Wants Japanese Deported

Editor of The Bee—Sir: Utterances are arising from people calling themselves Americans, beseeching the citizenry of California to recognize the Japanese born within the state as a citizen and an equal. This should be an ease for the marines in the South Seas, American-born or not, these Orientals, since the beginning of the century, have practiced dual citizenship.

Is there one who, since Pearl Harbor, in the Letters From The People in The Bee has begged that Californians practice tolerance who has the audacity to say these soldiers, sailors and marines who were in the thick of it, came all the way home after being wounded just to pop off?

Americans and Californians in particular must awaken. The citizens must realize that the Japanese absolutely has no place in our Democracy. The constitution some way, some how, must be amended to exclude the Japanese, either national or American born, from citizenship, and the quicker the better. California, and Sacramento County in particular, have done right well since May, 1942. Why release the Japanese after the duration? Why not deport them all by legislation?

W. P. BREWSTER
4351 Eighth Avenue, Sacramento.

Not Wanted As Neighbors

Editor of The Bee—Sir: If the Japanese are permitted to return to Pierce County after the war, I will no longer be a taxpayer there. I am not going to stand for the Japanese again as neighbors.

I have one daughter and two sons in school. They and all the rest of the children feel the same way as do we mothers and fathers. It is too bad some people cannot listen to what our boys in the service think of coming back to have Japanese as fellow workers again. That seems to be the main subject in camp and on ship. If this is not settled before the end of the war—the removal of all the Japanese—my sons and your sons will have another fight in the near future.

Too bad some of our war workers cannot live in these idle Japanese homes. But I guess tents and trailer houses are good enough for our people.

MOTHER OF A FUTURE LOOMIS.

SOLDIER.
Hon. John J. McCloy
Assistant Secretary of War
War Department
Washington, D.C.

June 7, 1943

Dear Mr. McCloy:

Encouraged by what I heard last evening from my colleague Paul Taylor of the correspondence he has recently had with you in regard to the problem presented by the Japanese Relocation Centers and their inmates I am writing to express to you my warm approval of the present policy of the War Department regarding this difficult matter. I believe wholeheartedly in what the War Department is trying to do, and particularly in its program to utilize the services of those American citizens of Japanese ancestry whose loyalty can be established. I should like further to state that it is my belief that a majority of Californians perhaps a large majority - feel as Mr. Taylor and I do, and that the group which is opposing the War Department's policy although vociferous is relatively small. It is composed almost exclusively of individuals who are motivated by myopic self-interest.

Since they may not have come to your attention, and since they will give you a broader view of California thinking on this subject than I can present in this letter, I am venturing to enclose copies of a letter which I addressed to Senator Robert Reynolds on February 16th last and a letter signed by twenty representative citizens of this state which was sent to General De Witt a year earlier. You will note that in my letter to Senator Reynolds I urged the adoption of a policy which parallels very closely the policy which the War Department is now following.

Yours most respectfully,

Howard Moïse
Professor of Architecture
University of California
March 24, 1942

Lieutenant General John DeWitt
Headquarters 9th Army Corps
Salt Lake City, Utah

Dear General DeWitt:

We, as citizens of California, are addressing this letter to you in support of your efforts to meet the Japanese problem with efficiency and fairness, on the basis of a realistic acceptance of practical fact. We feel that much can be gained for the future by wise action now in handling the Japanese situation here. We look forward to a post-war world where all people of good will may live in mutual respect and amity, and we are concerned that the necessary measures for our present safety should not in any way jeopardize this ultimate aim. If the task of protecting our interests against actions of possible saboteurs is done with efficiency, and yet with consideration, it will be one of the finest demonstrations ever staged of the working of democratic processes.

In view of the report from the Chief of Police of Honolulu, Mr W. A. Gabrielson, that no acts of sabotage were committed in Honolulu or Pearl Harbor on December 7th, and that none have been committed since that time, the wisdom or necessity of the segregation of all Japanese residents of the State may certainly be questioned. Moreover, the doubtful constitutionality of the internment of citizens without due process of law presents a problem in civil liberties which might prove embarrassing.

Whatever our attitude toward the Japanese at the present time may be, all of the American-born Japanese must eventually be absorbed into American life as citizens. It would, therefore, be most unfortunate if our present treatment of them -- through unfairness or lack of consideration -- should build up psychological reactions which would make their reabsorption into normal peace-time life as citizens more difficult. We also recognize that for all of these people, many of whom we believe to be deeply opposed to the policies of the military regime in Japan, the situation in which they are placed by the war is at best one of terrific psychological stress and that, therefore, far from making the situation more difficult, we should do everything in our power to minimize its effect upon their characters.

From the point of view of winning the war, a very important consideration would be to stress the fairness with which the Japanese,
and especially the American Japanese, were treated, and thus drive a
wedge between the civil and military groups in Japan. Any unfairness
would, of course, be a powerful weapon of propaganda in the hands of the
Axis. Considerations of reciprocity in the treatment of American nationals
in Japan bring a high degree of self-interest to bear on this particular
issue. We cannot expect our citizens to be treated any better than the
treatment we give to those of other nations who are under our jurisdiction.

The problem facing California in regard to Japanese farmers is particularly
difficult, not only because this group contributes substantially to our
food supply, but because the removal of their families involves costly
dislocations of doubtful defense value. If American-born Japanese farmers
of recognized loyalty were allowed to remain on their land, any surveil-
ance of these families deemed necessary would be relatively simple, since
their identity is so clearly marked.

The specific object of this letter, however, is to bring to your attention
a concrete plan, which has recently been formulated, whereby the housing
at present needed for evacuees would be so planned and constructed as to be
of value at the end of the war for another purpose. This purpose is the
provision of sanitoria or rehabilitation centers for disabled members of
our armed forces. It would enable such Japanese nationals as must be in-
ternal, together with any Japanese Americans who might care to cooperate,
to have a major part in the planning and construction of communities in
which they would themselves live for the duration, and in which such work
and skills as they had contributed would continue to be enjoyed and appre-
ciated during the "cooling off period" which many feel should precede final
peace settlements.

The Plan calls for the location of four or five villages planned and built
on the most efficient modern lines in such a way as to provide easily for
medical care, but without the institutional atmosphere associated with large
and congested hospital units. It is possible also that other types of
villages could be built in areas where post-war expansion is anticipated.
These villages would be ready for use by ex-service men and by those now
engaged in war activities in congested areas. The planning and construction
could be placed under the supervision of some existing agency, such as the
architectural division of the Farm Security Administration.

Would it not be possible to select sites for four or five such villages in
the interior valleys of California where the safety factor would be adequate,
where climate, soil, water, and other physical conditions are favorable, and
which would be appropriate for the post-war uses mentioned?

If such sections could be located, mobile camps could be set up on the
pattern employed by the Farm Security Administration in handling migrant
workers in farming areas of short season demand. The men from families to be relocated could be moved into these camps with the least delay, to be followed by their families as fast as accommodations can be provided. The new settlements would be organized on a cooperative basis, and all those desiring employment assigned to tasks for which they are trained. Medical cooperatives could be organized to take care of all health needs. Schools could be established with teachers selected, in large part, from the group itself. Recreation could be organized for young and old, and all utility services could be run on the basis of municipal ownership and control.

A group of Japanese architects who are graduates of the University of California have already expressed their desire to be of service in any undertaking where their skills can be utilized. Engineers, carpenters, masons, plumbers, and others experienced in construction could be employed in building houses, health and recreational centers, hospital units, and all other buildings which go to make up such a community. Gardeners could be employed in landscaping the villages and in the care of parks and other public grounds. The skills and energy of the group would be utilized in every way possible in preparing for a better post-war period. This voluntary employment would provide income for their support and would release other labor for needed work in defense activities.

When the war is over, the families occupying these villages could return to their former homes, or relocate as conditions permitted, while the villages planned on the best modern design would become valuable and permanent assets.

Respectfully yours,

Signed: Ray Lyman Wilbur (President, Stanford University)
       Edgar Eugene Robinson
       Jessie Knight Jordan (Mrs David Starr Jordan)
       Edith Jordan Gardner
       Edward S. Heller
       Josephine W. Duveneck
       Frank Duveneck
       Gerde Isenberg
       R. F. Isenberg
       Emily Olga Joseph
       Walter E. Packard
       Howard Moise
       Allen C. Blaisdell
       Max Radin
       Monroe E. Deutsch (Vice President and Provost
                              University of California)

Copies to:
President of the United States
Vice President
Secretary of War
Governor of California
United States Attorney General

Paul S. Taylor
Catherine Bauer
Alexander Watchman (AFL)
George Wilson (CIO)
Edward Howden

In Re Contemplated Action to incorporate Native-born Japanese into the United States Army and to release Japanese from relocation Camps: Order endorsing protest of Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, California.

On motion of Supervisor Springmeyer seconded by Supervisor Brune, duly carried by the following vote, to-wit:

Ayes, supervisor Dangberg, Thornburg, Brune and Springmeyer; Noes, none;
(Supervisor Bruns, absent)—

It is ordered that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Alpine does hereby endorse the Resolution adopted by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Monterey, California, on April 12, 1943, most vigorously and earnestly protesting against the following contemplated actions 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 Alpine, State of California, on May 3rd, 1943, and is entered in the Minutes of said Board.

LILLIAN B. THORNBURG,
County Clerk of the County of Alpine, State of California, and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of said County.
The Honorable Henry L. Stimson  
Secretary of War  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed please find a copy of Resolution No. 76 which was approved and adopted by our Board of Supervisors on April 13, 1943.

Very truly yours,

FJM: b

Enc.
DUE TO THE RESOLUTION NO. 76.

WHEREAS, it has been announced through the press:

1. That the Secretary of War contemplates that some 25,000 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 Humboldt County believes that such contemplated action would be inimical to the best interests and to the welfare and effective defense of our country; we urge, therefore, 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 Board of Supervisors of the State of California.

What 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 DEPENDING 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 DE-
TRIMENTAL 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.
This 15th day of April,
1943.

(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 IN-
EQUITABLE 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 DIS-
BURSED 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 was further ordered that our local civic organizations be urged to join in this protest.

Passed, approved, and adopted this 13th day of April, 1943.


NOES: Supervisors none.

ABSENT: Supervisors none.

LEN YOCOM.
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt, State of California.

ATTEST:

FRED J. MOORE, JR.
County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Humboldt, State of California.