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

#565

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2145Z 18 Jan 1943

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Transcript of telephone conversation between General DeWITT and Mr. McCLOY, Asst. Secy. of War, Wash., D. C.

General DeWITT: How do you do, Mr. Secretary.

Mr. McCLOY: How do you do, General, how are you.

D: Fine. Mr. Secretary, I just called you up because Colonel O'Rear has just arrived and I am leaving tomorrow morning and he has shown me a copy of the proposed memorandum -- it is not dated -- on the subject of the Loyalty Investigation of Japanese-Americans in War Relocation Centers. After I had read that I sent a radiogram to the Chief of Staff requesting that I be given -- before approval -- an opportunity to comment on it, or at least so much thereof as pertains to the duty that he is apparently going to assign to this headquarters. I called you up to tell you that I had done that and hoped it would be granted.

M: Sure. We can get that. That is easy.

D: Because I feel that I wouldn't be loyal to you or honest to you if I didn't say that it is a sign of weakness and an admission of an original mistake. Otherwise -- we wouldn't have evacuated these people at all if we could determine their loyalty.

M: I don't know whether we are at one on that ---

D: I know we are not one on it --

M: We evacuated them from the West Coast because we thought the front was immediate. We couldn't sort them out immediately. The country is committed to a relocation plan.

D: The only thing is that there is going to be about 40 or 50 thousand investigations and at least 30,000 that will have to be made here in order to determine the loyalty or the disloyalty of a certain group.

M: We are not going to swamp you with something that you can't handle. I mean we are not going to put a burden on you that you can't deal with. But some process has to be made sometime toward relocating these people. I think that everybody is agreed -- at least everybody here is agreed -- that you can't keep them in pens forever. Not without involving yourself in some very serious risk. And furthermore I don't know whether you know, but the Staff has decided to use a substantial number of these on the active front.

D: It indicated that in here.

M: If you put them on the front, you have got to have some sort of a screening process and if you can screen for that purpose, you are in a logical position that you can't escape, that you are going to screen for other purposes. Now the method of how many will be released, remains to be seen. But we certainly are going to form a unit of them. This group that is up in Wisconsin has been inspected and the reports coming

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back from them are very glowing. We are going -- the thing has been through a study here by the Staff itself, entirely un-influenced by me, which has come to the conclusion that they are useful as military assets. That having been decided, and it being necessary before you take that into the Army, to work out some sort of a method whereby you can at least *prima facie* determine that they are loyal to the United States it seems to me that you can't deny that others -- screening process for purposes of relocation -- That doesn't mean that we are going to throw them back onto your area, but that means to relocate them in other places within the country.

D: I'm glad to hear you say that because after evacuating from here, we'd have a pretty difficult time trying --

M: . . . have an argument that it takes time to do it -- as there might be -- but we haven't crossed the bridge of sending them back to the sensitive areas such as yours. However, we are going to put them -- some of them -- on the front lines. Alongside of our troops against the enemy. But not in the Pacific Area. But in other areas, and when you once make that decision, it is a pretty fundamental one. You've got to go -- almost logically to the extent of applying the same method to other American Citizens that you apply to those --

D: Well, to react to that, you can use them only in a few places where you can use the American Citizen anywhere.

M: Anywhere except certain sensitive areas such as yours -- we couldn't expect for the time being, at least --

D: No, I mean to say as a fighting force, you will have to select one of these areas where you can try these fellows to see whether they will fight one of the enemies, but you couldn't have them fight their own people -- so you admit practically, there, that they are not Americans.

M: Yes. We admit that we don't want to put them up against the test of -- I think it is largely because the war out there is primarily naval -- and anyway it would be too much to put them in a jungle fighting against their own -- Remember that we think they are going to be a military asset in other sectors and that was passed around to a great many elements of the Army -- I understand that you didn't concur, but many others of high military judgement did. After a great deal of deliberating, they decided that that was the thing to do. Once having decided that, some pretty heavy consequences flow. Once having determined that these people were to be evacuated from sensitive areas -- after they had shown that they could behave, they were to be relocated.

D: You've been doing that right along.

M: It's only been going by individuals --

D: We did some of that ourselves.

M: Yes. Those camps are known as Relocation Centers. Personally I think it is sound. To hold these fellows locked up with the bad eggs in with the good ones -- they are just contaminating the good ones. . . . these experts, but we have talked with a good many people here who propose as such, particularly the Navy people, and they all unanimously say that they -- there are large groups of them that are loyal. And that we are only spoiling a good portion of our citizenry by tying them up to this barbed wire project. There is this other element that feels that this will have a very profound effect in the far East. One of the most -- this racial war -- propaganda war.

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Page Three. General DeWITT and Mr. McCLOY. 1/18/43.

M: Another thing that influenced us very strongly was General Emmons' views -- who was here recently. He feels very strongly that these fellows will make grand soldiers. He says that he has had a lot of contact with them -- seen them and he spoke to the Chief of Staff when he was here -- the thing that he urged most strongly was that they be formed into combat units -- the only trouble you will have with them is trying to get them to retreat -- under orders. That is all. Of course it is all a matter of opinion. We are playing for some pretty good stakes -- I think that if the thing does work, we will go a long way toward improving our domestic Japanese problem and we may have a real impact on the enemy by doing it if they are -- if this idea of racial solidarity can be broken down. At any rate they have proven that at least they can fight. That is for their native cause -- the reports that we get -- you get -- as to the tenacity of these fellows in the fox holes at Buna show they have got some stuff in them.

D: No question about it. No question about their fighting ability. . . . as Japanese.

M: A Mikado philosophy only exposed to American chewing gum and moving pictures --

(Continued on next page)

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Page 4 . General DeWitt and Mr. McCloy. 1/18/43.

M. (cont'd) but only opposed to American chewing gum and moving pictures, there is a possibility at least that they may fight well for us. But at any rate, those are some of the considerations which --

D. I get it. I'd just like to comment on so much of that as pertains to me. It's the first I've heard about it and it's a tremendous job.

M. Well, we're not going to do anything that is going to swamp your headquarters. I think the way that thing was written it probably indicated that you might be so swamped.

D. Yes, I got a radiogram from the Provost Marshal that 30,000 at least were involved.

M. Well, we've got to work out some sort of a method -- process that will not tax your capacity and we'll modify that to fit your abilities.

D. It just says I'll do it. It doesn't indicate how it will be done or what type the investigation will be or anything about it.

M. We are working on the methods here now with the Japanese experts from the Navy and our own and we are setting up a board on it and the mechanics of it naturally we've got to work out in such a way that it isn't going to place an impossible burden on you. But that phase of it I don't think you need to worry about.

D. Well that's the only thing I've got to do with it except I hope they are not going to send any of them back here.

M. _____ you put in your comments.

D. I have asked for authority to do that but it just went off.

✓ M. I'll tell M ^{Chamy} _____ that I asked you to and then you can go ahead on that.

D. All right, because I was going to be gone tomorrow and maybe gone for a couple of days.

M. _____ the fundamental policy which brings about this procedure -- it is fundamental and I think it all flows from the determination or the decision, at least, to use Japanese units. I told _____ -- I don't want to tell you all over the telephone.

D. No, it's an open phone.

M. I heard that you weren't feeling so well.

D. No, I had a little trouble. It is all right now. I never was laid up. I've

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Page . General DeWitt and Mr. McCloy. 1/18/43.

been feeling all right.

M. I've heard that you were tied up for a day or two.

D. No, I was just laid up one afternoon.

M. I suppose you are going north.

D. No, I am going south for a conference with the Navy on the subject that you know about, you know what I mean, and I won't go north until certain other things have happened up there that are now going on that you know about.

M. From all I hear up there it is pretty good so far.

D. It's good. We lost some ships.

M. _____ it was the weather conditions.

D. It has been awful. There has been a 60 mile gale practically the whole time, but it began to moderate yesterday.

M. All right.

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JAN 13 1943

Signal Corps, United States Army

Received at

RECEIVED IN SECRET CODE

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 3-9501

#0454

WASHINGTON DC

JAN 13 1943

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COMMANDING GENERAL

WEST DEF COMD & 4TH ARMY

PRES OF SF CALIF

333.5

COMMENCING ABOUT FEBRUARY TEN WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY WILL REQUEST YOUR OFFICE FOR THIRTY THOUSAND OR MORE LOYALTY INVESTIGATIONS STOP COLONEL OREAR WILL ARRIVE PAREN SPMGI RPT SPMGI PAREN JANUARY EIGHTEEN REFERENCE PREPARATION OF TENTATIVE PLANS

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1-2-43*

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JAN 13 1943 5 17 PM

If reply to this message is made by radio or telegraph, please note on its face for the information of the message center;

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"The making of an exact copy of this message is forbidden. Only such extracts as are absolutely necessary will be made and marked SECRET. This copy will be safeguarded with the greatest care and will be returned to Special Records Section, Western Defense Command, without delay."

This is a reply to No. 0454... MM
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CLASSIFIED MESSAGE ONLY

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(CLASSIFICATION)

DATE 18 January 1943

NO. _____

SEND THE FOLLOWING

3500

(RUSH _____)

(PRIORITY P-R-I-O-R-I-T-Y)

(ROUTINE _____)

DeW

JAN 18 1943

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HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

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(INITIALS
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333.5

CSWAR

COLONEL

CG0112 COLONEL OREAR HAS JUST SHOWN ME COPY OF PROPOSED MEMORANDUM
PRESCRIBING ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE FOR DETERMINING LOYALTY INVESTIGATION
OF JAPANESE HYPHEN AMERICANS IN WAR RELOCATION CENTERS STOP ^{stop} PRIOR TO
APPROVAL REQUEST I BE GIVEN OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT THEREON OR AT LEAST
SO MUCH THEREOF AS PERTAINS TO THE DUTIES IMPOSED ON THIS HEADQUARTERS
IN CONNECTION THEREWITH

X350.05 X201

THEREWITH

DEWITT

CG WDC & 4A

OFFICIAL:

B. Y. READ,
Colonel, AGD,
Adjutant General.

SSB

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HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY

OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA#663
wdc

1230 Feb 7, 1943

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Transcript of telephone conversation between General DeWITT and Colonel WILSON DC/S, 9th SC, Fort Douglas, Utah.

General DeWITT: Are you on the Mixer?

Colonel WILSON: Yes, I am.

D: You are familiar, are you not, with the action that the War Department has taken with the relocation of the Japanese in 9 Relocation Centers in the recruitment of a combat team?

W: Yes sir.

D: All right --.

W: Can I turn on the recorder on this, or would you rather have that off?

D: I'm transcribing this.

W: All right, sir. Mine is on.

D: Now. You are familiar with what the War Department is doing?

W: Yes sir.

D: All right. Now here are the instructions that I have given to the Staff here and which I am following carefully myself. These are the words of my memorandum to the Staff: (With reference to that subject) "If calls come from any paper with reference to the subject, they will be informed that it is a matter that is being handled by the War Department and the War Relocation Authority in the relocation of Japanese in which this headquarters is not involved or concerned and we are therefore not in a position to comment on the matter. The Bureau of Public Relations in the War Department has charge of all Public Relations involving this subject matter." Now I am calling General Joyce -- calling you up to tell General Joyce that I've taken that action because I feel that there is going to be a reaction in the press. . . on that subject in view of the fact that the recruiting teams enter the various Relocation Camps tomorrow and will read a prepared speech to these Japs telling them about what they are doing and also they will publish that in the local Relocation paper together with questions and answers that they think the Japs may ask it. Now I feel that that is going to create a flare-up in the press in the West. Particularly on the Pacific Coast. So I am telling my people that they are not to enter into it. If the papers want anything, they ought to go to the Public Relations in the War Department, for this and further information. Because we can't become involved in a controversial question that has been decided by the Secretary of War. The action of the War Department. I'm giving that information of my action to General Joyce. Of course the decision that he has to make is whether he will do that at his own headquarters. I think we should work together. But I want him to know that that is what I'm doing irrespective of what he does and to suggest that this may be the right action for his headquarters to take. That is the reason I read

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Page Two. General DeWITT and Colonel WILSON. 2/1/43.

what I did of the written instructions to you. I can read them again if you don't think they are recorded.

W: I think that they are recorded, General and I feel certain that General Joyce will adopt the same policy.

D: Keep this conversation. Don't distribute the transcript around.

W: No sir. I will not.

D: We are not doing it here. My whole feeling is that there is going to be a flare-up on the Coast. . . about it when they see the formal talk that the officers in charge of these teams are going to give to these people -- because they are authorized to publish it and when they see the list of questions and answers that is going to be published. I have determined that I am not going to get mixed into it under any circumstances. We are going to refer them all to the War Department and there they will get their information.

W: All right sir.

D: All right. I just wanted to be certain that you got that -- and don't let this conversation get out -- just give it to General Joyce.

W: I will, General.

D: All right. I just would like to know, tomorrow, his reaction, but I wanted to let him know now because it will probably be in the papers tomorrow night -- as soon as these teams start to work.

W: I'll see that he gets word today.

D: All right. Fine. Thank you.

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OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA*File 273
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1000 Feb 8, 1943

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Transcript of telephone conversation between General DeWITT and General JOYCE, CG, Ninth Service Command, Fort Douglas, Utah.

General JOYCE: General, in regard to --

General DeWITT: That message I sent you yesterday?

J: Yes. That is fine and it shall be done.

D: I think we should get together on that. It will save a lot of grief.

J: Absolutely.

D: What is going to happen on that -- I have seen -- first of all, can you get on the mixer?

J: Yes, sir. Wait a minute. It is on at my end now.

D: I'm on too. You see they have started those parties going to the Relocation Centers today -- an officer and two Caucasian sergeants and a Jap sergeant. Now they have been given and I've seen it, a set formal address that they are to give without variation in word or paragraph. It has been prepared for them in the War Department. Then there is a list of questions that they have worked up in the War Department that they think the Japs might ask the officer in charge of the party and the answers to them. Just between you and me and the gate-post, the questions and answers are about as inconsistent with the speech as I ever saw. But there are certain statements made in the speech, that when it gets out in the papers, that are going to cause a terrific uproar, particularly out here in the West. The papers are going to begin to call up about it right away and want to know this and want to know that and the War Department has got to be prepared to handle it -- we haven't. We can't, because we have not been consulted, this decision has been made in the War Department and I told all my people -- in fact I carry around in my pocket now that little slip containing the words that I dictated to Wilson yesterday.

J: Yes, sir. I have it right in front of me.

D: This is a matter handled by the War Department and War Relocation Authorities in the relocation of Japanese in which this headquarters is not involved or concerned, and is therefore not in a position to comment on the matter. The Bureau of Public Relations in the War Department has charge of all Public Relations involving the subject. That is the instructions that we have -- let the Bureau of Public Relations handle it so I'm not even going to comment on it. I won't say a word to anybody about it. I just don't know.

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They have told these people that when they have delivered the address, they should then let it be published in the local camp papers. And that these questionnaires could also be published. There is no official objection to their publication. Of course then if that is done, it will get in all the newspapers. And I am anticipating unfavorable reaction out here. I want to start right now and get everybody set to keep out of it. And that is the reason that I called you up because I didn't know whether you had -- I knew you hadn't seen the letter because --

J: No. I hadn't. They kept me delightfully in the dark.

D: Yes. Well, I sent a man on from here -- a Doctor Dederick, who has been with me -- from the Bureau of the Censors. He worked and is working on the statistical data in connection with the evacuation and now the report and he was called for the -- by the War Department to come on there and give a talk on the evacuation and advise them.

J: We can't be involved in any such stuff as that.

D: You are going to have, of course, through you the induction of a lot of these people -- they will be allowed to volunteer under the instructions and if they don't volunteer, they are going to be drafted into combat teams -- and that means -- the directive said it was going to go into effect. Davison or somebody called up the other day and said that you had received instructions to send them to the nearest reception center and I asked that none of them be sent to reception centers on the coast. In view of the War Department instructions that no Jap soldiers be in units out here, and they have moved them all out, and furthermore in one of the questions and answers, one of the questions is: "Would I be allowed to return with my family to my former home on the West Coast?", the answer is, "Not for the present". The only reception center -- relocation center -- The nearest reception center in this area would be -- Los Angeles to Manzanar. Tule Lake is near Spokane. I just wanted you to see that none of them got out here.

J: General, I'm going to ask your support in this -- if you want to do it or I'll quote your concurrence in taking it up with the Department. This letter of February 1, from the Adjutant General -- I don't know whether you have seen that or not. It says -- paragraph 1 is that "A combat team will be formed --"

D: No, I haven't seen that.

J: " -- citizens of Japanese parentage and it will be activated at Camp Shelby, Mississippi and will be ready to receive fillers not earlier than March 1, 1943". "2. Beginning February 23, 1943, 3,000 English speaking native born United States citizens of Japanese parentage or ancestry qualified for General Service will be selected in the continental United States by voluntary induction through Selective Service."

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Page Three. General DeWITT and General JOYCE. 2/8/43.

J: (Cont'd) "3. Each volunteer will be cleared by the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, War Department, prior to being ordered to a local board to report for induction."

D: Yes, they won't go to the local board though.

J: I know it. It will be a local board that we will designate near a relocation center.

D: Yes, I mean to say they are going to go through that procedure but these people have all the forms necessary that the local board would use. They won't go from the relocation center to the location of the board. They will go right from the relocation center to the place where they are going to organize this unit which will be somewhere in the central part of the country.

J: It's going to be Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Of course I'm simply taking the letter as I have it and it says: "by his local board to report for induction." I'll read the letter and then we'll discuss that point.

"Clearances will be indicated on a special form, 'Statement of United States Citizens of Japanese Ancestry, etc.', a copy of which will be forwarded by the local board to the induction station with each registrant."

Then 4., here is the paragraph:

"Only men qualified for General Military Service will be inducted. Inducted registrants, if they request it, will be transferred to the enlisted reserve corps and returned to the locality of the local board which forwarded them for induction, recalled to active duty and ordered to report to the nearest reception center 7 days hence in the same manner as other registrants".

That is all wrong as far as we are concerned, because here would be the effect of that, General. A man down at Poston would go to the local board, we'd say, in Phoenix, or something like that, and then would be inducted there through the process of local board induction, then would be put in the Enlisted Reserve, given 7 days furlough, he would be entitled to go to his home in Los Angeles, then according to this paragraph he would go from there to the -- Arlington Reception Center and then when he is clothed and equipped go to the unit at Camp Shelby. Now, this paragraph permits every one of those 3,000 Japs going to their home locality in the combat zone.

D: Of course, the War Department has stated they would not be permitted out here and, furthermore, they are telling them that they can't return to the West Coast, so I think if you can prepare a radio, dispatch a radio to the War Department or whomever you send it to, recommending that instead of being sent to any reception center -- that that exclude all reception centers in the Military Area 1 and 2 in California and Military Area No. 1 in Oregon and Washington. They will approve that.

J: My original idea was to process them as far as reception centers go, process them all through the one here at Ft. Douglas.

D: That would be fine.

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Authority NPD130027
By PT NARA Date 9/14/05

Page Four. General DeWITT and General JOYCE. 2/8/43.

J: That is my original idea and I would like also your concurrence in the matter of sending them direct instead of giving them 7 days furlough to go to Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles and all the rest.

D: We won't let them in; we'll arrest them if they come out here. It's to send them direct to their units.

J: That's it. Send them direct to the reception center as soon as they are inducted by the local boards and then direct to the units.

D: That's fine.

J: We will save all sorts of complications. You see the premise on which this thing was built. The reformers down there are doing it to put them on the same status with every other American. That's what they are doing in that paragraph and it's a ruinous thing as it's written, General.

D: If you will send me an information copy by radio of that request to send them direct to their units and I'll state that I concur -- you state that I concur; you can state that I request and concur if you want to, then send me a copy of it and I will take it up with the War Department too and then say that I do concur.

J: I'll go after that now. We have to scotch that fourth paragraph or the whole thing is going to be just -- it will make the uproar all the worse on this. I'm going to recommend that it be done in a direct way.

D: Fine; goodbye.

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OFFICE OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA#666
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1215 8 February 1943

Transcript of telephone conversation between General DeWITT and General JOYCE, Commanding General, Ninth Service Command, Fort Douglas, Utah.

General Joyce: Hello, General. I have written this radio and we'll see how you concur in it:

"CONCERNING LETTER SPX342 PAREN ONE DASH TWENTY EIGHT DASH FORTY TWO PAREN TR DASH ONE SUBJECT INDUCTION OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY FEBRUARY FIRST ONE NINE FOUR THREE COMMA I STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT THE PROCEDURE OUTLINED FOR PROCESSING PROSPECTIVE JAPANESE INDUCTEES IN THE NINTH SERVICE COMMAND BE CHANGED SO AS TO DIRECT THAT THOSE SELECTED PROCEED TO DESIGNATED LOCAL BOARDS NEAR RELOCATION CENTERS WHERE INDUCTEES NOW ARE AND THAT AFTER PROCESSING BY SUCH BOARDS THEY BE SENT DIRECT TO THE INDUCTION STATION SALT LAKE CITY UTAH THENCE TO THE RECEPTION CENTER FORT DOUGLAS AND FROM THAT RECEPTION CENTER DIRECT TO CAMP SHELBY MISSISSIPPI. THIS RECOMMENDATION IS CONCURRED IN BY GENERAL DEWITT AND IS MADE IN ORDER THAT POSSIBLE UNTOWARD INCIDENTS IN THIS AREA MAY BE AVOIDED....."

General DeWitt:I don't believe I'd put that in....."UNTOWARD INCIDENTS IN THIS AREA MAY BE AVOIDED." I believe I'd leave that out.

J: All right, and....."IMMEDIATE ACTION IS REQUESTED."

D: I think I'd leave that out and wouldn't state why; they'll know....this goes as a coded message, of course?

J: Yes.

D: No, I wouldn't put....because I don't want to suggest that there is going to be some untoward incidents. I think we would putting our neck out if we did and they would want to know why we thought so and we just can't very well justify it. I think that is fine, old man, with just those words left out.

J: Well, we'll send it that way.

D: Then how would it read?

J: "THIS RECOMMENDATION IS CONCURRED IN BY GENERAL DEWITT. IMMEDIATE ACTION IS REQUESTED."

D: That's the idea. Fine.

J: We are going to have to iron out with State Board but we'll iron out everything if they will simply give this authority.

D: Fine, all right.

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J: Now, I'll also telephone Styer and tell him that this is on the way and to look it up himself and see if we can't get the process changed.

D: All right, that will be fine. Goodbye.

J: Goodbye.

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

#673
gjr

1410 9 February 1943

Transcript of telephone conversation between General DeWITT and General JOYCE, Commanding General, Ninth Service Command, Fort Douglas, Utah.

General Joyce: Hello, General. I have reply in regard to the Japanese inductees. The reply was:

"A PROPOSAL TO BRING THOSE MEN TO THE INDUCTION STATION AT SALT LAKE CITY AND TO PROCESS THEM THROUGH YOUR INDUCTION STATION AT FORT DOUGLAS IS APPROVED."

That is perfectly all right.

General DeWitt: That's fine.

J: "ANY WAY YOU WANT TO BUT THE MATTER OF NOT ALLOWING ANY OF THEM TO TAKE THE ONE WEEK IN ERC TO SETTLE THEIR AFFAIRS CANNOT BE APPROVED IN VIEW OF COMMITMENTS AND DECISIONS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE SECRETARY OF WAR TO THE PRESIDENT HIMSELF. THE SITUATION IS IN EFFECT OVER IN HAWAII." Then it goes on.

So the thing you can do is these men after induction can be prohibited from entering any restricted zone that you in the Western Defense Command may set up; can keep them out of those places.

D: Yes; well they can't come in now without a permit, you see and we will handle it the way we have handled all others.

J: It says they should be given the privilege of taking their seven days if they so desire. Well, they can take their seven days here if they wish it.

D: Yes, they can't take it here because they have nothing here.

J: Now, we will have them all notified they will be excluded from Zone A....

D:not Zone, Military Area One and Two, California, and Number One in Washington and Oregon; the Military Areas from which they have been evacuated on the West Coast.

J: Yes; One in Washington-Oregon and One and Two in California.

D: Yes, now before you do that, let me get this transcript and I'll send it down to the Civil Affairs Division and let them call your Chief of Staff.

J: Will you do this, General; will you give me a directive on what you want, exactly in the matter of them being prohibited?

D: All right, I'll do that.

J: If you will do that, that is fine and it will put it on a basis that will be exact. That is all I want. Otherwise the thing is approved so we will instruct everybody that they will go.....we are going to have a time setting up Boards maybe but then there are only two places where it is difficult but we will work them out and bring them here,

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Page Two. General DeWitt and General Joyce. 2/9/43.

induct them and send them direct to Selby; if they want seven days' leave they can take it here.

D: All right, old man, fine. I'll get that to you just as soon as I have this transcribed.

J: Yes, sir.

D: Goodbye.

* * *

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Authority NND730027
By PT NARA Date 9/14/05

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HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF G-2
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

IN REPLY REFER TO:
(CIB) 333.5(2-4-43)

February 17, 1943

333.5

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel Weckerling.

RE: Recruiting of Japanese at Gila River Relocation Project.

1. The Phoenix Branch Office has reported that the FBI has apprehended sixteen alien Japanese agitators who were interfering with the registration of evacuees at Gila River War Relocation Project in Arizona.

2. These sixteen individuals, whose names will be furnished by the Phoenix FBI, were threatening Nisei and Kibei males of military age who are eligible to volunteer for induction in the Army. Approximately 1/3 of the male population of Gila River has been registered. A large proportion -- estimated at between 56% and 70% -- of those registered, have answered questions No. 27 and No. 28 on the questionnaire in the negative. Question No. 27 calls for statement of allegiance to the United States, and question No. 28 asks if registrant is willing to fight any enemy of the United States.

JW
G-2

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Handwritten initials and a large scribble at the bottom right corner.

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365/4

HEADQUARTERS WESTERN DEFENSE COMMAND AND FOURTH ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF G-2
PRESIDIO OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

333.5

IN REPLY REFER TO:
(CIB) 333.5(2-4-43)

February 17, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR: Colonel Weckerling

RE: Registration of Japanese for Military Service.

1. Reference is made to previous memoranda regarding progress of registration of Japanese evacuees at Gila River Relocation Project.

2. The Phoenix Branch Office has reported that registration is proceeding at Colorado River Relocation Project quietly and without unusual incident. Attention is invited, however, to the fact that the Japanese member of the recruiting team at Colorado River is HISATO KINOSHITA, whose father and brother, residents of Colorado River Relocation Project, are on the special segregation list of dangerous Japanese evacuees prepared by this office. The father is reported to have taken part in recent demonstrations and disorders at Poston. The brother, a member of HEIMUSHA KAI and HOKUBEI BUTOKU KAI, is also classified as an agitator. Sergeant KINOSHITA was investigated by this office and a CI-RI was forwarded to the War Department on January 16, 1943, under letter of transmittal which recommended that he be relieved from assignment to the Military Intelligence Service Language School, that he not be given access to classified information, and that he be kept under surveillance at all times.

3. Information concerning KINOSHITA's present assignment was forwarded to the War Department by immediate action letter, dated February 8, 1943.

B.T.P.
B.T.P.

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B *rule*

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

CONFIDENTIAL

#702

wdc

0900 Feb 17, 1943

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Transcript of telephone conversation between General DeWITT and Colonel BENDETSSEN, CAD, this Headquarters.

General DeWITT: ---still holds with reference to having Japanese soldiers in here. They haven't any business to attend to anyhow. They did that all at the Assembly Centers and they haven't any more business to attend to than if they were in Assembly Centers. Isn't that correct?

Colonel BENDETSSEN: That is correct, sir.

D: The type of men that they are getting were not engaged in any business activities that would require them to have to come back here and run around Los Angeles and San Diego and those places.

B: That is correct, sir. They are a younger group of men -- between 18 and 25.

D: You are talking to Scobey now -- not to the Secretary.

B: That is right, sir.

D: I want you to talk to him. I won't talk to anybody. But I'm going to stick to my present policy.

B: Yes sir. I understand.

D: Notify the War Department.

B: I'll advise them -- I'll advise Colonel Scobey that the Commanding General adheres to his present policy as approved by the War Department and no change. And in the absense of a directive to the contrary, they will be permitted to visit only the four Relocation Centers.

D: That is it. Make it plain to him that we haven't been consulted before on this and that my attitude is based on the fact that we weren't consulted because there was no intention of the War Department to view that fact or expectation that it would -- any change in the policies that have been established would be desirable or necessary.

B: I understand.

D: but I'm not going to talk to Scobey about any change in important policy of that kind.

B: I understand that, sir, and I also understand that General Joyce was advised in response to his request, that if furloughs were granted, there was to be no change in present policy. I understand that he was so advised, sir.

D: By the War Department. Yes.

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Page Two. General DeWITT and Colonel BENDETSEN. 2/17/43.

B: I'll also point that out.

D: All right. Don't do it in a way that will bring orders. Do you see what I mean. Don't do it in a way that will bring the Secretary in it. I mean Mr. McCloy.

B: All right, sir.

D: You are talking personally to Scobey and not officially. Understand?

B: I'll talk personally to him. I understand. Yes sir.

D: All right. Now give me the address of the travel bureau.

B: The Alaska Travel Control is 1331 3rd Avenue. Directly across the street in Seattle from the Post Office on Third Avenue.

D: Major Goebel.

B: Yes sir. Major G-O-E-B-E-L.

D: All right. Thank you.

B: All right, sir. About what time do you expect to go over there?

D: I don't know. Don't let him know. I don't want anybody to know I'm getting up there. I'm going to Admiral Fletcher's office. I'll go over from there.

B: All right sir.

D: I'll telephone him from there. What is his phone number?

B: Eliot 3402, Sir.

D: All right.

B: All right, sir. I'll take care of it this morning. Goodbye Sir. Have a good flight.

D: I hope so. The weather is good now.

B: Good. That is fine, sir.

D: Goodbye.

B: Goodbye.

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