

# I N F O R M A T I O N   B U L L E T I N

## JAPANESE-AMERICAN RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Pacific Coast Branch, American Friends Service Committee  
544 East Orange Grove Avenue  
Pasadena, California

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### GOVERNMENTAL POLICY

Some 10,000 enemy aliens will be evacuated by February 24 from the 111 prohibited zones on the west coast and from Terminal Island by March 15.

The Department of Justice is responsible for this evacuation and any one failing to comply will be interned for the duration.

The Federal Social Security Board has had opened 27 offices where alien Germans, Italians and Japanese are encouraged to come for information, advice, and financial aid where needed.

### A.F.S.C. OPPORTUNITIES AND PLANS

Many evacuees will have no place to go and no one to whom they may turn in this crisis.

Friends meeting houses in certain areas are being offered as temporary havens of refuge and many homes are available, as well, for these unfortunate people.

Arrangements have been made for temporary hostel care in Los Angeles.

The Federal Government is determined to accomplish this evacuation with as much consideration for the evacuees as possible, keeping families undivided in so far as they can and maintaining the highest standards of social work in every respect.

The recent proclamation of the President authorizing the War Department to evacuate from restricted areas any persons whom they consider dangerous creates new problems which we have not as yet been able to analyze.

### PERSONNEL

Many volunteers from among both Friends and non-Friends have rallied to the support of the Federal authorities and the A.F.S.C., working in the information offices and preparing for hostel care.

Bernard and Grace Waring arrived from the east on February 8 and their presence has been most helpful. Bernard and Raymond Booth flew to San Francisco at the request of Mr. Richard Neustadt, regional F.S.S.A. chief, for a day in consultation with him. He desired Friends to render whatever assistance they could to the Federal Social Security Board and offered fullest cooperation from the Federal Government.

Esther Rhoads arrived by plane on February 11 and has been placed in charge of the A.F.S.C. evacuation work. Her coming has given renewed confidence and courage both to Friends and to Japanese.

C. Reed Cary arrived February 19 and is rendering invaluable assistance to Raymond Booth in this emergency.

Thomas Bodine and Walter and Marydel Balderston arrived from Pendle Hill in time for a two-day conference of the "working crew" on January 21 and 22 with Gurney and Elizabeth Binford, Herbert and Madeline Nicholson, Raymond and Gracia Booth, and Emma Cadbury.

Thomas Bodine is located at the Seattle center, concentrating on the enemy alien problem.

The Balderstons are living in Pasadena and are visiting among the Japanese, investigating hostel possibilities and negotiating leases.

Herbert Nicholson has made trips into the Imperial Valley, to Terminal Island and up the coast, gathering information and dispensing cheer and courage wherever he goes.

The Binfords (?) -- well, they are doing just what we would all expect them to do -- identifying themselves completely with the Japanese among whom they have lived their lives and whom they understand and love so much. Their guidance to us, now, is invaluable.

Floyd Schmue and Herbert Nicholson went to Fort Missoula in Montana, visiting among the men interned there, attending some of the hearings and acting as friend and interpreter. Both were impressed with the fairness of the hearings and the kindly and sympathetic attitude of the officials and the men on the hearing boards. They report that the interned men are satisfied with their treatment and are quite comfortably housed and warmly clothed. A Japanese chef prepares food for the Japanese and they have developed a flourishing cooperative, each man having contributed \$1.00 toward it. Their confidence in the fairness and justice of the Federal government is unbounded. May we not fail them now!

OF "HUMAN INTEREST"

Said a young Japanese-American (Nisei) truck farmer in a committee meeting the other day:

"These United States of ours are not just only the United States of white Americans and descendants of white Americans. They are made up of many different nationalities, races and religious groups.

"Many different elements go into the making of steel -- some to harden and some to temper it, but all to solidify and make it just right.

"Maybe, because of our suffering at this time for our citizenship, we, the American-born Japanese, may prove to be the manganese that will ultimately solidify and make just right these United States of ours of which we are loyal citizens."

He may be right! Who knows?

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Note regarding material for Information Bulletin

The Information Bulletin of the Japanese-American Relations Committee is compiled by Gracia Booth and material for future issues of the bulletin may be sent to her at 544 East Orange Grove Avenue, Pasadena.