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Field Notes

Draft 1

Oct. 1944

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SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1944, P/1.

Talk with Mrs. Deschler

EVENTS AT COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT MEETING

lowcase

I called on Mrs. Deschler the ~~new~~ new social worker to get her story of this meeting, where, I had heard, she had been the only staff member to speak up to Mr. Black on the <sup>imminent closing</sup> ~~imminent closing~~ of the camp to relocation.

"After Dr. Opler completed his report <sup>after</sup> on the Denver conference, <sup>in which</sup> he stressed that it appeared that the complaints at the ~~other~~ centers were the same as those at Tule Lake, Mr. Black got on to the business of when the coast is opened and the possible closing of Tule Lake <sup>(to relocation)</sup>.

[I said] I said, "What concerns me is just how we can use this among the people if it is just a probability."

"Mr. Black said, 'If you know anybody intending to leave you can tell them this.'"

"Irene and Helen ~~xxx~~ (two young ~~xxx~~ members of the Welfare staff with little or no formal training) said in an apple-polishing manner, 'May we use your name and tell the people that the big officials in the Administration believe this?'"

"Then some teachers asked what to do about the sixteen year old kids. Huycke answered that after the service men return ~~to~~, maybe things aren't going to be so rosy. Maybe we shouldn't pressure them."

"I tried to get back to the subject and said, 'Why can't reasonable notice be given?' Then Mr. Gunderson and Mr. Black said simultaneously, 'That's all Hearst would read.' I said, 'Are we running this camp for Mr. Hearst or for the people?'"

Mrs. <sup>Deschler</sup> ~~xxx~~ added that not one of the other staff members gave her any support. There are some of the teachers, however, who are so concerned over this that support might be gotten for a petition to Washington requesting that some sort of statement be given the people.

lowcase

HUYCKE LEAVING

Mr. Huycke definitely announced before a group of friends that he was leaving here October 15.

FBI INVESTIGATES SOLDIERS ON FURLOUGH

Mrs. Deschler told me

thirteen or fourteen Japanese-American soldiers all of whom had had their basic training at Selby and <sup>some</sup> of whom had <sup>seen in the service commands</sup> ~~been~~ service for considerable time <sup>in the service commands</sup> were given furloughs and came to Tule Lake.

After they had been here a short time, the authorities were amazed to receive letters from all of them stating that they had decided to apply for repatriation.



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ation. The letters are said to have been written on the same general plan, and some appear to be ~~that~~ copies. An FBI investigator was sent to <sup>late</sup> Tule to investigate and see if this were some kind of plot. He saw all the boys and their families and came to the conclusion that the stories they told him were true and that it was not a plot against the U. S. government. The boys said that after arriving here they were treated as social outcasts. Nobody would speak to them. Even their families were cold and treated them as if they were fools. Not being able to endure this ostracism or the knowledge that their families were going to Japan and that they were fighting for a cause which all their relatives and families thought foolish, they applied for repatriation.

(Private note: ~~while I agree with the FBI man on the point that this~~  
~~it is most unlikely that this is a conspiracy against the Japanese government,~~  
~~I believe that to the excuses given by the soldiers and their families should~~  
~~be added the fact that by~~ *Mrs. Deschamps did not tell me that by applying for*  
~~repatriation, the soldiers might avoid being~~  
sent over seas. It is customary, I believe, to give soldiers an opportunity to visit their families before going over, and it was probably believed that this eventuality could be avoided by applying for repatriation. I do not, however, mean to minimize the effects of the sneers and ridicule which the young men <sup>may have</sup> received in the camp. <sup>7</sup> The fact that their families did did support and respect their military service would make them feel like fools. Compare J. Takeuchi's account of how Japanese communities supported Japanese American draftees before the evacuation. ~~Sept~~  
(Fieldnotes, Sept. 17.))



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TALK WITH GEORGE YAMASHIRO

George was unusually talkative. About the re-segregation announcement he said:

"I say, 'leave me alone and I'll leave you alone.' If I feel like it, I'll sign. I haven't signed yet.

"I'm Japanese - no matter what they (pressure group) say. If we swear to be Japanese, we are Japanese.

"Myself, I went to see <sup>Reverend</sup> Rev. Tsuha (~~the nominal founder of the~~ ~~Appointed head of~~ Sokoku Kenkyu Seinin-dan). We talked until 1:30 in the morning. We had a different idea and couldn't come to an agreement so I came back.

"Even if we sign or don't sign, it won't do no harm. Maybe somebody will ask me and maybe I will sign, but nobody has asked me to sign. <sup>Matsuda</sup>

(I asked if they had been given a time limit to sign as Mrs. <sup>"A"</sup> had <sup>told me</sup> ~~applied~~ Saturday.)

"We didn't get any time limit to sign. They didn't give us any deadline.

"The Sokoku Kenkyu Seinin-dan is back of it. Rev. Tsuha told me, 'Anybody who sign on the paper can be in the Sokoku Kenkyu Seinin-dan, but whoever doesn't sign can't be a member.' <sup>d</sup>

(We discussed the SKSD and the <sup>Resignation</sup> ~~the~~ pressure group and George said ~~in~~ ~~Japanese fashion~~.)

"It's like a brother and sister." ~~This is the way of thinking~~ ~~has~~ ~~close~~ ~~ly~~ ~~the~~ ~~two~~ ~~organizations~~ ~~are~~ ~~called~~ ~~in~~ ~~this~~ ~~opinion~~.

<sup>Reverend</sup> ~~Rev.~~ Tsuha told me, 'Mr. <sup>Akashi</sup> ~~is~~ is the first one to put out the resegregation petition and ~~he's~~ <sup>he's</sup> the father of naming the Sokoku ~~Kenkyu~~ <sup>Kenkyu</sup> ~~Seinin-dan~~ <sup>Seinin-dan</sup>."

"I went to see Rev. Kai and Mr. Kuratomi the other day but we were both being so careful what we said, that I couldn't get any clear picture.

Santa Fe men

(I asked George for his opinion on the efforts being made by the Nisei members of the Negotiating Committee to bring back the Issei from Santa Fe.)

"I think it's right to bring them back. That's girl.

War developments + Renunciation of Citizenship

I think that Nimitz and Montgomery are going to get to the Philippines. I think they'll get that far. And I think that the renunciation of citizenship is going to be brought out at the same time.



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Justice Dept.

If we go under Justice those who have money will be all right. But those who can't earn will sure start crabbing again. (George believes that an internee the evacuees will not get paid for working. I take his word for it, since I know nothing about it.) You remember, that was the main point against the status quo.

For my frank opinion I'd like to be an internee, but this is not a one person camp.

I think the Sokoku Senkyu Seinin-dan is just like that fellow Kawaii, (Nobu Kawaii of the JACL) who ~~said~~ <sup>said</sup> to the JACL that all the Niseis wanted to go into the Army.

(George <sup>means</sup> that the SKSD represents just as small a part of the public opinion of ~~the Japanese American~~ Tule as the JACL did in Gila.)

The Sokoku ~~is~~ doesn't say a thing what their purpose is.

Membership

<sup>told me that he</sup>  
George has, in the past few weeks, made a pretty thorough study of the strength of the SKSD. He said that they do not have more than 60 or 70 members in each ward which gives them a membership of 550 at the outside. His own ward, VI has the largest membership and they are also very strong. In his block, 68. Ward <sup>I</sup> ~~one~~ has 52 members and ward three has ~~only~~ 50. I remarked that it looked as if they had started the circulation of their paper in the blocks which are known to be most strongly status quo. George said he had no doubt of that. George also said that he knew that the SKSD was the moving force behind this ~~circulation~~ <sup>re-segregation pamphlet</sup>

During the conversation, Mrs. <sup>Yamashiro</sup> ~~Z~~, remarked that Mr. Kurihara had come over to see George, but, unfortunately, George was not home. (This may have been a friendly call - but there is the slightest possibility that Kurihara <sup>is trying to get information or support</sup> may ~~be~~ <sup>be</sup> beginning to ~~get~~ <sup>get</sup> some support. <sup>me.</sup> I think I'll go to see Ige, another <sup>intern</sup> ~~Leupp~~ <sup>Leupp</sup> tomorrow.)

[ Japanese American Citizens League. ]



TALK WITH MR. TACHIBANA

Called on the Tachibanas today to see how they felt about the reception of their pamphlet. They said they were satisfied, but they did not sound happy or enthusiastic. Mr. Tachibana<sup>na</sup> remarked that Mr. Black had tried to make trouble for them, ~~next~~ but that he (Black) had gotten nowhere.

Clearly, he did not wish to talk about the ~~xx~~ pamphlet, and with no warning, he ~~xx~~ gave me the following lecture. I dutifully wrote it all down.

You know, Miss Hankey, the Japanese people, we were here for 40 years. Our fathers and mothers came here as immigrants and came here by the rights of immigrants. But the immigrants went through all kinds of hardships. It cannot be considered that they came here as pioneers, like those who came from England, because they (English) came here to a new country and were the landlords of a new hemisphere because there was no one to boss them here except the wild Indians.

And other new immigrants (not Japanese) when they came here they were of the same race and there were many millions of countrymen already had built up the place in this country.

While the Japanese, when they came to this country it was altogether different. They couldn't get any jobs except those left by the other people because they were very inferior in pay and very cheap.

They had a hard time to adapt themselves to the way of living in this country. Firstly, they could not speak even a single English. But because of their determined ideals, they finally struggled their way through.

They worked on the railroads. These railroads, over in Washington, Oregon, Montana and Idaho, they were actually set by the immigrants who worked all day long with a very very poor food and living conditions. They used to make biscuit-like things with a barrel, with nothing for seasoning but salt. They ate this kind of food every day, day after day. Many became undernourished. They had one egg for one week. For those people it was considered to be a very fine thing for them. They can't complain their jobs under such circumstances, because working on the railroad was the only job open to them. And if they quit that job they can't find another job because there was no way of finding another job. That's only the particular job that was open to the Japanese immigrants.

A great part of ~~the~~ the Southern Pacific, the Union Pacific and the Great Northern were actually laid and spiked down by Japanese labor.

Take for instance the lumber business of the Northwest. They (the Japanese) cannot open the ~~lumber~~ industry of the Northwest today. But for the agricultural industry, especially in the three western states, this was opened up with the assistance of Japanese labor.

Stockton, the Delta, used to be known as the natural marshes that can never be transformed into agricultural land. It was finally transformed to the most fertile land in the United States. Now it produces millions of the products. This was accomplished by the Japanese immigrants. Those sandy gravels, like a desert, at Fresno, many millions of acres of such dry sand land has ~~been~~ never been thought to be a vineyard of such a great extended area. Now it is actually the most great grape industry of today.



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Take the fishing industry. Without the Japanese immigrants who were engaged in fishing, the great salmon industry of Alaska might never have been opened up. The salmon industry became the second to the gold industry in Alaska. It was opened up with the assistance of Japanese immigrants.

Take Terminal Island. Ninety-nine percent of the residents of Terminal Island were Japanese, who fished all along the Southern waters, nearby Mexico, and the yearly outcome of such industry were a great income to the United States.

This are only the few itemized industry that the Japanese immigrants engaged in and made a great thing for the benefit of this country. Under the circumstances, it's altogether different from the European.

The degree of difference of hardship and the difference went through by the Japanese immigrant cannot be rated, unless you are one of the immigrants.

Finally they built up a little ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ foundation for the future generation to follow. Prior to the war, the records shows that the Japanese by race, generally speaking, were the most law abiding race. Their police records were not bad, if not better than some of the other European immigrants. Unfortunately this was broke out, for which no one was to blame or responsible. All the Japanese have to evacuate from the West Coast.

I know of many many instances where the evacuees suffered unnecessarily because of there's no definite plan set aside by the American government. But they forced the evacuation just the same, according with the program.

(I remembered that I had been told that Mr. Tachibana often ~~assistant~~

acted as ~~advisee~~, advisor on legal matters to residents of

Tule Lake. Since the study is interested in evacuee losses, I

I asked him if he had records of specific cases. ~~xxx~~ He said he *He then gave me the following lecture on evacuee* had hundreds ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ but, apparently, wanted to *hardships and losses.* continue his lecture.)

For instance, take Terminal Island. The fishermen were prohibited to go out to sea for fishing right after the outbreak of the war. At the eve of the war proclamation by the president, nearly all of the masters of the families were taken to the immigration detention station, situated at both Terminal Island and San Pedro. Some were taken to the county jail after these former places were filled up.

These families, without father or master, have to support themselves till the actual evacuation order took place. It was close to four months time between their fathers were taken to custody of the Justice Dept. and actual evacuation. These families have to go without fathers and without any income.

Did the government of the U. S. or the city of Los Angeles help these poor families? None of any account helped. But instead, they forced on these innocent families, including the little children, they forced strict regulations on them. A steel bridge connecting from the mainland to the San Pedro side, was closely watched by the officers day and night.



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These families suffered tremendously in a financial way. Their food have to be distributed to them free. Did Los Angeles help these poor families? I say, None. The City Market of Los Angeles and the Terminal Market of Los Angeles, and the Produce Houses <sup>owned</sup> by the Japanese, got together every day from two to five truckloads of vegetables which were actually taken down to the Terminal Island with the city's permission to dump them at the central corner of Terminal Island around noon-time.

It was a peculiar thing that happened - not even the children never came around to look for the dumping of such vegetables. But by the next morning all the vegetables were gone, leaving just empty crates, showing that the Japanese residents felt shame of taking such vegetables for free. Yet they have to eat. And there was no way to eat. So they evidently went around after ~~dark~~ <sup>dark</sup>.

This continued until the outbreak of the war till the outside evacuation took place around April. Many families, knowing they have to move from Terminal Island, finally succeeded in moving themselves with their own free will, with the assistance of their friends from inland localities. They moved to their friends' places. All the Japanese Language Schools, all the Japanese Association office in Los Angeles, or other inland localities. ~~(I think "U" implies here that these organizations assisted this movement.)~~ They had nothing with them except for dishes, pots and kettles, and a few clothing.

They sold all their big things, like furniture and kitchen goods, because they were told actually that you don't need those things anymore as the government is going to put you people in Assembly Centers in the very near future.

They sold all their big things because they don't want to cause their families and friends unnecessary trouble. Many second hand stores and peddlars, we suppose many of them were Jewish, came around and they bought hundreds of stoves and ice-boxes which can be resold for a profit today.

At Terminal Island, anyone sold their up-to-date ice box which originally cost them \$150. and \$200., they sold it for \$25. which was considered to be a very high price. The average price paid for a good refrigerator was \$5. The reason they were so cheap was that these business people came in and took this wonderful opportunity for granted, while the city of Los Angeles, or even the government of the United States did not interfere in this unreasonable purchasing of such things from the poor evacuees.

After these families moved to their friends' houses or those institutions owned by the Japanese at that particular locality, they went to another sad living. Since the father was in an internment camp, the wife could not work for a living, as they have to take care of the children. Naturally, they were dependent for support on all the other Japanese who were never known to them. I know many occurrences where friends were supporting three, four families from terminal island in their homes and feeding them.

I know that in the San Gabriel Japanese Association Office six families from Terminal Island were quartered. And the members of the Association decided that every day five families were to make and prepare for one day for their foods. The following day the next five members bring them their foods in rotation. Did the government of the U. S. help these poor families? No.



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Of course I can easily understand and appreciate the treating of such distressed families without public assistance was not ~~with~~ the intention of the American government to treat them that way. We can appreciate that they have tears and that they have heart, but it was such a hurrying that the government was not able to prepare for such occurrences like this to meet for the demand.

But these evacuees suffered just the same. We know that many of their ~~other~~ American friends were willing to help these poor families. But the situation were so bad that since the Japanese are Japanese, they cannot be sympathized, because America is at war with Japan. They were afraid to help these poor Japanese, because they felt it might make very bad feeling to other Americans. But anyway, these poor Japanese were only befriended by the Japanese, and the Japanese ~~immigrants~~ peoples helped whole-heartedly.

This wasn't only at Terminal Island. The case was all the same all around the coast. Where they were strategically situated, they were forced to evacuate inland.

Then the final evacuation order were issued. The Japanese people followed the order and moved into the Assembly Centers or obeying the order ~~xxxxxxxx~~ as a patriotic attitude toward our mother country. They didn't even complain for moving. But the way the American government and even the officers taking the evacuation problem, were very official and dogmatic. They treated these innocents as if they were criminals.

Because of this evacuation, every one of the Japanese sacrificed all the properties and the foundation resulting from the 40 years most difficult works. They moved into the Assembly Centers without anything to speak of.

The program of the WRA at that time was not decided. And the officials of the WRA at that time, actually advised these evacuees to sell all their bigger things. You were allowed to carry only those things that could be carried by the shoulder and arms. Many of them had to sell their places and their merchandize for almost nothing. Their farms, small and big, they sacrificed everything materially. And these merchants who are buying Japanese belongings at that time, they took this opportunity as granted. They never helped the Japanese. Everything was so cheap because these merchants knew that the Japanese have to be evacuated and because they have to be evacuated, they have to sell all their belongings anyway. They got things for practically nothing.

I know a farmer who bought a team for \$550. and sold it for only \$25. with the remaining hay in his barn, maybe five tons, given away with that price.

And these merchants bought only the articles and things that can be resold for a good price. So these Jewish people buy the good things and the remainder were picked up by peddlars. We Japanese went to the Assembly Center with almost nothing.

Like my place. I had a store, good for maybe \$1500. I had a hard time selling it for \$100. A very good Italian friend bought it from me. We were glad to sell it for that much.

Because of this evacuation and 40 years of history of the Japanese immigrants in the United States, if the U. S. have racial prejudice against the Japanese people, through this evacuation order, we can understand the



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policy of the American government. But personally, I think that the reason for that evacuation order being set aside only to the Japanese race, was because the American government took this opportunity to solve the Japanese problem once and for all to get rid of all the Japanese race from the Western Hemisphere.

If this evacuation order were <sup>mainly</sup> for the military program, the Japanese think that they would have evacuated not only the Japanese but also all the Germans and Italians.

Re-nundation of Citizenship

Why if this is not so are they taking away the Japanese citizenship? Of course, there might be many many reasons for taking away Japanese citizenship. But from the Japanese ~~view~~ view, we see it this way. (As an attempt to remove all Japanese from this hemisphere.)

(I tried to call on <sup>Mr.</sup> Igo, a Gruppe internee, to <sup>see if Mr. Kurikawa had</sup> ~~talked to him~~ <sup>if he is trying to</sup> ~~organize anything~~, but found him out. Will write him for appointment.)



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55. With regard to the theory of religion advanced by Emile Durkheim, the position of P-B is that



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TALK WITH NISEI GIRL \* Old Tulean

Asako Higaki

In a discussion on the workings of the trouble-makers in which nothing very much was said on either side, this <sup>Asako</sup> girl remarked that there are still people in her block who will not speak to each other because of their year long disagreement on the status quo question.

CALL AT THE ~~Matrudas~~ Matrudas

The ~~Matrudas~~ <sup>Matrudas</sup> seemed very ill at ease during this call, which may have been due to the fact that I caught sight of their oldest daughter, a girl of about nine, ~~years old~~ dancing or drilling with a Japanese flag in each hand. When I entered the room (I had seen <sup>the girl</sup> ~~the performance~~ through a window while approaching) the flags were out of sight. Mr. ~~Matrudas~~ <sup>Matrudas</sup> asked me if I had seen the statement Mr. Black put out <sup>today</sup> ~~last~~ against re-segregation. I had not seen it. He said it was very strong. Mrs. ~~Matrudas~~ <sup>Matrudas</sup>, however, informed me that the Manzanar section had had 1,200 new signers to the re-segregation petition - "which means just about the whole Manzanar section." (If this is true, it is a remarkable showing.) I asked how the rest of the camp had stood up, but was told that they had not been tallied yet. Mr. ~~Matrudas~~ <sup>Matrudas</sup> asked me again when Dillon Myer was expected, but I do not know. Mrs. ~~Matrudas~~ <sup>Matrudas</sup> said she thought in a few days, because she had heard that he was now in Manzanar and would be there for a couple of days. <sup>From there</sup> ~~wherever~~, she thought, he would come here. Mr. ~~Matrudas~~ <sup>Matrudas</sup> said that Black's statement was not going to bother them a bit. (I'll see if I can get a copy of <sup>the paper</sup> ~~the statement~~.)

MEETING WITH OPIER

The Opler~~s~~ picked me up on my way out of the colony and Opler remarked that it looked as if real trouble were brewing. Pressure was being applied against the key workers. All he would add was that some Japanese <sup>person's</sup> life had been threatened and that if word got to the colony that this was known to the Administration, it would mean the man's life. I decided <sup>to call on Robertson</sup> ~~that before I do~~ <sup>any investigating</sup> I had better talk to someone who would give me a better perspective than O. seemed inclined to do, so called on Robertson in the

He said he had asked Mr. Robertson also.



FOOTNOTE p. 11

~~XX~~

1. Yoshiyama told me last week that he'd raise up the camp if Mr. Best did not see him.



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~~evening.~~

TALK WITH ROBERTSON

Robertson seemed most disinclined to talk about the subject, but by pretending to know ~~for~~ more than I did and making some ~~fair~~ guesses, I got the gist of the <sup>following</sup> story, out of him. It appears that last night at 9:00 p. m. the "trouble" hit. A Japanese, came to the Administration and revealed that the "agitators" of whom he was a member, were planning to disorganize the operation of the project. This morning, one of Mr. Robertson's key workers resigned, ~~and~~ another has threatened to do so.

There seems to be a very definite tension - worse than it has been since the Hitomi killing. Yesterday morning and today it sprang up. I look for something very definite in a couple of weeks.

It came out with threats against the workmen. I had one resignation of a top man today and the threat of another. The excuses they give are illness, but it appears to be pressure. They will not give details. ~~(and personal affairs)~~

The Administration feels that it's the anniversary of another November incident.

They could paralyze operations in the camp. The tension spread like wildfire today. It looks as if the young Kibei are doing the work now. They are hitting from several different angles.

Santa Fe Issue

Mr. Best saw everyone (on the committee) today except Tom Yoshizawa. <sup>1</sup>  
~~(The fellow who told me last week that he'd raise up the camp if Best didn't see him.)~~ His attitude toward the question was the same as it has always been.

Best told the group he had every reason to believe that, <sup>Department</sup> Justice would soon take over and that they might as well not kick up so much fuss. Eventually both Santa Fe and Tule would be under the same Administration.

<sup>A man</sup> Matsuda came in to see me yesterday to see about getting an appointment with Mr. Myer.

(I recall that Mr. ~~Robertson~~ Matsuda told me ~~that~~ this morning that he had done to see Mr. Robertson.)

Black's statement was extremely strong against re-segregation. He made the statement to the block managers who had asked Black what their stand should be in this deal. (re-segregation statement.)

Dr. Opler thinks that Kai and Kuratomi have pulled away from the re-segregation group. <sup>Samuel</sup> (There are considerable vague hints that Opler is right in this.)  
I have heard a number of hints that this is so.







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TWO ENCOUNTERS WITH <sup>Mr. Yoshizawa</sup>~~Mr. Yoshizawa~~ ~~(Ex- stockade friend)~~

I ~~met~~ <sup>encountered</sup> ~~met~~ him in the hospital while getting my bandage changed. He told me he was going to see Mr. Best about the Santa Fe matter. Then, returning from my calls in the colony I <sup>met</sup> ~~encountered~~ him again. I asked how matters had gone. He did not seem discouraged, but rather puzzled. He said he had not been able to get anywhere ~~with~~ with Best. Moreover, Best had told him what he had told the committee yesterday - that it was almost a certainty that the camp was going under the Department of Justice within 60 days.

I confess that I feel very much out of my depth. Yoshizawa talked to me so naturally and normally that I can not picture him as making ~~such~~ murderous threats. (See Opler's remark, Oct. 4, p. 1). Kurihara tells me that Mr. Wakayama is <sup>a very</sup> ~~the most~~ dangerous <sup>more</sup> ~~of men~~ -- and other respondents have hinted about the terrible Manzanar gang. But the Matsudas are the only people who have told me that they control a group of ~~danganman~~ strong-arm boys. Well, we shall see.

HOSPITAL BULLETIN

My sliced leg looks pretty awful but the doctor says it's coming along fine. They are keeping it open because they say it is not safe to let it ~~heal~~ <sup>will</sup> from the outside. I asked hopefully, (lazy Hankey) if walking on it ~~hurt~~ it. "Not a bit," said the doc. Anyway, there is no sign of infection.



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TALK WITH MR. ODA, CONSERVATIVE BLOCK MANAGER

Sokoku Kenkyu Seinin dan

Mr. <sup>oda</sup> still stands stalwartly behind the ~~club~~ <sup>SKSD</sup> as an entirely unpolitical organization. He <sup>told</sup> informed me that they had a lecture every Saturday. He thought these lectures very good. Last Saturday the subject had been Japanese history.

Re-segregation Statement Pamphlet

"That is not authorized. That's one of the biggest objections right now. Everybody hates to sign because of the unauthorization of the statement."

"I got a notice last week (notice Black sent out) that Mr. Best was against re-segregation. I don't know who's working on the body."

"Suppose I sign this paper? I don't think that would make me go to Japan very soon. Those things are determined by the ~~Japanese~~ government."

"Really, I'd like to know why those persons do it. Maybe they tried to get authorization (from the Administration) but they were rejected?"

"Everybody would like to go back to Japan. But that wasn't done through the proper channels. The way I feel, I think they should contact WRA before they distributed those pamphlets. That's the regular procedure to something like that."

"Some of the people want to take my advice. But I can't tell them because I don't want to give false statements. We had many signatures in this block. (Oda's block, 59, is very strongly status quo.)"

"Really if they want to organize a good organization, they should contact WRA. If they want to carry out things."

Mr. Oda and his wife remarked on the unusually quiet atmosphere prevailing in camp at the present time. I am certain, from their unchanged, natural attitude, that they also had no idea of the threats received by certain individuals. At the idea that there might be a memorial demonstration on November 1, one of the Administration's present pet bugaboos, they laughed heartily. "The people don't want any trouble," said Mr. Oda.

TALK WITH Mr. Kurihara

I called at ~~his~~ <sup>Kurihara's</sup> place before I went to see ~~Mr. Oda~~ but found him out.

I then returned and found that he had come home from what he called another



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[X I did not make a carbon copy of what Mr. Kurihara told me on  
 feared  
 October 6 because I ~~felt~~/that what he said might ~~endanger~~ endanger his  
 life. I sent ~~xxx~~ my only copy to Dr. Thomas at Berkeley. ~~What the~~  
~~koldnnanwas~~ He had been doing some investigating on his own and  
 had come to the conclusion that Mr. Wakayama was responsible for  
 the threats that had resulted in the resignation of key Japanese  
 personnel and had so disturbed Mr. Robertson. ~~xxxxxx~~  
~~that Mr. Wakayama was so dangerous and was so much of a threat that I did not~~  
~~xxx~~ I had been warned several times that my notes might be stolen  
 and I did not wish to put either Mr. Kurihara or myself in jeopardy.]

RUMOR THAT ANNOUNCEMENT ~~WAS~~ TO BE MADE

*Mr. Campbell*

The project attorney, told me last night that the Administration was  
 seriously considering making an announcement to the people on the transfer of  
 the center to the Dept. of Justice.

CO-OP BOARD AND INTERNAL SECURITY.

*Mr. Currie* told me Saturday that he had written a letter, thanking the  
 Internal Security for their assistance in putting a stop to the Vandalism  
 (manager of the Co-op)  
 and thieving which had been perpetrated against the canteens. George Matsumura  
 had seen the letter and had nearly had a stroke. "We can't thank Internal  
Security for anything," said he. "Do you want us all to get our throats cut?"  
~~Currie~~ *did not send* the letter.



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REMARK BY MRS. ~~Matsuda~~ <sup>Matsuda</sup>

I recall that Mrs. ~~Matsuda~~ <sup>Matsuda</sup> told me the story of her cousin the other day.

This young woman arrived in camp with the group from Manzanar. However, she had asked for leave clearance and was returning to Manzanar to care for her foster parents. She is doing this although she knows no English and

has spent most of her life in Japan. Said Mrs. ~~Matsuda~~ <sup>Matsuda</sup>: "She feels ~~xxx~~ more giri to her foster parents than she does to her country (Japan). It tell her that she is foolish and wrong and then she cries." Mrs. ~~Matsuda~~ <sup>Matsuda</sup> is definitely

<sup>Matsuda seems to think</sup>  
~~of the opinion~~ that one owes greater giri to ones country than to the persons who reared and cared for one during childhood. [Also sad and

ironical <sup>Mrs. has</sup> is that fact that ~~Mr.~~ <sup>Mrs.</sup> Matsuda told me several times that she had ~~an~~ a brother serving in the United States Army.]



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I

- [1. Washo has not verbal meaning. It is a rhythmic exclamation made while running. The closest English approximation would be "Hip! Hip!"



MONDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1944, p. 1.

TALK WITH NISEI GIRL ~~me~~ - Kayo Iida

On the subject of the Sokoku Kenkyu Seinku dan meeting held last night, this young Nisei girl said:

The speeches <sup>were</sup> ~~and~~ quite impressive and they are very educational for the young people and they impress the older men too.

<sup>Kayo</sup> I ~~was~~ also told <sup>me</sup> ~~by this informant~~ that the girls and the younger children who drill in the morning are the school children from ward III. The SKSD boys drill separately from these and are the ones who yell WASHO - the rhythmic bellowing which disturbs the sleep of the old Tuleans, and mine too for that matter. I asked what "Washo" meant, but <sup>Kayo</sup> ~~my informant~~ did not know. 1

TALK WITH MRS. ~~me~~ <sup>Mrs. M. Matsuda</sup>

Mrs. <sup>Matsuda</sup> ~~me~~ was ~~more~~ garrulous today than I have ever known her to be, perhaps to make up for her shortness at my last visit. She ~~does~~, however, seem <sup>s</sup> to be growing more arrogant week by week. She almost struts from one side of the room to the other as she discourses with me <sup>as</sup> ~~and~~ if she isn't <sup>was giving a dramatic performance</sup> ~~slightly~~ ~~attached in the head~~ ~~I miss my guess~~. When she gives me a paper she does it with an almost regal gesture.

Mrs. <sup>Matsuda's</sup> ~~me~~ experience at meeting last night

Because Mrs. <sup>Matsuda</sup> ~~me~~ had her hair up ~~the~~ (in curlers) she did not feel that it was proper for her to go into the high school, <sup>So</sup> she stood outside the door and listened. While she was standing <sup>there</sup> ~~thus~~, Sandborn, a member of the police force <sup>She said he came</sup> drove up, <sup>so</sup> ~~coming~~ so close to her "he nearly ran <sup>me</sup> ~~her~~ over." He asked her what was going on. She said she did not know, but that the group had a permit for the meeting. He said he thought they had a permit for a dance, and added that she ought to know what was going on because she was listening. He then asked how many people were there. Again she said she did not know. One of the boys finally came out and answered his questions and said about 600 people were present. Sandborn finally said he "didn't want any funny business" and drove off.

Mrs. <sup>Matsuda</sup> ~~me~~ also <sup>led me</sup> ~~said~~ that those persons who <sup>are members but</sup> do not attend the meetings <sup>are</sup>



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<sup>several if these were</sup>  
being asked to resign. I ~~also checked the matter of the weekly meetings,~~  
<sup>also</sup> ~~about which "a" told me.~~ Mrs. "a" said each ward had a weekly meeting.

The complete tally of "re-segregation signatures" has been made, I was told. They have 10,000 signatures.

"That is the final membership. We are not going to take any more because soon we'll be under the Justice Department."

#### Gossip about Best

"My friends from Heart Mountain write me that the Project Director at Heart Mountain said that at the Denver conference the other Project Directors said that Mr. Best only was responsible for the bad reputation of WRA. They say that Best got quite a workdown."

~~(Don't know "a" is~~

~~Heart Mountain friend got this information I have no idea. Whether there's a grain of truth in it, I do not know.)~~

#### Justice Dept. and Robertson

When Justice takes over we are all going to petition for Mr. Robertson to stay. Mr. "a" says that in the internment camps, they could get a man to stay if everyone asked for it.

#### Meeting of Stockade Committee with Mr. Best

Andy (Suginoto), Rev. Kai, and George (Kuratomi) went to see Mr. Best about five days ago.

They had received their answer from the ~~Department~~ Justice Department. This letter said that (the Justice Dept.) didn't care. They said it was the WRA office in Washington who was opposing it. If they could get the consent of the project director it was all right (to send the men back.)

Mr. Best started out by saying that he couldn't do anything about it. Then they showed him the letter. He said he hadn't known about this. He said he would have to copy the letter and consult Mr. Myer.

<sup>Matsuda</sup>  
Mrs. "a" added that Best had then shown the three "boys" a letter from Santa Fe which stated that seven of the Tassei sent there <sup>had said</sup> ~~stated~~ that they did not wish to return to Tule Lake as long as <sup>Mr.</sup> Best were Project Director there. Best said, "You boys have tried awfully hard to get me out. In sixty days I'll be gone, anyway." They talked for two hours.

#### The Kai-Kuratomi Schism

For weeks I have wanted to know if there is any truth in the rumor that Kai and Kuratomi have broken with the <sup>Re-segregation</sup> ~~"a" group~~ Group. As a chance shot I



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*Matruda*  
~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ asked Mrs. ~~"X"~~ whether she thought it would be all right if I went to see George again sometime in the near future.

"Well, we've been hearing bad things about George. It seems the people in his block are trying to kick him out.

"In a way Rev. Kai and George are outcasts now.

"We gave them full co-operation. We thought we owed them girl. When they came out of the stockade they didn't live up to their purpose, and girl, and co-operation. They were independent. They took steps to tie up with Tsuda.

*4/4*  
 When there were those indictment rumors....Tsuda, Kai and Kuratomi spread the rumors and tried to get the Re-segregation Group to put up the money for Tsuda. They said they would ~~always~~ put up the money for Tsuda if he really needed it, but he ~~wasn't~~ wasn't a member... Of course, the Re-segregation Group didn't do this in a meeting but that was what was in the air.

"Tsuda didn't take action with us. He wasn't Japanese.

"We knew the indictment business was fishy anyway. (~~Oh no they didn't, D.H.~~) He wanted our financial support.

"Certain people who had done a lot to get Mr. Besig here went to Kuratomi and said, "You and Rev. Kai are members of the Re-segregation Group. And we're sorry because if you take action with Mr. Tsuda, we cannot support you."

"George and Rev. Kai said, 'You folks are too darn narrow minded.'

"It was just a rumor anyway. You didn't know what Mr. Tsuda is up to."

"So George and Kai are outcasts.

*(of the stockade)*  
 "Besides, they should have published a statement as soon as they got out, thanking the people for their support and for the money. But they didn't give a word of thanks.

*Matruda*  
 "Instead of thanking the Saiban -iin-kai, the "Trial Committee" (Mrs. ~~"X"~~ refers to the group of relatives and friends who called in the ACH) they didn't even think of this. In a lot of instances, they didn't live up to Japanese manners.

"They think we took the wrong action and they believe everything Tsuda says. Even Rev. Kai, none of his congregation go to see him. They say he's too darn conceited.

"We think November 4 was these boys' fault. They tried to organize the whole center when they didn't even know what kind of people the center was composed of. If one of them was elected to a position, one of the others would be jealous and ~~they~~ would in. They should have considered these things. They were too ambitious....Of course, we always say that WRA caused the riot...But if these boys hadn't been so ambitious...

"The least they should say is to say to the people: 'Due to our carelessness and youth we were sorry to cause such a disturbance among you.'



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(Mrs. Q. refers to the fact that many innocent boys were picked up on Nov. 4. Incidentally, this is the closest to an admission that the Negotiating Committee was involved in the Nov. 4 trouble that I have ever received from a Japanese.)

"Out of courtesy Rev. Kai should have done that. Of course, we can't outspoke and ask him to do it, but he ought to. He didn't live up to our expectation.

"If they had stayed quiet it would have been all right but they took sides right away with Tsuda."

~~(Opler would give his eye teeth to know this and so would the Administration but they ain't agoin' to find out. (I'd certainly like to get George's version of this story, however, I think it will have to be done very carefully. Before I leave camp I'll have to <sup>In time</sup> <sup>talk to Mr.</sup> ~~see what I can get out of~~ Tsuda. It's too dangerous to try to contact him now.)~~







TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1944, p. 1.

*Talk with Mr. Tokunaga*

Called on ~~Mr. Tokunaga~~ today, who prepared ~~me~~ for the study. After paying him some compliments on the paper, I remarked that I had heard that the Manzanar ~~and~~ section had had 1,200 new signatures on the repatriation petition.

"They may have gotten them here in the Manzanar section. The people here don't know what it was all about ~~(in November)~~. The majority of them signed under intimidation or ignorance.

"I was going to tell Mr. Kurihara, 'Don't worry about it. It's not so serious as you think.'"

(I hinted that Mr. Kurihara might be in some danger because he was trying to get information ~~asatanwhanwaanreally~~ about the intentions of the ~~Rex~~ leaders of the Resegregation Group. But Mr. Tokunaga said in a reassuring tone:)

"Akitsuki was top man opposing this movement. Openly, he said he objected. If Kurihara tried to crawl around in the dark, he might be caught."

(I said, "But there are dangerous men in this center . . .")

Mr. Tokunaga: "The people are cowards. A really brave man doesn't talk that way. ~~When~~ When the Japanese talk big, they don't bite."

(I think ~~by~~ Mr. Tokunaga was trying to tell me not to be afraid - that Mr. Akitsuki had opposed the ~~res~~ Resegregationists openly and had not been harmed. So if Mr. K. works openly, he has little to fear. I myself am not so sure about this.)

"Even among themselves they are not agreed. The people who signed up say, 'When I go to Japan I don't want to go with this group or that group.'"

(I asked if he had heard of Mr. Wakayama's resignation ~~from~~ ~~xxxxxx~~ as block manager.)



~~Mr. Uyama~~ resigned the block managership to take charge of the ~~Re~~segregation movement. That may be the cause of big trouble. He wishes for himself to be a big shot. I hate that type of man. Of course, if one works on something with a sincere idea, you will respect him, but when he does it for himself, I hate them."

(I ~~interviewed~~ <sup>said</sup> ~~here~~ that I thought that there were quite a few honest, sincere people working on the ~~Re~~segregation movement. Y ~~am~~ <sup>am. Tokunaga</sup> agreed, saying "Especially some of the young people.")

"Maybe I told you about a young man I talked to when I was working on Social Welfare. This young man was about 22 or 23 years old and he had been on Terminal Island and his father was interned. In 24 hours he had to evacuate and sacrifice everything he had. He was so indignant at his treatment - so he joined the December incident in Menzies, because he didn't know what else to do. He was mad at the way the government had treated him.



Footnote. p. 23.

1. Mr. Tokunaga was the first of my respondents who indicated that he knew anything about the threats mentioned by Opler and Robertson on October 4, ~~pp. 1, 2.~~



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They brought him here in October. He joined this trouble and was put in the stockade.

When they brought him to my office, I looked at him. He looked like an honest, nice boy, but he had a very strained expression on his face. After he explained his ~~app~~ application, I talked to him about a half hour. I told him, 'I understand how you feel - and in the meantime I appreciate your demand for wrongs to be righted. But don't try to attain your object by violence. You're a young man. Japan's future depends on your ~~shoulders~~ shoulders. Your life is too valuable.' If you make trouble in camp, it's just like throwing tofu against a stone wall.' ~~I~~ I really ~~cried~~ myself at him. He cried too. Then he said, 'I understand. I'll never try again to do any violence.' I told him to study in this camp.

(<sup>Kunasa</sup> I could not remember this young man's name.)

'To make right demands to the government is all right.

Dept. of Justice

"I don't know. If the Administration plays too much monkey-business, we prefer military rule. The rule is strict but they are honest. In Manzanar they felt that way. The only difference is that we would have soldiers with ~~bayonets~~ bayonets hanging around.

Strike Threat

"Did you hear about the stubborn people proposing a strike?"

I (hopefully) said I had heard only vague rumors.

But Mr. Tokunaga then said that he had been in bed with a severe ~~xxx~~ cold for two weeks and hadn't heard much. He ~~xxxxxx~~ would tell me no more and said instead:

"The majority of people are sick of all this trouble."

Sokoku Kenkyu Seinen Dan

"The Sokoku Kenkyu people don't know Japan. They think they are fighting for Japan's egoistic idea. They still think Japan is fighting for Japan only. When they go back to Japan they will say, 'We did this for the people in camp and we did that.' But the government of Japan doesn't think that way. It wishes for the people in camp just to live in peace and keep their health.

"I say to ~~the Japanese~~ them: 'The Japanese government is not so narrow-minded as you. They are sacrificing material wealth for the people of Asia.

"A lot of people are disgusted at the way they (<sup>Resisting the</sup> ~~the~~ Group) act. They are going out of camp because of it. You know there is a



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Japanese proverb - Tsuno wo tameshi <sup>a</sup>te ~~u~~shi wo <sup>k</sup>korosu. (By trying to straighten the horns of the cow, you kill it.) So - by trying to keep the Japanese in camp here, they are driving the Japanese out of camp.

Just yesterday, a woman and her daughter, 24 years old, came to see me. They had intended to go back to Japan. But after they saw all this kind of trouble they want to leave camp. Her mother came to me yesterday and cried all afternoon.

### Re-segregation

Re-segregation means nothing when you analyse what they say. My family of five have applied already through the Spanish ambassador to go back to Japan. So what more do we need?

(We then discussed the changes in the Administrative personnel that a change to the Justice Dept. might bring. <sup>Mr. Takunaga</sup> was glad to hear that Black was going.

"I think his head is a little muddled. ~~He talked about xxxxxxxx~~ He talked about one hour and the point was only that much." (Here <sup>Mr. Takunaga</sup> indicated about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch with thumb and forefinger. ~~This is incidentally, an extraordinarily apt description of Black's speeches.~~) <sup>I fear I share Mr. Takunaga's view.</sup>

Even those who signed for re-segregation are tired of trouble. They simply think those who want to go back to Japan should live together. If we (men like <sup>Mr. Takunaga</sup>) were given a chance to explain our opinion, they would be convinced again (would swing over). But we are not given the chance to <sup>talk</sup>.

Some say they have 8,000 signatures, some 6,000, some 4,000. I don't believe 10,000 signed. This time, in the old camp (Tule Lake excluding Manzanar section) nobody signed. Even those who signed in this block, <sup>They are ignorant or ~~wild~~ uneducated. If they are educated they are stubborn and narrow-minded.</sup>

### STAFF MEETING AND SPEECH BY <sup>Mr.</sup> DILLON MYER

<sup>Mr. Dillon Myer (National Director WRA)</sup> ~~Mr. Myer~~ who arrived on the project today and left tonight, addressed the staff briefly. He began by giving a resume of the history of Tule Lake, <sup>saying</sup> ~~stating~~ that after the incident <sup>(1943)</sup> the WRA was investigated until the middle of summer. In fact, he believed he was right in saying they were the most investigated agency in the government. This year (1944) had been entirely different. The whole situation has changed. There <sup>had</sup> ~~had~~ been a few little troubles, but since Jan. 1, the whole situation had taken on an entirely new complexion.

He spoke of the great victory WRA had gained with the re-institution of selective service <sup>for the Nisei</sup>. He felt that one of the cardinal <sup>achievements</sup> ~~principles~~ was that in



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the camps <sup>where</sup> were some American citizens who had a right to fight with the others. The battle news had aided the Japanese-Americans tremendously. The American Legion had had a hard time. This was one of the main reasons the situation had changed, drastically because the Legion was one of WRA's main opposition groups.

Myer said he felt that a new era had opened up in WRA. In fact, he wondered if things were not too quiet. The situation had changed. However, their job was only <sup>one third</sup> ~~1/3~~ done. Their great job <sup>now</sup> is relocation. 32,000 people <sup>have</sup> ~~had~~ relocated out of some 90,000 eligible for relocation. Until they get all the others relocated their job <sup>will be finished</sup> ~~was not~~ <sup>through</sup>.

He said he had been asked many questions about the Dept. of Justice. He ~~didn't~~ know who Tule Lake was going to be turned over to. He wouldn't worry about it. Honestly, he didn't know the answer. There were so many variables and too many different factors to be considered. He assured the staff that their jobs were safe and that the most challenging job in the whole history of the program was still ahead of them.

#### MR. BLACK'S STATEMENT

The following memorandum was issued by Mr. Black in the middle of last week and caused the pressure group great annoyance and some concern. It was sent to me by my friend <sup>Mr. Oda</sup> ~~Mr. [unclear]~~ who, as a block manager had a copy.

#### MEMORANDUM ON RESEGREGATION MATERIAL

The proponents of resegregation have been active for several months. They have addressed letters and petitions to Mr. Myer, to Secretary Ikes, and to Attorney General Biddle, all of which letters have been referred back to Project Director Best for consideration and reply. The interested leaders have been repeatedly advised that, regardless of letters and petitions, there will be no farther segregation either at Tule Lake Center or elsewhere, because such a program is impractical and infeasible.

The petition now being circulated in the Colony deserves only to be ignored. It is anonymous, and, from its context, has no sponsorship. It is unauthorized, and, contrary to a statement contained therein, resegregation is receiving no consideration, serious or otherwise, from



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WRA, either here or in Washington.

Individuals and families who wish to look forward to a future in Japan have complied with all of the requirements of either the American or the Japanese Government when they have filed either with WRA or with the Spanish Embassy or both a request for repatriation, or expatriation. It is the official view of WRA that nothing more need be done. No further step will enhance the prospects of any individual or group for an early exchange, nor will the present agitation, circulation of petitions, or carrying on of correspondence serve to hasten the day of exchange.

It is obvious that the activities of the leaders of the resegregation question are detrimental to the residents of the colony. They incite unrest, produce confusion, upset peace of mind, and contribute to tension and nervousness. Uninformed people do not know what to think, do not know whom they can trust. Most people do not know who the leaders are. Few know whether to sign or refuse to sign. If they sign, they do not know what they have signed. If they are asked to sign, many are afraid to decline.

No petition will bring about resegregation because the administration policy on the subject has already been determined. No petition will gain preference for individuals and groups for exchange because the Japanese government is not at present interested in discussing further exchanges with the United States government. No petitions or ~~xxxxxxxx~~ ~~xxxxxxxx~~ letters addressed to officials in Washington will receive greater consideration than a request made to the Project Director. Such communications are always sent back to Mr. Best in any event.

Block Managers ~~xxx~~ always have the right to their own personal opinions on any matter. Any advice they give residents on controversial issues should be personal and unofficial. Such personal advice would depend, of course, on personal views. The resegregation question is, of course, a political question, and Block Managers should officially be neutral. They are not called upon, as Block Managers, to publicize unauthorized announcements and they should see that their offices, their bulletin boards and their mess halls are not used for the dissemination of unofficial information. The best official attitude toward resegregation propaganda is to ignore it completely.



INSERT p. 28 Footnote

- [1. I think Mrs. Yamashiro is referring to those segregees who entered  
Tule Lake in the spring of 1944.]



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1944, p. 1.

TALK WITH SALLY AND GEORGE YAMASHIRO

Since both George and Sally Yamashiro voted against the status quo and since they appear to distrust and dislike the Resegregationists, I thought it would be interesting to get Sally's version of the incident and her picture of how much support the Daihyo Sha had during October and November 1943. Sally always talks more freely when George is not present, so I arranged to see her alone.

During the "trouble" ~~she~~ <sup>we</sup> lived in a very strong status quo block.

The Farm Strike

Well, I didn't think it (the truck accident) was the fault of WRA like the people said it was and I didn't understand why the residents went on a strike. There were many reasons, but they didn't sound very well grounded to me. The way everyone rushed to the farm office, standing in line and giving up their badges...

Bringing in Harvesters

At that time I thought, 'If those people from the other centers really understood the situation in here they wouldn't dare come.' Even if Mr. Best did want them to come, they didn't have to. I didn't blame Mr. Best at all. Those Japanese who did come should know better.

The Public Funeral

We had a lot of meetings on that. They were block meetings to which everyone could go. I went to all of them.

(Here Sally told me that she had kept a diary of the meetings and of what occurred, sensing that these events were important. George had told her to dispose of the diary ~~(don't George)~~ but she thinks she still has it among her papers somewhere. I told her how much the study would appreciate this diary (it is written in Japanese) and she promised to look it up and translate it for me. ~~She is a reliable girl, has plenty of time now, since she's given up her work in the Japanese school, and, moreover, she owes a good deal of giri to me, so I think if she can find the diary, we'll get it.~~ <sup>she did</sup> If ~~it~~ <sup>it</sup> is at all detailed it ought to give an extremely valuable picture of the peoples' meetings held at that time <sup>about</sup> which <sup>we</sup> have almost no data.) <sup>field</sup>



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I know Mr. Takahashi had a very hard time getting an O. K. for the funeral. And when, he did get it, one of the members of the Daihyo Sha demanded to have the auditorium for the funeral. Mr. Best said No. He said to have it in a mess hall. Then I think Mr. Takahashi went back and said (he told us about this in a meeting) he said as he went in the door... First Mr. Best said, "No, that's my last word and I'm not going to say anymore." And Mr. Takahashi said, "I'd like to say one thing more. If I took the whole responsibility, I'd like to have Mr. Best's permission and I would cause no trouble for the Administration and I would not have it in the Auditorium." But he did not tell Mr. Best where he would have it.

I heard that the Jerome and Topaz boys went and cleaned up the sumo place in the firebreak. I didn't attend the funeral.

(I then asked Sally whether she thought it ~~psychologically~~ wise or unwise for Mr. Best to refuse permission for the funeral, considering the temper of the people at this time. *She replied;*)

Wouldn't it seem strange if they didn't have a public funeral when they made an issue of it such as the strike? That would be the step any leader would take.

#### Present actions of Mr. Takahashi

Mr. Takahashi is being very quiet now. He tries to make a good face I hear, but people just don't listen to him.

#### More on Funeral

If it was just the case of the farm workers and Mr. Kashima, for that reason alone, such trouble wouldn't be necessary. But I believe there was a very good reason behind what the Daihyo Sha did.

#### November 1.

It was announced in the ~~mess~~ mess that Mr. Myer was here and that the representatives of the Daihyo Sha would see him on matters that the residents of the colony wanted determined (such as the hospital). I think the hospital was the biggest problem then. They said they didn't care whether we were young or old. They wanted us to go, and they told us that we would not be permitted to come ~~home~~ home when we wanted to.

About ten minutes after we came home from lunch, everyone of us got ready and formed a line in front of the mess hall and we walked to the Administration building. When we reached there, the place was packed with people from other blocks.

It seemed some blocks didn't take the trouble to really get serious and the residents went of their own will. Every one of us went from block 68. I think a lot went from curiosity.

#### Mr. Takahashi

At that time Mr. Takahashi was already disliked by many. Their firm belief that he was a good leader was shattered. Those meetings we



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*know* were having with him as chairman..... how could we tell what he was saying was ~~was~~? We would bring up things to discuss but he wouldn't give us any answer on what the Daihyo Sha attitude was toward our requests... But we were ordered to go, so we went.

November 4

We didn't know anything about it. ~~(Sally means she did not even~~

~~hear the shooting or noise?)~~ The next morning I had an appointment at the housing dept, because George was coming. When I went the housing place was closed. Then I see so many people out at the firebreak. (Sally then went to another housing office and found the evacuee head of housing ~~xxxxx~~ standing about.) I asked the head of housing, "Why are there so many people? It's not a holiday." He said, "You'll find out. You better go home. That's the safest place where a woman should stay."

~~I~~ heard some Caucasians came to steal the food. Some boys guarding the place jumped on them. Then the soldiers came in and tried to clear the people away. But the people wouldn't go. I saw the Army throw tear gas into the crowd and saw the men running away from it into block seven and ~~six~~. The Army and Internal Security was trying to force the people back of the road. (The road along which a fence has now been erected.)

There was a great big group there. It (the tear gassing) made a lot of the people mad. Many of the people went there just to see. I heard that many of the people in the crowd were people with children working in the hospital.

(Melba Kaminaka, a Nisei friend, told me that

the hospital workers were not allowed to leave the hospital for several days.)

The residents of this block were really scared stiff. They wouldn't go out at night. The people (in this block) with children in the hospital went to the block manager. But he had no way to get information. They kept them there (in the hospital) several days.

(working)

#### Support of the Daihyo Sha

My impression is that up until November 4, the people of this block seemed really to support the Daihyo Sha. ~~(They were really in the hospital)~~ Not at the beginning (mid-October), when the Daihyo Sha ~~Kai~~ was formed, (did they have support) but the people were just split up. But after the November 4 incident, I think a lot of people were in doubt whether it's right to support the Daihyo Sha or not.

(Sally means that at the inception of the Daihyo Sha it did not have much support, that support increased greatly in the Nov. 1 to Nov 4 period, and after the Army stepped in, support decreased.)

The Daihyo Sha had an office formed where we were supposed to take all our troubles and they would negotiate with the WRA and put in requests. I know many families did put in requests. But it seems that some people who really had troubles and requested, didn't get any answer for such a long time. It got to be a question if the Daihyo Sha was really the representative of the residents.



Sally + Henry Yoshino

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Period when leaders were in hiding

(of hiding)

When Kai and Kuratomi ~~was~~ didn't come out, a member of the Daihyo Sha, put people in ~~the places of these~~ the places of these people (hiding and apprehended members of the Daihyo Sha) by his ~~own~~ will. Those weren't Daihyo Sha members at all, because the Daihyo Sha was supposed to be ~~be~~ representatives of the people.

(Knowing that the original Negotiating Committee's election is a most questionable issue, I asked Sally if the people ever wondered about how the Negotiating Committee had <sup>been formed.</sup> gotten its position.)

"The people took the first Negotiating Committee for granted."

The Status Quo vote [January 11].

The block we were in, we were really status quo. Everyone over 18 had to go (to the voting) girl or boy. We got a pamphlet ~~(the future Co-ordinating Committee's work)~~ (the future Co-ordinating Committee's work). All of our names were called out in the mess hall. Then we had to go up and vote. We had to go to a certain ~~table~~ where the M. P. was standing.

Before that, the block manager had a paper that he had to read and explain. He was for status quo and made a very unnecessary statement. He said ~~that~~ in Japanese that the people who want to get the men out of the stockade should vote for status quo. That made a lot of the anti-status quo people angry. You could hear what they said when they went out.

Some ladies didn't understand what it (status quo) meant, and they asked a man what it is. Then they'd ask this person, "What do you think I should do?" It was just silly.

Even wives who had babies had to come. Every one was compelled to come.

(I asked if any measures had been taken against people who did not come to the voting.)

"They didn't do anything to people who didn't come. They didn't dare! My husband was so angry at the block manager (George and Sally voted anti-status quo). He was going to say something, but I held on to his shirt.

In our block status-quo won by a large majority.

(At this point George came home. I ~~then~~ brought up the point of the Co-ordinating Committee's original status with the people. Both Sally and George agreed that the people were calling them dogs even before they were appointed to the Committee. George now took over the conversation.)



Nagai mono ni wa makarero; Okii mono ni wa nomareyo.

(My fault)

*see below*



① Penetration

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

George's Brother in U. S. Army and Overseas Service

### Signatures on Recent Petition

Sokoku Kenkyu Seinin dan

Now everybody is getting wise. I don't like the way the Sokoku Kenkyu threatens people. They said, 'If you don't sign, you're going to be drafted. So a lot of dumb people signed. (Then making one of his types I about drafted,  
*single space* *a wry face*)

stern, George added:) But I think those who signed were wise. I'm too stubborn to sign and that makes me enemies. It's better to be like the proverb: Nagai mono ni wa makareba, Okii mono ni wa nomareyo. (Literally, let the long thing wind about you, let the great thing swallow you - or as George translated it: let the long snake wind around you, let the big snake swallow you.)



OCTOBER 12, p. 6. *James Jones*

If I were project director I would segregate them. I'd give each person a pink paper and a white paper and an envelope. Then those who want to be segregated could sign the pink paper and those who didn't could sign the white one. Then they could mail it to the WRA and nobody see it. No block manager, nobody to see. Then I'd like to see how many would sign!

Then I'd fence off a place and put them in it, not going to get 16 dollars a month and all work voluntary. Then I'd make Mr. Best project director over them and Mr. Robertson over us.

#### Renunciation of Citizenship.

That renunciation of citizenship will be pretty hard. You got to request for it. You got to write a whole mess of things. Then if you do it, it doesn't mean anything. They are going to check it in Washington.

I think when it starts, I'll open an office and make some money (helping people fill out the forms.)

#### New Seintn Dan forming

George informed me that a new young men's organization was forming, which is being called the Dai Hippon Seintn dan.

I don't know who is back of it. But they are forming, I'm sure.

#### Petition

When they had this petition (recent <sup>comphlet</sup> ~~push~~) they said, 'If you sign this paper you won't be drafted and you'll be the first to get off the boat. So everybody signed - boy!'

Maybe I'll be last to get off the boat. My name begins with "Y" anyway.

#### TALKS WITH ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

I was told that the Resegregation Group's attempt to see Dillon Myer had failed.

~~xxxx~~

#### Co-op Board Preparing to Close Caucasian Canteen

*was told by*  
I am informed through Currie that the <sup>Co-op</sup> Board of Directors is planning to close the canteen in the Administrative area. This will certainly raise hell with the appointed personnel. The Board's ~~various~~ reason is that this separate Co-op doesn't pay it's own way and is a great deal of ~~troubles~~ troubles.

#### CHANGE IN HIGH ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

I was informed that at a staff meeting held this afternoon it was announced that Mr. Wells, head of Administrative Management is leaving.



OCTOBER 72, p. 7.

His place will be taken by Harry Black, which will no doubt please many colonists. Mr. Gunderson, the high school principal will take Black's place as head of Community Management. My own <sup>meetings</sup> ~~contacts~~ with Gunderson have been few. <sup>I am told that</sup> He takes a tough attitude, "cannot understand the way THEY think", but does have guts. <sup>Some teachers dislike him because</sup> ~~He is roundly hated by the teachers,~~ <sup>(the Japanese)</sup> because he is a stickler for ~~unimportant~~ details which they consider unimportant. He has little tact or courtesy.

HUMOR CO HUMN

Noticed while walking through the colony that a seagull overhead had two red ink spots painted on the under side of its wings. Now I know why the children catch them.

<sup>last Sunday evening</sup> ~~repeatedly~~ our master mind <sup>joined a</sup> Internal Security friend <sup>entered</sup> ~~a staff party~~ and announced that he had just been giving the Sokoku Kenkyu meeting the once over. He <sup>told</sup> ~~informed~~ me that Kai was speaking and that he was sure Kai was the head of the organization. I asked why. He said, "Well - it's got Kai's name on the end of it." I didn't tell him that <sup>means group or</sup> ~~Kai~~ <sup>is not</sup> organization. (So far as I know, Kai is not even a member.)

HOSPITAL BULLETIN

I am now dismissed as cured and all I'll have to endure is the bill.



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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1944

p. 26

TALK WITH ROBERTSON

Re-segregation Group's Attempt to meet Myer

Mrs. ~~Matsumoto~~ called me and asked me if I'd arrange ~~transportation~~ for an appointment with Mr. ~~Robertson~~ Myer. I told her she'd have to call Mr. Best. She called Mr. Best and his secretary told her that Mr. Myer's time was completely taken up, and that he would not be able to see them at all.

She told me later that the secretary had told her that Mr. Myer would try to see them on his next visit.

Appointment of Gunderson

Robertson

AK is of the opinion that Gunderson will do about the same kind of job Black did. He has been working under Black and ~~was~~ is accustomed to lean on him for any important decision. There is no reason to think that he will not continue to do so.

More Information on Key Workers resigning.

Robertson

AK stated that the administration was now pretty well convinced resignation of personnel was that the ~~spare~~ they fell into about the ~~resignations~~ nothing more than the attempt of one of the fellows to get out of camp. AK however, thinks that the boy ~~who~~ who informed sounded too sincere to have been telling an entire cock and bull story. The informer had stated specifically that the pressure group was going to try to promote a general strike.

Wakayama resignation

Wakayama tried to get all of the block managers in the Manzanar area to resign with him. He did get the fire inspectors to resign. However, the Administration refused to accept the resignations. As far as I know, Wakayama is still block manager.

Dept. of Justice.

I had a long confidential talk with Myer and he told me that he really doesn't know about the Dept. of Justice taking over. I think Mr. Best jumped the gun on this. I don't think Myer intended him to do that. The rumor around here was so strong among the Administrative staff that I thought I'd ask Myer where I stood. I reckon it's about a 50-50 chance.

Sokoku Kenkyu

Tsuha told me that the Sokoku Kenkyu has 1,000 members.



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New Plans of Re-segregation Group

*Matsuda*  
 "Mrs. ~~B~~" told me that the re-segregation group has changed their whole viewpoint now. They are trying an entirely different thing. They are going to form a ~~re-segregation~~ service organization which will have many branches, social, etc. It will be called by a name meaning, "Those who want to leave promptly."

As far as its motives are concerned, the general public will only know it as a ~~re-segregation~~ service organization to promote the welfare of the colony. But it is still the re-segregation group. It probably grew out of a meeting they held last night. She was all ~~butting~~ *butting* over with the new prospects. They intend to attack it from a new point of view.

Best's State of Mind after Hunger Strike

*Robertson*  
~~B~~ told me confidentially that when Best made his last visit to San Francisco to see Myer and Cozzens he had been in such an upset state of mind (according to Myer) that Myer had suggested his leaving Tule Lake. To Myer he appeared on the verge of a nervous breakdown.

*Robertson*  
 This was after the last hunger strike ~~B~~, when Opler told Best that threats against his life were being heard in the colony. Moreover, *Robertson* said ~~B~~, just the other day a fresh Japanese had knocked on the door of Best's house. Mrs. Best, home alone, opened it. The Japanese asked for a drink of water and while her back was turned, followed her into the house. He remarked that she had a fine house here and asked here where the bedrooms were. When Best heard about it, he blew up and told her never to allow anyone ~~Japanese~~ (Japanese) in the house again under such circumstances.

CURRIE ON THE CO-OP BOARD

Currie is peeved at Opler because Opler keeps trying to pry out of Obayashi, his informant and a member of the Co-op Board, whether the Board intends to close the Caucasian canteen or not. Then Opler tries to pry the information out of Currie. Currie says he makes a practice of not butting into the Board's affairs and if they decide to close the canteen, they have promised to let him know a considerable time in advance. By prying around, *Currie* *Opler* feels ~~he~~ may upset Obayashi and mess up the works. Opler hates to see the canteen close since he feels it is



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a point of contact between the Caucasians and the colonists. Currie and I agree that it is a pretty petty point of contact. Moreover, Currie does not trust Obayashi (Jimmy <sup>Takeuchi's</sup> friend) too much.

George (Matsumura) told me that he felt that Board of Directors had passed through the stage where they were willing to do anything to get public acclaim. Moreover, George thought that if the Caucasians would be willing to put up the money to pay for the supplies in the Caucasian canteen, say 25 dollars per member, George feels that he could convince the board that the canteen could be kept up since there would be no monetary loss to the Co-op.

Matsumoto

Nomura (the General Manager who took Matsumura's place) has left. He was not really a manager but a public relations man. ~~(Currie means that is where his talent lies)~~ He never intended to be permanent. Ten days ago he came in and said he was going to quit. I said, "Use your own judgement." So George made Nakashima executive president and gave Nomura a month's holiday. Now I hear Nomura is in the hospital sick. I think Nakashima was elected in a special meeting of the board.

Nomura and George Matsumura have been fighting hammer and tongs according to Currie. Currie told me he had ~~not~~ deliberately been taking next to no part in the Board meetings, letting them solve their problems alone and giving them a great deal of responsibility. He is only called in on special occasions for certain issues. He, therefore, really does not know exactly what they plan to do about the canteen. His policy has so far worked excellently - for the Co-op Board has regained an amount of prestige that seemed inconceivable after the Hitomi murder. If they began to pull the slightest monkey-business, it is certain that <sup>M.</sup> Kurihara would no longer retain his place as unpaid accountant.

TALK WITH IGE - EX-LEUPE INTERVIEW

I arranged for this interview with Ige because I wanted to check on how he felt about the pressure group, since <sup>Kurihara</sup> <sup>Tokunaga</sup> and <sup>"T"</sup> are so strongly opposed to it. I had been warned by Robertson that Ige was the most close-mouthed Isuppe boy of the whole bunch and moreover, hated Caucasians bitterly. Ige called up Robertson and asked about my aims and character before he would consent to see me. However, he spoke fluently and ~~at length~~ at length.



SATURDAY \* OCTOBER 14, 1944, p. 2.

no p. 1 - see previous page

Present Camp Situation

The situation is very different in camp from what it used to be. As far as I know - I haven't participated in any political movement this is my personal point of view -

Any person in this camp can tell that there is no unity or harmony because of political differences. And I understand that there is a group of elements here loyal to American who are not loyal to Japan.

If the WRA or the Administration which presides over this camp, I think, if they can divide these two groups - those determined to go back to Japan and those who wish to remain in American, ... these should be segregated from the others.

And another difference I see is ~~this~~ <sup>this</sup>. There are groups here among the so-called patriotic groups who have the point of view of not having re-segregation while the other group desires re-segregation. I understand (this is my personal view) the group that does not want to re-segregate feels that inasmuch as the Japanese here are Japanese by blood they should not be demarcated by means of re-segregation. I guess the conflict between these two groups originated ~~in the~~ in the ~~past~~ earlier part of the year. While the other group desires re-segregation regardless of any circumstances, because of the fact that they feel that the Japanese here are not all at heart true patriotic Japanese.

Now in the Japanese way of life their duty to the state and to the Emperor is far more grave than anything, including life. Therefore, the Japanese who are determined to go back to Japan should bear in mind to sacrifice everything they have, materially and bodily, and be ~~and be~~ separated from those who are indifferent or of contrary opinion.

The Recent Pamphlet

I wouldn't try to criticize the pamphlet. I can't say it is good or bad. I thought that maybe the group or organization that put out the notice had the feeling that they wanted to make the colonists in general realize that the re-segregation committee - their motives - by putting them on paper and making themselves understood.

Reverend Tsuha, he didn't tell me directly, but he insinuated that the re-segregation committee is not to intimidate any person to bring in more members. If they increase the membership by intimidation, the movement will fail when they <sup>return</sup> to Japan, bringing back a lot of numbskulls and addle-brains.

Dept. of Justice.

My friends feel that it would be a fine thing if the Justice Department took over the camp because they have heard a lot of good stories of the interment camps ~~and~~ they think that then this camp will come directly under the management of the cabinet, under the U.S. A., not indirectly, as now.

Renunciation of Citizenship

My personal opinion is that I would very much welcome this action. Those persons who will request ~~denaturalization~~ <sup>welcome</sup> will be truly loyal to Japan. This will be very important for America <sup>and</sup> for Japan.

denationalization



INSERT p. 38 at § A

(Privately I wondered whether a meeting on the 8th had ~~any~~ to pray for a Japanese victory was in any way related to the fact that Pearl Harbor was bombed on the 7th.)



INSERT AT B p. 38

(On the other hand it may be the <sup>advent</sup>~~advent~~ of cold weather which makes the long walk in and out of the colony pretty uncomfortable.)







omit

TALK WITH MR. YOSHIYAMA

/I had been puzzled and embarrassed by Mr. Yoshiyama's detailed account of how he had been pressured into marrying a young woman he did not love and by his concluding wild-eyed assertion that if Mr. Best refused to see him he "would raise up the whole camp" (September 30, pp. 3-4). When, four days later, Dr. Opler and Mr. Robertson told me that certain key workers had been threatened (October 4, pp. 1-2), I began to feel uneasy. My apprehension and ambivalence is reflected in my comment on my accidental meeting with Mr. Yoshiyama (October 5, p. 2), where I say: "Yoshiyama talked to me so naturally and normally that I cannot picture him as making murderous threats." Somewhat reassured, I called on him on October 16. When I entered the apartment, his wife excused herself and left us alone. /

I asked Mr. Yoshiyama about his views on the status quo vote (January 11). He remarked that the people who voted against the status quo thought that they could get the men out of the stockade by giving up the status quo. He also gave me the minutes of the meeting of the Planning Board, an important document, which I shall send to you as soon as it is copied.

Justice Department:

I told Mr. <sup>Kato</sup> Yoshiyama that I had heard that the matter of the Justice Department taking over was not nearly so certain as he had been led to believe. He said:

omit  
If the Justice Department did not take over it would put me in a tough spot, because I made a report to the segregation committee that they would take over in 60 days. Mr. Best definitely told me that this would take place within a week after the election. I told him, 'Why don't you put it in the Tulean Dispatch so the Nisei who want to go out can think about it?' He told me, "Mr. Myer told him not to make any statement of any kind." However, he said that Mr. Myer had made a statement in the Gila paper hinting that Tule Lake will be under the Justice Department and that he (Mr. Best) will publish an exact copy of this statement in the Tulean Dispatch.

omit  
Most people who are really loyal to Japan would rather have this camp under the Justice Department. When I made this report to the resegregation committee they were very happy over it. They feel that under the Justice Department only the loyal Japanese will be here, - no American citizens - and would be under the protecting power, which is the Spanish Consul.

omit  
Under the WRA we do not know our status, whether we are under the government of Japan or America.

There is not much rumor yet - as far as I hear. I was told by some of the segregation committee not to start a rumor yet, so I'm keeping mum.

Of course, the people who want 16 dollars a month shouldn't be in here. If you're loyal to Japan you shouldn't be thinking of refrigeration and ice boxes. The real Japanese wish to go back to Japan in body only--that is, if it is necessary. I'm willing to go through any kind of suffering or hardship. We always think of the soldiers at the front. What we're going through now is nothing to that. That's why those who wish to resegregate do not get along well with the inu.

I said that I did not think much of the inu and then Mr. <sup>Kato</sup> Yoshiyama, who had become very flushed and excited looking, told me that he had a group of Topaz boys here who would do anything for him. He could get an inu beaten up anytime he wished. It had been the same in Topaz. Though he had worked for the Administration, his real desire had always been to help the Japanese. In Topaz (he said) he had an intricate espionage organization--girls in the offices who would tell him if anyone informed and a large group of boys--and he had been responsible for beating up twelve inu there. The boys would go to their rooms at night and beat them up.



<sup>Mr.</sup>  
[~~Mr.~~ Kate then gave me a long and somewhat incoherent ~~xxxx~~ account of  
his activities on the night of November <sup>4/</sup> 1943. 7



(I wrote down nothing of this, and simply listened.) <sup>Kato</sup> Yoshiyama then told me that he had caused the November 4th riot! Here I tried to stop him, since I don't want any Japanese to know that I know anything about the inside workings of that.

"I don't know why I tell you all these things" said he, "but if I've gone this far I may as well finish. We had the same kind of an organization here. We were determined to get the Co-op heads. We had plans laid to burn down the canteens."

Mr. Best gave us a verbal promise that no food would be taken out of the warehouse during the night. I couldn't trust Mr. Best's word.

Mr. Yoshiyama said that he had put about 40 boys in the warehouse area to see that the Caucasians didn't come sneaking around to steal the food. He had "his boys" in the warehouse area too. If they were actually stealing food he was prepared to beat them up. However, he wanted to make sure.

At this moment someone knocked at the door. It turned out to be Mr. Ige, the young man I spoke to Saturday. Yoshiyama blushed red as fire and called to his wife for another cup of coffee while I asked Ige how he was. Ige refused to stay however. Evidently, the spell was broken for from this point on Mr. Yoshiyama watched what he said.

The boy (Kobayashi) came running into the meeting and blurted out that the Caucasians were stealing the food. The people started making a racket at the meeting. Some said, "We must stop it." I went there, intending to stop the riot. Of course, I wasn't going to stop it if I saw with my own eyes that food was being stolen. I went to the Motor Pool and talked to the fellow I had stationed there (Takata). He told me that he had refused to give the keys to the Caucasians when they had come. Later, however, they came back with Jarrett, Zimmer, Schmidt and Boerback. They took out 116, 117, 144, three trucks.

At this time the young men were restless. It was different from what it is now - more action. A little friction would cause them to burst out. The news had gotten around that they were taking the food.

I told the boys to return (back to the colony) and told them definitely that I'd go back to Best's office in the morning and see about it. About 40 of them came back with me. Later I heard some young men returned there. I don't know who they were. I think they went to beat up the Caucasians. They were fellows who wished to show the energy they had.

During the riot one of my men said, "There's a suspicious looking Caucasian parked near Mr. Best's office." We went over. I tried to ask his name. It was Mr. Schmidt, but I didn't know who he was at that time. He beat it out. He really went fast. We chased after him. We ran the car in front of him and almost bumped into him. He backed up and went out of the gate. If he'd talked to me we could have explained it, but when he ran away we just took out after him.

I turned the conversation to various Japanese cultural matters in which I am interested and after a time, took myself off. As I left, Mr. Yoshiyama told me that I should come back any time I chose. He added that he's getting things pretty well organized now. People are coming to see him and he can sit home and manage matters instead of going out to see them.<sup>2</sup>

- /1. I felt that if Mr. Yoshiyama was subsequently arrested and if he had told me that he was responsible for an assault, I might be considered the informer. In addition, I did not want to know about any criminal activity, since I felt threatened by the possibility that the authorities might call on me to testify./
2. Several Issei had told me that "to have people come to see you" indicated that one was an important man.



Monday, October 16, 1944

embarrassed

[I had been puzzled and ~~embarrassed~~ by Mr. Yoshimura's detailed account of how he had been pressured into ~~marrying~~ marrying a young woman he did not love. ~~His wife appeared to him very much like a woman with him and he really did not like her.~~ and by his concluding wild-eyed ~~xxx~~ assertion that if Mr. Best refused to see him he "would raise up the whole camp" (September 30, pp. 3-4). When, four days later, Dr. Opler ~~told me that~~ and Mr. Robertson told me that certain key workers had been threatened (October 4, pp. 1-2) I began to feel uneasy. My apprehension ~~is reflected in my~~ and ~~my~~ ambivalence is reflected in my accidental comments on my ~~meeting~~ meeting with Mr. Yoshiyama ~~XX~~ (October 5, p. 2), where I say: "Yoshiyama talked to me so naturally and normally that I cannot picture him as making murderous threats." ~~Somewhat reassured,~~ Somewhat reassured, I called on him ~~and his wife on October 16.~~ on October ~~16~~ 16. When I entered the apartment his wife excused herself and left us alone.]

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I told Mr. Yoshiyama

that I had heard that the matter of Justice Dept. taking over was not nearly so certain as he had been led to believe. *He said* ~~said he:~~

If the Justice Dept. did not take over it would put me in a tough spot, because I made a report to the segregation committee that they would take over in 60 days. Mr. Best definitely told me that this would



[1. I felt that if Mr. Yoshiyama was subsequently arrested and if he had told me that he was responsible for an assault, I might be considered the informer.

In addition, I did not want to know about any criminal activity, since the authorities might make a demand that I testify, and I am not

~~guantestimony~~ I felt threatened by the possibility that the authorities might call on me to testify. ]



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40 R. Hankey - Notes - Tule Lake

take place within a week after the election. I told him, 'Why don't you put it in the Tulean Dispatch so the Nisei who want to go out can think about it?' He told me, "Mr. Myer told him not to make any statement of any kind." However, he said that Mr. Myer had made a statement in the Gila paper hinting that Tule Lake will be under the Justice Dept. and that he (Mr. Best) will publish an exact copy of this statement in the Tulean Dispatch.

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R. Hankey - Notes - Tule Lake

"We had the same kind of an organization here. We were determined to get the Co-op heads. We had plans laid to burn down the canteens."

Mr. Best gave us a verbal promise that no food would be taken out of the warehouse during the night. I couldn't trust Mr. Best's word. <sup>Mr. Yoshigama</sup> said that he had put about 40 boys in the warehouse area to see that the Caucasians didn't come sneaking around to steal the food. He had "his boys" in the warehouse area too. If they were actually stealing food he was prepared to beat them up. However, he wanted to make sure.

At this ~~psychological~~ moment someone knocked at the door. It turned out to be <sup>Mr. young man</sup> Ige, the <sup>Yoshigama</sup> fellow I spoke to Saturday. <sup>Yoshigama</sup> blushed red as fire <sup>and</sup> called to his wife for another cup of coffee while I asked Ige how he was. Ige refused to stay however. <sup>Evidently</sup> the spell was broken <sup>for</sup> from this point on <sup>Mr. Yoshigama</sup> watched what he said.

"The boy (Kobayashi) came running into the meeting and blurted out that the Caucasians were stealing the food. The people started making a racket at the meeting. Some said, 'We must stop it.' I went there, intending to stop the riot. Of course, I wasn't going to stop it if I saw with my own eyes that food was being stolen. I went to the Motor Pool and talked to the fellow I had stationed there (Takata). He told me that he had refused to give the keys to the Caucasians when they had come. Later, however, they came back with Jarrett, Zimmer, Schmidt and Boerback. They took out 116, 117, 144, three trucks.

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~~INTEXT~~ FOOTNOTE, p. 42.

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MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, p. 4.

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During the riot one of my men said, 'There's a suspicious looking Caucasian parked near Mr. Best's office.' We went over. I tried to ask his name. It was Mr. Schmidt, but I didn't know who he was at that time. He beat it out. He really went fast. We chased after him. ~~(both parties in autos) xxxxxxxx~~  
We ran the car in front of him and almost bumped into him. He backed up and went out of the gate. If he'd talked to me we could have explained it, but when he ran away we just took out after him.

I turned the conversation to various Japanese cultural matters in which I am interested and after a time, took myself off. As I left, ~~he~~ <sup>Mr. Yoshizawa told me</sup> remarked that I should come back any time I chose. He added that he's getting things pretty well organized now. People are coming to see him and he can sit home and manage matters instead of going out to see them. <sup>1</sup>

He also told me that if the camp goes under the Dept. of Justice, he would be willing to keep data for me on any camp occurrences. How he will get it through the censorship, ~~if~~ he doesn't know.

(Minutes of planning Board meeting and an interesting letter sent by a dept. of Interior <sup>big shot</sup> to the New York head of the ACLU <sup>as they are</sup> will follow as soon as <sup>typed</sup>.)



43.

[ I was disturbed and shaken ~~after~~ after the talk with Mr. Yoshiyama.

~~There was no doubt that he had made a strong impression on me~~

~~me~~ He had made it clear that he was strongly attracted to me. But

the fact was that I ~~was not~~ did not find him attractive.

I was under considerable obligation to him, for he had given me many

valuable documents and he and I had spent many hours enlarging and correcting

my historical account of what had happened before ~~the strike~~ and during

the ~~the~~ strike. He was ~~also~~ also my best informant on ~~the~~ the

~~less~~ less edifying activities of the Resegregation Group and he had implied

that me was on good terms with Mr. Wakayama. ~~I~~ I wrote to Dr.

D. S. Thomas for advice, But she did not respond. So I decided to ~~postpone~~

postpone ~~my~~ my decision, see what happened in the center, and

to visit Mr. Yoshiyama less frequently.]

TALK WITH KURIHARA ~~after~~

Thought I'd give myself a good stiff dose of the opposition and  
called on ~~my~~ <sup>my</sup> friend ~~Mr. Kurihara~~ <sup>Mr. Kurihara</sup> this afternoon. He remarked that he was disappointed  
that I hadn't come sooner. I explained that I had been extremely busy.

Wakayama

{ I heard he took it back (the block managership). I have been }



MONDAY, OCTOBER 16, p. 5.

<sup>hanging</sup> ~~HANGING~~ around in block 83, because if any threat comes it will come from 82 (~~W~~ block) In 83, though, they didn't know anything.

<sup>Wakayama's</sup> ~~He~~ agreed that there had been no threats made which would upset any considerable part of the camp's population. He would certainly hear of it, whenever it occurred.

Dept. <sup>Justice</sup>

That is known throughout the camp but it is not being talked about. The re-segregation group are bragging ~~about~~ throughout the camp that it is because of them that the camp is going under Justice. I said to one, "If your influence is so great as that, you could do much more for the Japanese in other ways."

<sup>Wakayama</sup> I've told a man who I know talks a lot so that he'll tell ~~me~~, "If serious trouble breaks out in camp, he will not escape!" I also told him that I had prepared papers to be sent to the FBI and to ~~the~~ Mr. Best, so that if he kills me I'll speak from the grave.

~~(Gad, if there's an unpolitic Japanese male in this camp I haven't met him yet. R. H.)~~

I've been told that there's a group in there who cut their fingers and signed with their own blood. They are ~~real~~ fanatics.

There are a lot of people in camp who know what's going on.

#### The Dai-Nippon Seinyū-dan

Kai, Kuratomi, Mori and Tsuda ~~are~~ (the latter probably) are behind the Dai Nippon Seinyū-dan. I've been hearing that they've been organizing it. Ten days ago they claimed they had about 100 members.

<sup>Kurikawa</sup> (K<sup>a</sup>) predicted that if things went on at this rate it was possible that a kind of gang warfare might break out in camp.)

As far as I'm concerned, I'm not interested in either party. I was asked why I will not join either party. They arranged a dinner party for me but I refused to attend the dinner party.

#### The Co-op Situation

The former Board of Directors are jealous of the present board. At the time the Co-op was turned over to them, they handled it like a hot potato. They (the old Board) were afraid of their necks. During the period of transition, they would not co-operate with the present Board. They were wishing that they would not be successful.

The truth is, they were very successful. Now they (old Board) are jealous of it and want to cause disruption and greater disharmony among the present directors. They bring up matters which they shouldn't.



OCTOBER 16, p. 6. *Kurihara*

*Mr. Kurihara*  
(*Mr. Kurihara*) believes that George Matsumura has done a splendid job.)

The President, the Vice-President and the Secretary realing are dependig on him. He's made a name for himself in the colony - in the good sense.

If the old Board of Directors get too nosy and keep on trying to cause trouble, if they go too far with their dirty work, we ~~might~~ (new board) might investigate their past record. Certain things have already been uncovered which are not very good to tell.

For instance, I have stopped the Co-op from investigation shipments of melons and chicken to this camp from Manzanar. Instead of giving it to the people they gave it to the canteens. There is no sense digging out any dirt, because a man got killed. Let it go at that.

### Beatings

m (I then told *Kurihara* that I had been doing some thinking on how beatings were arranged. ~~xxxxxxx~~ Asking him to criticise my guesses, I told him that probably sometimes people in a block or distrdtt would get so mad at some inu that they'd just sock him one if a good change arose and that at other times a noted inu would arouse so much anger that a group of young men would get together and definitely plot to get him. *Kurihara* said that both types of beatings occurred. However, some beatings were undoubtedly ~~engineered~~ *engineered*. A certain organized group would engage on a serious of beatings. That had happened at Manzanar. Sometimes older plotters behind the scenes would state who was to be beaten. Of the men beaten, *Kurihara* said:

Some of them deserve it and some don't. Like Yamatani, he should have been buried long ago. But some don't deserve it.

### Fate of Shimoken who fled to Minidoka with Yamatani

Shimoken couldn't stay in Minidoka I hear. He had to leave there and go to work on a section gang.

### Rev. Tsuha's Resignation from Sokoku Kenkyu

When a bunch get together who like to get on the front page all the time, they will not allow any person who's smarter than himself to be too popylar. He (Tsuha) was the real organizer of the SKSD. He was getting well known throughout the camp, so the other parties were afraid he's getting all the bouquets. So they kicked him out. They want all the credit for themselves. If *Tachihana* and *Wakayama* remain as counsellors, at the end they too will fight. They will try to claim all the credit.

This was interesting - No people seemed to care to praise *Wakayama*'s speech.



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Kurihara

Tachibana

at the SKSD meeting. When ~~he~~ spoke I heard a lot of commendation.

When Wakayama was introduced he said he had served as a senator of the United States. He told me that in San Pedro too. He said he went in and out of the Congressional Building so many times that no Nisei has stepped in and out of that building as many times as he did.

Now I know there is no senator from the Hawaiian Islands. I've read the Constitution carefully to see. I'd like to know what term he says he's served so that I could check it.

### Amusing Incident

Something funny happened the other day. You know they have stopped serving liver sausage here because the Japanese don't like it. Well, one of the pressure group told me that ~~later~~ they had stopped it. I said, "If you have that much influence, why don't you ask for more eggs?" Last week we got only two eggs. (pressure group)

Those fellows are also bragging that it's because of them that Mr. Black and Mr. Best are going to be discharged.

The other day I had an argument regarding the pamphlet. I was talking to one of their officers. I asked if it (pamphlet) was bona fide, why didn't they sign their names? He said, "We can't sign our names." I asked why. He said "There's spies among us who might report us." I said, "If there are dogs among your group, it's going to be terrible if you are re-segregated." I said, "According to my understanding, you were permitted to organize the Re-segregation Group. You have authority to go ahead with it and why are you afraid to sign your name? All in all, this is too fishy for me."

### Expose of Hitomi Murder

~~Mr. Kurihara~~ told

~~me~~ informed me that the expose of the Hitomi murder is being eagerly awaited by those who know what's up. It seems that a former

resident of Tule Lake has relocated to Granada and that he's going

to publish this expose in one of the outside Japanese newspapers, not

the Tule Lake paper, as I understood incorrectly from ~~Mr. Kurihara~~ <sup>rec</sup> ~~Mr. Kurihara~~ <sup>Mr. Kurihara</sup>

looking forward to this.

~~it's going to be pretty hot stuff.~~

Mr. Totunaga

### TALK WITH NISEI GIRL

Kayoko Ikida.

Chatted with this young lady for some time but nothing interesting was said, except that she remarked that the entire camp was all excited about the war news - the reported attack of the Japanese fleet. ~~and~~ Many persons sure that Japan will win, <sup>and</sup> have been waiting anxiously. This attack is expected to ruin the American forces ~~there~~, having drawn them into a trap.



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<sup>She</sup>  
~~So~~ asked solicitously if my brother was on his way home yet from India. <sup>1</sup>

INSIDE DOPE ON THREAT MADE AGAINST KEY WORKER

<sup>A man</sup>  
~~Somebody~~ on the Appointed Personnel who trusts me more than he should, <sup>2</sup> asked my advice on this threat and gave me the <sup>facts</sup> ~~real~~ dope. It seems that Tom Nishimoto of the Motor Pool was told by an "anonymous group" that he should hold himself in readiness to <sup>give them</sup> ~~enter~~ all the cars in the Motor Pool, "when he was told to do <sup>so</sup> ~~so~~." He refused and his life was threatened. The man who told me this considers the threat genuine. I told him I could tell him nothing.

2. XIX ☒ This statement reflects my ambivalence about the complex ethical dilemma into which I was being drawn. I did not put down my <sup>Caucasian</sup> informant's name, because I did not want him to get into trouble for giving me this information. But my self-doubt is reflected in ~~XX~~ my remark that he "trusts me more than he should". The threat made by the "anonymous groups" sounded as if it had come from Mr. Yoshiyama. But Mr. Yoshiyama had also trusted me. ☒

1. ☒ I had previously told most of my friends about my brother who, at this time, was serving in the U. S. Army in India. ☒



TUESDAY OCTOBER 17, 1944, p. 1.

TALK WITH <sup>Mr.</sup> NAKAMURA - ~~Nisei~~ old Tulean - employed as legal aid.

I began to discuss the November trouble and the camp attitudes with Nakamura and found that he has done considerable analytical thinking on the matter<sup>s</sup>. However, he was out of camp on seasonal leave during the trouble and did not return till January 1944. He left shortly before the farm strike. I was somewhat surprised by the sympathetic attitude he took toward the Daihyo Sha Kai and the Negotiating Committee. He feels that the thing which might have saved the situation is if some type of arbitration board could have been set up to handle the negotiations impartially, give the agitators some of the things they asked for and consider the limitations of the Administration. He explained that it was very natural for the agitators to ask for a great many things that they did not expect to get - in the hope that they would at least get something. He seemed to have little doubt that if the Daihyo Sha had been permitted to carry out its plan of organizing a representative group for the colony that this group would have been of great help to both the people and the WRA. For an old Tulean, these are unusual attitudes. In spite of <sup>Nakamura's</sup> ~~his~~ absence during the spectacular part of the trouble, I think his viewpoint, which is remarkably unbiased, would be worth noting down in detail. He is very willing to discuss the issues at length with me so I ~~may~~ expect to spend one or more afternoons with him in his office thrashing things out. He remarked that in his opinion, the <sup>Japanese</sup> ~~people~~ had been "taken for suckers." Why a fellow of his education chooses to stay in Tule Lake would also be interesting to find out.

He also stressed the oft-repeated point that the really first class capable <sup>in the center</sup> men are holding back and taking no part in significant camp activities.

MEN BEATEN  
~~BEATINGS OVER PETITION~~

Mr. Harper of Internal Security  
Was informed by ~~absolutely reliable~~ <sup>on</sup> ~~Caucasian informant "H"~~ that some people had been beaten Sunday (Oct. 15) for refusing to sign the petition, (or, as I suspect) <sup>for</sup> talking against signing. At first, the

11:00 p.m.



49.

Hankey - Not

icks

TUESDAY OCTOBER 17, 1944, p. 2

(Japanese)  
colonial police were going to handle the case, but they have now  
refused to do so and <sup>Mr. Sawyer</sup> has been given the detail. Yesterday, the  
news of this beating had not spread ~~too~~ widely or <sup>Mr. Kurikawa</sup> would have told  
me about it. <sup>I wonder</sup> what he's going to do when he hears about it.



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1944 p. 1.

All in all, a very frustrating day. Called on Rev. Tsuba. Did not <sup>ask</sup> ~~try to pump~~ <sup>about</sup> him ~~on the~~ current affairs but discussed the yakuza <sup>1</sup> (gangsters) on whom I may write a paper if I can get enough data. <sup>Tsuba</sup> ~~Tsuba~~ knew a good many general things about them, but his English is so poor that he cannot express himself. Then dropped in at the library to gossip with my friend, <sup>Asako Higashi</sup> ~~the~~ old Tule Lake Nisei girl. <sup>on</sup> She told me she had heard about the Sunday night beating but it seemed as if the people were trying to keep it quiet. She had understood that it was a knifing. Then called on <sup>William Mary</sup> ~~on~~ ~~one of Jimmy's contacts~~ with whom I had an appointment. She, however, had been called out for some emergency and had asked that I come later. <sup>I</sup> ~~came~~ home with blisters and little else.

Talk with ~~PA Administration~~ <sup>The Project Attorney</sup> ~~on Sunday.~~  
<sup>The Project Attorney told me</sup> ~~learned~~ in confidence that ~~the~~ three old men were attacked ~~and~~  
 They claim to be Christian Scientists or of some sect which thinks in a Christian science manner and <sup>than</sup> refuse to give any information <sup>against</sup> their assailants. They say only that they were attacked by "three young men." The situation is peculiar because they were attacked far from where they live. <sup>The Project Attorney</sup> ~~PA~~ doesn't even know where the attack took place. I've written a letter to <sup>Mr. Kurihara</sup> ~~the~~ asking him to ~~get me the~~ <sup>see if he can find out what happened - I</sup> ~~say~~. The old men will not give the reason for the attack ~~either~~.

Was so annoyed at unfruitful day that I stayed up till two a. m. outlining notes. I plan to begin to rewrite the rough draft 28 October-November, 1943. As I go along questions will come up which I am now in a splendid position to get answered. Having laid off this part of the rough draft for some time, I've gotten revived interest and am getting a lot done.

1. [Since I had visited Mr. Kurihara on Monday I hesitated to call on him. ~~Therefore~~ If I ~~xxx~~ visited him too frequently, ~~perhaps~~ people might ~~begin~~ <sup>begin</sup> to call him an inu.]



SP:

R. Hankey - Notes - Tule Lake

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1944, p/ 1.

CALL ON KURATOMI

Decided to risk the possibility of being seen by the <sup>the Matsudas</sup> ~~the "bunch"~~ and called on George today. I found him friendlier than at my last visit. One of the ex-stockade internees, <sup>Mr.</sup> ~~the~~ Shimonishi was also present. I started out on the right foot by congratulating him on the accuracy of his prediction about the coming split in the ~~Re~~ segregation group. Shimonishi, George, and I talked for about two hours, and though much of the conversation was carried on in Japanese style, such as discussing individuals whose names <sup>we not</sup> ~~had not been~~ mentioned, I got along better than I had anticipated. ~~It seems that George~~ <sup>did not seem concerned about</sup> ~~is more desirous of holding my~~ <sup>my visiting the Matsudas.</sup> ~~good will, than of worrying about my relations with the "bunch".~~ Throughout the conversation it was ~~not~~ <sup>very</sup> apparent that George still regards himself as a ~~big shot of the first water.~~ <sup>very important man.</sup>

I made an oblique reference to the difficulties of my present position, remarking that it is tough enough to study a camp divided into two groups and that when additional splits <sup>and only</sup> ~~occur with dizzying suddenness,~~ my work becomes such that only an optimist would attempt it. I made no uncomplimentary remarks about the <sup>Resistant Unit leaders</sup> ~~"bunch"~~, but George and his wife <sup>expressed</sup> ~~expressed~~ their attitude in several instances.

George said with determination:

"Only definite status for this camp will solve the question. That's why we brought the point up ~~at~~ in the meeting ~~in~~ with Best and Myer.

On the question of the return of the Santa Fe internees and ~~the~~ Best's promise about the Dept. of Justice, he said:

"I think Best is holding off from day to day. He doesn't know what to do."

<sup>Mr.</sup> Shimonishi asked me if it were true that <sup>Mr.</sup> ~~Black~~ is leaving the center. <sup>I said I did not know.</sup>

I asked George if he thought that the re-nunciation of citizenship would have ~~any~~ any significant effect on camp attitudes. He thought not. However, it depends, said he, on how the statements are made in it. He remarked jokingly that he guessed the government would not



INS

Footnote

~~\*\*\*~~

- [ 1. Several respondents had ~~hinted that Mr. Tsuda ran a gambling house. Some had referred to~~ hinted that Mr. Tsuda ran a gambling house. Some had referred to "the gamblers". ~~Asking many of them~~ Asking many yakuza I hoped that by asking about the yakuza I might get a little more information. I didn't. By mid-November, however, many persons openly spoke of the "gamblers", young men who were supposed to be followers of Kuratomi and Tsuda. ]



OCTOBER 19, 1944, p. 2.

approve his application. "They'll figure they better keep a guy like me here for the duration."

*of Japan*  
I then asked about the yakuza (~~my past interest at present~~ - the organized gambling gangs)<sup>1</sup>. George said he knew quite a bit about them but could not speak with any authority.

The whole thing lacks authenticity. These people existed, but as to the build up about them, it varies according to the authors.

George remarked that the stories were not unlike the way stories grew ~~about~~ around such people as Daniel Boone.

"Shimizu Jirochyo, the most notorious example of this group, died only about 40 or 50 years ago - around 1895," added Shimonishi, who became quite interested in the discussion and promised to look up the subject in a Japanese encyclopedia and bring it to George for him to translate for me. George continued,

"They formed a code among themselves. It's hard for outsiders to understand them."

"Even I can't understand some of their ideas," *said Shimonishi,* ~~added "G".~~

George told me that these ~~yakuza~~ the code of the yakuza<sup>2</sup> was different from that of bushido. On the whole, the gamblers organized in small groups, scattered about the country. On occasions, however, they would form alliances, if they thought it necessary. The head of one clan would meet the head of another clan and exchange cups of sake, something like the American Indians smoking a peace pipe. George also corroborated a statement made by Rev. Tsuha, that there ~~were~~ were a considerable number of ryonin, samurai who had lost their lords, in the ~~body~~ group.

#### Santa Fe Matter

George now showed me two letters, one from Mr. French to Mr. Best, stating that the Dept. of Justice would be quite willing to return the internees to <sup>Lake</sup> Tule, if Best approved, and another from the Dept. of Justice stating that the return of the internees was up to the WRA.



OCTOBER 19, p. 3.

George said that he could assure me that most of the families of the internees in this camp were determined not to go to Crystal City under any pressure.

"Honestly speaking, I don't want to cause any ill tension, but going back to Japanese psychology, whenever you can find no other alternative, you may have to take strong measures. It will be pretty hard to do anything else than to take action embarrassing to the WRA here.

"I think Mr. Best knows that the return of the men would bring about better feeling in the center. But if he feels like playing foxy with us, I can play foxy with him.

"I think he was told by Myer to stay out of the Santa Fe trouble. I think he has strict orders from Myer that the future Santa Fe business will be handled by Myer himself.

The matter of meeting with Myer on November 1.

Mr. Zimmer was in control. The farm group went to see him. Yoshiyama, Hayashi and others went to see him. Zimmer made out the reply - a type-written statement that Mr. Zimmer would see us on November 2, at 2:00 p. m., that is, he would see the farm committee.

Yoshiyama said he wasn't a representative of the farm group and that the Negotiating Committee wanted to see Mr. Myer. So he just refused. So we had to make the other arrangement to see Mr. Myer. This could have been the work of Zimmer and Best and not Myer.

Previous Interview of Best and Farm Group

Best told the farm group to go back to work - or else. So they called upon the people to form an organization to deal with the situation. I have a resolution drawn up by the farm group and the block managers - to give whole-hearted support to the newly elected body. There is also a statement from the farm group.

(Must check with *Mr. Yoshiyama* about these documents.)

Post Nov. 1 Sentiments

We were very much satisfied with Best's and Myer's statements. In accordance with their statements we were going ahead to form this permanent body. The Nov. 4th incident and the Daihyo Sha have no connecting link.

The Administration, being given the wrong impression at the start, wanted to stick to this wrong conviction.

Food Taken from warehouse

The boys in the warehouse brought in an itemized list of the things taken from the warehouse to Yoshiyama. The immediate reaction of the people was, "Our food is bad enough, if they take more away (to feed the harvesters) it's going to get worse."



OCTOBER 19, p. 4.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Shimonishi suggested that I check with the <sup>rail road</sup> ~~and~~ and bus companies to settle the matter as to whether a group of harvesters <sup>was</sup> ~~was~~ really coming in to Tule Lake on the night of Nov. 4.

Sokoku Kenkyu

Just to see what reaction I would get, I told of how a member of Internal Security had come to the conclusion that Rev. Kai was head of the Sokoku Kenkyu.<sup>1</sup> Roars of laughter greeted this <sup>story</sup> ~~statement~~. "Mrs. Kuratomi said, "Poor Father Kai, we'll have to tell him to change his name."

At another point in the conversation, George remarked that now "Best didn't know what to do with this new bunch who were forming the (Sokoku Kenkyu). He didn't know whether to let them go ahead or whether to pick up the leaders."

~~66666666~~

[ 1. See Fieldnotes, Oct. 12, 1944. ~~XXX~~ ]



Sunday, October 22, 1944, ~~pt~~ p. 1.

MAN EMPLOYED IN SOCIAL WELFARE

Heard today from <sup>6</sup>man employed in Social Welfare that Kuratomi and Terada had come in and applied for a marriage license, stipulating that the marriage be kept entirely secret and that the license be gotten from some place where there would be no chance of publicity

developing.

CO-OP TROUBLE BREWING

~~Co-op Trouble Brewing~~

Currie reports that the Board has been stewing away at a great rate and predicts that they are on the verge of making public some of the misdeeds of the old board. Currie implied that he had seen some of the evidence and that the old board had done some mighty fishy things. He insists, however, that the books were straight and there was no making away with Co-op funds.



MONDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1944, p. 1.

TALK WITH

Mr. Wakayama -  
- MANZANER BIG SHOT

In line with <sup>my</sup> resolution to put in a record work week, tramped off to Manzanar today to interview the <sup>dangerous</sup> ~~Mr. Wakayama~~, ~~much hated and feared~~ "tiger".  
I found him in his office, with three husky young men.

I found him in a spacious new office, the walls of which were covered with Japanese flags and scrolls in Japanese script. Two brawny and solemn-faced ~~unhappily~~ young men ~~sat~~ stood on either side of him and another young man stood at the door. Impressive bodyguards, I thought.  
Mr. ~~Wakayama~~ Wakayama himself sat behind a handsome desk. I assumed a humble attitude and asked him for his version of the

"porch trouble" and about ~~his~~ the report that he had resigned as block manager.

### Porch Trouble

A person named Goto who is one of the residents of my block built an additional room for his daughter. He came to see me and told me about it.

In the middle of June there was an article published in the Newell Star in regard to the building of additional extensions. At the same time one of the fire prevention inspectors came over to me and told me he was told by the fire dept. chief, Mr. Owens, that as long as 30 feet of space was maintained by the residents, it would be perfectly all right for them to make an extension to the building. The space between the barracks is ~~40~~ 40 feet. So there is ten feet leeway.

This was good news for the residents of the new area, because the rooms were so small and the people at that time were requesting the Administration to give them permission to build extensions or warehouses for their belongings.

I made this announcement in the mess hall. The inspector was there too and told me that a permit is not required as long as the residents keep to the 30 foot limit.

Mr. Goto followed instructions and build the room. Mr. Goto is a minister (Buddhist). He has a three room apartment (which he uses for his church). After three months the Administration charged him for violation. At first the police came over. Afterwards, Mr. Best signed the warrant for his arrest.



They held a hearing last month. I appeared as a witness with my assistant and two Japanese members of the fire department to testify that Mr. Owen made such an announcement.

A bulletin was issued from the Administration in April saying that no construction should be made in the new area. This announcement (by Owen) was made in May.



I said that I made the announcement. It was not the fault of Mr. Goto. I told Mr. Best that the case is very clear and that Mr. Goto should be freed.

(the Project Attorney)

Mr. Campbell A ~~xxxxxxx~~ was so excited when I testified. He went to whisper to the Caucasians there. Mr. Best was very excited also. Finally, the only excuse they made, was that it did not apply to the new area. So I said, "Why didn't you say so and why didn't Mr. Owen make the announcement to the 26 members?"

Finally, Mr. Best sentenced Mr. Goto to 30 days in the Klamath Falls jail which would be suspended if he tore down the building in a week.

But the building cost Mr. Goto \$70. Now he blames me. I'm on the spot.

I said, "I don't think I can stay on as block manager." Mr. Best said, "You're fault is my fault." I said, "But you're behind the fence. I'm together with these people." He said, "The case is over." I remained.

I spoke to Mr. Best personally. I said that I thought the decision was very bad and that it will develop into something else. I have to resign. He said, "You don't have to resign. I can send those persons to Sanat Fe."

However, I made an announcement to the block residents that I was resigning that day because I couldn't face this person. It was my fault. The Japanese thought it a logical thing to do.

Now the residents took the responsibility, and said nobody will take on the job of block manager. They got sore and said, "We shall continue to protest this to the block managers' headquarters."

The next morning, I went to the block managers' headquarters and handed in my resignation. They refused to accept it. They said there is a rule that unless I bring along my successor they cannot accept. I said, "I can't induce anyone to serve in my place." I said, "What are you people doing in this office? If you fellows are going to be WRA stooges, I don't think it's worth maintaining this office."

The boys were sore and demonstrated their offensive spirit to headquarters. (I did not have the nerve to ask who these boys were.

Could he be referring to the "Manzanar gang"?) They got sore and came over to my place. All my residents gathered in front of my office and demonstrated ~~xxxxxx~~ their real sentiments of the outcome of the case.

They called a Ward Chairman's meeting that evening at headquarters. Meantime, the news spread all over the center. Seventy or eighty young boys surrounded headquarters. Mr. Thomas was observing the gathering. He rang up Mr. Best. ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Mr. Best said he would meet with a group of representatives from the ward chairmen.

1. / I do not think that Mr. Best had the power to ~~xxxx~~ sentence a segregee to the Klamath Falls jail. Should check this.



I got the report from the block managers' chairman that at first Mr. Best threatened these people. "Do you want me to call the Army like last year and teach you folks a lesson?" Of course, the people were prepared for this. They said, "Do you think you can teach the people a lesson or are you going to be in an embarrassing position?" The people of the new area are different from the people of the old area. They were all ready for it. They said, "Go ahead and do it. We'd rather have Army control the center than the WRA."

As soon as the representatives said that, Mr. Best changed his tone. He said he'd see Mr. Owens tomorrow and give his answer.

The people came back and told me about it. I announced to the people what had been done. The next day Mr. Thomas came with a paper signed by Mr. Best, and asked me to go along to see Mr. Goto. The paper stated that he'd changed his mind and that he would give Mr. Goto two rooms in the new area, one for his church services and one for living. I told Mr. Goto, "Are you satisfied?" He said he was satisfied so I was also satisfied.



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Mr. Best said he would not accept my resignation. The block people had also expressed their opinion that they wanted nobody but Mr. Wakayama. Mr. Thomas said he would issue a statement.

### Renunciation of Citizenship

The people are anxiously waiting for the denouncement of it. When Mr. Best made the statement that within 60 days the camp would be under Justice, the people were delighted. He more or less expect it.

There is a rumor that Mr. Best is going to San Francisco to be in charge of the Alien Property.

### New Name for Resegregation Group.

The name of the Re-segregation group is not appropriate. As one of the advisors, I made the suggestion to have it changed. It is ~~now~~ now called, Sokoku Kenkyu Hooshi-dan. Very literal translation (Immediately-return to country - to serve - society). The people were getting tired of the name re-segregation. This new name now explains our real purpose.

The Administration or Washington are releasing the people from Hawaii who were here before the war broke out to go back to the Islands. Quite a few have gone back from the new area [mangrove section].

*Mr. Wakayama*  
\* predicts a new ~~split~~ split in the Resegregation Group

One thing might develop and that is that the Re-segregation Group might be split in two. I have a hunch. The second group would be the one that doesn't want to go back to Japan immediately. There might be two factions.

(After this provoking announcement, we went right on (Mr. Wakayama then mentioned a speech to speak of a speech which he had made to his ward branch of the Sokoku Kenkyu this ~~past~~ <sup>last</sup> Saturday night.) ~~Whether the two have any connection, I don't know.~~

If they are going back to Japan individually, they will regret very much as to their living in Japan, in that country, where everything is different from the United States. They people in Japan work hard - long hours - they can stand the poor food.

But the boys and girls who have led an easy life in this country, cannot ~~compete~~ <sup>compete</sup> with the Japanese. I told them the only way they could do this is to go back in a group, to work mutually for their existence. Otherwise it will be a failure. Otherwise, if they go back individually, they might ~~stay~~ as well stay in the United States.

I made this statement the night before last (Saturday) in the newly organized Young Men's ~~Assoc.~~ <sup>Association</sup> meeting (Branch of the Sokoku Kenkyu in ward 8.)

Some of the people said, "That's the only thing we've been worrying about." I feel that unless they do this they would be a liability to their families and the country. Individually, they will get disgusted in three to six months. I think they should go back as a group and make



FOOTNOTE p. 59

[ 1. The anniversary of the beginning of the Meiji dynasty. ]



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59.

their own community. But I heard that many people, especially from Ward II, objected to the proposal. I have heard also that that they are saying that Wakayama is doing this for his own personal selfishness.

I made my farewells with many expressions of gratitude and appreciation for ~~what~~ the information he had given me and he was equally courteous. [ Inwardly I suspected that both of us were putting up a false front and I felt uneasy and insecure. ]

#### CALL ON THE MATSUDAS

Found only Mr. Matsuda at ~~xxxx~~ home but he was not very communicative. He asked me to see if I could get some crepe paper for decorations for the Nov. 3 celebration (Meiji Setsu<sup>1</sup>)

and also asked if I would ask Mr. Robertson if it would be permissible to display the Japanese flag on the outdoor stage. All I learned was that <sup>Mr. Matsuda</sup> ~~he~~ is taking a very active part in preparing for the Nov. 3rd celebration and that the Sokoku Kenkyu is supposed to be in charge of the program. (Last year the Daihyo Sha took a prominent part, I am told.)

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~

TALK WITH NISEI GIRL KI - In block 7.

Kayo Tida.

#### Beating of Sunday

We have heard very little about it. Very few people seem to know about it. All we hear is just that they were against the petition. They didn't sign for it. They were <sup>beaten</sup> ~~beaten~~ up in block 54, ward VI. Ward VI is always getting into fusses like that. They have their own Japanese school, you know.

Kayo also remarked

~~that~~ ~~she~~ ~~also~~ ~~remarked~~ that her father didn't agree with Kurihara.

Kurihara was too American. He could never understand how Japan is or how Japanese think. (I gather that <sup>Kurihara</sup> ~~he~~ is being criticised for his criticism of the Resegregation Group. Kayo's father, I believe, is ~~for~~ ~~against~~ ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ a member.)



TALK WITH MR. KURIHARA

at the beginning of our talk he Kurihara was not himself. He appeared distraught and responded to my remarkly curtly or ~~not~~ not at all. I gave him an account of my visit with Mr. Wakayama and Kurihara said he was glad to hear the Wakayama admitted there might be a split in the Resegregation Group. He said: that "We have heard rumors of it, but I am glad to hear ~~the~~ Wakayama confirms it." He did not know, however, who was splitting off. On Wakayama's statement about repatriating Japanese sticking together

and working communally when they returned to Japan, ~~Wakayama~~ said:

"In some respects what ~~Wakayama~~ is preaching looks reasonable. But if we go back before or for several years after the war, we are going to be regimented and not allowed to do as we please. The government will put you in the place where you are best fitted.

"In many ways what he tells to the people seems reasonable. But knowing him, I have my doubts.

"He made a serious statement that night which you should watch out for."

(Mr. Kurihara looked at me so sternly that I did not dare to ask what the statement was. Somewhat at a loss, I asked ~~whether~~ Tsuda and Mori were still being called inu . )

The rumors concerning them no longer exist. When they first undertook to get those boys in the stockade out, to some extent people said that Tsuda and Mori are dogs. We were to some extent inclined to believe that.

I remarked that this might have been rumor deliberately spread by the ~~Resegregation~~ <sup>Re</sup> Group. ~~Kurihara~~ said that was possible.

I asked how people felt about bringing about the return of the Issei members of the Negotiating Committee who had been sent to the internment center at Santa Fe.

I said that some members of the Resegregation Group had told me that the people were ready to demonstrate, so as to force the Administration to return the interned Issei members of the Negotiating Committee to Tule Lake.



FOOTNOTE - p. ~~593~~ 61.

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7/1. ~~At this~~ Hearing this,

my face grow cold with rage, and I had a vision of myself running to the Manzanar section to beat up Mr. ~~KKK~~ Wakayama. At the same time, I am ashamed to say, I took down Mr. Kurihara's words verbatim.]



We all sympathize with the families of those people. But I don't think the people will support it (effort to get them back) by demonstrating.

Then Mr. Kurihara said angrily:

To some extent these things are going on because the Administration lacks a strong hand. If the Administration acts at the right moment and holds the whip, I think they could bring these people into line. They try to appease them too much.

[I was taken aback, because by the standards of many of my respondents Mr. Kurihara was talking like an inu. I asked whether he had heard ~~anything about the beatings~~ about the beatings on the night of October 15. ~~At this point~~ At this point something seemed to snap and Mr. Kurihara poured out the following statement: ]

Beatings of October 15.

Very few people seem to have heard about that beating. The men ~~themselves~~ are keeping it under cover. The Police Dept. isn't doing anything about it.

They were beaten because they refused to sign the petition. One of them you know, Mr. Tokunaga.

(This is the gentleman who wrote the paper for us. He is

a kindly old soul, weighs about 90 lbs. and is around <sup>60</sup> years old.)

They were supposed to be the leaders of a certain religious sect. That group (this sect) in particular did not sign the segregation petition. They were blamed for it, for influencing the people against it.

It was the act of a bunch of cowards. It must have been a bunch of gangsters with clubs and a hammer. (These weapons were used by the ~~beatings~~ according to the story of the Project Attorney.)

I went to see Mr. ~~Wakayama~~ <sup>Tokunaga</sup> on Tuesday. He requested me to let the thing die out. They fear that neither they nor their families will be safe if I carry out my intentions. One of our friends was going right over to beat ~~up~~ <sup>Wakayama</sup> up, all alone, but we restrained him.



(I said that I too felt like running over to the Manzanar section to beat up Wakayama. Mr. Kurihara grinned and ~~xxxx~~ said: "With your great strength you could probably throw him clear into block 54."

They were blamed because that particular seat didn't sign. We know threats were made and we know where the threats came from.



Even on the night of the eighth of the month an open threat was made when he, ~~he~~, spoke from the platform. When such an open threat is voiced, how is it possible that the colonial police do not know?

Wakayama

Mr. ~~he~~ Tokunaga was hit across the forehead and had four or five stitches taken. One of the other men was struck with a hammer on the back of his head. The third on the back of his head when he tried to protect his head.

(I ventured to suggest that the group rising in competition to the Sokoku Kenkyu (Kai Kuratomi's new <sup>group</sup> ~~group~~) might denounce <sup>Wakayama</sup> ~~the~~ leader. (I ~~really~~ don't think they will but wanted to see what "K" would say.) <sup>Kurihara</sup> he said he did not think so. If ~~it~~ a denunciation comes, <sup>said he,</sup> ~~it~~ it will come from the inside of the people.)

The people of this camp must choose if they want such terrorism to exist or else cast that leader out. They are just trying to beat the people into line. If those persons had not asked me not to carry out my intentions, I would have done it.

I'm afraid there's going to be serious trouble here, if the people don't wake up in time and cast them out.

(I reacted pessimistically to this and said so. However, <sup>Kurihara</sup> ~~he~~ thinks otherwise.)

You must remember that the Japanese people are not troublesome. They are a peace-loving people.

(I get so damned when I think of <sup>little Tokunaga</sup> ~~pinning~~ Mr. ~~he~~ being set upon by a half dozen young toughs that I'm about ready to go and



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beat up Wakayama  
and myself.

I can't even visit him to express sympathy. Well, the <sup>he</sup> old boy had guts. I warned him the last time I spoke to him, but he said <sup>Kumihara</sup> and I were taking things far too seriously, of.

Notes, Oct. 10, p. 14)

TALK WITH NAKAMURA - Old Tulean

Mr. Nakamura is a graduate of the U. of California at Berkeley. ~~He is a Cal graduate~~ and the assistant to the project Attorney.

He works in the colony office. We retired to an inner room and had an animated discussion on the early difficulties of camp.

He was not here during the "trouble", having ~~As a witness of any of the phenomena he is useless because~~ left

Tule Lake in Sept. of 1942. <sup>4 1/2</sup> He returned for frequent visits, one of which was in July of 1943 and another in early October of 1943.

He left in mid-October and did not return until January 1944.

I remarked that he had missed all the excitement, but he said he was glad he had. Life hadn't been very pleasant in camp during his absence. His attitude is interesting and, for an Old Tulean, quite unusual.

The way I look at it, from what I've heard, there were mistakes on both sides. The sentiments of the people were with the minority group (Daihyo Sha) who were believed the self appointed delegates.

there { Naturally, the conditions in the center here might have been below standards. I know, having visited Omachi and ~~Wapiti~~, that the facilities, especially the latrines, were in every way superior. You know very well, that the Old Tuleans, by comparison through letters with friends, were aware of the fact that the center was handicapped in many ways. But you get used to things.

Errors of WRA

One of the biggest mistakes was creating Tule Lake as a segregation center in the first place. They should have made the segregation center at Leupp or elsewhere. The residents of Tule Lake wanted a separate segregation center. Since the bungling in registration was made (so many here refused to register) the WRA decided to make Tule Lake the segregation center.

The super-patriots are a very sincere group. They feel they have a certain destiny they are obliged to fulfill. Many of them had the right intentions, but their methods were too aggressive. Besides, the Administration had not laid down any definite policy. They would waver from day to day.

The Administration did not have a sincere policy in mind h

Do not underline

70943



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*lower case*  
DEALING WITH THE ~~Representative~~ groups. They were more or less trying to obtain further information from the representatives so as to use it in some ways according to their desires. If their intentions had been sincere in accepting some of the proposals made by the representative groups, some form of understanding could have been reached.

If the Administration had suggested that the services of a mediating board be employed, such as the representative from the Spanish Embassy, or some of the people from the University of Calif. on the Fair Play League, and they had met together with the Representatives, I think it could have been worked out. The Spanish Ambassador might not have been able to give a decision, but he could give his suggestions.

*Mr. Nakamura* *Negotiating Committee*  
(I asked ~~if~~ if he thought the ~~idea~~ would really have been

willing to accept the decision of such a mediation board. He had no doubt about it, because they would have been satisfied to get some part of the numerous things they asked for.)

*Administrative*  
Opinion of the Staff

Brushing everything aside, we feel that the Administrative personnel is incompetent to handle the camp and that a definite policy has not been made.

The kind of thing America is <sup>Saying</sup> ~~saying~~ that she'll do after the war! She says that she'll give the people of the world the four freedoms! Here they've made a mess of a camp of 15,000 persons. I don't see how they'll be able to manage the Asiatic people in the orient.

We ~~Wise~~ feel we've been made the guinea pigs of the Evacuation Program.

*Nazis*  
The fanatical resistance made by the ~~Nazis~~ and by the Japanese is something to be taken into consideration. They know what the outcome is going to be: a world dominated by Anglo-Saxon power.

There won't be any people left in Japan after the war. If the Empire is ~~gone~~, their lives are gone too. The only people there would be those who go there from here.

Support of the Daihyo Shu

The sentiments of the people as a whole were not behind the minority group. But since the Administration had been reluctant in granting them anything, they felt this was just as good a time as any to get it. Anything acquired is something gained. This type of psychology has been acquired by the Japanese people since they were interned in the camps.

The Status Quo Vote

Some members of the administrative staff and some Old Tuleans had told me that in January some people had voted <sup>in favor of</sup> ~~for~~ the status quo out of intimidation. I asked Mr. Nakamura for his opinion.



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financial basis. He said ~~not~~ <sup>that</sup> it was more likely to work the other way around: pro-status <sup>quo</sup> people refused to Vote and waverers voted anti-status quo because of the soldiers watching them.

"That was intimidation, if you ask me."

"The fellow who stands on his principles gets stuck in the stockade. .... We figure - if you handle the damn fool Administration properly, why you can get a lot out of them. There is an old saying in Japanese, 'If a person is a fool and ~~you~~ you call him a fool, he gets mad.'"

(This is a very interesting statement when one recalls what happened in May, when the WRA tried to ~~get the people to~~ <sup>establish</sup> establish a permanent Representative Committee.)

Everything that WRA wants to do we'll be antagonistic to.

It's no trouble at all to attack the personnel who were incapable. It's easy enough to put them on the spot. You might as well struggle along with the numbskulls. It's the sincere person who gets mad.

Dept. of Justice

We'd rather have the camp under the Dept. of Justice. The majority of the people are very firm in their desire to return to Japan.

*Mr. Nakamura*

(I asked ~~Mr.~~ <sup>to Japan</sup> for an estimate of how many people really want to return and he said that though it was impossible to do more than guess, he thought about half.)

Many people might <sup>go</sup> out after the war and try to make a living. If they can't, they figure they'll go back to Japan then. Of course, if people have property and wealth, they might be able to go back to California and go into their old business and make out.



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24, p. 1.

CALL AT

Tachibana called U. here  
leader of Re-segregation Gr. - Ex Santa Fe Interneson the Tachibanas  
Called ~~at~~ to see what I could find out. He was notat home, which was fortunate in a way, since his wife gossiped and  
dropped hints which ~~Mr. Tachibana~~ would be far too cautious to do.

We discussed Huycke's leaving ~~happily~~. I praised the growth of  
the Sokoku Kenkyu. Mrs. ~~Tachibana~~ invited me to come to the Meiji Setau  
celebration on Nov. 3, but recommended that I speak to Mr. ~~V. first~~  
about ~~it~~. <sup>coming</sup> I ~~then~~ turned the conversation to the members of the  
Negotiating Committee, released from the stockade, and remarked that I  
had heard that some of them were giving the Sokoku Kenkyu a great deal  
of support. "Yes," ~~admitted~~ <sup>said</sup> Mrs. ~~Tachibana~~ happily, Mr. Uchida and Mr.  
Yoshiyama ~~are~~ really helping the Sokoku. Mr. Uchida, in particular,  
was taking complete charge of the judo instruction which is part of  
the program for young men. I praised Uchida and Yoshiyama. ~~(I recalled~~  
~~also that Kikutomi had spoken somewhat disparagingly of~~  
~~Uchida at the interview I had with him last Friday.)~~ Rev. Kai, Mrs.  
~~Tachibana~~ continued, was not thought well of. He had not appreciated the  
efforts that the Re-segregation Group made in his behalf. In fact,  
(said Mrs. Tachibana)  
Mrs. Kai had been quite curt and rude to a delegation from the Re-seg-  
regation Group which had called on her when her husband was in the  
stockade.

(To get this info. makes me quite happy because it will make the  
matter of staying on good terms with Uchida and Yoshiyama much easier.  
I have a hunch that "Y" is holding off a little from involving himself  
in the Sokoku, at least in a subordinate position. But this will come  
out in time. "Y" thinks of himself as a pretty big shot in spite of  
his youth.) Mrs. ~~Tachibana~~ <sup>Tachibana said</sup> continued, ~~and~~ added that at the time when  
the Re-segregation Group was working to get the men out of the stockade,  
Mr. Uchida's relatives, and ~~the~~ <sup>Mr. Yoshiyama's</sup> parents-in-law to be (~~the~~ <sup>Yoshiyama's</sup> parents  
are dead) had been very courteous, ~~and~~ co-operative, and appreciative.



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Tachibana

We chatted about knitting for awhile and then Mrs. ~~A~~ remarked of her own accord that another inu had gotten ~~him~~ hit on the head. "Is that so?" said I, "I heard a rumor, but that's all." ~~Said Mrs. A.~~ "Yes," said Mrs. Tachibana, "They got him over in block 54. He was a Christian scientist. They beat up three of them, but they wouldn't have beaten the other two if they hadn't been along." I found out that the man slated to be beaten was Mr. Aritaka, not Mr. Tokunaga. ~~Tachibana~~ Tachibana was ~~not~~ quite happy over the beating. ~~Undoubtedly,~~ She thinks the men deserved it.

~~(Mrs. "U" knowledge of this beating, of which very few people in the camp have heard, and her attitude, does not contradict "K"'s insistence that "W", with whom the "U"'s are on intimate terms, was responsible.)~~

Another inu was warned a few days ago, she continued:

"Mr. Tambara of block 31 was selling some of the things he had stored in a warehouse. They were his own things and he was selling them at three or four times the price."

"Somebody blackmailed him. They wrote him, 'Would you like to see another Hitomi?' He closed his door. But he's probably selling things in his back yard now."

We discussed the possibility of the Dept. of Justice taking over. Mrs. ~~A~~ Tachibana remarked optimistically that it looked as if something might be going to happen because "Mr. Best hadn't sent out any new orders

since he came back, so it looks as if he's getting out."

Melba Kaminaka,

Jim Takeuchi's friends.

TALK WITH ~~OKA~~ N.Miss girl - one of ~~xxxxxx~~

Melba

~~Q~~ is still determined to get out of camp, but ~~she~~ does not want to apply for leave clearance now unless she is forced to it. She asked me if it were true that 1,000 people were leaving camp in a bunch in November.

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She had not heard of the beating of Oct. 14, but remarked that there were a lot of small beatings going on. She gave additional information on the threat made to Tambara:



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"Mr. Tambara - there was a threatening note pasted up in the 41 canteen. He sold articles and kept on raising the prices. Now they say he's going to leave camp."

I remarked that it was too bad that the Colonial Police couldn't do anything about these beatings and threats. "Oh," said <sup>Melba</sup> with immense scorn, "They can't do anything."

TALK WITH OPLER

~~Interviewed Opler a bit and~~ <sup>I</sup> learned <sup>from Opler</sup> that the Administration does suspect <sup>Wakayama</sup> "A" as a possible instigator of the beating, but that it does not have a shred of evidence on him. One of "his boys" in particular is suspected, but nothing can be done. Best's attitude is that he can handle <sup>Tachibana</sup> "B" easily by packing him back to Santa Fe, but since <sup>Wakayama</sup> "A" is a Nisei, the problem is made much more difficult. <sup>1</sup>

Opler's informants tell him that <sup>W</sup> ~~the~~ new name has been given to the Sokoku Kenkyu. ~~This may be so, since I haven't checked it carefully. I will do so immediately and not that it matters much.~~

Opler also said that the camp is full of rumors that trouble is to be expected not from the Sokoku Kenkyu boys but from the Kai-Kurotomi Dai Nippon group. ~~This, I think, may well be Sokoku propaganda. I haven't heard this rumor and will see what truth there is in it.~~

[Mr. Wakayama was a U. S. citizen and ~~Tachibana~~ Mr. Tachibana was not. In point of fact, Mr. Wakayama was an Hawaiian born Kibei.



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R. Hankey - Notes - Tule Lake

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1944

CALL ON MRS. <sup>Matsuda</sup> ~~Matsuda~~

Called on ~~Mrs. Matsuda~~ <sup>Matsuda</sup> to tell them that I could not deliver their question to Mr. Robertson (about the use of the Japanese flag) since <sup>Robertson</sup> ~~he~~ is ~~xxx~~ off the project for two weeks. Mrs. <sup>Matsuda</sup> asked twice, quite <sup>sternly</sup> ~~unpleasantly~~ why he was off the project. I said I had not asked. Mrs. <sup>Matsuda</sup> ~~she~~ also remarked that she had recently discovered that the Re-segregation group had ~~xxxxxxx~~ applied for and reserved the use of the outdoor stage for the Meiji Satsu ceremonies. A rumor had been going around camp, said she, the the stage was reserved, but nobody knew who had reserved it. Her husband had not told her, so she was concerned about it. It seems that both the Japanese Language School and the Civic Organizations had applied for the use of the stage for Nov. 3, but the Re-segregation Group, due to its foresight, had won out. (Nov. 3 is also the first anniversary of the Japanese Language School.) Now the language school will have to find other accommodations.

I also checked on <sup>Dr. information</sup> ~~Oppler's contention~~ that the Sokoku Kenkyu had changed its name. Mrs. <sup>Matsuda</sup> ~~she~~ told me ~~definitely~~ that it was not the Sokoku Kenkyu which had changed its name but the Re-segregation Group, which was considering the adoption of a new <sup>name</sup> ~~title~~ which did not contain the term "Re-segregation." ~~Oppler's hypothesis was shaky on two points.~~  
~~First of all the new title did not contain the word "return" (young men)~~  
~~which the young men's group xxxxxxxxxxxx ought to contain and~~  
<sup>The new name means:</sup>  
~~secondly, the new title "Return immediately to the mother country to serve"~~  
~~is no such word applicable to the Re-segregation Group proper. Mrs. "Q"~~  
~~remarked several times that the name applied to the "Adult" group of which~~  
~~the Sokoku was just a branch. The name has not as yet been officially~~  
~~adopted, said she. She told me also that an elderly man, a "black-sat" of~~  
~~a Japanese noble family here in camp, (she <sup>man</sup> means "black-sheep") <sup>is</sup> now~~  
<sup>teaching</sup>  
~~beginning~~ a course of study in old Japanese literature. His name is Kano.







WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25, p. 3.

~~on some solid citizens in the next week and see what I can pick up.~~

Threat made to Jimmy ~~Takeuchi~~

Jimmy ~~Takeuchi~~ <sup>Takeuchi</sup> went out (of Tule) <sup>late</sup> because he was threatened by the Manzanar group. The Manzanar group told him to bring them sugar from the warehouse. (He was asked to smuggle this out to them.) He refused. ~~Maxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ They told him they'd get him sometime when he was going home from work. He said he might as well get out of camp if they were going to kill him.

<sup>Takeuchi</sup> (Jimmy ~~A~~, was, as you remember, one of my best informants. He never ~~passed to me about~~ <sup>mentioned</sup> this threat and except for a period immediately after the Hitomi killing, <sup>he</sup> always urged me to call on him. If the story of this threat is true he may have feared that if he told me I'd report the matter to the authorities. I shall write him in ~~xxxxxxx~~ Topaz and ask him about it.)

[Added to the ~~statements~~ information given me by Mr. Kurihara on Sally Yamashiro's October 16 and 23, ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~/account of how my friend, Mr. Takeuchi, had been threatened made me extremely anxious. I was particularly concerned, because Mr. Kurihara had told me: ~~xxxx~~ "I've told a man who I know talks a lot so that he'll tell ~~Wakayama~~, 'If serious trouble breaks out in camp, he will not escape!' I also told him that I had prepared papers to be sent to the FBI and to Mr. Best, so that if he kills me I'll speak from the grave." My distraught state is reflected in the ~~xxxxxx~~ comments ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ I made in my fieldnotes.]

I have an uncomfortable hunch that the Manzanar gang may try to silence Mr. ~~K~~ Kurihara. This may be "Tule Terror" on my part, but they got away with beating the three old men and they are likely to beat up anyone who speaks against them. I hope to God that Kurihara does not remain silent (if he's still alive when they get through with him). He told me that he had prepared papers so the he will "speak from the grave",

[1. Mr. Takeuchi did not answer my letter.]



but I don't how how that will do much good. Hell. XX I need a vacation.

But that would be un-Japanese weakness.

MR. CURRIE TELLS ME OF THREATS

Mr. Currie told me / tonight that he had been told by Internal Security that Nomura, the Co-op Business Manager had received several threats on his life. Nomura said nothing about this to Currie although he's been looking sicker and sicker lately.

DR. OPLER ON THREAT MADE BY WAKAYAMA

Opler told me that he had been told that Wakayama in his speech of last Saturday night had said that "The little bugs must die so that the big bugs ~~mayodiox~~ can live."



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1944. p. 1.

TALK WITH GEORGE KURATOMI[Dai Nippon Sha Kai]

Took over the minutes which I want checked, planning to stay just a short while. ~~George~~ <sup>But George was</sup> ~~proved~~ very communicative however, so <sup>1</sup> remained for <sup>the</sup> greater part of the afternoon.

G. <sup>George</sup> says that the Internal Security has the copies of the Japanese minutes <sup>So</sup> he can help me only by memory. He looked over <sup>my copy of</sup> the minutes briefly and remarked that several things needed changing.

He also informed me that he had heard that Yamatani, <sup>the</sup> #1 inu, is in Heart Mountain. He also remarked that when he had straightened out the Santa Fe problem which is keeping him very busy, he will have time to hunt out and prepare a good many documents for me. He pulled out some things hidden in his house and went over them giving me the following documents to copy:

Petition for Release of the Hunger Strikers

(This is the ~~old~~ petition which was circulated in July which, Mr. Kurihara told me, <sup>me,</sup> caused ~~Kurihara~~ <sup>him</sup> to contact Best and get the promise of release in a month. This petition was never handed in. <sup>Kuratom</sup> ~~It~~ said that it had been signed by roughly 8,000 people. This may well be the truth, because at the time this was done, ~~I know~~ that sentiment was strongly behind release of the hunger strikers.

## PETITION

BY THE RESIDENTS OF THE TULE LAKE CENTER  
TO THE PROJECT DIRECTOR, R. BEST REGARDING  
THE RELEASE OF THE FOURTEEN RESIDENTS  
CONFINED IN THE STOCKADE WHO ARE ON A  
HUNGER STRIKE FOR THEIR RELEASE

We were shocked to learn that fourteen residents confined in the stockade are on a Hunger Strike for their release and returned to this center. The Hunger Strike is on the 10th day on Friday, July 28, 1944.

Naturally we, as members of the Japanese race, are very worried and anxious about the lives of our racial brothers. Already several persons have collapsed from hunger. If any or several of our racial brothers should die on account of the Hunger Strike, we all would feel deeply grieved. Reverse the case; suppose Americans in an internment camp in Japan should die on a Hunger Strike, how would you feel? Would not the American people be deeply grieved? So will



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we if our racial brothers die of a Hunger Strike.

Therefore, we, the residents of Tule Lake Center, request you, Mr. Raymond Best, to be merciful to our racial brothers and release the fourteen persons on a Hunger Strike ~~xxxxxx~~ from the stockade. Your mercy will never be forgotten.

*Mr. Kuratomi*

*Mr. Kuratomi* now showed me the original of a letter signed by Mr. Best, telling me that if the authorities had gotten hold of it they would certainly have confiscated it. ~~Since it is Best's admission that he would remove the hospital staff, this is easy to understand.~~

*Mr. Kuratomi*  
~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ The letter, said *Mr. Kuratomi* was given to Mr. Hayashi who is now in Santa Fe.

(Heading)

War Relocation Authority  
Tule Lake Center  
Nowell, California

Nov. 4, 1943

To whom it may Concern:

Immediately following the incident at the hospital wherein Dr. Pedicord was beaten by some unknown group of men, Director Myer and Dr. Pedicord agreed that doctors on the appointive staff and the appointive staff ~~xxxxxx~~ of nurses were to be removed from further duty at the hospital. Federal regulations require that a hospital administrator must be responsible for government property and narcotics. In accordance therewith Nurse Shipps has been detailed as hospital administrator. There are no facts to the rumor that Dr. Pedicord will return to the Tule Lake hospital.

s/

R. R. Best  
Project Director

Food

"You can ask any person here whether they ever got pork or chicken prior to Nov. 4."

Garbage and Coal Crews return to Work

*George*  
made quite a point of the fact that the Daihyo Sha had gotten the garbage and coal crews to go back to work, showing me the announcement in the Tulean Dispatch of Nov. 9. They had, however, not succeeded with the warehouse workers.



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"The Army, however, wished only about 25 of the warehouse men to go back to work. 98 men had been working originally. The Army thought that 25 men could do all the work. But in their estimate the Army did not consider (the men needed) for unloading and maintenance.

"From Japanese psychology, their point of view would be impossible for us to come back and tell the group that only 25 of the 98 could be picked out and approved by the F.B.I., WRA and the Army. That would have left a queer impression on those picked. The remaining people would be thinking they were inu or informers. We stressed that point."

I asked <sup>George</sup> G. if the Army had gotten any of the warehouse workers to go back to work and he said he didn't think so. (However, as I recall, the demands of certain warehouse boys to go back to work was one of the reasons given by the Divisional Responsible Men in late December and January for initiating the procedure which broke the status quo.)

#### Resolution Made by the Block Managers

It appears that there are no English copies of the resolutions passed by the Block Managers and the Farm group. These <sup>are</sup> ~~are~~ ~~strike me as~~ important documents with regard to the legitimacy of the Daihyo Sha's position. <sup>Kuratom</sup> had copies in Japanese and translated them for me which, I reckon, is the best thing I can get now. I am <sup>planning</sup> ~~planning~~ an interview with <sup>Mr.</sup> Furakawa who was a big man in Civic Organizations and <sup>(I am told)</sup> an anti-Daihyo Sha man to <sup>get his version -</sup> ~~see what kind of cooperation I can get from him.~~

#### Block Managers

Dated - Oct. 16, 1943 (day after the farm accident)

(oral translation by <sup>George Kuratom</sup> ~~George~~)

We, the Block Managers, in a body, regarding the accident of October 15, express our unqualified support of the resolution drawn up as a result of the Farm Workers' General Meeting and furthermore regarding the solution of this problem, we are requesting that the WRA director (Myer) and the Spanish Consul visit here.

Taking this grand opportunity, we the people of this center, concerning the improvement of living conditions in this center and all the problems ~~pertaining~~ pertaining to the people of this center, and for these reasons, we are asking the people's whole-hearted co-operation in this request.

#### Resolution of the Farm Group

DATED - October 15, 1943

As a result of the automobile mishap on October 15, <sup>there were many</sup> ~~there were many~~



OCTOBER 26, p. 4. Kuratomi called (S)

persons injured. The reason of this happening of this incident might be directly traced to the fact that the Administration has been using many minors. This employment of minors should be affected by the child labor amendment of the Constitution.

Here G. left off a literal translation and said: They give as a direct cause of the auto accident because of laxity on the part of the Administration to take some definite step preventing the previous accident (the fire truck accident). He then returned to a literal translation.

However, the circumstances might have been, we feel that absolute responsibility rests with the WRA Administration here. In order to compensate in the best possible way to the persons who were the victims of this mishap, we should request and demand for legitimate action from the Administration and also to prevent any such happenings in the future we wish to bring about the solution of various other problems in the center. This problem should be the concern of all the residents of this center. We resolve to make this a center-wide affair and we, the Farm Workers, will not return to our places of employment until our request for such is granted fully.

# Dai Nippon Seinin dan

Since G. seemed to be in excellent mood, I thought I'd risk a remark on the rumors about <sup>Reverend</sup> Kai's organization of the Dai Nippon Seinin dan. G. denied that Kai was doing any such thing, saying that he was on excellent terms with Kai and that if Kai were forming such an organization, he, <sup>George</sup> would certainly know about it. He remarked that Kai had had a young men's organization in San Francisco, called the Dai Nippon Seinin dan and that this may have started this present rumor.

(Ead, if G. is telling me the truth, and there is no organization at all, the Administration fussing and worritin' about the trouble a non-existing organization is going to cause is truly amusing.)

## Role Played by Hawaiian born Japanese in November Incident

G. was most insistent that the Daihyo Sha <sup>Kai</sup> had not been composed of <sup>or</sup> supported by a preponderance of Hawaiian born Japanese. He also took umbrage because of my remark that many Hawaiian born Japanese stood up for their rights. "After all," said he, "I was born here!" <sup>apologized.</sup> I ~~scolded him down and he added in defense of Kai (implying that he did not support Kai because of Kai's Hawaiian birth):~~

start new line with "He then"



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He said;

"I don't care who the leader is or how powerful, <sup>If</sup> he does things which are very un-Japanese-like, I would not support him. I would not co-operate with him."

<sup>George</sup> G. also told me that he is going to a big party being held in a mess hall on the night of Nov. 1. He gave no details except for <sup>saying</sup> stating that about 100 people would be there and that he hoped that Internal Security would not look upon it as a demonstration.

During the conversation on documents he said that he had not gotten together with Yoshiyama on the minutes. In fact, <sup>said he</sup> he didn't think Yoshiyama liked him very much.

He does not know which Meiji Satsu ceremony he is going to attend, the one given by the Sokoku Kenkyu or the one given by the Japanese school. The Japanese school, Mrs. K. <sup>Watson</sup> ~~informed~~ <sup>told</sup> me, is giving its exercises in the block 34 firebreak.



TALK WITH MR. YOSHIYAMA

[In our meeting of October 16, Mr. Yoshiyama had made it clear that he found me ~~xxx~~ attractive. I had made no response, since I did not know how I could say "No" without offending him. But after learning of the assault on my friend, Mr. TBkunaga, I felt impelled to ~~take~~ the risk, a visit.

On arriving at his apartment I was relieved to see <sup>Mr. Yoshiyama</sup> that ~~he~~ was sitting outside ~~of it~~ talking to an elderly man and that his wife was hanging up the wash a short distance away. After the caller, Mr. <sup>ay</sup> ~~Hayashi~~, had ~~left~~

left, I opened the conversation by remarking that I had been reading Dr. Inazo Nitobe's book, Bushido, The Soul of Japan. I praised the stern

moral ~~principles~~ precepts of the samurai and expressed my admiration for those Japanese who had maintained their honor even at the price of great personal sacrifice.

I ~~then~~ <sup>also</sup> told

him that I had been put under a heavy obligation by his frankness. ~~xxxx~~ Because he had been so ~~fr~~ frank, I, out of honor, must treat all his remarks with equal confidence.



78a'

Evidently,

Mr. Yoshiyama understood what I was trying to tell him,

for he never again made any advances. ~~(bushido)~~

(Months ~~later~~ later, R. N. Nishimoto, <sup>who found this situation amusing,</sup> told me that bushido

does ~~not~~ not apply to this kind of relationship between

a man and a woman. ~~Be that as it may, I think Mr. Yamashiro~~

~~Yoshiyama understood what I was trying to tell him.~~ ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

(Note to self) -- here ask M. what to say --) Other Japanese

experts, however, have told me that my remarks ~~apply~~

about honor and obligation were applicable. ~~Still~~

~~ixx~~ In any case, I believe I was able to communicate my

sentiments without humiliating ~~him~~ this young man.)



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Called on ~~Yoshiyama~~ today to return documents. ~~I~~ found him talking to

an elderly man who he later told me was the father of Mr. Hayashi, ~~an ex-Buddhist~~ a member of the Negotiating Committee, who is now interned in Santa Fe. ~~Yoshiyama~~ told me that Hayashi's father had been sent to Santa Fe after Pearl Harbor and when he was finally paroled to Tule his son was in the stockade. He used to go to the fence to try to catch a glimpse of him. Then the son was sent to Santa Fe. Hayashi has not seen his son since the outbreak of war. I asked for the younger man's age and was told he was about 27 or 28.

(Best is supposed to have given permission for the men who were sent to Santa Fe to see their close relatives.) ~~I don't know whether "Y"~~

~~was stringing me, or whether the old man missed out somehow.~~  
Then, saying that he oughtn't tell me, ~~Yoshiyama~~ informed me that

there is not going to be any trouble here before Nov. 3, because if ~~that~~ ~~there were trouble the Reg. Rep. got me. Brown~~ ~~they~~ would not be allowed to use the outdoor stage for the

Meiji Setsu exercises and they might have a hard time explaining that when they got to Japan. But after November 3 - any time - ~~Yoshiyama~~ intends "to make a big trouble in camp".

~~to act the same on it's side.~~ Naturally, he added, he can't tell me just what he's going to do, but he's 99% sure he's going to do it.

"They" were resolved that this camp could no longer endure the rule of Mr. Best. ~~"They" - were no doubt Tachibana and Wakayama.~~

~~Yoshiyama said~~ proudly that he had a tremendous lot of backing now - and that he was on excellent terms with Tachibana and Wakayama. ~~(This confirms~~

~~what I've been guessing all along.)~~ ~~He also~~ said he'd like to tell me but I interrupted him hastily and said his plans, ~~I said~~ that I didn't want to know. (If I don't know I can't be accused of inquiring.)

Yoshiyama then told me with great indignation that ~~the reason for "Y" outburst against Best came out: he informed me~~ he had phoned Mr. Best three times asking for an interview on the Santa Fe matter.

"He ~~reply~~ was very simple. He said there is nothing to ~~take~~



Mr. Yoshiyama on George Kuratomi, 80  
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about. Then he slammed the receiver down." ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

He had also written two letters, <sup>to Best.</sup> To the second he had gotten the following reply:

October 25, 1944

Dear Mr. Yoshiyama,

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

With reference to your letter of October 23 regarding the transfer <sup>4</sup> to Santa Fe, I refer you to George Kuratomi. He understands the situation thoroughly.

Sincerely,

R. R. Best.

To get Yoshiyama off the subject of Best,

I asked him about the notion that ~~HAWAIIAN~~ Hawaiian born ~~JAPANESE~~ Japanese had played a prominent part in the November "troubles":

Hawaiians on Daihyo Sha

That is utterly false. There is no truth to it. I really felt sorry for the Hawaiian fellows who were picked up. Most of them didn't know what was going on. Col. Austin said, when I met him, he said, the people interned from Hawaii were the trouble-makers. Three weeks later he said it was the Kibei made the trouble. Later he stated that the Negotiating Committee had a goon-squad. That is absolutely false.

(Yoshiyama showed me the newspaper clippings containing these statements by Austin.)

On Kai and Kuratomi

Kai and Kuratomi should realize that the people who really supported us were the people for the status quo. The status quo people feel that they cannot get along with the people who do not want to go to Japan.

Of course, when George Kuratomi met Mr. Myer he stated the necessity of a Resegregation Program. This group, the Resegregation Program, were the ones who really supported us. They gave money to hire the lawyer for us. The immediate families had a lot to do with it too.

Rev. Yai ignored all that. He never expressed thanks of any nature. Naturally, the people who supported him got pretty mad about it. They (Kai and Kuratomi) still think the whole colony is supporting them.

In a time of crisis like this we must stick together. We are not supposed to co-operate with the Administration. That's going against the will of the Japanese government, if you understand me.



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Many people just fell into the Caucasians' hand. There was trouble between the Americans and the Japanese. That is as it should be. Now there is trouble between the Japanese and the Japanese, because of a minority people who spread opinion and propaganda and do a lot of innuendo around here.

The incident could have been closed long, long ago if the people would only have supported us and stated that they would not work unless we were released. But the Administration made the Coordinating Committee and stated that the Daihyo Sha was just a political organization.

George Kuratomi wanted to bring all the people of Tule Lake into one. You can't do that. There are so many who <sup>came</sup> voluntarily or liked the climate or just refused to move. These people - we can't get along with these people! In a time of crisis, you have to make it black or white. It is impossible to bring the camp all into one. We will never get along with the other group. As far as I'm concerned, I'll never forget them. If I were a big-shot in Japan, I'd know what to do with them. Unfortunately, I'm not.

I've been only three years in Japan. The first thing I plan to do when I return to Japan is volunteer for the Army, even after the war. I want to be educated the hard way - the real Japanese way. At all times, I will have the government of Japan in my mind.

Fate of Okamoto who organized group which called in Bestig to ALLU.  
(Okamoto who was active on the Fair Play Committee in

Heart Mountain was arrested in late July (I think) xxx on an accusation of sedition. It ~~was a bit funny at the time, because~~ He had taken the lead in organizing the group to call in Bestig.)

*Yoshiyama told*  
*Yoshiyama* informed me that Okamoto had been released on \$1,500 bail, which *Yoshiyama* hinted, he had collected. *Yoshiyama* had prepared the following petition to be sent to the judge of the district court in Wyoming. He said:

"I intend to support Mr. Okamoto even if he is a loyal American."

#### PETITION

To Honorable Judge  
U. S. District Court  
Cheyenne, Wyoming

We, the undersigned, all of whom are residents of Newell, California, do hereby petition your Honor to release one Mr. Kiyoshi Okamoto, who has been convicted of Sedition Act, which we believe is an untrue accusation.

Mr. Okamoto has been connected with the so-called "Fair-Play Committee" at Heart Mountain, Wyoming, with his honest intention as a true American to protect, maintain and fight for the Constitutional Rights, Bill of Rights, and Democracy of Citizens of Japanese Ancestry



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whose rights as aforesaid have been abridged unlawfully by military order of evacuation on basis of racial discrimination and are now being pressed with Selective Service Act.

We are under the impression that he is not objective to the boys being inducted into the armed forces of the United States, but are protesting to the enforcement of such Act upon them before their rights are first being restored equally like other citizens enjoying freedom and liberty without being prejudiced.

Signed and dated this 26th day of October. Thanking you for the special consideration.

(This petition was signed only by a few hundred names, though *Yohizana* assured me he could have gotten thousands. However, he didn't have much time.)

He also showed me a letter from Okamoto to himself in which Okamoto made the interesting statement that the ~~Japanese~~ <sup>of the Japanese</sup> only hope in this country was if Dewey were elected. I tried to find out the reason for this but was unsuccessful. ~~I must see if I can dig up more on this.~~  
~~"Y" made the statement~~ <sup>*Yohizana told me*</sup> several times during this interview that he was not afraid to go to jail. He's going to continue on his path no matter what happens. He has also, he said, been asked by the leaders of the Sokoku Kenkyu to take charge of one of their groups, but he is at present "too busy". ~~(With the Santa Fe matter, I suppose.)~~

I had devoted some thought as to how to handle this bozo and opened the interview by impressing him with a bushido like speech on my own consciousness of the obligation I have been put under by his remarkable frankness. Robbed of elaboration the idea is that just because he has been so frank (?) I, out of honor, must treat all his remarks with equal confidence. This went over with a bang. "Y" blushed furiously. That with the little woman keeping a careful eye on the proceedings, by hanging out the wash about 6 yards away, all goes well. He said he wants me to be here when the trouble breaks, so I delicately let him know I would be leaving camp about the 22nd or 23rd of November.



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Yoshitomo

Matsuda

Note: It is very interesting that both ~~Yoshitomo~~ and Mrs. ~~Matsuda~~ criticize Kuratomi for attempting to "bring the whole camp into one." It appears leaders of the Resegregation Group. that this powerful demand ~~for~~ for cleavage springs from the ~~"bunch"~~ bunch.

In his recent conversations with me Kuratomi has not spoken ~~xxx~~ about unity.

TALK WITH CURRIE

Currie, Supervisor of the Co-op, came around in a state of perturbation. It seems that the Co-op Board, Currie, and Noyes, the Project Attorney, have been working very hard preparing a new set of by-laws for the Co-op. In these by-laws the Board ~~now~~ makes <sup>no</sup> mention of any Caucasian Co-op members - every statement refers to evacuees. Currie interprets this as part of the Board's ever growing determination to cut the Caucasian canteen ~~and members~~ out of the Enterprises. So he went to talk the matter over with Best. "Don't tell me about it now," said Best, "Come and tell me about it later. I'm not going to stand for any pressure." Currie suggested that the Administration prepare to take the punch from the ~~Board's~~ Board's stand by making arrangements to have the Recreation <sup>quietly</sup> Club take over the Caucasian Canteen, ~~as soon as the first event peep is made.~~ <sup>said.</sup> Best will not hear of this. "If we put it to the General Assembly and the people vote to close the canteen the issue will really ~~grow~~ grow into something." Best still would give no expression of what he would like done. "Forget you talked to me about it," said he. "In fact, if you come in later and say you spoke to me about it, I'll deny it." Currie really feels ~~desperate~~ desperate.

He says he's going to tell George ~~Matsumura~~ <sup>Caucasian</sup> Matsumura, who ~~is~~ is determined to close the canteen, to write out the reasons for doing so. If they'll hold water, Currie will present them to the



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*Admin*

Administration. If they don't hold water Currie says he's going to ~~refuse~~ refuse to turn them in to keep the Board from making a fool of itself.

For two cents, says Currie he'd write up the reasons himself.

*Lillian Menji -*

TALK WITH ~~the~~ Nisei girl - ~~contact from Jim~~

*Had*

I ~~had~~ a fine talk with Lillian, who really knows a great deal more of what is going on than most Nisei girls of her age. Working in Community Activities she meets a good many of the less important leaders of the pressure group and is very conscious of the need for sufficient cooperation to keep the peace. She expressed her concern that there might be trouble in camp before the big Musical Review that the Community Activities Section is giving in camp on November 11 and 12 and on which she is working hard. They have a lot of money tied up in this and if there is trouble they'll lose a great deal.

#### The Petition (Re-segregation)

"We never even thought about it. We just frowned on it. Everybody in camp is supposed to be equal. I think we should go back to Japan as the Japanese government says. A lot of my friends said, 'My old man signed because he was told to sign.' Now they regret it. The people say they (Re-segregation Group) ~~were selfish~~ and those who sign are selfish to wish to go back to Japan before the others."

#### Sentiments toward Manzanar group as a whole

We get along perfectly with them. They're really cooperating and showing their spirit. They're meeting us half-way. Many of the people have the same idea we (CAS workers) do. Because they (Manzanar) were segregated over there, they were bitter. We mix in more now.

Lillian was particularly impressed by an experience she had. She was arguing with ~~another~~ a young man also employed in CAS and the battle got heated. The young man shoved her and she fell. Immediately, a group of Manzanar boys, passing in a truck, got out, grabbed the fellow, knocked him around and forced him to apologize to Lillian. This chivalry has really impressed her.

(I shall attempt to get ~~more~~ <sup>more</sup> information ~~on~~ on the general population's attitude toward the Manzanar section as a whole. ~~But~~ It may be that I have



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Kurihara's  
let ~~the~~ denunciations of ~~the~~ Wakayama and his gangsters impress me too strongly

and have assumed that the ~~hostility~~ hostility of the earlier segregants toward the ~~Manzanar~~ "Manzanar section" (which was fairly ~~strong~~ strong a few months ago) has continued unabated. This is lousy fieldwork and I'll try to do better. I doubt that KK Kurihara's contention that "the people know about Wakamaya" is accurate. Curious and concerned folk like George Yamashiro may suspect a good deal, but Sally Yamashiro's praise of the Manzanar boys who scared the alleged profiteer and now Lillian's appreciation of their protection indicate that I should talk to more people about the subject.)

#### On Tambara

The people sure got sore at him. He sold a pound of tea for five dollars. Rice bowls worth 10¢ he sold for 50¢. They say his family is just oozing money."

#### Sentiments about the War Situation

Most of the people take the center position. They get the American news ~~papers~~ and the Japanese broadcasts. They listen to it and go in between both broadcasts. Because, no country is going to tell the truth."

#### Rumor

What about this rumor that the money they (Resegregation Group) collected to give the stockade people is all missing?

(Lillian Manji respondent

is a ~~man~~ good ~~person~~ and I must see her more often. This is difficult because she works and I have to see her at night which is very hard now that it gets dark ~~early~~ at 5:00 p. m. ~~by which~~ time I'm usually too tired and hungry to work well.)

By that



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CALL ON ~~the~~ conservative Nisei girl from Gila *Yayoi Nishikawa*

Talked most of the afternoon on insensentials, my intent being to see what Yayoi thought about the Manzanar people and if she would express any opinion on the war situation. ~~I~~ Failed completely on the latter point but found that she now thinks quite highly of the Manzanar group as a whole. "At first we didn't like them because we heard how rough they were. But now we've gotten to know them." ~~Subsequently~~ A Manzanar boys' club invited some of the high school girls to <sup>a</sup> picnic ~~back~~ and the girls were afraid to go. Those who did, go, however, were treated so nicely that the ~~spinsterish~~ reputation of the young fellows from Manzanar ~~has become quite enviable~~ is now very good.

As I left, Yayoi said that she hoped very much that there would be no more trouble. She evidently lives in constant dread of a recurrence of the discomfort and confusion of last November. She is fairly happy in her high school courses, but complained as did *Lillian*, that very few interesting or broadening courses are given. The high school graduates ~~really~~ really have a tough time keeping themselves occupied.



[ 1. Sokuji Kikoku Hooshi dan  
[ Instant ~~Re Kikoku~~ country dedicated association  
Re turn to



FOOTNOTE, p. 90.

[1. The literal meaning of this statement is: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ "In order to help the large bugs, we must kill the small bugs." By implication it may be interpreted as: "To save the great cause, we must exterminate those who oppose it." ]



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TALK WITH "3" Mr. Tachibana

I wanted to get the matter of the change of name straightened out, I also remarked that I had heard that the goal of the organization was ~~and also said "about the supposed change of aim" of the Sokoku~~ being changed. *resegregationists*

Kendler.

### On the Sokoku Kikoku Hoshi dan - the Resegregation Group

We don't have exactly the name it was previously called. But being that this is a segregation camp, we wanted to be resegregated so we could prepare for immediate repatriation. So under such circumstances, we became resegrded and called "the resegregants."

But because of the fact that this camp never has been a segregation camp in the real sense of the meaning, as there were so many residents who were not clarified themselves or by WRA as segregates, the main aim of the so-called resegregation petition was to wish for the immediate repatriation. Therefore, we have named our organization specifically from the principal reason of the movement - Sokoku Kikoku Hoshi dan - The Patriotic ~~Resegregation~~ Organization of the Immediate Repatriates. *Hoo*

We are not requesting priority - but we believe by our belief if we can be given the opportunity of boarding on the exchange boat - we prepare for immediate responsibility.

It is only the name has been specifically made at this time. But though meaning and aim of the organization is the same. It is for the real Japanese who wanted to help the mother country if there is a possibility of doing so.

It is nothing against the WRA or anything like that.

(Indisputably, Opler is all set on the Sokoku Kenkyu changing its name. His informants must be lousy indeed.)

### Aims of the Sokoku Kenkyu Seinin dan

The Sokoku Kenkyu aim is just the same in that it has been adapted for the mother country. It is the study of the mother country. This younger generation can study every possible thing of the mother country while utilizing this ample time. This will keep in each ones mind what our countrymen in Japan are doing for the ~~maximum benefit~~ best of themselves (it probably means "to the best of their ability") to serve for the country and to prepare for himself all the possible necessity in physical and mental conditions, so that what he will prepare for himself physically or mentally while residing here in this camp, can be utilized for the best of the mother country on his arrival, if he can go on the exchange boat. *utilized*

Mr. Tachibana Matsudas

I then asked ~~to~~ about Mrs. ~~the~~ reference to the change in emphasis on which the Sokoku Kenkyu was planning to embark. He said there had been no change.

"The principal of the organization cannot be changed. The program of



[What Mr. Tachibana did not tell me was that these morning  
exercises were explicitly patterned on the ~~military~~ militaristic  
exercises performed by children and young people in ~~the~~ Japan.]



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organization cannot be further stated or thought of other than in preparing themselves, while residing here in this camp. They can here lectures here, to polish themselves mentally and physically. They can study and they can acknowledge modern education by studying electricity, radio or any other things he wish to utilize.

And for ~~the~~ physical training - it is necessary for it is natural for the young people to train themselves physically because this camp can be considered as a little larger jail - and jail people even walk around the jail wall when they exercise themselves for their own benefit.

Furthermore, since this is a way, our brothers, cousins and what not are actually fighting for the mother country. And so that we, the younger people in this camp cannot forget what is going on in Japan by exercising and training, ~~especially early~~ especially early in the morning after worshipping and praying for victory and eternal life for our soldiers. These young people can be deeply impressed with such thankful action and attitude taken by the Japanese people in Japan. So - physical training in the early morning here at this camp are first, physical training for themselves and ~~and~~, the feel training of this kind will give or can be utilized that particular time whereby these young people are strongly impressed in his heart what the people of Japan are doing and these young people cannot forget that such thankful action taken by the people in Japan more or less of a spiritual commemoration.

(What U means to imply in this ghastly bunch of phrases is that the young people are not only benefited in a purely physical way by the exercises but that by the ceremonies and ~~and~~ hardship of arising early in these bitter mornings, they feel that they are expressing their kinship with their brothers in Japan who are ~~and~~ sacrificing so much more. U frankly stresses the psychological effect of this asceticism, as being employed deliberately by the leaders.)

If we were training in open daylight, it will not impress the people much - just ordinary exercises. But getting up early in the morning, is to feel that we - even though here in this country, are not taking for granted that we can sleep long and at any time.

We cannot live here luxuriously. We must do parallel to what our brothers in Japan are doing.

Mrs. ~~Tachibana~~ interrupted here, asking me if I didn't think it was terrible that some Japanese had reported the exercises to the Internal Security, claiming that they disturbed their sleep on Sunday Morning. Due to these complaints, the Internal Security had forbidden the exercises in ~~the~~ <sup>section</sup> Manzanar on Sunday mornings.



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Mrs. <sup>Tachibana</sup> asked me then if I had been to see Rev. Kai. I said I had not, but <sup>said</sup> ~~admitted freely~~ that I'd been to see Kuratomi to discuss the earlier ~~xx~~ events of the camp. (It's better to be frank than be caught lying, I figure.) In Japanese<sup>e</sup> style I hinted that I knew of the break, but <sup>said</sup> ~~stated~~, again truthfully, that Kuratomi had said nothing uncomplimentary of the Resegregation Group of the Sokoku Kenkyu. (What Kuratomi ~~hints~~ <sup>implies</sup> is my business.) <sup>Tachibana</sup> stressed the impossibility of uniting the camp into one as Kai and Kuratomi had attempted to do. I ~~then~~ remarked that some people were criticizing the Resegregation Group, <sup>saying</sup> ~~stating~~ that they wished to get to Japan before the other people in Tule Lake. This ~~got a rise out of me~~ <sup>angered Mr. Tachibana</sup>.

"If we are considered highly by the Japanese government and if we happen to return to Japan, we wish to sacrifice everything, mentally, physically and materially. We're not requesting priority. We just wish to let the Japanese government know what we have in our hearts.. Therefore, there should not be any misunderstanding between our group and those who did not sign. Those who did not sign are still sitting on the fence."

<sup>Mr. Tachibana</sup> then asked me ~~suddenly~~ if I listened to the short-wave broadcasts. I said I did not.

(A Caucasian informant told me this morning that he had heard a/broadcast by a Japanese Admiral<sup>1</sup>. The ~~xxx~~ Admiral had given a picture which is the exact opposite of that given by American newspapers.)

Mr. Tachibana continued:

This is election time so the American Office of War Information is under very strict censorship by the Democratic Party under the Roosevelt regime. In a lot of things, the American people have been purposely misinformed. I personally cannot understand how the American government, even for a short while, can camouflage the news, misinforming the American people.

In the Formosa battle and the Phillipine<sup>Two-thirds</sup> battle, you probably heard the American radio make the statement that ~~2/3~~ of the Japanese Imperial Fleet has been defeated and is gone for good and that the American fleet was damaged very little.

Of course, we cannot rely fully upon the short wave, one vessel can be sunk with one airplane with one pilot who jumps right onto the vessel and explodes life and everything. What has been done in the Philippines and Formosa we cannot believe.



Dai no mushi wo tasukeru niwa; sho no mushi wo korosane  
kereba naranu, which



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~~tactics, they could not have produced such an overwhelming victory as the American newspapers claim.~~

I'm watching with interest how the American government is going to release the News of the Philippines. ~~(When they finally must come forth with the unpleasant truth which it considers the real situation.)~~

(Mr. Tachibana

continued to speak harshly of the Democratic Party and the Roosevelt administration.

Come to think of it, every respondent who has brought up the subject favors Dewey. I have yet to meet a pro-Roosevelt Japanese here.)

#### TALK WITH KURIHARA

Kurihara started out the conversation by making the same points about the Phillipine situation that Tachibana had made earlier in the day. He quoted Carter, a newspaper columnist, as saying the American public was grievously misinformed by the Office of War Administration.

"We hear just the reverse of the American newspapers over the short wave from Japan. American says it sinks 30 ~~enemy~~ Japanese ships; the Japanese radio says they sank 30 American ships. America says it shot down 125 planes; the Japanese radio says it shot down 125 American planes. I think the Democratic Party ought to be afraid that ~~the~~ the Republican party will blast Roosevelt's lies.

I can't understand Roosevelt wanting to be President again, unless he knows that the country is in bad shape and that the next president may disclose all the things he has done.

#### Action of Mr. Tokunaga

He met the representatives of the Re-segregation Group. After giving them his point of view, they seem to have left with a very good impression that he was not really opposed to their organization. He wanted to see ~~the~~ ~~one~~, but they sent representatives. One was Fujizawa - there were two others.

Mr. Kurihara said that he thought

~~expressed the view that my visit would do no harm at all now. At~~

Mr. Tokunaga

present, ~~am~~ waiting for a reply to my letters.) ~~Incidentally, it's typical~~

~~of the "big boys" to send minor representatives in this high-stakes game.~~

Wakayama

84

When K. made his speech in mess hall 84, there were over 300 young men there. He said that "To save the big shots we have to kill the small guys." Doi no mushi wo tashiteru nian; sho no mushi wo korosanakereba naranu." 1



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"That's a very serious statement.

"He arouses and agitates the people. He tries to take the credit when things go good and pretends he had nothing to do with it when things go bad.

Kurihara

Tachibana

~~He~~ told me that he had gone to hear ~~him~~ speak, when he spoke in ~~the~~ mess hall Saturday or Sunday night. He does not think that ~~he~~ is so dangerous a man as is Wakayama.

~~is a much more dangerous person than~~

Tachibana

Wakayama

"I had a vague idea from what ~~he~~ said that he suspects ~~him~~ for the kind of person he is. It may be he will be kicked out. If he is, thank God. If he's not, then there may be trouble. ~~He~~ has lost the respect of a considerable number of people due to ~~his~~ very vicious statements he makes.

the

Wakayama

"Their organization is so well formed now, it may not be so easy to break. But if internal dissention takes place and the organization is severely criticized (by the people) I think they will disband. The residents will lose interest. I expect this to take place within a month - perhaps before the 10th (of November.)"

I remarked that I had been so impressed with the fanaticism of some of the leaders that I did not think they would ever stop their efforts. ~~Kurihara argued~~ <sup>Kurihara argued</sup> ~~that if the group split up~~ <sup>that if the group split up</sup> ~~the leaders~~ <sup>the leaders</sup> would struggle on, but the split would make them lose the respect of the people.

"Rev. Tsuha hasn't left the organization. But he no longer is it's mainstay. He's still ~~connected~~ and lectures now and then."

Kurihara

connected

~~He~~ then ~~told me~~ <sup>warning me</sup> told me what Tsuha had said, ~~warning me~~ <sup>warning me</sup> that if it got out to the Japanese that he had told me this ~~it would mean~~ <sup>it would mean</sup> he might be killed.

Kurihara:

Tsuha

"What I'm referring to: ~~he~~ said, 'There are quite a number of killers in this organization.' I never expected that out of a priest."

Matsuda

(Now I know why Mrs. ~~he~~ told me about a week ago that people were taking Tsuha's "joking remarks" too seriously. She told me he had made this statement and said he was speaking in fun. ~~I like a dope~~

I did not remember to put it in my notes.)

Tachibana, Wakayama,

The trouble is that the leaders, ~~he~~ and Tsuha are jealous and their egotism is so great they don't care about the others. They look out for themselves.



Public Opinion of Manzanar Section in General

It's true to some extent that they have gained liking. They (former resident of ~~the~~) thought the Manzanar people were all radicals but they changed their minds since and see that they are not.

Tambara - the threatened profiteer.

I mentioned this incident. <sup>Kurihara</sup> laughed and said:

"If Tambara had been killed I think everybody in camp would have rejoiced just as they did when Hitomi was killed."

Kurihara then asked me to read some of the poems he had recently composed. It is strong stuff for a hakujin [Caucasian], expressing absolute faith in ultimate victory for Japan. I praised the spirit, helped him with the grammar, and suggested that his feelings might be better expressed in blank verse. He explained

that in school he had been told that poetry had to rhyme. We experimented in putting some of it into blank verse and he was very pleased with the result. I left him happily working on a new <sup>poem</sup>, denouncing the lies of the American press over the Philippine situation - titled, "Smile, Japanese, smile!"

<sup>This</sup> All of which reminds me of a story Dr. Miamoto, whom I met in the library, told me about the recently deceased leader of the ~~JAPANESE~~ Black Dragon society. <sup>this leader was</sup> It seems that once, when caught by the Secret Police, he was stripped to the skin. ~~and~~ A packet which he wore over his heart was examined with ~~great~~ care. It was found to be a love letter from a noted gaishi, ~~man~~ <sup>leader</sup> with whom the ~~Japanese~~ <sup>leader</sup> had been enamored but from whom the course of fate had kept him. The officers apologized and returned the letter. <sup>There is a</sup> ~~Remind me sometime to write an article on the~~ pathetic soft <sup>ness</sup> to be found in the hearts of the agitators. The tougher they are, it seems, the softer they can be.