

NATIVE SONS OF
1832 SOUTH HOPE STREET

LOS ANGELES
PARLOR
No 45



RECEIVED
WAR DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S OFFICE
THE GOLDEN WEST
LOS ANGELES, CALIF., TELEPHONE PROspect 1163

WILLARD F. ALLEN,
Secretary,
1716 N. EDGEMONT
LOS ANGELES

FEB 13 AM 8:40

February 8, 1943



Hon. Henry L. Stimson
Secretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Los Angeles Parlor No. 45 of The Native Sons of the Golden West, at its meeting February 4th unanimously adopted the accompanying petition.

Our members are convinced that all Japanese in this country and its possessions should be confined in concentration camps, and the camps placed under strict military control. To do otherwise, is to invite disaster.

Sincerely,

President.

Secretary.

Los Angeles Parlor No. 45 of The Native Sons of the Golden West is grieved and shocked to learn of the proposal to enroll in the United States Army a unit composed of so-called "citizens of the United States of America of Japanese ancestry."

The members of Los Angeles Parlor are firmly of the opinion that the Constitution of the United States of America does not confer citizenship on any person of Japanese descent born in this country, therefore there are no "citizens of the United States of Japanese ancestry"; they also are of the belief that all Japanese, regardless of protestations otherwise, inherently are loyal only to Japan, and they are thoroughly convinced that the enrollment of a United States Army unit composed of Japanese will be inimicable to the welfare of the State of California and the Nation, and will undoubtedly create a dangerous threat to a proper and adequate defense of this country. Therefore,

Resolved, That Los Angeles Parlor is strenuously opposed to the formation of a Japanese unit of the United States Army, and hereby respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States of America to exercise its prerogative and nullify the declared intention of the War Department to organize and enroll such a unit. And be it further

Resolved, That copies of this petition be sent the Secretary of War, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, the Chairman of the House of Representatives Military Affairs Committee and others.

ASW 34218 Sup-Dm. Comments

March 6, 1943

Allen; Willard F.

Dear Mr. Allen:

Your letter and petition of February 8th to the Secretary of War has been referred to me for reply. I regret the delay in answering you, but I am sure you can appreciate that we are doing our utmost to give careful consideration to all suggestions both pro and con the recent formation of a separate unit of loyal Japanese-American citizens in the Army.

I assure you that the decision by the War Department to accept loyal Japanese-American citizens in the Army, and the more recent policy of forming a separate unit of them, was reached only after very careful thought. No loyal Japanese-American citizen will be accepted into the armed forces until his loyalty has been thoroughly investigated.

It is always to be remembered that our country is composed of peoples of many different backgrounds, and it is unjust to say that all American citizens of Japanese ancestry are less loyal than other American citizens. We recognize that the attack on Pearl Harbor created in the minds of many people a fear of Japanese treachery, but this should not be held against our loyal Japanese-American citizens who are anxious to do their part in fighting this war.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED)

GORDON GRAND, JR.
First Lieutenant, QMC
Assistant Executive

Mr. Willard F. Allen, Secretary
Los Angeles Parlor No. 45
Native Sons of the Golden West
1832 South Hope Street
Los Angeles, California

X-
X-
X-
Native Sons
Golden West

OASW:GG:MB

3-6-43

April 29, 1943

Dear Mr. Augustus:

The Secretary of War asks that your letter of April 21, with the attached resolution No. 1096 adopted by the Board of Supervisors, be acknowledged. It has been made of record as evidencing your views on the Japanese American problem.

Sincerely,



WILLIAM P. SCOBEEY
Colonel, General Staff
Executive

Mr. William H. Augustus
Board of Supervisors,
County of San Mateo
Redwood City, California

casw:wps:maw

Good
34218
DA
Committee

Augustus, Wm H.

4-29-43
7-Completed
0-1-311
Wm H. Augustus
Committee - Augustus
Research etc. file

WILLIAM H. AUGUSTUS
COUNTY CLERK

CARL E. PETERSON
CHIEF DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
OFFICE OF COUNTY CLERK
REDWOOD CITY
CALIFORNIA

REDWOOD 2180
COUNTY CLERK
LOCAL 232
ELECTION - REGISTRATION
LOCAL 235

April 21, 1943 APR 27 AM 8:41

asw



Honorable C. L. Stimson
Secretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

By direction of the Board of Super-
visors, I am enclosing herewith copy of
Resolution No. 1096 adopted by the Board on
April 20, 1943, and which is self explanatory.

Very truly yours,

W. H. Augustus
Clerk of the Board of
Supervisors.

WHA:AMB
1 Enc.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. 1096

WHEREAS it has been announced through the press:

1. That the Secretary of War contemplates that some 28,000 native-born Japanese shall be incorporated into the United States Army in separate combat units; and

2. That the Federal authorities contemplate the release of from 25,000 to 40,000 Japanese from Relocation camps where they are now restrained, with no announced provision for adequate surveillance or control; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of San Mateo County believes that such contemplated action would be inimical to the best interests and to the welfare and effective defense of our country;

Be it resolved that we most vigorously and earnestly protest against the above proposed actions and each of them; that we convey this protest to the Secretary of War, to the War Relocation board, to our congressmen and senators and to the President of the United States and to each of our County Representatives in the State Legislature.

That we urge upon these authorities the following reasons, based upon an extensive experience with the Japanese, for more than 40 years, an intimate knowledge of their character, and our observation of what occurred on December 7, 1941, and immediately thereafter;

(1) Following Pearl Harbor and for the defense of the West Coast against attack and sabotage the Army wisely moved the Japanese from the Pacific Coast, NOW TO PERMIT THEM TO RETURN TO THEIR FORMER HABITAT WOULD SUBJECT US AGAIN TO THE DANGER OF SERIOUS SABOTAGE AND DIFFICULTY IN DEFENDING OUR SHORE LINE IN THE EVENT OF ATTACK.

(2) DUE TO THE TEMPER OF THE AMERICAN PUBLIC SINCE THE DASTARDLY ATTACK AT PEARL HARBOR we feel that IT WOULD BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE BEST INTERESTS OF THE JAPANESE THEMSELVES TO ALLOW THEM TO RETURN FOR RESIDENCE ON THE WEST COAST, and that difficult additional policing problems would be presented thereby in effecting their safety.

(3) IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN LOYAL AND DISLOYAL JAPANESE. We are in no position to judge the emotions of the Japanese inasmuch as they have maintained their own schools and religion, and in many cases, dual citizenship with their main allegiance to the Emperor of Japan.

(4) IF JAPANESE WERE ALLOWED TO RETURN TO THIS AREA WE COULD NOT EXPECT THE COOPERATION OF PRESENT AGRICULTURAL OR INDUSTRIAL LABORERS ALREADY ENGAGED IN THE WAR EFFORT IF THEY WERE CALLED UPON TO WORK WITH JAPANESE EVACUEES.

(5) TO ALLOW YOUNG JAPANESE TO LEAVE RELOCATION CAMPS FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES IN OUR COLLEGES WOULD BE UNJUST AND INEQUITABLE AS IT AFFECTS OUR OWN AMERICAN BOYS WHO HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT OF COLLEGE AND ARE SO LOYALLY SERVING THEIR COUNTRY in the armed forces to the detriment of their education and employment.

(6) IT IS THE OPINION of this Board that these Japanese should be contributing substantially to the war effort but we feel that it should be in areas removed from the Pacific Coast and by group movement UNDER FULL AND PROPER CONTROL AND SUPERVISION BY THE ARMY. IN NO EVENT SHOULD THEY BE DISBURSED THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WITHOUT PROPER PROVISION FOR ABSOLUTE SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE JAPANESE, BOTH ALIEN AND AMERICAN BORN SHOULD BE RETAINED IN RELOCATION CENTERS FOR THE DURATION UNLESS THEY ARE PLACED UNDER DIRECT AND ABSOLUTE SUPERVISION AND FULL CONTROL OF ARMY AUTHORITY and engaged in the furtherance of our war effort.

It is further resolved that our local civic organizations be requested and urged to join in this protest.

Regularly passed and adopted this 20th day of April, 1943.

Ayes and in favor of said resolution:

- Supervisors: T. L. Hickey
- Fred E. Beer
- J. W. Poole
- Alvin S. Hatch
- E. R. McDonald

Noes and against said resolution:

Supervisors: None.

Absent

Supervisors: None.

Fred E. Beer
Chairman,
Board of Supervisors, County of
San Mateo, State of California.

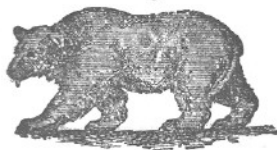
ATTEST:

(SEAL) W. H. Augustus
Clerk of said Board.

DE MOSS BOWERS
FINANCIAL AND RECORDING
SECRETARY
957 ELEVENTH STREET
SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

MEETS EVERY TUESDAY
NATIVE SONS' HALL
1334 1/2 FIFTH ST.
SANTA MONICA, CALIFORNIA

Santa Monica Bay Parlor No. 267



Native Sons of the Golden West

Santa Monica, California

1943 FEB 18 AM 8:47
WAR DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

February 15, 1943.

Hon. Henry L. Stimson
Secretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sir:

Santa Monica Bay Parlor, No. 267 of the Native Sons of the Golden West, at its meeting February 9th, unanimously adopted the accompanying resolution.

Members of our organization are of the unanimous opinion that the matter of loyalty to the United States of America on the part of persons of Japanese ancestry, whether American or Japanese born, is to be seriously doubted. Further, we feel that this sentiment is shared by the majority of the citizens of the State of California.

We, therefore, present this resolution with the hope that it will receive your most favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Hector P. Baida
President
Santa Monica Bay Parlor, No. 267

Committee:

Eldred L. Meyer,
Past Grand President

Lee Conger
Past President

William Delkener,
Trustee

R E S O L U T I O N

SANTA MONICA BAY PARLOR NO. 267,
NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

ADOPTED FEBRUARY 9TH, 1943

* * *

The members of Santa Monica Bay Parlor No. 267 of The Native Sons of the Golden West are grieved and shocked to learn of the proposal to enroll in the United States Army a unit composed of men of Japanese ancestry.

The members of Santa Monica Bay Parlor are firmly convinced that the enrollment of a United States Army unit composed of Japanese will be inimicable to the welfare of the State of California and of the Nation, and will create a dangerous threat to a proper and adequate defense of this country. Therefore, be it

Resolved, That Santa Monica Bay Parlor No. 267 of The Native Sons of the Golden West is strenuously opposed to the formation of a Japanese unit of the United States Army, and hereby respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States of America to take such steps as may be necessary to prevent the organization and enrollment of such a unit. And be it further

Resolved, That copies of this petition be sent to the Secretary of War, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, the Chairman of the House of Representatives Military Affairs Committee and others.

RECEIVED
WAR DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S OFFICE
FEB 23 PM 1:55

San Diego Parlor No. 208

Native Daughters of the Golden West
March 16, 1943
1253 University Ave.



250. 342.12

Dear Mrs. Baines:

The Secretary of War has asked that I acknowledge your letter of February 11, together with the resolution of the San Diego Parlor No. 208, Native Daughters of the Golden West, opposing the organization of a Japanese American combat team. The Secretary asks that you be thanked for your communication.

The War Department does not concur in your views in the treatment of Japanese American citizens of the United States. For your information the Army already has over 4,000 Japanese American citizens in its ranks, and some of them are to be found in both the North African and South Pacific theaters fighting with our forces. The reports received indicate their conduct is of the highest type, and War Department cannot concur in your view that these citizens should not be given the opportunity all other loyal citizens enjoy.

Sincerely,

Our members are convinced that all Japanese in this country and its possessions should be confined in concentration camps, and the camps placed under strict military control. To do otherwise, is to invite disaster.

WILLIAM P. SCOBEY
Colonel, General Staff
Executive

Mrs. Lena I. Baines, President
Native Daughters of the Golden West
1253 University Avenue
San Diego, California

OASW:WPS:MDH

Mrs. Lena I. Baines
President.
Mrs. Helen F. Brooks
Secretary.

Baines, Lena I.
Jap. Amer. Comments

N N N
Native Daughters of the Golden West
3-16-43

RECEIVED
WAR DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

1943 FEB 23 PM 1:55

ADW

San Diego Parlor No. 208

Native Daughters of the Golden West

1253 University Ave.



February 11, 1943

Dear Sir:

San Diego Parlor No. 208 Of the Native Daughters of the Golden West, at its meeting February 9, 1943 unanimously adopted the accompanying petition.

We sincerely hope it will have your careful attention, and that you will endeavor to have enacted legislation that will end for all time the "peaceful invasion" of our country by the Japanese.

Our members are convinced that all Japanese in this country and its possessions should be confined in concentration camps, and the camps placed under strict military control. To do otherwise, is to invite disaster.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lena J. Baines

President.

Mrs. Helen F. Croome,

Secretary.

San Diego Parlor No. 208 of the Native Daughters of the Golden West is grieved and shocked to learn of the proposal to enroll in the United States Army a unit composed of so-called "citizens of the United States of America of Japanese ancestry".

The members of San Diego Parlor are firmly of the opinion that all Japanese, regardless of protestations otherwise, inherently are loyal only to Japan, and they are thoroughly convinced that the enrollment of a United States Army unit composed of Japanese will be inimicable to the welfare of the State of California and the Nation, and will undoubtedly create a dangerous threat to a proper and adequate defense of this country. Therefore,

Resolved, That San Diego Parlor is strenuously opposed to the formation of a Japanese unit of the United States Army, and hereby respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States of America to exercise its prerogative and nullify the declared intention of the War Department to organize and enroll such a unit. And be it further

Resolved, That copies of this petition be sent to the Secretary of War, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, the Chairman of the House of Representatives Military Affairs Committee and others.

March 6, 1943

Dear Mrs. Baird:

Your letter of February 1 with the attached clippings, to the Secretary of War has been referred to me for reply.

Out of the 130,000 Japanese who were situated in the West Coast area it is undoubtedly true that there were some who were not loyal to our country. It is most unfair, however, to cite these few as the general rule, and I assure you that the present War Department policy to accept loyal Japanese American citizens into the Army was reached only after very careful thought.

Sincerely,

(REDACTED)

GORDON GRAND
1st Lieut., QMC
Assistant Executive

Mrs Stella Baird
1111 U Street
Sacramento, California

OASW:GG:MDH

9820 34218
Baird, Stella
QA Comments

2-1

3-6-43

1111 U St. Sacrame.
Feb. 1, 1943

RECEIVED
WAR DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Hon. H. L. ^{1943 FEB 5} Stinson
Secretary of War
Washington

AM 10:04

AW

Sir:

You might be interested to read the enclosed clippings from "Letters by the People," published in a local newspaper, as they are evidently are from persons who are well informed on the Japanese question and know from personal experience what they are talking about.

Yours very truly,

Stella Baird

All For Themselves

Editor of The Bee—Sir: My special peeve is a letter written by Mrs. Waegell of Elk Grove and printed in The Bee of January 25th.

I suggest that Mrs. Waegell get in touch with some of the boys who went through the Pearl Harbor raid on December 7, 1941. Before Pearl Harbor we treated the Japanese with as much deference as any other nation. In fact, we leaned over backward in an effort to keep the peace.

We sent Japan many hundreds of thousands of dollars after that disastrous earthquake in 1922. She swore eternal friendship. We furnished her with oil and scrap iron. She brought a lot of the scrap back as far as Pearl Harbor. Who knows which Japanese in America is loyal and which is not?

I have lived in California 52 years. I was in the United States Navy four years, stationed in the Pacific. I have been in Japan many times. Before you try to judge a Japanese you must know something of his characteristics. They do not like white folks. They have no sense of gratitude or appreciation. Everything they do is planned for their own benefit.

Hitler surely would smile if he could read some of the "so sorry Tojo" letters I have seen in print. You cannot make a sheep dog out of a wolf pup.

O. B. BAXTER.

1220½ Madison Street, Red Bluff.

E

SATURDAY,

Letters From

All Japanese Are Said To Be Tarred With Same Stick

Editor of The Bee—Sir: After reading the various Japanese controversy letters, I feel I must express my convictions.

I am an ex school teacher and have taught 40 miles on all sides of Sacramento — North, South, East and West. Also please understand I did not just commence to get wise to the Japanese since Pearl Harbor.

I have taught in rooms where there were 10 Japanese to one white child. It is common knowledge that while the Japanese went to our schools five days a week, they always had Japanese school on Saturday. I took the trouble to worm my way into their confidence and then ask them what this was for. The older and wiser ones simply would stall and say it was to teach them not to forget the land of their fathers, but the more naive blandly would explain to me they were taught the Japanese emperor eventually would rule the United States and the entire world; that he was the Son of Heaven, and that the Christ we told them about was a rank fake. They were instructed in the Japanese school to learn our ways and get an American education so they could be used when their emperor's great day arrived.

One scholar told me without the bat of an eye: "The Japanese flag shows the rising sun, but remember our war flag shows the sun half way up."

So there is no such thing as a loyal Japanese or a loyal American born in the United States of Japanese parentage. They are all tarred with the same stick.

C. W. MORRISON.

1914 Eleventh Street, Sacramento.

ARTHUR C. BALLARD
215 THIRD STREET N. E.
TELEPHONE 220-J
AUBURN, WASHINGTON

July 1, 1945



RECEIVED
WAR DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

5 PM 4:07

File

ASW 342.18 J.A. Comments
Ballard, Arthur C.

Hon. C. D. Stimson,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.;

Dear Sir:

As you are doubtless aware, the Remember Pearl Harbor League and other pseudo-patriotic and race baiting organizations in the Puget Sound area are thwarting the return and reestablishment in their homes and occupations those persons of Japanese ancestry who have been cleared by the army of subversive tendencies. So that numbers of inoffensive persons are being set adrift and will so remain unless more active steps from some quarter are taken to assure them of their rights as law abiding citizens and residents of this area.

Those who have taken over leases or acquired at a low figure the property of the evacuees and those who are motivated by race consciousness have pretty well muddied the waters of public opinion and obscured the fact the evacuees attempting to return are only those who have been screened by the army intelligence service. Indeed they have publicly asserted that 'No Jap is loyal, even if serving in the army.'

Aspersions are cast upon the War Relocation Authority, which organization is blamed for "sending the Japs back" and at the same time the W. R. A. has no means of protecting these people, since their authority ceases the moment the evacuees depart from camp, and are exposed to petty indignities. Small wonder that few are reestablished in their homes.

In the end it is public opinion that prevails. If the Army, which forcibly removed these people in 1942, would in a public manner back up its confidence in the loyalty of these people by having its representatives appear at public forums, if it would detail returned soldiers of Japanese ancestry to so appear and if the army or other appropriate agency of government would make it clear that the civil and economic rights of the minority cannot be violated with impunity, the good sense of the main body of our citizens will support such policies and the race baiting minority will be discountenanced. The W. R. A. seems without power in this situation and it would seem that the War Department has at least one of the keys to the solution of this crisis, which as a private citizen I would respectfully urge upon your consideration.

Yours very truly,

Arthur C. Ballard.

1 July 45

February 9, 1943

Dear Mrs. Bass:

The Secretary of War has asked me to acknowledge with thanks your kind letter to him of January 29, 1943, concerning the new War Department program for loyal Japanese-Americans.

Sincerely,

(SIGNED) JOHN J. McCLOY
JOHN J. McCLOY
Assistant Secretary of War

Mrs. B. J. Bass
2015 Huntington Lane
Redondo Beach, California

OASW:JMH:MEG

OASW
3/2.18
Pop. Comm. - Comments
Bass, Mrs. J.B.

q.

24.13

Redondo Beach Calif.

Jan. 29 1943.

RECEIVED
WAR DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

1943 FEB 8 AM 8:42

Sec. of War Stimson;

Sir:

I am taking the liberty to write this letter, thanking you for your decision toward our American born Japanese. As I wrote to you at the beginning of the war, I have never been able to understand why these people should not have the same chances that the Germans and Italians are having. One of our biggest Airplane Plants is run almost intirely by Germans That is North American. Even former members of the German Bond are employed there as bosses. I hope you will use your influence

II

Seeing that these Japanese
whether foreign born or Natives
will get a fair deal, an American
Deal, You are living up to our
Allegiance, "With liberty and justice
to all." I am proud we still
have one man who believes in
justice. No doubt you wonder at
my great concern over the Japanese.

Well Mr Stimson I have tilled
their farms with them and lived
on those farms, ate at their
tables, I feel I know a lot more
about them than most of these
dear, "Native Sons + Daughters"
who were glad to eat their
products, but who never wasted
their time to steady a people
who have always been treated
by us as servants. These people

III

Why would not spend their last cent for equipment had they known Japan was going to strike us in the back. Why can't we be fair minded? Give every one the same chance to prove his worth. We would not be short of food stuff now if the Japanese were allowed to farm. Fields all over Southern Calif. that used to be beautiful are now weed patches. Markets are closed, yet some of our dear Californians try to kid themselves and the rest of the world by stating the Americans and Mexicans are carrying on. Why should we import a bunch of Mexicans in here who are cut throats and too lazy to work when we have men and women among the Japanese who can and would

ly to glad to till the soil
again, just to be allowed to live
as human beings. If we take
away their citizenship, then by all
the powers of Heaven, none of us
are Americans. Don't let these
Natives rule and wreck a Free
America or what it stands for.
Thanking you again from the bottom
of my heart, not only for myself
but for a good many more I can
vouch for who know the Japanese as I
know them, And God grant we
have more men like you at the
head of our nation.

I Am. (a Native Daughter)
(not proud of it any more)

Mrs B. J. Bass

2015 Huntington Lane

Redondo Beach

Cal

Box 305 letter

Gresham, Ore. ↑ That's our

Apr 14th - 43.

WAR DEPARTMENT
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

To the War Department:-

1943 APR 20 PM 1:51

Dear Sirs:- Listening to the radio, I heard the announcement of 25-00 Japs, Japanese American soldiers from Hawaii on their way to Mississippi to join just so many more of our (so called,) Japanese American soldiers of which they will have their own officers.

To tell you the truth, I don't believe you Easterners know "much" of the Japs. We out West certainly do. "To much"

I heard some one who knew the facts state that when a Japanese baby is born in this Good old U.S.A. they are immediately taken and proclaimed citizens of Japan. I wonder how any body can be citizens of two Countries.

One of our boys from our own High School was fighting most desperately against us at Pearl Harbor. They take all they can get in the line of information. "We know out here!"

Their idea is to get the ins and outs of Navy, and every other division of "Our Army" & various equipments. We out West know "You'd better be careful" or we will loose this Country as the small children, some 18 years & more called this "Young Japan" to my own grand children, & "That's no lie". Where did they hear it?

I'm really sorry I must write this letter.
I Pray to God, for all of our Race, that "Our
Flag" will keep flying forever in this Good Old
U.S.A. and we certainly aren't ready to give
them our Pacific Coast, so please think
twice before putting them to the front so
they can spread news of all of our affairs to
their Country.

I do hope "A word to the wise is sufficient."
Also Ignorance is Bliss but tis jolly to be
wise. so you who do all these wonderful
things back there "You'd better get wise."

I think I've said sufficient. Could say a
lot more, but think you'll take fair warning
"before its to late."

God Bless all of you who try to do your
very best, and please don't do any thing
you will "be sorry" for, when its to late.

God Bless and Protect of our boys & when I
say Our boys I mean our "real" Citizens (white)
we are loosing many & believe me they are
"True Blue" The very best blood of Our Country.

Will close with a great deal of
respect to you all

You need not read my name, but I am
Respy. Mrs. John Bliss.

Board of Supervisors of Co. of Los Angeles

(ASW 342.18 J. A./Burks, Alice) Comments

May 5, 1943

It is hoped that this will give you some concept of the existing situation and the policy of the War Department on the matter.

Dear Miss Burks:

Sincerely,

Your letter of April 29 and the attached action of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, relating to the War Department's action on the release of the Japanese from relocation centers, has been transmitted to this office for acknowledgment and reply. The Board is thanked for its interest in the matter and for furnishing the Secretary with a copy of its resolution.

It seems appropriate in replying thereto to inform the Board that the facts stated in its resolution have not been correctly determined. The War Department does not contemplate incorporating 28,000 native born Japanese into the armed service. It does have a current plan for organizing a combat team of American citizens of Japanese extraction which, when complete, will give to the Army approximately 9,000 Japanese.

The War Department was the agency responsible for the evacuation of the Japanese from the West Coast. Undoubtedly, you are aware that it was not intended that this mass evacuation imply disloyalty on the part of all Japanese. The occasion for the evacuation was the lack of information as to the individual disposition of the Japanese on the West Coast and the exigencies of the military situation then existing. Assuming that many of these Japanese are loyal, of which the War Department is convinced, it does not appear either right or in accordance with the American conception of democracy to retain these loyal Japanese in restricted custody, and it is not believed that your council would so subscribe. Certainly, the War Department does not concur in any action which would jeopardize the security of the West Coast, any other coast of the United States, or the safety of its military expeditions. It might be interesting for you to know that among the Japanese American soldiers now in the Army, many are in theaters of operation, and only recently three of these Japanese Americans were decorated by their theater commander for meritorious service.

May 5, 1943

18 J. A. COMM
Board

It is hoped that this will give you some concept of the existing situation and the policy of the War Department on the matter.

Sincerely,

W.P.S.

WILLIAM P. SCOBEY
Colonel, General Staff
Executive

Miss Alice Burks, Chief Clerk
Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles, California

93005
34218 J.A.

March 13, 1943

Dear Mr. Brazelton:

Your letter and petition of February 19, to the Secretary of War has been referred to me for reply.

The fact that we are at war with Japan should not blind us to the realization that there are a great number of very loyal Japanese-American citizens in our country. It would be unfair, indeed, to deny these people an opportunity to fight for their country, and I cannot but believe that to do otherwise would be nothing short of racial discrimination, which has no place in our country.

Sincerely yours,

(SIGNED)

GORDON GRAND, JR.
First Lieutenant, QMC
Assistant Executive

Mr. R. W. Brazelton, Secretary
Arrowhead Parlor No. 110
Native Sons of the Golden West
San Bernardino, California

Comment
Brazelton, R. W.

2-

3.13.43

R. W. BRAZELTON
RECORDING SECRETARY
P. O. Box 616

M. G. HALE
FINANCIAL SECRETARY
412 THIRD STREET

HALL OF
Arrowhead Parlor No. 110
NATIVE SONS OF THE GOLDEN WEST

Every
Wednesday
Night



Odd Fellows'
Temple
675 Third Street

SAN BERNARDINO, CALIFORNIA

February 19, 1943

RECEIVED
WAR DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S OFFICE
1943 MAR 3 AM 8:35
RW

Hon. Henry L. Stimson,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Arrowhead Parlor No. 110 of The Native Sons of the Golden West, at its meeting February 17, 1943, unanimously adopted the accompanying petition.

We sincerely hope it will have your careful attention, and that you will endeavor to have enacted legislation that will end for all time the "peaceful invasion" of our country by the Japanese.

Our members are convinced that all Japanese in this country and its possessions should be confined in concentration camps, and the camps placed under strict military control. To do otherwise, is to invite disaster.

Sincerely,

Arrowhead Parlor No. 110, N.S.G.W.

Jack D. McCoy, President

R. W. Brazelton
R. W. Brazelton, Secretary ✓

Arrowhead Parlor No. 110 of The Native Sons of the Golden West is grieved and shocked to learn of the proposal to enroll in the United States Army a unit composed of so-called "citizens of the United States of America of Japanese ancestry."

The members of Arrowhead Parlor are firmly of the opinion that the Constitution of the United States of America does not confer citizenship on any person of Japanese descent born in this country, therefore there are no "citizens of the United States of Japanese ancestry"; they also are of the belief that all Japanese, regardless of protestations otherwise, inherently are loyal only to Japan, and they are thoroughly convinced that the enrollment of a United States Army unit composed of Japanese will be inimicable to the welfare of the State of California and the Nation, and will undoubtedly create a dangerous threat to a proper and adequate defense of this country. Therefore,

Resolved, That Arrowhead Parlor is strenuously opposed to the formation of a Japanese unit of the United States Army, and hereby respectfully petitions the Congress of the United States of America to exercise its prerogative and nullify the declared intention of the War Department to organize and enroll such a unit. And be it further

Resolved, That copies of this petition be sent the Secretary of War, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Chairman of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, the Chairman of the House of Representatives Military Affairs Committee and others.

May 18, 1943

Dear Mr. Buckley:

The Secretary of War is in receipt of your letter of May 12, transmitting a copy of the resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of San Diego County, on the subject of the Japanese in America. He asks that acknowledgment be made.

The War Department does not subscribe to the views stated in the resolution of the Board of Supervisors. The War Department feels that retention of 100,000 people in relocation centers at the expense of the government in time of War not only is unjust to those who can establish their loyalty, but it is an unnecessary expense. The War Department policy in this matter is to make a determination of those who are loyal and release them from the centers to be employed in gainful occupations in support of the war effort or serve in the Army of the United States. Also, the War Department is in accord with the view that all disloyal or suspected disloyal Japanese, whether citizens or aliens, should be retained under close supervision and denied the privileges that are given to the loyal people.

This policy is in accord with expressions of the President, the recommendations made by Senator Chandler, Chairman of the Senate Sub-Committee for Military Affairs, and it appears to be in accord with democratic American views.

To condemn the Japanese in this country as a whole for the actions of the Japanese militarists does not seem to be just or appropriate. Undoubtedly you are aware that the War Department and the Army have the responsibility of protecting the West Coast as well as all other coasts and it does not propose to relax any of the restrictions which might jeopardize this security. However, it must be recognized that United States soldiers of Japanese extraction who have been taken into the Army have the rights of soldiers and they have the authority to visit on the West Coast. The privileges afforded these soldiers must be respected.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM P. SCOBEE

WILLIAM P. SCOBEE
Colonel, General Staff
Executive

Mr. C. Buckley, Deputy Clerk
Board of Supervisors
308 Civic Center
San Diego, California

oasw:wps:maw

19500 342.18 9.0 Comments
Buckley, C.

F. Scobey
Buckley

518.43



County of San Diego



CIVIC CENTER BUILDING

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

CIVIC CENTER

May 12, 1943

DAVID W. BIRD - CHAIRMAN

WALTER BELLON
1ST DISTRICT, SAN DIEGO

DAVID W. BIRD
2D DISTRICT, NATIONAL CITY

JOHN P. FADDIS
3D DISTRICT, SAN DIEGO

HARRY C. WARNER
4TH DISTRICT, SAN DIEGO

DEAN E. HOWELL
5TH DISTRICT, ESCONDIDO

J. B. McLEES, COUNTY CLERK
AND EX-OFFICIO CLERK
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

C. BUCKLEY, DEPUTY CLERK

1943 MAY 17 AM 10:26
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
WAR DEPT. 10-43
(47)

Secretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is certified copy of a resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of San Diego County, California, relative to the exclusion of Japanese from coastal defense areas.

Very truly yours,

J. B. MC LEES, County Clerk
and ex officio Clerk of the
Board of Supervisors

By C. Buckley
Deputy

ok.
Enc.1



In the Matter of Exclusion of Japanese
from Coastal Defense Areas.....

) that these Japanese should
be sent to the war effort but we feel that it
should be to be removed from the Pacific Coast and by group
movement under full and proper control and supervision by the Army.

ON MOTION of Supervisor Warner, seconded by Supervisor Howell,
the following resolution is adopted:

WHEREAS it has been announced through the press:

- 1. That the Secretary of War contemplates that some 28,000 native-born Japanese shall be incorporated into the United States Army in separate combat units; and
- 2. That the Federal authorities contemplate the release of from 25,000 to 40,000 Japanese from relocation camps where they are now restrained, with no announced provision for adequate surveillance or control; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego, State of California, believe that such contemplated action would be inimical to the best interests and to the welfare and effective defense of our Country;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we ^{most} vigorously and earnestly protest against the above proposed actions, and each of them, for the following reasons:

- (1) Following Pearl Harbor and for the defense of the West Coast against attack and sabotage, the Army wisely moved the Japanese from the Pacific Coast. Now to permit them to return to their former habitat would subject us again to the danger of serious sabotage and difficulty in defending our shore line in the event of attack;
- (2) Due to the temper of the American Public since the dastardly attack at Pearl Harbor, and reports of the execution by the Japanese of prisoners of war, we feel that it would be detrimental to the best interests of the Japanese themselves to allow them to return for residence on the West Coast, and that difficult additional policing problems would be presented thereby in effecting their safety;
- (3) It is impossible to distinguish between loyal and disloyal Japanese. We are in no position to judge the emotions of the Japanese inasmuch as they have maintained their own schools and religion, and in many cases dual citizenship with their main allegiance to the Emperor of Japan;
- (4) If Japanese were allowed to return to this area we could not expect the cooperation of present agricultural or industrial laborers already engaged in the war effort if they were called upon to work with Japanese evacuees;
- (5) To allow young Japanese to leave relocation camps for educational purposes in our colleges would be unjust and inequitable as it affects our own American boys who have been taken out of college and are so loyally serving their Country in the armed forces to the detriment of their education and employment;

(6) It is the opinion of this Board that these Japanese should be contributing substantially to the war effort but we feel that it should be in areas removed from the Pacific Coast and by group movement under full and proper control and supervision by the Army. In no event should they be disbursed throughout the Country without proper provision for absolute surveillance and control.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Japanese, both alien and American-born should be retained in relocation centers for the duration unless they are placed under direct and absolute supervision and full control of Army authority and engaged in the furtherance of our war effort.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded by the Clerk of this Board to the Secretary of War, to the War Relocation Board, to our Congressmen and Senators and to the President of the United States.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego, State of California, this 10th day of May, 1943, by the following vote:

AYES: Supervisors Bellon, Bird, Faddis, Warner and Howell
NOES: Supervisors None
ABSENT: Supervisors None

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,)
) SS.
COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO,)

I, J. B. McLEES, County Clerk of the County of San Diego, State of California, and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of said County, hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing copy with the original resolution passed and adopted by said Board, at a regular meeting thereof, at the time and by the vote therein stated, which original resolution is now on file in my office; that the same contains a full, true and correct transcript therefrom and of the whole thereof.

Witness my hand and the seal of said Board of Supervisors, this 11th day of May A.D. 1943.

J. B. McLEES, County Clerk and
ex-officio Clerk of the Board
of Supervisors.

By M. Gibian
Deputy

(SEAL)



ALICE BURKS
CHIEF CLERK OF THE BOARD

County of Los Angeles
Board of Supervisors
Los Angeles

April 29th, 1943.

MEMBERS of the BOARD
ROGER W. JESSUP
WILLIAM A. SMITH
GORDON L. McDONOUGH Chm.
JOHN ANSON FORD
OSCAR HAUGE

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

W. M. C. G. P. R.
Secretary to the President

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
MAY - 8 1943
WAR DEPT.

The President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Enclosed herewith is certified copy of order adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, endorsing protest of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey against the contemplated incorporation of native-born Japanese into the United States Army and release of Japanese from relocation camps.

Most respectfully yours,

Alice Burks

Chief Clerk,
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.



enc.
g

unw. attached

OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

TUESDAY, APRIL 27th, 1943.

The Board met in regular session. Present: Supervisor Gordon L. McDonough, Chairman presiding, William A. Smith, John Anson Ford, Oscar Hauge and Roger W. Jessup; and J. F. Moroney, Clerk, by Alice Burks, Deputy Clerk.

IN RE CONTEMPLATED ACTION)
TO INCORPORATE NATIVE-BORN) On motion of Supervisor Hauge, duly
JAPANESE INTO THE UNITED) carried by the following vote, to wit:
STATES ARMY AND TO RELEASE)
JAPANESE FROM RELOCATION) Ayes, Supervisors Smith, Hauge, Jessup
CAMPS: ORDER ENDORSING) and McDonough; Noes, none (Supervisor
PROTEST OF BOARD OF SUPER-)
VISORS OF THE COUNTY OF)
MONTEREY, CALIFORNIA.) Ford not voting), it is ordered that

the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles does hereby endorse the resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, California, on April 12th, 1943, most vigorously and earnestly protesting against the following contemplated actions as announced through the press, to wit:

1. That the Secretary of War contemplates that some 28,000 native-born Japanese shall be incorporated into the United States Army in separate combat units; and

2. That the Federal authorities contemplate the release of from 25,000 to 40,000 Japanese from relocation camps where they are now restrained, with no announced provision for adequate surveillance or control.

And it is further ordered that certified copies of this order be sent to the Secretary of War, to the War Relocation Board, to our Congressmen and Senators and to the President of the United States and to each Board of Supervisors of the State of California.

The foregoing order was adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, State of California, on April 27th, 1943, and is entered in the Minutes of said Board.

J. F. MORONEY, County Clerk of the County
of Los Angeles, State of California,
and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of
Supervisors of said County.

By

Alice Burks

Deputy.



ALICE BURKS

CHIEF CLERK OF THE BOARD

County of Los Angeles
Board of Supervisors

Los Angeles 1943 MAY 3 PM 4:25

April 29th, 1943.

RECEIVED
COUNTY DEPARTMENT
SECRETARY'S OFFICE

ASMT

MEMBERS of the BOARD

ROGER W. JESSUP
WILLIAM A. SMITH
GORDON L. McDONOUGH Chm.
JOHN ANSON FORD
OSCAR HAUGE

Hon. Henry L. Stimson,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith is certified copy of order adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, endorsing protest of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey against the contemplated incorporation of native-born Japanese into the United States Army and release of Japanese from relocation camps.

Very truly yours,

Alice Burks

Chief Clerk,
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

enc.

g

*Extra Copies
Keep with
my papers*

May 5, 1943

It is hoped that this will give you some concept of the existing situation and the policy of the War Department on the matter.

Dear Miss Burks:

Sincerely,
[Signature]

Your letter of April 29 and the attached action of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, relating to the War Department's action on the release of the Japanese from relocation centers, has been transmitted to this office for acknowledgment and reply. The Board is thanked for its interest in the matter and for furnishing the Secretary with a copy of its resolution.

It seems appropriate in replying thereto to inform the Board that the facts stated in its resolution have not been correctly determined. The War Department does not contemplate incorporating 28,000 native born Japanese into the armed service. It does have a current plan for organizing a combat team of American citizens of Japanese extraction which, when complete, will give to the Army approximately 9,000 Japanese.

The War Department was the agency responsible for the evacuation of the Japanese from the West Coast. Undoubtedly, you are aware that it was not intended that this mass evacuation imply disloyalty on the part of all Japanese. The occasion for the evacuation was the lack of information as to the individual disposition of the Japanese on the West Coast and the exigencies of the military situation then existing. Assuming that many of these Japanese are loyal, of which the War Department is convinced, it does not appear either right or in accordance with the American conception of democracy to retain these loyal Japanese in restricted custody, and it is not believed that your council would so subscribe. Certainly, the War Department does not concur in any action which would jeopardize the security of the West Coast, any other coast of the United States, or the safety of its military expeditions. It might be interesting for you to know that among the Japanese American soldiers now in the Army, many are in theaters of operation, and only recently three of these Japanese Americans were decorated by their theater commander for meritorious service.

*Extra Copies
Req. with
my papers*

It is hoped that this will give you some concept of the existing situation and the policy of the War Department on the matter.

Dear Miss Burks:

Sincerely,
SIGNED

Your letter of April 29 and the attached action of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, relating to the War Department's policy on the release of the Japanese from relocation camps, has been transmitted to this office for acknowledgment and reply. The Board is thanked for its interest in the matter and for furnishing the Secretary with a copy of its resolution.

WILLIAM P. SCOBEE
Colonel, General Staff
Executive

It seems appropriate in replying thereto to Miss Alice Burks, Chief Clerk, Board of Supervisors, County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, that the facts stated in its resolution have been correctly determined. The War Department is presently incorporating 28,000 native born Japanese into the armed services. It does have a current plan for organizing a combat team of American citizens of Japanese extraction which, when complete, will give to the Army approximately 9,000 Japanese.

The War Department was the agency responsible for the evacuation of the Japanese from the West Coast. Undoubtedly, you are aware that it was not intended that this mass evacuation imply disloyalty on the part of all Japanese. The occasion for the evacuation was the lack of information as to the individual disposition of the Japanese on the West Coast and the exigencies of the military situation then existing. Assuming that many of these Japanese are loyal, of which the War Department is convinced, it does not appear either right or in accordance with the American conception of democracy to retain these loyal Japanese in restricted custody, and it is not believed that your council would so subscribe. Certainly, the War Department does not concur in any action which would jeopardize the security of the West Coast, any other coast of the United States, or the safety of its military expeditions. It might be interesting for you to know that among the Japanese American soldiers now in the Army, many are in theaters of operation, and only recently three of these Japanese Americans were decorated by their theater commander for meritorious service.

FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY

WDOAS:DS:jeh

305 KENSINGTON PLACE

PASADENA 3, CALIFORNIA

ASW 342.18 Japanese Americans

Comments

CARR, William C.

23 July 1945

Mr. William C. Carr, Chairman
Friends of the American Way
305 Kensington Place
Pasadena 3, California

Dear Mr. Carr:

Mr. McCloy has been away from Washington for some time and in his absence I have been asked to answer your letter of July 16, 1945.

The War Department has given serious consideration to the problems mentioned in your letter. As you know, the evacuation of Japanese-Americans from the West Coast was ordered by the military authorities solely as a matter of military necessity, and when military necessity for the exclusion ceased, the mass exclusion was rescinded. The War Department recognizes that these measures, like many other military measures, have given rise in many cases to serious social and economic problems. The solution of these problems has, however, been entrusted to the civilian agencies rather than the War Department and, although the War Department is fully cooperating with those agencies, it is not authorized or particularly qualified to deal with those problems. I think you will agree that the War Department is correct in feeling that the military should be extremely reluctant, except in cases of the clearest military need, to enter the spheres of civilian life in which civilian authorities have traditionally borne the primary responsibility.

Sincerely,

BTOWED

DAVIDSON SOMMERS
Major, Air Corps
Assistant Executive

DISPATCHED FROM O.A.S.W. 23 Jul 45
5:45 R/m jeh

X

23 July 45

R

FRIENDS OF THE AMERICAN WAY

305 KENSINGTON PLACE • PASADENA 3, CALIFORNIA
SYcamore 21790



Mr. John J. McCloy
War Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Our group is well aware of your personal understanding of the plight of the Japanese Americans and their parents. We ask your cooperation in having the War Department assume a responsibility which it incurred when it forcibly evacuated 110,000 of our neighbors. Many of these thousands who have kept the faith in spite of a bitter experience in democracy are now attempting to resume normal living in their home communities. The forced evacuation is the cause of their present need for finances, housing and employment. Many are the objects of intimidation, boycotts and violence.

The removing of these people was an Army concern, and the Army acted. By such action it incurred a moral obligation to those who were guiltless. Now they need and deserve the protection and restitution this obligation involves. America, too, needs to assume this obligation. Not only is our own self-respect at stake, but we are being watched and judged by the millions in China and India.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Wm. C. Carr".

Wm. C. Carr, Chairman