stars, and 122 one stars, making a total of 155 service pins.

Following is a letter of commendation addressed to the editor of the DENSON TRIBUNE from 1st Lt. Norman R. Gilbert, 442nd Inf., Special Service Officer:

"To the Editor:

As Special Service Officer of the Infantry Regiment in the Japanese-American Combat Team, I have received many reports and have had occasion myself to observe the good work that is being carried on by the U.S.O. Center at Jerome.

Visits to Jerome by our men both individually and in groups have become exceedingly popular. They have proved most beneficial and stimulating to Japanese-American soldiers as a welcome relief from the routine and rigors of a strenuous training grind. As the fame of Jerome's hospitality grew, applications for such trips and inquiries have flooded my office, indicative of the interest taken by our men.

I have no hesitancy in saying that all this is due in no small measure to the generous, painstaking efforts of the Denson U.S.O. Personnel at the Center and those who assist on occasions of our visits are most courteous, helpful and kind to our men who hold them in the highest regard as typical of the finest elements of citizenship at Jerome. Their efforts and achievements are the kind that reflect the soldier's highest confidence and greatest reliance on the home front.

I submit this unsolicited commendation to the TRIBUNE in the hope that the good work of the Denson U.S.O. will be properly publicized, as a small return in behalf of those whom it has so greatly benefited.

Sincerely yours,

Norman R. Gilbert,  
1st Lt. 442nd Inf.  
Special Service Officer"

With the announcement of the closing of this center and the liquidation of the Jerome Cooperative Inc., a representative body from the Council and Block Managers suggested that the C.A. take over the movies until complete transfer.

This department was the only one left with adequate funds to introduce the planned 35 mm. movies. It so happened that the center auditorium was completed enough to permit this form of entertainment. The auditorium controlling body was formed, with the superintendent of schools acting as chairman, to set up governing regulations. Four nights a week were set aside for this function: Sunday, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. The admission was set at \$.10 for adults and .05 cents for children under 12 years of age. The profit derived from this enterprise was added to the C.A. general fund. Had this department been given the opportunity to handle this feature at an earlier date, the budget could have been more adequately met.

Since the capacity of the auditorium was decided by the Fire Prevention Section, the permissible number was far below the estimate at which we arrived. It was found necessary to divide the center into four districts. Colored identification cards were distributed to all movie goers with holders given permission to buy tickets on their night of the showing.

1000 chairs were transferred as definite auditorium property. When dances were held, these seats were folded and placed in neat rows on the bleacher section. The hardwood floor, waxed, made good dancing space as compared with the recreation hall's cement floors.

It is regrettable that such a setup as we have at the present time has to be left behind. The efficiency of the present C.A. staff has reached its peak.

## CLOSING OPERATIONS

Community Activities were reduced to a minimum since the center population was concentrating on terminating its personal affairs and packing and crating belongings for shipment to other centers. However, the "Spaulding Nine", sporting goods store baseball team from Little Rock, played the home team in June 3rd, and won the game. C.A. sponsored a "stag and stagette" farewell dance on June 10th in the auditorium, free to all residents of the center. The band had been disorganized, but there was recorded music over a public address system. An estimated 500 persons attended the affair.

Community Activities also showed two full-length movie programs, four nights each, free of charge, since there was money in the C.A. treasury and no reason to build up the fund. Record audiences attended.

The employees of the Section were busy with closing operations. 950 folding chairs, WRA property, were collected from all public gathering places to be shipped to Gila River. Athletic equipment purchased with C.A. funds was collected and distributed to other centers as follows:

- football equipment - Gila and Rohwer
- soccer balls and horseshoes - Heart Mountain and Gila
- rythum band instruments - Rohwer
- gift book collection - Rohwer
- USO donated furnishings - Rohwer

Baseball bats and bases were returned to the Jerome school from which they had been borrowed, and soft balls were given to members of the winning teams.

The balance of C.A. funds - an estimated \$180, was divided between the centers of destination in proportion to the number of Jerome residents transferring to each, as follows:

- \$18 to Heart Mountain
- 18 to Granada

\$54 to Gila River

90 to Rohwer

The Community Activities Section officially terminated its staff and closed down all functions as of June 15, and files and records were transferred to the Office Services Section.

*Files*

## THE BUDDHIST CHURCH

Members of this faith were the strongest religious group on the center, both in numbers and in activity. With the exception of a smaller group which broke away from the main Buddhist organization -- the group headed by George Kuratomi and the Reverend Kai --- there was never reason to believe that this church was not in accord with this country's war aims and in complete sympathy with WRA and the administration of the center. It was the general feeling of the administration that the Buddhist Church was a stabilizing influence on the center; that it was the source of a great deal of valuable human understanding and helpfulness. It was the general practice to call representatives from among the priests to sit in on meetings where considerations of centerwide importance were under discussion. Their aid was administratively solicited on several occasions when problems of public education arose.

The seceding group enjoyed little weight outside of its own membership, comprised primarily of those persons who indicated a desire to repatriate to Japan during the registration period. There was considerable suspicion between the two groups but no particular unpleasantness.

The following early-month activities of the various Buddhist organizations indicates their activity and the scope of their interests.

## THE ISSEI

THE FIRST BUDDHIST SERVICE was held for the Issei on October 25 with Rev. Kono at Rev. Hall 3. Many of the evacuees from Fresno were not in Jerome at this time but the attendance was approximately 125.

THE SECOND ISSEI SERVICE was held at Rec. 3 at 2 p.m. with Rev. Kono and Rev. Kai. Approximately 350 persons were present. The following Sunday drew a crowd of 500 at Rec. 4. Just a few Issei were able to sit. Sunday after increased to about 50 more.

HO-ONKO SERVICE commemorating St. Shinran was held at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. at Dining 5 and Dining 41. Approximately 650 attended the afternoon service and 600 attended the evening service. Many people had to stand up.

THE ATTENDANCE varied according to the weather and the wood situation. Issei Services were conducted at two places from Dec. 6. At times there were about 550, 600, and as great as 800 attending.

THE LAST SERVICE FOR 1942 was a Memorial Service for the Issei honoring those dead all over the world. The Service was held at Dining Hall 29, with approximately 650 persons present. The evening was followed with a short entertainment sponsored by the Bussei for the Issei.

AN ISSEI GOSHOKI SERVICE was held on Jan. 31 at Dining 29 and Dining 5 at 2 p.m. Approximately 800 persons attended. The sermons were delivered by Rev. Kono and Rev. Kai.

ISSEI SERVICES AT 3 PLACES was necessary on Feb. 7, with the arrival of Rev. Fujio from Hawaii. This has been very convenient for the Issei and the Reverends rotate to give variety to the Issei. The 3 services are held near 29, 23 and 5. This way, the attendance has boosted up to about 900.

THE ISSEI SERVICES ON SUNDAYS have been planned by the Reverends that are in charge. Small offerings are collected at their regular services. The offerings

are very little and it has been difficult to keep up the Church activities and give compensation to the Reverends. Many of the elderly Issei are not working and do not have any income whatsoever.

THE FIRST ISSEI BUDDHIST MEETING WAS held on Nov. 1, 1942. At this time a DENSON BUDDHIST CHURCH was formed.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES ONLY ON SUNDAYS was not sufficient for the Issei, and there was a demand for week day services. A "Howakai", or a religious discussion gathering, was started in Block 7 on Dec. 23. Approximately 50 persons attended the first gathering. It was continued bi-weekly.

ON DEC. 27, A HOWAKAI was started in Block 11 by Rev. Kono. Approximately 75 persons attended the first gathering. The gatherings were thereafter every Thursday night. Others were organized in other blocks.

## THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE FIRST SUNDAY SCHOOL service was held at Rec. 3, 9 a.m., on November 1. Haruko Kawano was the chairman. There were approximately 150 persons attending. The recreation hall was not ready to receive the congregation. Just a few were able to sit down.

THE SECOND SUNDAY SCHOOL was held in Rec. 4 with Harry Takeuchi as chairman. Rev. Kono delivered the sermon to a standing audience of 400. Harmony between the evacuees of Santa Anita and Fresno Assembly evacuees was stressed.

THE THIRD SUNDAY SCHOOL service was held in Dng. 5 with Roy Kawamoto as chairman. Rev. Kono spoke to a congregation of approximately 500.

SUNDAY SCHOOL AT TWO PLACES was started on November 29.

SEPARATION OF CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL AND THE YOUNG BUSSEI Sunday School started at Dining 28 with the Children's Hour starting at 9 a.m. and the Young Buddhist group starting at 10 a.m. Approximately 100 attended the Children's Sunday School and 150 the Young Buddhists.

FIGURES ON ATTENDANCE steadily increased. Dec. 13 found 200 attending Rev. Kono's Children's Class, and 175 attending the Bussei Service. Rev. Kai's regular Sunday School drew about 300 persons. The following Sunday found 300 attending the Children's Class and 300 attending the Bussei Service conducted by Rev. Kono. At the regular Sunday School conducted by Rev. Kai had about 450 Bussei attending.

EVERYBODIES' SERVICE was held on New Year's Day with the Issei, Nisei, and Children attending. The Halls were not big enough to accomodate everybody.

JAN. 3 WAS THE FIRST SUNDAY when the Reverends, Issei Buddhists, Bussei and the Children took a holiday. No services were conducted.

## THE YOUNG BUDDHIST GROUP

The Bussei activities of this Center were diverted at first by a Temporary Bussei Board of 13. The Temporary Bussei Board was chosen at the first Bussei Leaders' Meeting held at Rev. Kai's Home on Nov. 14.

Ayako Noguchi was chosen the temporary chairman of the Temporary Bussei Board. The Board consists of the following Bussei: George Kuratomi, Sunio Kono, Ayako Noguchi, Roy Kawamoto, Taro Matsui, Mits Oriba, Kiyoko Makimoto, Laura Yamaguchi, George Miyake, Harry Takeuchi, Kiyomi Nakamura, Mas Shimatsu, and Haruko Kawano.

FIRST ACTIVITY planned by the Temporary Board was a Bussei "Get-Together" held on Nov. 22, 7 p.m. with Sumio Kono as the chairman for the first portion, a short religious service. The second part was a Singspiration lead by Roy Kawamoto.

BODHI DAY (or the Enlightenment of Lord Buddha) was held on December 13. George Kuratomi was the chairman with Roy Kawamoto as the Bussei speaker. Rev. Kai delivered the sermon to about 325 Bussei.

YEAR END PROGRAM was held for the benefit of the Issei Buddhist on Dec. 27, after the Issei Memorial Service. The young Buddhists entertained the Issei with Fusako Matsui as chairman. Approximately 650 Issei were present.

FIRST SOCIAL for the Bussei of this Center was the Year End Dance held on Dec. 29.

FIRST SUTRA CLASS (Buddhist Bible Study) was held on Jan. 15. The Bussei group had as its reference the "Gospel of Buddha" by Paul Carus. The purpose was to have only those interested attend and the congregation was expected to be quite small. The first Sutra Class had 24 persons present.

The Reverends of the Center took turns in explaining the various religious problems brought up by the Bussei.

A BUSSEI DEVOTIONAL SERVICE was held Jan. 24.

FIRST BUSSEI MASS MEETING was held on Jan. 31 with Ayako Noguchi as chairman. Approximately 300 persons were present. The purpose was to discuss a permanent set-up for the Bussei Activities. The following plan was accepted:

To have a Young Buddhist Board within the Center supervise activities for a 6-month period.

That the Board be composed of a maximum of 15 persons.

That the Board representatives be composed of 2 representatives from each block.

FIRST REGULAR EVENING GATHERING for the Bussei was held Feb. 7. The gathering thereafter was held every Sunday night under the name of the Bussei Brotherhood Service. At these gatherings, the first part of the program is a little service followed by a program arranged by the chairman. The program varies with entertainments, socials, religious, forums, etc.

Dr. McSparran, (Chief medical officer) spoke at the first Brotherhood Service to about 500 persons. The second Brotherhood Service was a Music Appreciation Hour with Miss Pauline Austin. Kiyomi Nakamura was the chairman of the evening. Approximately 300 were present.

LITTLE BUSSEI CLUBS were formed within various blocks. The purpose was to encourage good use of leisure time and to make friends within the block. The older Bussei leaders of the block acted as advisors. There were about 6 little clubs organized by February, 1943.

THE REVERENDS

THE REVERENDS WERE FINANCED by the offerings collected during the Issei Services. The offerings were very little. They were not able to get clothing allotments because they were not on the WRA payroll and they are having a difficult time.

THEY WERE BUSY ALL SUNDAY from morning to night. Besides doing Church work they are doing welfare work every day. The reverends were haunted with personal problems. They conducted funerals, wake services, and private memorial services. There were over 50 private memorial services held at private homes. The reverends conducted short services for the family at these times.

MANY PROBLEMS THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO THE WELFARE DEPARTMENT were brought to the Reverends.

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## THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

With the assistance of the administration and the much greater interest and assistance of outside church organizations, Christian church activities at the center were organized under the name, The Community Christian Church of Denson.

This organization worked in harmony with Buddhist and Catholic groups while devoting most of its time and energy to members of its own faith. All the usual church activities were undertaken and maintained. The attached record of activity covering a short period during February, 1943, indicates both the variety and 'usualness' of its interests.

WRA having made little provision for religious activities, here again the problems had to be met by the ministers and members of the congregations. Considerable confusion existed throughout life of the center from the fact that no proper meeting place was available, but work of the church progressed and meetings were held wherever possible. Attendance varied with the weather because transportation was not available and walking conditions at certain times particularly unpleasant.

The ministers were paid by the Missions Board of their respective denominations, in the same amount paid WRA workers classified as professional. Their pay included the regular clothing allotment.

Perhaps the highlight of church activity was the Jerome Christian Mission, held May 16-21, 1943. It was sponsored by both the Jerome organization and by the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America. Among the outside speakers were: Miss Jessie Trout, author and former missionary to Japan; the Rev. John B. Cobb, an evangelistic missionary to Japan of the Southern Methodist Church; Dr. Jesse M. Bader, secretary of the Department of Evangelism of the Federal Council of Churches; Dr. E. Stanley Jones, author and Christian Leader; Mrs. Jessie Burrell Eubank, writer, lecturer and former vice president of the Northern Baptist Convention; and Dr. Albert P. Shirkey, pastor of the large Travis Park Methodist Church in San Antonio, Tex.

## RECORD OF ACTIVITY

February, 1943

1. a. Ministers Conference with Dr. H. Hannaford 10 present
2. a. English speaking members of the Church Council Meeting 7 P.M. Church Office 33-1-F 10 Present
3. Wednesday,
  - a. Young People's Bible Class 7 P.M. 6 Present  
Leader: Rev. Hideo Hashimoto 33-9-A
  - b. Japanese Bible and Prayer Meeting 7 P.M. 19 Present  
Leader: Major M. Imai Block 9 Recreation Hall  
20 Present  
Leader: Rev. T. Sakaguchi, Block 33 Dining Hall
4. Thursday,
  - a. Choir Rehearsal 7 P.M. 33-6-A 40 Present  
Director: Miss Mary Kasai  
Pianist: Miss Grace Imamoto  
Miss Alice Imamoto
  - b. Funeral Service for Mr. Terukichi Hirata 95 Present  
Presider: Major M. Imai  
Held in Block 1 Dining Hall 2 P.M.
7. Sunday,
  - a. Sunday School 9 A.M. 286 Present  
Sunday School Superintendent: Mr. S. Kanow
  - b. English worship Service 10:30 a.m. 120 Present  
Speaker: Rev. Hideo Hashimoto  
Topic: "The Spirit of Forgiveness"  
Chairman: Rev. George Aki  
Block 33-Dining Hall
  - c. Japanese Worship Service 2 P.M. 120 Present  
Speaker: Rev. T. Sakaguchi  
Chairman: Rev. K. Inori  
Held at Block 33 Dining Hall
  - d. Sunday School Teachers Meeting 20 Present  
Chairman: General Superintendent, Mr. S. Kanow  
Held at 33-9-A
  - e. High School Fellowship 7 P.M. 50 Present  
Candlelight Installation
  - f. Young People's Fellowship 7 P.M. 120 Present  
Speaker: Mr. W. Hays  
Topic: "The Most Wonderful Book Ever Written"  
Chairman: Mr. Takashi Morita

9. Tuesday,
- a. Ministerial Council Meeting 9:30 A.M. 7 Present  
Chairman: Rev. J.M. Yamazaki  
Church Office Rec. Hall 20
  - b. Ministerial Council Meeting  
Chairman: Rev. J.M. Yamazaki  
Held in Church office Rec. Hall 20 1:30 P.M. 7 Present

February

- 10 Wednesday, 7 P.M.
- a. Young People's Bible Class 5 Present  
Leader: Rev. H. Hashimoto  
Block 33-9-A
  - b. Japanese Bible and Prayer Meeting 7:30 P.M.  
Block 33 Rev. K. Inori, Chairman 18 Present  
Block 9 Rev. T. Sakaguchi, Chairman 25 Present
- 11 Thursday,
- a. Choir Rehearsal 40 Present  
Director: Miss Mary Kasai  
Pianist: Miss Grace Imamoto
- 12 Friday,
- a. Sunday School Teachers and Choir members party 60 Present  
Block 29 Rec. Hall
- 13 Saturday
- a. Home Meeting 7:30 P.M. 25 Present  
At Mr. & Mrs. Sakaizawa 7-7-A  
Speaker: Rev. T. Sakaguchi
- 14 Sunday,
- a. Sunday School 9 A.M. 297 Present  
Beginners and Primaries Rec. Hall 33  
Juniors to Young People, Dining Hall 33  
Superintendent: Mr. S. Kanow
  - b. English Worship Service 10:30 A.M. 275 Present  
Speaker: Rev. George Aki  
Topic: "A Future Through Understanding"  
Chairman: Mr. Shinpachi Kanow
  - c. Episcopal Holy Communion Service 1 P.M. 30 Present  
Leader: Rev. J.M. Yamazaki
  - d. Japanese Worship Service 2 P.M. 175 Present  
Speaker: Major M. Imai  
Chairman: Rev. T. Sakaguchi
  - e. Intermediate Girls class social 2 P.M. 40 Present  
Teacher: Miss Chiyeko Matsuoka  
Rec. Hall 33

- f. Young People's Fellowship Cabinet Mtg. 15 Present  
Chairman: President, Mr. Paul Yokota 2:30 P.M.  
Church Office Rec. Hall 20
- g. High School Fellowship 7 P.M. 40 Present  
Speaker: Rev. George Aki  
Topic: "What Has Youth to Offer"  
Rec. Hall 33
- h. Young People's Fellowship 250 Present  
Chairman: Miss Lois Itanaga  
Discussion Groups:  
1. Religious Living in the Centers  
Chairman: Mrs. Mary Tsukamoto

February

- 14 Sunday,  
continued
2. War Marriages Pro and con  
Chairman: Seichi Mikami
3. Volunteering and Resettlement  
Chairman: Rev. H. Hashimoto

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## CATHOLIC CHURCH ACTIVITIES

Catholic Services were inaugurated in the Center shortly after the opening date. Father Lavere, a Maryknoll missionary, was sent to divide his time between the Rohwer and Jerome Center. He was directly responsible to Bishop John B. Morris, Bishop of Little Rock. Services were first held in the Block 33 mess hall every Sunday at 8 A.M. Later an empty barracks room in the same block was used.

Father Lavere left after a brief stay and Father John F. Swift, another Maryknoll missionary, took over the same schedule.

About the middle of 1943, one-third of the Block 4 recreation hall was secured for a Chapel. Father Swift directed the alterations needed and eventually turned the room into an appropriate chapel. He continued to hold Mass each Sunday at 8 A.M. and on Holy Days of Obligation. He also conducted classes in catechism for children on each Saturday afternoon. Father Swift made weekly contacts with all of his evacuee parishioners here and also paid regular sick calls to the hospital. The congregation numbered about 30 evacuees and some 12 members of the administrative personnel.

Father Swift was superceded by Father Ryan, also a Maryknoll missionary, early in 1944. The latter returned from Korea on the second trip of the Gripsholm. Father Ryan has carried on the program laid out by his predecessors.

There has been no W.R.A. employment costs in connection with the Catholic services and all priests have been paid with regular church funds.

Father Murphy of Dermott was a weekly visitor at the project.

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## DENSON YWCA

In January 1943, sufficient interest in forming a YWCA group at Denson had been aroused so that a representative from the National YWCA, Miss Esther Briesmeister, visited the center to help the girls organize. During the month, interested women met with Miss Briesmeister and a Y representative from Little Rock to discuss plans of organization and activity.

One hundred women attended the first mass meeting to determine what types of Y groups would be of interest to the women and girls of the center, and by the end of the meeting temporary committees had been appointed to plan for the following special groups: junior and senior high school Girl Reserves, business and professional women's group (to include hospital, office, messhall, education and recreation workers), Issai mothers, junior matrons, and college co-eds. Mrs. Mary Tsukamoto was elected President of the Temporary Board, and Mrs. Beryl Henry of the Administrative personnel acted as adviser.

One of the earliest activities of the YWCA was to establish a "Hospitality House" in part of Block 20 Recreation Hall. Furniture and furnishings for the House were made or donated by residents of the center, and one box of books, vases, drapes and pictures was sent by the Long Beach Y.

During the month of April, the Denson YWCA group sent representatives to three Y conferences; one in Jackson, Mississippi, a leadership training workshop; one in Little Rock for the Business and Professional Group; and another in Little Rock for Girl Reserves.

Although there were organized many small clubs and groups on a block basis, each was considered a part of one of the main Y groups. The high school girls, for instance, would have block groups such as the Socialites, Avidians, Cal-Arkettes, Hi-Teens and Twix-Teens, but frequently two or more groups would join together in their activities.

The Issei women, "Fujin Kai", did considerable constructive work. They had handicraft meetings where they did basket-weaving, flower making, crocheting, etc., and they frequently were responsible for refreshments served at larger Y meetings. In May, they held an exhibit of hand and art work done by the various Y clubs.

The exhibit was open for five days and attracted over 5,850 visitors. For the center-wide carnival held at the end of May, the Fujin Kai made flowers for sale and conducted a lemonade stand to raise funds to send three Girl Reserves and two leaders to summer camp at Gulf Park from June 8-16. Besides these large-scale projects, the Issei women assisted the Junion Leaguers to make cushions, tea towels and floral decorations for the USO and participated in the YWCA Jamboree in August.

A second election was held in June, 1943, and Mrs. J. Omata became President, supported by a Board of Directors of twenty-four very active members of the various Y affiliates.

Throughout the whole Y program, there were teas, dances, socials, musicals, song-fests, discussion meetings, business meetings, committee supper meetings, picnics, guest speakers, and weekend trips to Camp Shelby to entertain the Japanese American Combat Team. But by June and July plans for a center USO had progressed to the point where practically all members of the various Y organizations could participate in making the USO a success.

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CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Oct. 1943

13 clubs represented at Clubs Council meeting for clubs in the center. A temporary Board was selected.

Nov. 1943

Clubs Council voted to have center-wide dances every 2 weeks co-sponsored by the C.A. and one or more recognized clubs. Positions for director and assistant for Clubs and Organizations filled -- Activities in full swing.

Y.W.C.A. had 2 Nat'l Board visitors to aid the members in securing a new office in Block 22. The Nat'l Board planned to give them financial aid and furnishings for the room.

Dec. 1943

Two club council meetings were held for elections of permanent club council officers. This department was very busy in complying new sets of files and re-registration of all active and newly formed clubs. "Club Meeting Report" forms and "Monthly Report" forms mimeographed to be distributed to registered clubs for mailing in order to obtain accurate and prompt reports of activities.

Stag and Stagette dance was sponsored by the C. and O. in mid Dec. It was very successful. Invitations were sent only to registered clubs.

Various clubs and individual blocks had socials for holidays planned. These were cancelled on account of a ban of meetings due to the influenza epidemic within the center.

Jan. 1944

Five new clubs were registered -- Vanguards Cubs, Islanders, Jr. Islanders, Hornets and Denson Donnas, bringing the total to 32 active recognized clubs.

A "Snow Ball" dance social was held jointly by a boy's club -- "Unknowns" and "Goeds" a girls club. The other very successful dance was the stag-stagette dance with a crowd of 410 attending at Mess Hall 23.

Feb. 1944

Club Council held a meeting in early February to hold discussions on the idea of sponsoring a Spring carnival. The clubs represented agreed to bring the matter up to the members for a definite answer.

Two community wide dances were sponsored by the C.A.-- "Stag-Stagette" dance and a Pre-Valentine by the Diamond 5's. An orchestra was hired for the latter dance. These dances were still being held in the Mess Halls.

March 1944

Spring Frolic, co-sponsored by the Denson Donnas and C.A. (dance--social) This girls club introduced the idea of holding an auction at their social to meet their budget for the year. A "Spring Fever" dance was given by the Unknowns and the C.A.

April 1944

The kite contest scheduled for the previous month was finally held after 2 postponements due to rain.

YWCA sent 2 delegates to Little Rock, Arkansas to the National Southern Regional Conference on the 11-14th.

May 1944

Large scale social affairs were the 2 dances sponsored by the Octogonian-Unknown "May Day Reverly" and the YBA's "Au Revoir" dances at the center auditorium. At both of these dances, the "Densoneers" -- a center orchestra--supplied the music for dancing. 500 people attended each dance.

YWCA held a farewell social for the Jr. Leaguers, Girl Reservers and the Y Board Members on the 5th.

Clubs in the center have been disbanding from Mid-May with the segregation group leaving then, and others transferring.

*File*

**ATHLETICS**

Nov. -- Thanksgiving 1942

Football game of former high school youngsters from Southern Calif.

March 1943

Softball started, basket ball leagues continued. 3 baseball leagues organized. Grounds for playing under preparation.

Feb. 1943

Block representatives for recreational program names to stimulate block activities. Special emphasis on volleyball and basketball. Several outdoor courts built on high school area.

June 1943

Baseball holds the limelight in this center with softball, sudo, sumo and weightlifting following. Baseball witnessed daily by older group.

July 1943

Baseball with 100 Infantry of Camp Shelby and Denson All-Stars. Expense of trip was paid by voluntary contribution by evacuees.

Baseball with Camp Robinson's nesei soldiers team.

Softball league for children under 12 organized.

Baseball and softball most active sport, baseball drew most spectators while softball had more participants.

August 1943

Inter-center baseball tournament with Rohwer - won by Denson All-Stars.

Arkansas A. and M. Marine V 12 training School from Monticillo, Arkansas and Instructors of Grider Field Air Base played against center's All-Stars - won by center teams.

3-game series played by Camp Robinson and Camp Shelby.

Sept. 1943

3 game series played with 442nd Inf. from Camp Shelby on Sept. 3 and 5th --

weather permitted only one game on the 3 rd. Won by All-Stars 3-2.

Softball championship playoff took place in latter part of Sept.

Judo instructors were terminated in mid - September but voluntary workers held classes. C.A. department is not encouraging this activity.

Class A - All-Stars and old mens team invited on Oct. 9th to play. Class B All-Stars played at Rohwer.

Football league started on Oct. 24 - with lightweight and middle-weight. C.A. fund was used to purchase 30 helmets and shoulder pads for league players.

Center All-Stars played Denson Hi Tigers on Oct. 30.

Nov. 1943

Softball championship teams -- class A boys and girls, Class B boys, letters were awarded. These purchased with C.A. fund.

Mixed girls and boys volley ball teams were organized. Mixed teams added zest and pep to the games. Enjoyable to players and spectators because of the simplicity of rules for the game.

The wood cutting program at this time hampered the football team organizations, but 6 light weight and 2 middle weight teams were formed. The players seemed enthusiastic; competition at the various games was very keen.

Dec. 1943

A successful climax was reached in football activities of the season when the "Hornets" took the championship.

An inter-center football game was scheduled with Rohwer for Christmas and New Year's Day but at the last moment was cancelled due to the flu. Invitation to Camp Shelby was written but their maneuvering schedule made it impossible for them to accept.

Jan. 1944

Athletics came indoors with the wet January weather. Ping Pong being favorite, plans for a center-wide tournament were made. Initial preparations; such as sign ups -- district eliminations were accomplished by the end of the month.

Awards of certificates were made to class "A" and "B" softball champs, and class "B" girls championship team and also to the winning football team, "Hornets".

Feb. 1944

Ping Pong finals were held in halls 16 and 17 for the championship.

March 1944

Camp Shelby's 442 nd Inf. basketball team played Denson's All-Star before the largest center crowd ever to witness a cage game. Daily games between the leagues were enthusiastically witnessed.

Baseball's opening game was played on the 26th before a crowd of 2,000.

April 1944

Pine Bluff Cardinals, a semi-professional team, played here against the All-Stars.

Old men's softball leagues formed with 8 teams registering.

Basketball completed the play offs for the Finch trophies. The players had an opportunity to play on the auditorium hardwood floor for the championship games.

A judo tournament with Rohwer was held on the outdoor arena of block 22. Black belted performers gave exhibition matches before a crowd of 600 spectators.

May 1944

Two caucasian baseball teams from outside -- the "Stuttgart" and Pine Bluff "Cardinals" played during the month. Rohwer also played here.

The 1944 basketball season was climaxed with the personal awarding of the

Finch trophies to the winners of the A, B, and C champs.

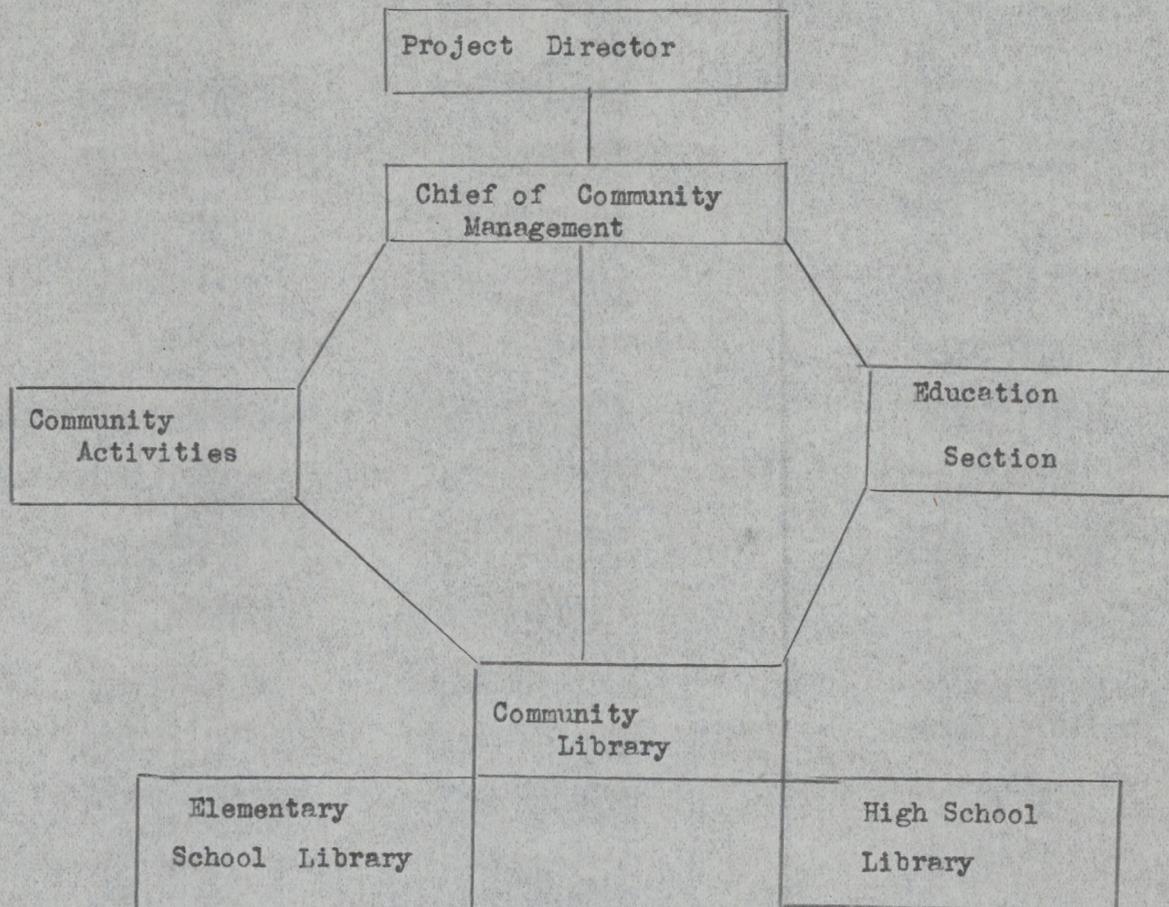
Softball leagues started for the boys by the formation of 11- B leagues and 5 - A leagues.

June 1944

The closing athletic event for the center was the "Spaulding Nine" from Little Rock.

## THE CENTER LIBRARY

The library service of the Jerome Relocation Center was organized on the following basis:



Community Activities allocated five staff members (the associate librarian, two men for the reading room, one general library assistant, and a gardner) to the library from the number of employees allotted to them.

The Education Section allocated three (at one time four) library assistants and a janitor to the library. All library problems concerning the schools were handled through the Education division.

The community side of the library service was under the direct supervision of the chief of Community Management.

The Elementary School branch was sent all books up through the sixth grade level. The supervisor of teachers assumed responsibility for the books, and rotated them to the classroom libraries every few weeks. By this method a wider use was made of the books than would have been possible, had they been housed in the community library.

The high school library still maintained in the school block went all community (after the removal of the library to larger quarters across the street from the high school block) became a small branch with encyclopedias, dictionary, almanac, atlas, magazines, newspapers, and reserve books for special class use.

Students were permitted to come to the main library at any time during the school day upon presenting library slips signed by their instructors.

The history of Jerome's library service starts February 1, 1943 with the arrival of the librarian. Quarters were assigned in the kitchen part of the mess hall of the high school block. These quarters, separated from the study hall by a counter, then possessed by way of furniture two huge work tables, a meat chopping block (which served as the librarian's desk for the time being) three kitchen ranges, four sinks, and a pantry. Since the stoves had no doors, the concrete floored room was heated only by handfuls of coal small enough not to smoke. After some five weeks a stove was brought over from the warehouse.

Since it was planned at that time to build both a library building and a high school building, and to return block 33 to residential use, it was decided that the ranges, sinks and pantry could not be moved, but that the first two could be covered with wallboard, and the latter used as a stack room. These changes were made, and a partition put up separating the library and the study hall. However, when the librarian's dire prediction that the resulting seating capacity would only accommodate ten people was found to be true, it was decided that the stoves, sinks, and pantry could be moved. The resulting arrangement gave a seating capacity of about 36.

Soon afterward it was found that the library building would not be forthcoming, so a search for more spacious quarters began. Block 28 offered their recreation hall for a library, but as they wanted to reserve half of it for recreational purposes, and since these two activities were not particularly compatible, this offer was not accepted. Barrack no. 1 of block 32 was obtained, but one family refused to move for two and one-half months, so the library did not move into its new quarters until the latter part of August. Not until this time was it possible to serve the community, because of the extremely crowded conditions in the high school block.

The new quarters were spacious enough to permit logical arrangement of furniture and activities, and except for the lack of aids to keep down noise (no floor coverings or rubber tips for chair legs) has worked out very well.

The equipment problem was one of the two most difficult which the library had to meet. In order to keep expenses at a minimum, and also because of the war-time shortage in much of the equipment needed, the center as a whole had all possible equipment made in the local carpenter shop. Since the whole center wanted their equipment as soon as possible, it was quite some time before the barest necessities for the library could be obtained. The sagas of the card catalog and the Library of Congress printed catalog cards will serve as examples of the equipment and supply difficulties the library had to meet. One of the first acts of the librarian was to attempt to locate a used card catalog. This being impossible a requisition for a new card catalog was made. This was turned down on the grounds that it was too expensive. The catalog would have to be made locally. It was part of the librarians job to "dream up" specifications for the catalog, and to check up on the progress of the job every few days. Even then it was necessary to have three different sets of blue prints made, two sets being lost some place in the course of their wanderings between the blue print office and the carpenter shop. About the first of June the chief engineer received an order to

conserve material and the card catalog for the library was one of the items with which he decided to start his conservation program. He suggested that the library use some sort of notebook index and not have a catalog. When he was told that this practice had been abandoned in libraries some hundred years previously, he then suggested that pasteboard boxes be used. Upon being asked what could be used to prevent the cards from being removed, he suggested that wire could be run through the holes and knotted at the end. The result was that the carpenter shop refused to make the catalog on the grounds that it was too complicated, and it was necessary to wait until July 1st, and another fiscal year, to have necessary funds to place another order for the card catalog. In November, the card catalog finally arrived, seven months after the process of acquiring it had started.

The Library of Congress printed cards was another instance of the inability to use the best, quickest, and most economical method of procedure. Library of Congress prints catalog cards at cost for distribution to libraries. Since these are distributed at cost, of course they could not undertake to itemize and bid on a list. The purchasing unit of the center was not able to purchase these cards because they could not first get an itemized estimate on the list, even though the whole bill would have come to less than \$10.00. Therefore it was necessary to catalog each volume individually, which was made more difficult by the lack of complete cataloging aids available in more permanent libraries.

A staff of five girls was selected from a group of applicants, coming in response to a notice in the paper that applications for library workers would be accepted on a given date. As the girls worked with each process from the ordering of the books, through their cataloging, and being placed on the shelves, their training was a gradual process. The turnover has been very small. Only three girls have left during the 16 month period, all three of whom relocated.

These girls have been exceptionally cooperative, industrious and capable.

One of the major problems has been reading room discipline. In order to handle this problem, and also because transportation facilities were not available for the girls when they worked at night, three men were appointed to the library staff in February. The associate librarian, one of these men, was to act as a sort of liaison agent between the community and the library (being an active member of a number of committees, he was especially able to do so). He also catalogued the Japanese language book collection, and supervised the two men who were placed in charge of the reading room. The disciplinary work of the men was much more ineffective than that of the girls. Whether this was a result of a natural fear of being impolite, whether they were afraid of community disapproval in carrying out disciplinary measures that might be considered another administrative notion, or what the reason might be, nevertheless the discipline end was chaotic, especially with the high school age students after school hours. At night, the library instituted a system of having each patron sign his name as he entered, and this seemed to have a very quieting affect on the boys. (The library attracted an unusual number of adolescent boys who, in a normal community, would have hung out at the corner drug or pool hall--but since there were no such facilities in the center, automatically gravitated to the library as the one institution that was open at night. The discipline problem gradually improved however. Several of the more rowdy boys were transferred to Tule Lake which served to break up the gangs. Perhaps the improvement is also the result of a gradual acceptance of library regulations as normal.)

The older male library employees, all of whom spoke fluent Japanese which the girls did not, aided in dealing with the non-English speaking Isseis who became patrons after the procurement of Japanese books.

#### BOOK STOCK

The book stock of the library reached a total of 5,981 books. Of these 1527 were purchased, and 4424 were gifts. These were broken down into the

following divisions:

Children (up to the junior high school level) 636 volumes (352 purchased and 284 gift; 196 non-fiction and 440 fiction).

The adult (including from junior high school on) book collection was composed of the following:

Total adult stock 5345 of which 1175 were purchased and 4170 were gifts. 2053 were non-fiction (831 purchased, 1232 gifts) and 3292 were fiction (352 purchased and 2938 gifts).

The book stock averaged .92 book per person (not counting the Japanese books, since they were not library property, but only on loan).

Circulation statistics were kept only for the Community library. These amounted to 15,245 fiction, 4,213 non-fiction, and 3,852 Japanese books. The latter total is from their arrival in November through May 31. The other circulation totals are from May 26th, 1943 through May 31st, 1944.

The total circulation was 23,310, an average daily circulation of 80.09 books, and an average of 3.89 books per person in the center. If statistics had been kept on the elementary school books and the high school branch, this would undoubtedly have averaged between 5 and 6 per person.

The Japanese books were those which had been impounded at the assembly centers and shipped to Jerome, following the owners. After some time the owners were asked to call for them. A number of them failed to do so, and the Jerome library obtained approximately 400 unclaimed volumes. These were supplemented by a small shipment from the Red Cross. The volumes did not represent a very wide variety or include very recent material, but the people were so eager for reading matter in Japanese that those 400 books constituted a fourth of the total circulation every month. It was pathetic to have such a demand and need for Japanese literature, and to be unable to procure it from any source.

Lost books (those taken from the open shelves and those not returned from loans) amounted to almost 5 percent of the purchased books (72 volumes, the more recent and desirable titles) and almost two percent (120 volumes) of the book stock as a whole.

The library was allocated \$2000 from the Education section from Jan. to June, 1943, and \$1500 to be spent from July 1943 to June 1944. Of this latter, only a small part had been spent before notice of closing of the center came.

Community Management had allocated \$3000 for the library, the period of Jan. - June, 1943, but only \$1,300 was actually made available. No appropriation was made for the community library from July 1943 to June 1944. From figures now available, the total expenditure for the library was \$3,849.94 or 59¢ per capita.

The project director issued an order that no fiction be purchased from the Community library - apparently having in mind the gift fiction from the victory book campaign.

Of course fiction is from 2/3 to 3/4 of the normal circulation of a library, therefore being unable to purchase the better and more recent fiction was a definite handicap to the service of the library.

At the time the center was closed, the library book stock was itemized by elementary school, fiction and non-fiction divisions and put into the Catalog of Available Supplies which was sent to the other Relocation Centers for checking. Washington property office then allocated these requests, sent the lists back to Jerome, where the books were packed and shipped to the center requesting them. (All worn, mutilated and over-age books were removed before shipping.)

A number of books from the Victory book campaign, had not been cataloged. These were the least desirable ones. With the consent of the Washington office,

the Drew county librarian took a number of these titles for the county and negro libraries. The magazines were sent to Rohwer for use in their adult education work, and all center-made equipment was also sent to Rohwer. The newspapers and the remaining unusable books from the Victory book campaign were contributed to the paper salvage drive.

The Japanese language books presented a special problem, because they were not WRA property -- but belonged to the individuals from whom they were taken. The Washington Community Management office gave permission to remove these books to the Rohwer library, since Rohwer had not obtained any of these books from the assembly centers.

The library filled a very definite need for constructive educational and recreational activity for center residents, many of whom had more time for reading than ever before. Its greatest failure lies in the inability to provide the variety and numbers of Japanese language books which were needed. It met as adequately as a library of this size usually does, the non-fiction demand of the center. However, there was a definite weakness in current fiction, because of the project director's refusal to allow the community library to purchase fiction. Special materials were supplied through inter-library loans from the Arkansas State Library Commission, and the University of Arkansas Library.

It was unfortunate that inadequate quarters and late equipment hampered service for as long as it did. However the library was over most of the difficult problems, and was ready to swing into a program of heightened service with the summer months. Plans were in progress for summer reading clubs, story hours, book review groups, and greater emphasis on readers' advisory service which would have been possible with the completion of the cataloging of the gift books (which was scheduled for the end of May) so that the librarian's time could have been devoted to these activities.

*File.*

## FORUMS

Forums on timely and pertinent subjects constituted a popular activity at Jerome. From soon after the center was opened until late in January, 1943, this activity had been sponsored by an individual resident. On the 22nd of that month this individual organized a Forum Planning Committee, which was comprised of a Buddhist priest, a newspaper man and several members of the Documents Section. The committee agreed to plan the forums, choose the subjects for discussion and select the speakers. The individual members of the committee, in rotation, would be responsible for particular meetings in the matters of space, invitations and publicity. Quite often members of the appointed personnel were invited to participate. Typical subjects include: (Arranged chronologically, beginning with November 26, 1942).

### Work Readjustment

An Ounce of Prevention (dealing with center health problems)

### WRA Work Corps

J.A.C.L. Report (Fall, 1942 meeting at Salt Lake City)

### Liberal Education

How We Can Increase the Production of Fuel Wood (The project attorney and head of the Agriculture Division were doubtful principals at a time when fuel was an incendiary topic) A copy of this discussion is included with the report on fuel wood.

Resettlement (With a Washington representative leading the discussion)

### Cooperative

Marriage in the Relocation Center

Behind the Scenes of Evacuation

Registration (With the Army Team)

Progress in Resettlement

Living Creatively in These Times

Evacuation and Family Living

Horizon (improving the mind during center residence)

Language in Action (Review of the book by Dr. S.I. Hayakawa)

What's Happening to Us ? (Effects of Evacuation)

Is There a Super Race ? (Held July 13, 1943)

*File.*

DENSON - UNITED SERVICE ORGANIZATION ©

When the YWCA was first established, one of the foremost programs in the Board's mind was to establish a USO center for visiting soldiers. As the months passed, members of the Y Board worked on plans for such an organization. Miss Mary Nakahara was appointed chairman of the USO program committee, and Mr. R.E. Arne, Assistant Project Director in charge of Community Management and Mr. G.F. Castleberry, Supervisor of Community Activities, acted as advisers. The YWCA Hospitality House was to be the first headquarters of the USO and was equipped and furnished with that in mind.

Before the USO had been organized, twenty Japanese American soldiers arrived on June 6, 1943 from Camp Robinson, Arkansas, to play baseball, and YWCA girls prepared refreshments and entertainment for them. On June 19 and 20, 100 girls were invited to visit the Combat Team at Camp Shelby, Mississippi, for a dance and weekend. A temporary advisory board registered eighty-three girls from Jerome and Rohwer to make the trip. Both of these functions added impetus to USO plans.

On June 21 the doors of the USO were opened. A guest book was placed for the soldiers to sign; invitations were left at the Internal Security Office; posters were made; and the Community Activities Section allotted \$250 to a USO fund. The first visitors were men on furlough from Camp Savage, and when they arrived carpenters were still working on the USO room. Center residents volunteered their help although there had been no formal hostess training.

The first planned and supervised weekend program, on July 25-26, had as its guests a company of the 442nd Combat Team, transported from Camp Shelby by bus. From that date until March 25, 1944, organized bus-loads of soldiers visited weekly. A Saturday night dance and an o-cha-zu-ko party on Sunday afternoons became the popular regular features of the weekends.

Day by day the USO grew in popularity, more soldiers visited and a variety of programs were arranged by club leaders. An Advisory Board of center residents and appointed personnel was selected and a hostess group organized. In the initial registration, thirty girls signed up as voluntary hostess workers.

In July, a total of approximately 300 servicemen visited the USO; in August, 225. The majority of these came from Camp Shelby, Miss., and Camp Robinson, Ark. Eleven other army camps represented were Camp Grant, Ill., Fort Thomas, Ky., Camp Hale, Colo., Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., Camp Frannin, Texas, Fort Sheridan, Ill., Fort Bliss, Texas, Camp Polk, La., Camp Berkeley, Texas, Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and Fort Francis E. Warren, Wyo.

One of the services assumed by the USO girls was the writing of individual letters to all the soldiers who had visited the Hospitality Center, and to send letters to servicemen who had been injured on the Italian front.

During the registration period, USO activities were practically at a standstill, but on September 21 some of the still active members held a meeting and established a USO Board to expand the effectiveness of the service. Committees were formed to care for hostess activities, special entertainment, and living quarters for visiting servicemen, and two clubs were organized - one for wives, mothers, sisters and friends of servicemen, and the Booster Club composed of brothers and representatives of various boys' clubs on the center.

By November, the USO had moved into a full barracks, partitioned off into office and library room, assembly room, and kitchen.

As early as November 1943, the local USO began negotiations with the National Committee of the USO, through the regional office in Kansas City, for national recognition and for funds, but it was not until early March, 1944, that the Certificate of Recognition was received, accompanied by \$225 to cover operating expenses until June 30. Under the agreement, the Jerome USO was to shoulder full responsibility for service to members of the armed forces

visiting in the community. The first expenditure from the new funds was for a Sunday chicken dinner for all visiting servicemen.

The program was very active during the winter and spring months, reaching its peak in April when the 442nd Combat Team was finishing its training and preparing to go abroad.

The servicemen were very appreciative of the efforts of the residents of Jerome to maintain a high standard of hospitality for them. Officers, civilian instructors and enlisted men of Camp Savage contributed \$100 in March, a gift which was turned over to the Welfare Committee of the Community Council for distribution. The Council decided that it should be used for classroom parties for the nursery and elementary school children as a kind of "open house" for the school.

One of the best friends the Nisei Combat Team at Camp Shelby had was Mr. Earl M. Finch of Hattiesburg, Miss., who not only established a USO for the boys in Hattiesburg, but chartered buses to transport servicemen and their ball teams to Jerome on weekends. With the support of the men in the Combat Team, he was the chief sponsor and contributor to an Easter egg hunt for the children of both Jerome and Rohwer. It was the final gesture of appreciation before the 422nd departed from Camp Shelby for active duty.

With the Combat Team gone and the closing date of the center approaching, the USO Board met in early May to determine what disposition should be made of surplus funds and the equipment and furnishings of the USO Center. The Parents' Organization had raised \$89.90 which had not yet been expended, and the visiting soldiers themselves had made contributions during the month of April to the amount of \$70. Part of the funds were spent for service pins for mothers and wives with men in the service. One pin had five stars on it, and several had four and three. The balance of National USO funds - \$69.93 - was

returned to the National Committee. All of the furnishings and equipment from the Jerome Hospitality House will be transferred to Rohwer when the center closes. Although June 1, 1944, was announced as the official closing date of the Jerome USO, there was still a small amount of money in the treasury, and the few servicemen who visited during the last month were entertained as well as possible considering the fact that the USO had been completely disorganized by transfers and relocation.

Although no absolute records were kept of servicemen using the USO facilities, it is estimated that during the periods when the men from Shelby were free for furloughs there were from 400 to 600 visitors a week.

#### REGULATIONS:

USO girls were organized with definite regulations. These were accepted by the girls:

1. Only registered girls may participate in any USO functions.
2. Parents or guardian's approval must be brought to the USO.
3. Her registration is complete only when approved by the Hostess Committee.
4. Registered girls are to follow all regulations set up by the committee, such as:
  - (a) Requirements to attend at least 3 of the series of lectures.
  - (b) Participation in regular USO House Program
  - (c) Help write to service men.
  - (d) Observe strict night hours after socials.

The following signed agreements were made with the USO and with Mr. A.G.

#### Thompson:

1. All of the USO dances will have at least two chaperones, men and women and several adult guests.
2. All dances will have Internal Security Patrol on the grounds.
3. All USO dances will close at 11:30 p.m.
4. All USO affairs such as the Saturday and Sunday afternoon teas, "ochazuke parties" will have at least two chaperones and several mothers to help serve.

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## SCOUTING

Scouting did not reach any considerable organizational strength at Jerome and did not enjoy the individual participation that it deserved. But Scouting in its highest form was present on the center and was of great value to the relatively few whom it touched. This activity was conducted under the authority of the Boy Scouts of America, DeSoto Council - Jerome District, Denson, Arkansas.

The first provisional troop was organized October 28, 1942, by a group from the Santa Anita Assembly Center. A District Committee was created the following month and a temporary Chairman appointed. An area north-north-east of the community center was approved by the administration and the district committee as a camp site.

Since leaders were lacking, the temporary chairman developed the original organization and plans arbitrarily, dividing the center into three sections and organizing a troop in two of these shortly after his appointment.

Cooperation between the scout program and the community was weak at first, primarily because individuals felt that leadership in the movement required previous scout experience. This situation was remedied to a certain extent when the director of Community Activities and the superintendent of schools approved the program and accepted certain of its responsibilities. The scout office was established in the high school block.

A letter to Mr. Stanley A. Harris, National Director of Interracial Activities, Boy Scouts of America, dated March 25, 1943, outlined Scouting development to date:

"We now have four troops in the Jerome District, De Soto Council. They are troops 97, 98, 99, and 100. They average 30 boys each or approximately 140 boys in all. Our cubbing movement is just getting on its way and already we have well over 80 boys registered in our office".

"Our camp was the last to be organized and, consequently, we may be behind others in organization. However, by this summer we expect to have over 500 boys in Scouts or Cubs. Up to the present time it has

been the organization period and, therefore, we expect more activity henceforth. In reviewing our calendar, we find two Courts of Honor (February 12 and March 19), joint-meetings, three hikes, and Troop and Tenderfoot Installations".

"For the future calendar we have planned camps, camporals, outdoor meetings, outdoor Courts of Honor, demonstrations, hikes, and erection of a superb campsite".

In April, 1943, Dr. Harris (above) attended a center Court of Honor and presented the Eagle Scout Award to two residents.

Relocation and segregation (two scout masters were among these who preferred to live at Tule Lake) continued to handicap the program and limit its formal operation. But the spirit of Scouting and some of its normal activity was in evidence throughout operation of the center. The Scouts assisted with baggage during mass transfer operations, conducted a medicine bottle drive for the hospital, headed the center paper salvage drive etc. They enjoyed one formal camping experience. Seventy-five boys participated in a 5-day camping trip sponsored by the Center Boys Scout organization through the Community Activities Section. They had to be scouts; they had to pass physical examination; they had to present a permit from the school and a note of approval of their parents.

Site of the camp was an elevation on a bank of the Mississippi River, about 4 miles from Arkansas City and 34 miles from the Center. Camp ground was located in a shady grove with a sandy beach sloping to the river. The boys were transported by W.R.A. truck. Their supplies were similarly transported from the Center and drinking water was hauled in from Arkansas City. The schedule called for Reville, flag raising, breakfast, inspection, sports, lunch, rest period, scout tests, swimming, games, supper, retreat, free period, campfire, taps. An aqua-fest was held in the Mississippi River which proved to be very popular. Campfires held in the evenings featured stunts and talents from the various patrols.

The camp site was the regular camp of the Arkansas City, Arkansas, Scouts, which group invited scouts from Jerome and Rohwer Centers to attend their regular summer camping. About 20 scouts from Arkansas City acted as hosts for the 75 boys from this camp and about 90 from Rohwer. All three groups swam together and intermingled in athletic activities but the real joint participation was achieved by the nightly camp fires. Among the 20 Arkansas City scouts was the son of a Chinese merchant in that town. He instructed other members of his group in the art of outdoor cooking while evacuee boys looked on.

Instruction in first aid was one of the daily experiences of each camper. One of the Center doctors was a member of the scouting party. He assisted the District Scout Commissioner, Tom Okano of this Center, in directing Jerome's participation.

The boys who participated gained experiences in cooking their own meals; keeping utensils and sleeping quarters ship-shape; staying warm and comfortable under field conditions. The Jerome boys had little actual camping equipment. Each patrol maintained its individual camp site, which was sheltered in most cases with army blankets rather than canvas. They did have canvas cots. They regarded scouting activities with renewed interests, and the parents were very appreciative of what camping opportunities had done for the boys.