

To: District Engineer, Los Angeles District
Subject: Manzanar Relocation Project

November 26, 1942

h. Approximately 19,000 board feet of lumber, which was to have been used for double-flooring the warehouses, has not been delivered.

i. Some items of hospital mess equipment are on hand but have not been installed.

j. Automatic sprinkler system has not been installed in the hospital.

k. Autoclave sterilizer located in the hospital is being fired presently with butane gas instead of being connected to the hospital steam lines.

l. Tar paper covering on exterior of hospital cat-walks has not been completed in some places.

m. Starch cooker has not been provided for the hospital laundry.

n. Ten convenience outlets have not been installed in the recreation halls.

o. Meat blocks have not been furnished to mess halls.

p. Two fire hydrants have not been installed in the hospital area.

q. Approximately 700 feet of 12" water main between the reservoir and storage tank have not been covered with earth.

r. Window sash in the watch towers is in a bad state of repair. It is requested that your office purchase materials necessary to replace the missing sash on all watch towers, installation to be made by the War Relocation Authority.

s. It is requested that your office furnish all materials necessary for the construction of a partition in the Military Police garage, location to be determined by the Military Police Commander and a representative of your office. It is further requested that all materials necessary for the weather-proofing of the doors on the Military Police garage be furnished by your office and that adequate space heaters for the garage be purchased by your office and turned over to the War Relocation Authority for installation. All labor necessary for the construction of the partition mentioned foregoing and the weather-proofing of the doors will be provided by the War Relocation Authority.

t. Request your office furnish Mastipave and backing board to floor the infirmary building and also furnish a larger space heater for the infirmary; labor required for the installation of the Mastipave and space heater to be provided by the War Relocation Authority.

Almost compl. - sent a few lines

Fried

See Memo 4 July 4 572/37

give letter

check on letter + directive to DRE

letter of inst.

letter

letter

50

To: District Engineer, Los Angeles District
Subject: Manzanar Relocation Project

November 26, 1942

u. It is requested that a survey be made by your office with a view to improving lighting and heating facilities of the Military Police mess hall and that the necessary remedial action be taken.

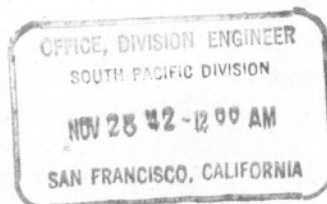
y. It is requested that a survey be made by your office with a view to providing more adequate storage and refrigerator space in the Military Police mess hall and that the necessary remedial action be taken.

8. It is requested that this office be advised at once as to what action is being taken by your office to complete this Project.

For the Commanding General: 723

Hugh T. Fullerton

Hugh T. Fullerton
Major, A. G. D.
Assistant Adjutant General



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AIR MAIL

1570

CE 412 x 600.1 OP-E
(Manzanar Relocation Project)

1st Ind.

(11/26/42)(S-12/14/42)

Office Division Engineer, Pacific Division, Salt Lake City, Utah,
December 4, 1942. TO: District Engineer, Los Angeles District,
751 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, California.

1. To note for necessary action.
2. It is desired that the report requested in paragraph No. 8 of the basic letter be forwarded direct to Headquarters Western Defense Command and a copy furnished this office.

For the Division Engineer:



THOMAS H. MESSER,
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers,
Chief, Operations Division.

Subject: Unfinished Items - Manzanar
Relocation Project.
(Basic ltr. 11/26/42)

LA 685.11

2d Ind.

ME-6

U. S. Engineer Office, Los Angeles, California, January 20, 1943.- To
the Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army (Through
the Division Engineer, Pacific Division, Salt Lake City, Utah.)

The following action has been initiated to complete the unfinished
items listed in the basic letter:

1. The materials required to accomplish this construction have been ordered for delivery to the War Relocation Authority.
2. Additional hot water heater has been installed in the orphanage.
3. The balance of material to complete the bracing under the warehouses is on order.
4. Materials necessary to install the 4-inch concrete floor in the three refrigerated warehouses have been ordered.

AIR MAIL-5-

FILED

U.S. ENGINEER OFFICE
LOS ANGELES DISTRICT
DEC 11 1942

Manzanar Relocation Project

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Subject: Unfinished Items - Manzanar
Relocation Project. (Basic ltr. 11/26/42)

2d Ind. (cont'd)

5. The materials necessary for the construction of garbage racks for each mess hall at this station are being provided.

6. The list of heaters and accessories named in the basic letter have been ordered for delivery to the Project Director.

7. a. The bulk pressure sterilizer, ordered on October 2, 1942, will be delivered sometime in February, 1943. A higher priority has been assigned to expedite this delivery.

b. The additional fire engine ordered for this station has not been delivered, pending recommendation of a representative of the Division Office.

c. All of the watch towers have been wired with electricity and are in use.

d. Electric heaters have been provided for the watch towers.

e. Small electric ranges have been ordered for installation in the hospital ward kitchens in place of two-burner electric hot plates. Delivery expected approximately February 10, 1943.

f. The 2-inch vent pipe located near the settling basin has been turned straight up into the air.

g. Sand traps in the outfall sewer line are being installed now.

h. All the lumber has been delivered for double-flooring the warehouses.

i. All items of hospital mess equipment were installed as of December 22, 1942.

j. Automatic sprinkler system has been installed in the main portion of the hospital. It is being extended to include the hospital mess hall at the present time.

k. The Autoclave sterilizer has been connected to the hospital steam line.

l. All tar paper covering on exterior of inclosed walks has been repaired.

m. The starch cooker has been ordered, and delivery expected February 15, 1943.

Subject: Unfinished Items - Manzanar
Relocation Project. (Basic ltr. 11/26/42)

2d Ind. (cont'd)

n. The materials for the convenience outlets were delivered to W.R.A. on September 17, 1942 for them to install.

o. Meat blocks have been ordered as instructed in paragraph 1 d of letter of December 1, 1942, subject "Unfinished Items, Manzanar Relocation Center," from Western Defense Command and Fourth Army to the District Engineer.

p. The two fire hydrants have been installed in the hospital area.

q. The 12-inch water main between the reservoir and storage tank has been covered with earth.

r. The window sash in the watch towers have been repaired.

s. Plans have been prepared and materials are being ordered to partition the Military Police garage and weather-proof the doors, and space heaters have been ordered.

t. Mastipave has been ordered for installation in the infirmary building, and larger space heater provided.

u. The Area Engineer has been instructed to make a survey to improve the lighting and heating facilities of the Military Police mess hall.

v. The Area Engineer has prepared plan and action is being taken to provide additional storage space for the Military Police mess hall. The standard of 40 cubic feet of refrigeration for Military Police mess hall will be provided.

8. Action is being initiated to expedite the delivery and installation of all materials to complete this project.

For the District Engineer:



H. W. Thompson
H. W. Thompson,
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers,
Executive Assistant.

Subject: Unfinished Items - Manzanar Relocation Project.

CE 412 x 600.1 OP-B (Manzanar Relocation Project) 3rd Ind. (11/26/42)

Office Division Engineer, Pacific Division, Salt Lake City, Utah, January 28, 1943. To: Headquarters, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, San Francisco, California.

1. Forwarded, with your attention directed to 2nd Indorsement.

For the Division Engineer:



Thomas H. Messer

THOMAS H. MESSER,
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers,
Chief, Operations Division.

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

MAR 10 1943
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WOODS
MAR 10 1943
WOODS
WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND
AND FOURTH ARMY

160014
1400
1705

December 1, 1942

Subject: Unfinished Items - Manzanar Relocation Center.

To: District Engineer, Los Angeles District,
Los Angeles, California. Thru: Division Engineer,
South Pacific Division, 351 California Street,
San Francisco, California.

1. In addition to the list of unfinished items mentioned in letter this Headquarters, dated November 26, 1942, same subject, the following are called to your attention:

a. Ventilating fans should be provided in the X-Ray developing room, the main laboratory, and the dental laboratory.

b. Special ceiling lights should be provided in the delivery room of the obstetrical ward and in the major and minor surgery rooms of the surgical wards.

c. A single compartment sink was installed in the hospital mess kitchen. This should be a double compartment.

d. With reference to Par. 7, o. of letter dated November 26, it is not necessary to provide meat blocks to all evacuee mess halls. The project director states that they will be satisfied with six (6) blocks and two (2) cutting tables which they will place in the meat cutting room at the refrigerated warehouse. No blocks will be placed in the mess halls.

e. Four-piece sterilizer battery for the surgery has not been installed although it has been delivered.

f. Only one drying tumbler was provided in the hospital laundry.

2. It is requested that these items be cleaned up as soon as possible.

128

For the Commanding General:

Hugh T. Fullerton
Hugh T. Fullerton
Major, A. G. D.
Assistant Adjutant General

OFFICE DIVISION ENGINEER
SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION
DEC 2 42 - 3 30 PM
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

RECORDED
300
PACIFIC
D.V.

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FILE
398

SUBJECT: Unfinished Items - Manzanar Relocation Center. HQ. WDC to Dist. Engr. LA, thru: Div. Engr. San Francisco, Calif. 12/1/42

CE 600.1 E(Manzanar Relocation Center) 1st Ind.

2507

Office Division Engineer, Pacific Division, Salt Lake City, Utah. December 4, 1942. TO: District Engineer, 751 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, Calif.

- 1. Forwarded for necessary action.

For the District Engineer:

John C. Low
JOHN C. LOW

Lt. Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Chief, Engineering Division

U.S. ENGINEER OFFICE
LOS ANGELES
1942 DEC 9

LA 685.11

2d Ind.

ME-6

U. S. Engineer Office, Los Angeles, California, January 21, 1943.- To the Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army (Through the Division Engineer, Pacific Division, Salt Lake City, Utah).

1. Reference is made to paragraph 1 of basic letter. The following information is furnished in answer to the corresponding items in basic letter:

a. Drawings have been prepared and materials ordered for installing the ventilating fans.

b. Ceiling lights have been provided in the delivery room of the obstetrical ward and in the major and minor surgery rooms. The fluorescent lights removed from the major surgery, after the installation of the special ceiling light, were installed in the delivery room and the minor surgery.

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FILE 600.1 Manzanar Relocation Center

Subject: Unfinished Items - Manzanar
Relocation Center (Basic Ltr. 12/1/42)

2d Ind. (Cont'd)

c. The single-compartment sink has been replaced with a double compartment sink.

d. The meat blocks and cutting tables are being provided as requested.

e. Investigation reveals that the four-piece sterilizer battery for the surgery has not been delivered. It will be installed immediately upon receipt.

f. One additional Zone Air drying tumbler has been ordered for the hospital laundry. Delivery expected about February 15, 1943.

2. The delivery of materials and equipment and the installation are being expedited in order to complete this project as soon as possible.

For the District Engineer:



H. W. Thompson
H. W. Thompson,
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers,
Executive Assistant

49

Subject: Unfinished Items - Manzanar
Relocation Center.

CE 600.1 E (Manzanar Relocation Center) 3d Ind.

(12/1/42)

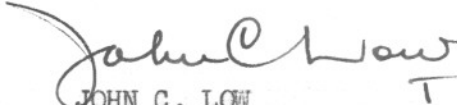
Office Division Engineer, Pacific Division, Salt Lake City, Utah. January
29, 1943.

To: Commanding General, Western Defense Command & Fourth Army, PRESIDIO
OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

For your information.

For the Division Engineer:




JOHN C. LOW
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers
Chief, Engineering Division



49

CE-3

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

July 2, 1942

MAR 10 1943
323 7 Manzanar
WCCA-201
110 WASHINGTON STREET, WASHINGTON AND FORT A. KENNY

Manzanar Relocation Center.

The Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army,
War Department,
Washington, D.C.

1. Attention of this office has been called, by editorial comment and personal letters, to a feeling of dissatisfaction on the part of residents of Inyo County, California, due to the Manzanar Relocation Center for evacuated Japanese. Local residents believe that the obligations of the Federal Government to Inyo County are not being fulfilled. As selection of the Manzanar site for the relocation center was based on recommendations of this office, and as one of the primary considerations in selection of sites was that undue hardships should not be placed on local residents if such could be avoided, a moral responsibility for these conditions is felt.

2. Local dissatisfaction appears to be based on (1) the apparent dependence of the relocation center, in part, on local funds and authorities for policing, administration of justice, schooling, and other governmental services, and (2) the belief that the Federal Government intends to purchase the property occupied by the relocation center, thus removing it from the tax rolls.

3. Prior to establishment of the relocation center, the population of Inyo County was between 7,000 and 8,000. Approximately 10,000 Japanese have been placed in the relocation center. With the administrative and military personnel, this constitutes an increase of nearly 150 per cent in Inyo County's population. Unless the Federal Government maintains complete control and jurisdiction over the Japanese, including the operation of Federal schools, the necessary increase in county taxes will constitute an undue hardship on local residents. When recommending that the Manzanar site be utilized for a relocation center, this office intended and specified that the Japanese should be placed under complete control and jurisdiction of the Federal Government, placing no responsibilities whatsoever upon local authorities or funds.

Subject: Manzanar Relocation Center.

4. In operation of the Manzanar Relocation Center, it is believed that the War Relocation Authority has assumed an obligation to the people of Inyo County. Attention of the Authority has been called to the above considerations by a letter to Mr. M.S. Eisenhower, a copy of which is enclosed. For your further information, there are transmitted herewith copies of letters sent to the Division Engineer, South Pacific Division, and received from Mr. George W. Savage, Publisher of the Inyo County newspapers. Also enclosed is a photostatic copy of editorial comment which appeared in the June 5, 1942 issue of Inyo Independent, Independence, California.

5. The property occupied by the relocation center is owned by the city of Los Angeles, purchased in connection with the development of the city's water supply. The cost of acquisition was approximately \$750,000. Taxes on the property have been running about \$5,200 per year. The assessed valuation is \$214,249. If the Federal Government purchases the property, Inyo County will lose \$5,200 per year of taxes, an important part of their annual revenue. It is therefore believed that the city should retain ownership of the land. In the initial conference, representatives of the city mentioned that the property could probably be leased for the amount of the taxes. Later, the city requested that some consideration be given to interest on their investment. As a result of negotiation between representatives of the city and of this office, the fair and reasonable value was placed at \$8,600 per annum. This amount is approximately 2 per cent of the fair market value of the land, based on twice the assessed value thereof. In justice both to the county of Inyo and to the city of Los Angeles, it is believed that condemnation purchase should be avoided and that the land should be leased from the city, in which case the city would be required to continue the payment of taxes on the property to Inyo County. These considerations were the basis for the contract submitted to higher authority for approval with 3rd Ind., Subject: Lands for reception center site. (Basic ltr. 3/14/42), File CE 601.53 (Owens Valley Alien Reception Center) GRL.

W. B. Higgins,
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers,
Acting District Engineer.

Subject: Manzanar Relocation Center.

4 Encls.

- 1 - Copy ltr. 6/18/42 to Fred Cline
from George W. Savage (in dup.)
- 2 - Copy ltr. 6/23/42 to M.S. Eisenhower
from Dist. Engr. (in dup.)
- 3 - Copy ltr. 6/23/42 to Div. Engr., S.P. Div.
from Dist. Engr. (in dup.)
- 4 - Photostatic copy edit. comment 6/5/42 issue
Inyo Independent. (in dup.)

CC - Division Engineer, South Pacific Division.
- Civil Affairs Division, Western Defense
Command and 4th Army.

C
O
P
Y

WAR DEPARTMENT
UNITED STATES ENGINEER OFFICE
751 SOUTH FIGUEROA STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

CE-3

June 23, 1942

Air Mail

Manzanar Relocation Center.

Mr. M. S. Eisenhower, Director,
War Relocation Authority,
Barr Building,
910 - 17th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

Attention of this office has been called, by editorial comment and personal letters, to the fact that residents of Inyo County, California believe that the Manzanar Relocation Center is causing an excessive increase in the cost of their local government and upsetting the local tax structure. As selection of the Manzanar site for the relocation center followed the recommendations of this office, and as one of the primary considerations in selection of sites was that undue hardships should not be placed on local residents if such could be avoided, a moral responsibility for these conditions is felt. Therefore, it is desired to bring the following to your attention.

Local dissatisfaction appears to be based on (1) a belief that the Manzanar Resettlement Area should be a Federal reservation, with the inhabitants completely removed from local control or jurisdiction and (2) a fear that the Federal Government intends to purchase the property occupied by the project.

Local views with regard to the first point are explained in the following quotation from a letter received from Mr. George W. Savage, publisher of the Inyo County newspapers.

*The camp has brought mounting expense to the county in many small ways to date and this expense, under present provisions and setup, will grow as time passes.

"I believe I can say quite truthfully that the people are anxious that the relocation area shall be placed under full and complete federal jurisdiction. By that I mean that they do not wish to have local courts and governmental services function in any way with respect to the Japanese.

Encl. 2

Subject: Manzanar Relocation Center.

At present all licenses, for marriages, for instance, go through county offices. Recently, our county courts have handled 17 cases involving gambling at the camp. Under present law, schools will be established at Manzanar, with creation of the area into a unified school district. This means, then, that the Independence school districts immediately lose some \$5,200 in tax money from the Manzanar area which has gone into the funds of the Independence districts. There is no other property that can provide additional taxes to take the place of the above figure, so that means that Independence taxpayers will face considerable increases in taxes so that the Japanese can have their district established.

"Furthermore, we understand that the federal government will provide the state with funds for educating the Japanese and also will provide funds for erecting school buildings, but, our county counsel asks, 'Where will the funds come from covering additional expenses to county government in the district attorney's office, the county superintendent's office and the auditor's office?' The mechanics of school operations will be handled by these offices, with extra expense to them and extra deputy hire necessary. State law also provides that elementary school supplies shall be furnished from the budget of the county superintendent of schools. Where will the money come from for these supplies, erasers, paper, pencils, chalk, etc?

"It is well to remember that because of the Japanese camp, the population of Inyo, by one fell swoop, has been better than doubled and that the school population has been more than doubled. And Inyo County is in no position to be faced with added governmental expenses because of the Japanese.

"Furthermore, let us not forget that 94.6 percent of the land of Inyo County is now government or public lands, such as monuments, national parks, public domain, Taylor grazing lands, etc. The remaining 5.4 percent is

Subject: Manzanar Relocation Center.

privately owned and subject to taxation. The public lands, with exception of 2 percent, which is owned by the city of Los Angeles, are not subject to taxation.

"Therefore, the people of Inyo County feel definitely that they should not be asked to up their taxes to take care of a situation that was practically forced upon them, and one in which they were willing to cooperate as far as possible as their part of the general war effort."

As the establishment of the Manzanar Relocation Center has increased the population of Inyo County by approximately 150 percent, it is apparent that the above considerations are important to local residents. As an analogy, there would be the same effect on the local government if a camp for three or four million Japanese were established somewhere in Los Angeles County.

The second point is the desire that the Federal Government should lease the property occupied by the Manzanar Relocation Center from the owner (Department of Water and Power of the City of Los Angeles), rather than purchasing it in fee. As purchase would result in an annual loss to the local government of about \$5,200 in taxes, the reason for this desire is obvious. This loss, although small in comparison to the total cost of the project, is an important part of Inyo County's annual revenue. The Department of Water and Power's original proposal was to lease the property to the Federal Government for the amount of the taxes.

Your consideration of the above will be greatly appreciated.

For the District Engineer:

W. B. Higgins,
Lt. Col., Corps of Engineers,
Executive Assistant.

X3237 Owens Valley Project

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

March 28th, 1942.

To: Colonel K. R. Bendetsen

From: M. S. Eisenhower.

I recommend most urgently that the Manzanar Recreation Center in the Owens Valley not be increased to accommodate more than ten thousand persons.

1. Not more than two thousand to twenty-five hundred acres can be developed for cultivation adjacent to the camp. Even though we might be able to cultivate additional thousands of acres farther north in the valley there would still not be employment in agriculture for the number already planned for the camp.

2. The growing season in this area is limited to between one hundred fifty and one hundred sixty days. Since there is no opportunity for supplemental employment in private industry, it seems that we must develop some type of simple manufacturing to keep the people busy the year round. This is going to be difficult for the colony of ten thousand; it would be an insurmountable task if more were involved.

3. This area is not suitable to the type of agriculture in which the Japanese are experienced. All types of root crops can be grown, together with grains, sorgums and alfalfa. This type of agriculture will not require a large amount of labor.

4. The duty of water in the area is high. Indeed it is so high that under no circumstances would the City of Los Angeles permit such a tremendous drain on the water supply after the war is over; consequently the work performed in the area is necessarily limited to a wartime project.

5. We have a real transportation problem on our hands within the valley since arable acres are only in small patches up and down the valley, whereas the camp is located at one end of the valley.

6. I am convinced that much better opportunities exist at other locations in the west.

To Col Has
Cal Evans!
note + file

x 600.4
x 230,143

APR 1 1942
323.7 Manzanar

Emerson

M. S. Eisenhower

3/28/42

Dew

To Commanding General WDC
note and return.

FILE

X 092.1 Inyo Co.

RESOLUTION

7
WCCA
10 26 1942

WHEREAS there are now confined at the Manzanar Relocation Area at Manzanar, Inyo County, California, a large number of Japanese enemy aliens; and

WHEREAS, by reason of certain disturbances approaching violence and rioting which recently occurred in the Manzanar Relocation Area, it became necessary that a number of military units of the armed forces of the United States be stationed at that point for the purpose of restoring order and preventing further disturbances; and

WHEREAS this Council, as well as other governmental agencies, believes that the safety and welfare of citizens of Inyo County, Electric power plants, sources of water supply, and those mining operations producing large quantities of strategic minerals cannot be properly safeguarded should the administration of the Manzanar Relocation Area continue under civilian authority; and

WHEREAS it is the opinion of the City Council of the City of Bishop, Inyo County, California, that the desired adequate protection cannot be had in any other way than by placing the entire administration and control of the Manzanar Relocation Area in the hands of and under the immediate jurisdiction of the United States Army;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Bishop respectfully urges and requests that the civilian administration of the Manzanar Relocation Area be immediately replaced by military authority and under the immediate supervision and direction of the United States Army.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the City Council of the City of Bishop, California, be and she is hereby instructed to forward a copy of this resolution to the following, to-wit:

- General John L. DeWitt, Presidio, San Francisco, California;
- Mr. Ralph P. Merritt, Director, Manzanar Relocation Area, Manzanar, California;
- Office of the Provost Marshall General, Washington, D. C.;
- Senate Military Affairs Committee, Washington, D. C.;
- War Relocation Authority, Washington, D. C.;
- Hon. Hiram Johnson, U. S. Senator, Washington, D. C.;
- Hon. Sheridan Downey, U. S. Senator, Washington, D. C.;
- Hon. A. B. Chandler, U. S. Senator, Washington, D. C.;
- Hon. Harry L. Englebright, M. C., Washington, D. C.;
- Hon. Charles Brown, State Senator, Sacramento, California;
- Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, Independence, Calif.;
- Board of Supervisors of the County of Mono, Bridgeport, Calif.

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the foregoing resolution was passed by the following vote:

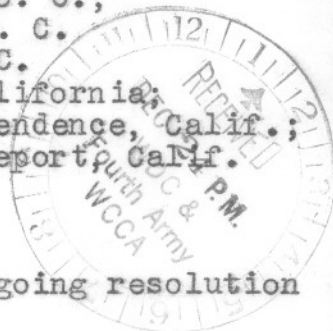
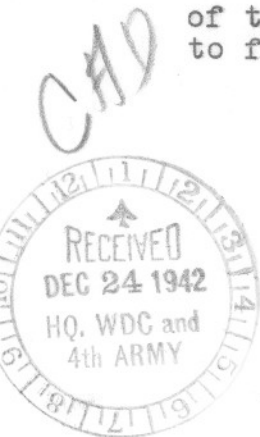
Ayes: Councilmen D.H. James, S.P. Griffith, Carl Nellen,
A.W. Hess.

Noes: Councilmen none

Absent: Councilmen Elbridge Hartshorn

Dated December 19th, 1942.

Mary E. Anderson Clerk
CITY OF BISHOP, CALIFORNIA



X 680.42
X 291.2 Japs
X 370.093

X 291.2 Japs

NO. WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND
AND FOURTH ARMY
DEC 10 1942
323.7 Manzanar
WCCA

J. L. DeWitt,
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Headquarters Western Defense and Fourth Army
Presidio of San Francisco, California

We, the undersigned residents of Inyo County, California, realizing the military necessity for the removal of all Japanese from the coastal areas and their subsequent location at Reception Centers, particularly the Manzanar Center, wish to express our appreciation for your refusal to consider the petition of a few merchants and your prompt issuance of Public Proclamation No. 8, in which it is declared that all persons entering or leaving the Manzanar Center must have a pass from your Headquarters in San Francisco.

We wish to express our concern over the increased number of Japanese at the Manzanar Center--there now being approximately 11,000--without a subsequent increase in the guard unit, which consists of approximately 125 officers and men.

We urge that a full battalion be stationed at the Manzanar Center.

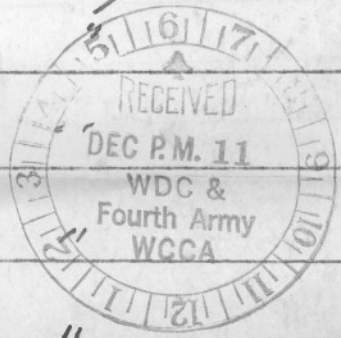
We urge further, that the present civil administration be replaced by an administration which will realize that the Japanese in this, as well as other Centers, are a potential danger to the National safety; or, if such civil administration cannot be established, that a Military Administration be established and all civil authority be removed. At least the present administration should be thoroughly investigated and the present evils now existing there should be eliminated.

We further urge that the present four foot, three wire fence be replaced by the promised six foot woven wire fence topped by three strands of barbed wire inclined inwards.

We further urge that all publications issuing from the Center be printed in the English, and no other, language; and that the English language and no other be used at all meetings held within the Center and only in the presence of the proper military men.

Dated August 14th, A. D. 1942.

<i>[Signature]</i>	Independence Calif
<i>Jessie Dutilleul</i>	Independence Calif
<i>Sam R. Spear</i>	Independence Calif.
<i>Scott Lewis</i>	"
<i>C. W. Lewis</i>	"
<i>L. A. Stull</i>	"
<i>Dave McCoy</i>	"
<i>Edwin B. Austin</i>	"



BISHOP DEFENSE COUNCIL

BISHOP, CALIFORNIA

From Bishop Defense Council,
Bishop, California

To Lieutenant General J. L. DeWitt,
Presidio of San Francisco,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Sir:

At a meeting of about three hundred residents of Bishop held on December 13th, 1942 under the sponsorship of the Bishop Defense Council for the purpose of discussing the Manzanar incident, the following resolution was offered from the floor, duly seconded and adopted:

"RESOLVED, That it is the feeling of this meeting that Manzanar Relocation Centre should remain under Military Control as long as there is a Jap in Owens Valley; and

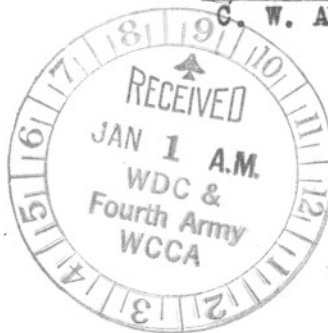
FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded to General DeWitt."

You will note that this action was taken by a mass meeting of residents, and not specifically by the Bishop Defense Council.

Very truly yours,

BISHOP DEFENSE COUNCIL

C. W. Anderson
C. W. ANDERSON, Secretary.



CWA/A



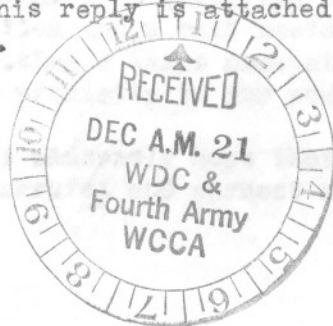
THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR
WASHINGTON

December 15, 1942

Dear General DeWitt:

There is transmitted herewith copy of a letter which the Secretary of War has received from Mr. Harry F. Maidenberg of Los Angeles, in which he expresses concern over the interference and damage to the Los Angeles water supply in the Owens Valley by the Japanese at the Manzanar Relocation Center. This letter is transmitted for your information and such use as you desire to make of it.

I have replied to Mr. Maidenberg and copy of this reply is attached hereto for your information.



Sincerely,

Lieutenant General J. L. DeWitt
Commanding General, Western Defense Command
and Fourth Army
Presidio of San Francisco, California

Encls.

COPY

Harry F. Maidenberg
General Broker
5915 West Olympic Blvd.
Los Angeles, Calif.

December 10, 1942

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

Dear Sir:

I am herewith enclosing two clippings from today's
L. A. Herald - Express which I believe merit your attention.

As a resident of Los Angeles for the past 49 years, I
feel that I am qualified to enter a protest in behalf of over
a million and a half residents of this great city against
permitting a large amount of Japs to be housed in such
close proximity to our source of water supply.

I sincerely hope that you will give this important matter
your careful and earnest attention.

Very Respectfully Yours,

/S/ Harry F. Maidenberg

P.S. A reply from you will be greatly appreciated.

/S/ H.M.

Clipping from L. A. Herald-Express

RIOT NEAR AQUEDUCT

When Army authorities selected the Manzanar site as the first Japanese relocation center in California, bitter protests came from officials and hundreds of citizens who argued that the Camp site was located within about half a mile of the city's great aqueduct from Owens river and that this water supply might be sabotaged by Japanese inhabitants of the camp. The water flows in an open ditch past the center.

Officials recalled today that the camp which stretches for about two miles along the main highway near Independence was chosen and that contracts to build the Japanese cantonment were let before city authorities had knowledge of the matter

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 17, 1942

September 22, 1942

SEP 29 1942
WCCA
NOV 12 1942
NO. WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND
AND FOURTH ARMY

[Handwritten signature]
HWS/ew
CAD

X 319.1

SUBJECT: Manzanar Relocation Project

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL BENDTSEN:

TO : Lt. Hall, Office of the Assistant Secretary of War

As per telephone conversation I am forwarding report made by Dr. Phillip J. Webster on complaints made by...

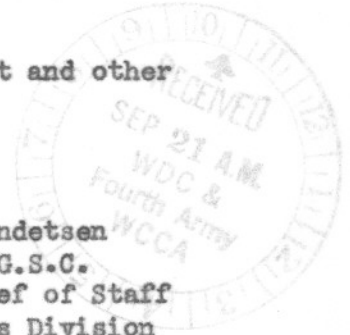
1. Acknowledgment is made of the receipt of your memorandum, dated September 17, 1942, inclosing a copy of the report of investigation of alleged laxity in the administration of the Manzanar Project.

2. The report is comprehensive and indicates that all alleged incidents were thoroughly investigated; it tends to disprove the verity and accurateness of the complaints.

3. Pursuant to your instructions, the report and other inclosures are returned to your office.

JOHN M. HALL
1st Lieutenant, P.A.
Acting Executive

Karl R. Bendetsen
Colonel, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff
Civil Affairs Division



Enc. Report.

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

September 17, 1942

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34

HQ. WESTERN OFFENSE COMMAND
AND FOURTH ARMY

MEMORANDUM FOR COLONEL BENDETSSEN:

As per telephone conversation I am forwarding report made by Dr. Phillip J. Webster on complaints made by the Wartime Civil Control Administration concerning conditions at Manzanar Relocation Center.

When you have completed your study of this report, please return it to this office with any comments you may think appropriate.

John M. Hall
JOHN M. HALL
1st Lieutenant, F.A.
Acting Executive



Enc.
Report.

HQ. WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND
AND FOURTH ARMY
PRESIDIO OF SF CALIF
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF

COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
Line Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Division
CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION
7151 MARKET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
Telephone KLONDIKE 2-2611

SEP 15 1942
323.7/m
WCCA/30

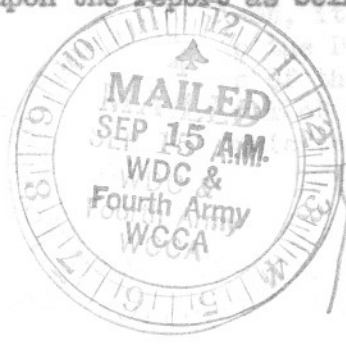
HQ WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND
AND FOURTH ARMY
WAB/es
CAD

MEMORANDUM
X 319.1

September 9, 1942
September 14, 1942

SUBJECT: Manzanar Relocation Project Area
TO : Regional Director, War Relocation Authority, Whitcomb Hotel Building, San Francisco, California

1. Acknowledgment is made of the receipt of your memorandum dated September 8, 1942, subject, Manzanar Relocation Area, inclosing therein a copy of the report of investigation of alleged laxity in the administration of the Project.
2. The investigation report discloses that each alleged incident was investigated and supporting evidence, if any, ascertained; also that Dr. Webster investigated other claimed irregular events. It appears that the report disproves the verity and accurateness of the complaints and indicates that the movements and activities of the Japanese outside the Relocation Center and within the Project Area are well controlled.
3. The Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, commented upon the report as being very thorough.



5/ Karl R. Bendetsen
Colonel, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff
Civil Affairs Division

The report may be commented upon as though
no commentation
[Signature]
[Signature]
[Signature]

WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY

Office of Assistant Chief of Staff, Civil Affairs Division

WARTIME CIVIL CONTROL ADMINISTRATION

1231 MARKET STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA
Telephone KLONDIKE 2-2611

September 9, 1942

SUBJECT: "Immediate Action" Memorandum, August 25, 1942 -- Manzanar

TO : The Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army,
Presidio of San Francisco, California. (Through: Chief of Staff)

1. Since transmittal of the interim report of August 30, there has been received from Regional Director of War Relocation Authority a full and comprehensive report concerning alleged evidences of laxity on the part of the War Relocation Authority in the administration of the Manzanar Relocation Area. The original of the report (TAB A) is transmitted herewith.

2. It will be noted that the investigation report made by Dr. Phillip J. Webster discloses that each alleged incident was investigated and the supporting evidence, if any, ascertained. It will be noted too that Dr. Webster investigated other claimed incidents.

3. Dr. Webster's report substantially disproves the verity or accurateness of the former complaints and on the whole it discloses that the movements and activities of the Japanese outside the Manzanar Relocation Center and within the Project Area are well controlled.

4. Under the circumstances, it is suggested that Civil Affairs Division be authorized to write a letter to the Director of the War Relocation Authority commending it for the thoroughness of the report. Such letter should also indicate the Commanding General's approval of the measures which have been adopted by the War Relocation Authority, as indicated by the report, for the control of the movements of the Japanese.

Carl R. Bendetsen
Carl R. Bendetsen
Colonel, G.S.C.
Assistant Chief of Staff

1 Incl. - TAB A

Approved)
~~Disapproved~~) this 11th day of September, 1942.

*The report may be "commended" upon as though
no "commendation"*

J. L. Ditt
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Commanding

REPORT
ON
MANZANAR RELOCATION AREA

SUBJECT: Investigation made
as result of memorandum re-
ceived from WCCA, dated Aug-
ust 27, 1942, claiming laxity
on the part of the War Relo-
cation Authority in the Ad-
ministration of the Manzanar
Relocation Area.

INVESTIGATION
made by

Dr. Phillip J. Webster,
Chief, Lands Division,

August 31 - September 2

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CLAIMS OF WRA LAXITY

The claims made in correspondence sent to WRA by the Army can be summarized as follows:

1. That "there is potential danger to the security of property and materials adjacent to subject alien camp because of laxity in the adequate policing and guarding under the new administration by civilian authority."
2. Particular stress is laid on "vital material supplies and processing equipment" in connection with mining operations near Manzanar and "potential danger to life and property because of inadequate policing and guarding at subject alien concentration camp...."
3. That 15 to 20 Japanese aliens on many occasions have been seen by 12 persons "riding in Army trucks driven by a Japanese driver, seldom with a white civilian escort, driving all over the district surrounding the alien camp, in many instances over 30 miles from subject camp."
4. That Japanese have been seen fishing and swimming in streams "at distances of from 3 to 9 miles from the concentration camp with no escort or guards."
5. That Mr. Horton, Civilian Chief of Police at the War Relocation Area, had "collected several large boxes of short handled axes and hatchets, and also large quantities of long bladed knives from male Japanese internees, all of which the new civilian administration had ordered him to return to their owners as their personal property" and that Mr. Horton had refused to do this.
6. That "On Saturday, May 10, 1942, a Japanese, Isami Noguchi, driving a Ford V-8 - 1940 Station Wagon with no license plates, parked his car alongside of Military Prohibited Zone sign, which he read, and then walked into the Sierra Talc Ore mill at Keeler and asked why talc ore was considered vital to the war effort."
7. That Dr. James Goto, --- "now located at the Manzanar Evacuation Center, leaves this Center almost weekly in order to come to Los Angeles to work in the Los Angeles County General Hospital."
8. That on August 8, "six Japs were up here in Bishop wandering about our streets and buying fruits and vegetables in the Safeway Store.---As far as they know" (referring to two white women residents of Bishop who saw these Japanese) "there seemed to be no guard with them."

CONCLUSIONS

The following conclusions have been arrived at after making this investigation. (Numbers refer to those on Page 1.)

1, 2 & 3. While the impression is widespread in Owens Valley, that Japanese evacuees have been riding around in motor vehicles and have been in Lone Pine and Independence unescorted by Caucasian guards, no one could be found who would state positively that he had seen a Japanese under these circumstances. There are a number of instances where Japanese have been, and are being, allowed to leave the Center under guard and permit which could be easily construed by a casual observer as a case of Japanese being out of the Center unescorted.

✓ 4. There is little doubt that Japanese have done considerable fishing and some swimming outside of the Relocation Area and, in all probability, some fishing is being done at the present time.

✓ 5. This claim is relatively unimportant. About 50 of the knives and 11 of the hatchets referred to have already been returned to Japanese. The policy has been to return these articles when it could be shown that they were needed by the Japanese in connection with their regular employment.

6. No record could be found that a person named Isami Noguchi ever has been registered at the Manzanar Relocation Area.

7. No evidence could be found that Dr. James Goto has left the Relocation Center except on two occasions when he went to Lone Pine attended by a Caucasian.

8. In all probability Japanese were seen in the Safeway store in Bishop on August 8, unattended by a Caucasian, inasmuch as there were 26 Japanese who stopped in Bishop on that date enroute from the Fort Lincoln, North Dakota, Internment Camp to the Manzanar Relocation Area.

SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION

A total of 36 persons were interviewed by me and in each case some or all of the questions in point were discussed. Twelve of these persons were connected with the Manzanar Relocation Area, while 24 were not. (For a complete list of those interviewed, see Supplement 2). These interviews ranged from about 15 minutes to over 3 hours each.

I drove approximately 100 miles in and around the Relocation Area and as far south as Keeler and as far north as Independence. This included a trip through the agricultural area and west of the Relocation Area where it is claimed that Japanese have been fishing and swimming.

✓ I inspected the military police guard system in operation during daylight hours and at night. I personally inspected the knives and hatchets referred to in Mr. Gough's report which accompanies Lt. Col. Boekel's letter of August 27. (Supplement 1).

Records were checked and I personally talked with Dr. Goto in connection with the claim that he had frequently made trips to Los Angeles.

Due to the importance laid on the potential danger to mining plants and equipment engaged in activities related to the war effort, I interviewed persons connected with four separate mining operations.

JAPANESE TRAVELING IN TRUCKS AWAY FROM THE RELOCATION AREA
OR SHOPPING IN LONE PINE AND INDEPENDENCE WITHOUT WHITE ESCORT

(Refer to Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3 under Claims of WRA Laxity, p.1)

A particular effort was made to locate any person who would definitely state that he had seen Japanese evacuees outside of the relocation area driving any kind of a motor vehicle or walking in the streets of Independence or Lone Pine, or walking along the highway anywhere between these points without a white escort. This question was put to all 24 of the persons interviewed not connected with Manzanar. A number of these people started out by saying that it was common knowledge that Japanese were traveling around in trucks and shopping in Lone Pine and Independence without escort, but in no case could I find anyone who would state positively that they themselves had seen a Japanese under these circumstances. This statement includes Mr. Maule Miller, Superintendent of the Sierra Talc Company plant at Keeler, who, Arthur P. Gough, Inspector, Plant Protection, 9th Service Command, in a letter dated August 21, said "saw them (Japanese) passing by (Sierra Talc Company property) on many occasions." (See Supplement 1). Mr. Miller told me that he had never seen a Japanese in or around Keeler where the plant is located. In fact, none of the 10 people interviewed in and near Keeler, including 4 persons connected with mining operations, said that they had seen any Japanese under any circumstances in this vicinity.

Joe Miller of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, who frequently drives between Independence and Lone Pine, when first questioned, said that he had often seen Japanese on the road in autos without escort. Upon careful questioning he couldn't remember any specific case except that he saw two Japanese on Sunday, August 30, in a 1-1/2 ton truck about 1-1/2 miles north of Manzanar on the main highway without a white guard. He remembers this incident particularly because the truck was turning around in the road. He stated "that is how he got a good look at them." When I asked Mr. Miller if he were positive there was no white guard either in the back of the truck or alongside the road, he admitted he couldn't be positive. There were several other cases where those interviewed started off by making broad positive statements that they had seen Japanese in trucks unescorted, but in no case would they admit, upon careful questioning, that they were positive of this fact.

A careful check was made of the circumstances under which Japanese in motor vehicles have been allowed outside of the Relocation Area. This check-up was for the purpose of ascertaining what types of trips have been made by truck and passenger car that may have given native citizens in Owens Valley the impression that Japanese are allowed to drive around unattended outside of the Relocation Area. This check revealed the following:

1. Garbage Disposal: Three trucks make a round trip at least twice a day from the Center to the garbage dump approximately three miles northeast of the Center. In making this trip it is necessary to follow the main highway for a distance of about 1-1/2 miles north of the Center. Often there is only one Caucasian escort with the three trucks, thus two of the trucks would have no Caucasian riding in them. Instructions have been issued that the three trucks are to go together and not get separated, but it seems reasonable to assume that they do get separated somewhat at times due to traffic and other causes.
2. Trucking Freight from Depot at Lone Pine: At least one trip is made by truck each day to the railroad station just north of Lone Pine. The freight is handled by 7 Japanese who have a white escort. Mr. Nash reports that freight comes in carload lots every day and that the truck company that brings the freight is unable to secure Caucasians to unload the freight and is fearful of heavy demurrage. (See also Supplement 3). Sometime ago Japanese making the trip to the freight depot were allowed to go into Lone Pine. Subsequently this practice was completely stopped.
3. Trip to the Mountains near Death Valley: Early in June a trip by truck was authorized for a Japanese gardener and other Japanese, escorted by Mr. Vanaken a Caucasian policeman, to go to the mountains near Death Valley to secure a Joshua tree and other native plants in connection with landscaping at the camp. This trip was reported in an article in the local paper and is, therefore, well known to local people.
4. Trips to Gather Stone for Building and Landscaping: At various times permits have been issued for Japanese crews to go in a truck with white escort to points not more than 5 or 6 miles from the camp to collect stones for construction purposes. Stone is being trucked at the present time and a sentry station is being built out of stone at the main entrance to the Center.
5. Picnics: About June 18, Mr. Temple, Chief of Community Services, accompanied by two other Caucasians and three Japanese, made a picnic trip, about 9 miles northwest of the Center, to a camp ground in the National Forest.

On Sunday, June 21, Mr. A. G. Nielsen, Supervisor of Community Activities; Ned Campbell, Assistant Project Director; Thomas Temple, Chief of Community Services; and Dr. Genevieve Carter, Superintendent of Education, sponsored a picnic at Seven Pines which is located approximately 12 miles northwest of the Center by road, and about six miles airline from the Center. Altogether there were about six whites and six Japanese from Manzanar. In addition to holding a picnic, the trip had the objective of gathering native plants for use at Manzanar.

6. Trip to Pomona: About the middle of June a trip was made by about fifteen Japanese with a white escort to drive passenger autos back to Manzanar.

7. Trucking in Agricultural Area: Numerous trucks are used in the agricultural area with only Japanese riding in them. This trucking is outside of the Relocation Center but within the Relocation Area. However, trucks under these circumstances do not go on the public highway. It can readily be seen, even though a white escort was in attendance with each truck or auto, or convoy of trucks or autos, how the impression could be gained by a casual observer that Japanese are driving around unattended.

Japanese in Lone Pine and Independence, and Going to and from Pumping Plant near Center: A number of people claimed that they had seen Japanese on the streets of Lone Pine and Independence unescorted by a Caucasian. It would be difficult to prove or disprove such a statement inasmuch as it is evident that white escorts may not always be distinguishable to the casual observer.

With the present system of granting permits to Japanese to leave the camp and the system of only allowing Japanese to leave with a white escort, it is unlikely that now or for sometime past any Japanese from the Manzanar Relocation Area have been in either town unescorted. On the other hand, it is very easy to see why the opinion is widespread that this is happening frequently. My interview with T. J. Garcia, Assistant Cashier, Bank of America at Lone Pine, will illustrate this point.

Mr. Garcia stated that up to about the 10th of August it had been the practice for two Japanese, escorted by one white, to come to the Bank daily to deposit the money collected at the cooperative store. It often took from 30 to 45 minutes to make up this deposit. Frequently Mr. Garcia saw one of the Japanese ask the white escort if he could go to some store nearby to get some article for himself and this request was granted. Thus, the Japanese for a period of several minutes, would not be actually under the control of the

white escort and anyone seeing a Japanese under these circumstances would be justified in concluding that the Japanese was not under escort. About three weeks ago the practice of having Japanese come into Lone Pine to bank cooperative store money was discontinued.

There is a pumping plant about 400 yards north of the main entrance to the Center on the east side of the highway. Mr. Thorn, In Charge of Maintenance, stated that it is necessary to have someone stationed at this pump 24 hours a day as a part of the fire protection system. Due to the shortage of Caucasian help and the expense that would be involved, by special arrangement with the Military Police, Japanese have been issued special permits which allow them to go, two at a time, unescorted by a white from the Center, up the highway to the pump. Although these Japanese are within sight of the Military Police guards at all times while on this detail, a passing motorist seeing one of these Japanese walking up the highway without an escort might be critical.

A joint statement by Captain Archer and Lt. Buckner of the 322 Military Police guarding the Center indicates that actual cases of Japanese either driving cars or visiting Lone Pine or Independence unattended by a white are few or non-existent. These two officers stated that there is no way that a motor vehicle can leave the Center and get to the highway without either passing through the main entrance of the Center or through the Military Police encampment, and that no motor vehicle is allowed to leave or return to the Center without a written pass. Military Police guards are requested to carefully check every pass without fail, and it was my experience that this procedure was rigidly adhered to even to the extent of requiring Mr. Nash himself to present his pass.

These officers further stated that they had received numerous complaints that Japanese were riding around outside of the Center or were visiting Lone Pine or Independence without guard. On such occasions these officers told the person making the complaint that all they had to do under these circumstances was to call them on the 'phone and that they would come immediately and take such Japanese into custody. However, there has not been one single instance in which anyone has made such a report.

These two officers stated that before they were assigned to Manzanar, at the end of June, they believed that the Japanese had more freedom to go to and from the Center. They stated that they were rigidly enforcing their instructions regarding permits for anyone to leave and return to the Center. Without exception the number of Japanese who have been checked out of the Center checks out exactly with the number that have returned to the Center. In other words, there are no Japanese unaccounted for. (I discussed with Captain Archer and Lt. Buckner whether they thought Japanese were leaving the Center on the west side and fishing or swimming. Their answers to these questions are discussed under Fishing and Swimming).

FISHING AND SWIMMING

(Refer to Paragraph 4 under Claims of WRA Laxity, p.1)

There is little doubt that there has been considerable fishing, and some swimming, on the part of Japanese, west of the Relocation Area; and some possibility that some fishing is continuing at the present time. Also there is little doubt that Japanese have been fishing in the Owens River.

Each of the twenty-four persons interviewed, who are not connected with Manzanar, were asked if they had any first-hand knowledge of fishing or swimming by Japanese evacuees. Most of these people said that they believed that fishing and swimming were being done by the Japanese; but there were only two cases where anyone said they had first-hand knowledge of fishing; and no one had personally seen any Japanese swimming.

Fishing

Case 1. Mr. E. B. Austin of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, stated that on Saturday, August 22, about 10 A.M. he drove his car to Sheppards Creek, about 2 miles west of the Relocation Area to fish. A Japanese was fishing with a home-made willow pole. Mr. Austin, who had fished in this locality for 13 years was angry because he felt sure that the Japanese had no fishing license, and had no right to be outside of the Relocation Area. I asked if the Japanese tried to avoid him. Mr. Austin said, on the contrary, that the Japanese came over to him and wanted to talk. Mr. Austin asked him if he had fished there before, and the Japanese said "often", that "many of the Japanese fished on Sheppards Creek". He said he had a friend who was fishing about a half mile further up the stream right then. His friend went up