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Today, it is exactly twelve days, since I first addressed the residents of this Center from this platform. In that brief time, a period of less than two weeks, much has happened. For one thing, both I and the members of my family have come to know many of you individually. We hope, and the appointed personnel hope too, that these acquaintances will be renewed in the future—in better times and better places.

This evening, I wish to report to you the progress of the segregation program in which we are all engaged. From day to day, progress has been made. Two weeks ago, we faced a job together. Today, it is apparent that the job is being done. It is plain that the residents wish to keep the Center a peaceful and decent community throughout this period. It is evident that co-operation is coming not merely from a few groups and individuals, but from the entire colony, from every ward and neighborhood. It is obvious to us and to the American public, people are already earning a reputation for good sense, for sound judgment, and for dignified behavior. My first report to residents was very simple: Make no mistake about it; the segregation program is succeeding.

I mention this not merely by way of thanking you for your co-operation, but to indicate my earnest wish to see that co-operation continue. It is important, for all of us, and you particularly, have a vital stake in the success of this program. Segregation is not something to keep the Center a peaceful and decent community. It is the answer to the problem of Americans of Japanese ancestry who wish to cast their lot with the future of this country and who want to live out their years on this soil. It is the answer to the problem of Japanese of the first generation who share with them this desire. It allows those who wish to be Japanese in the future to be Japanese in the present. It is not a petty question of who will move and who stay, but a matter of importance which will affect your lives in the months ahead and the lives of your children for a much longer time. In this moment of decision in the hearings every individual and family has a right to make the choice without fear or suspicion, to make the choice calmly and judiciously. Whatever way you decide, first-generation or second or both together, you may rest assured that there will be no threats and no reprisals and no penalties in store for you from any government—here or abroad. The decision is yours to make freely with a thought to the future.

Since I arrived, and in twelve busy days, we have broken precedents—one of which is to meet here and talk things over in a spirit of mutual confidence. Many of you found that the door of my office is open. We have broken precedents, it is true, but we have not broken promises. For example, twelve days ago, I stated our desire to have factual information reach each and every colonist. As you know, we have worked day and night to get information through a Speaker's Bureau, through talks in every corner of the colony, given at your request. I stated that information consultants should be placed in convenient locations throughout the center. As you know, such offices were established at 1804, 2508, 1308, and 608. Twelve days ago, I welcomed the establishment of working committees from the colony to advise administration. In response to this suggestion, one group, but many groups, have come to advise us. Let me assure you that when they come, they represent the people's wishes. As I say, many groups have come, Buddhist and Christian, younger men and older men—all intent upon helping the people of this Center by explaining to us in administration the hopes and fears and desires of you residents from every corner of the colony. Our desire is to bring your troubles to us. Bring your suggestions. And we will do our best, I repeat, to assist the people of this Center in every way possible.

Twelve days ago, I stated also that you would hear many unfounded rumors. You should like to deal with these rumors frankly, one by one, and answer them with all the authority at my command. The First Rumor is that if lassie and their families move to a loyal Center, one of the six Centers open to them, their sons will be drafted, whereas sons in the centers of American ancestry will be exempt from Army call. The answer is simple. This rumor reports the mistakes of registration time. Then it was said that all sons of age who answered Yes to questions 27 and 28 would be drafted. As you know, they were not drafted. This rumor is also without foundation. The rumor is also now. The fact is, that Selective Service is a different agency of the government; it is not the Selective Service of the opposite Center.
PROGRESS ON SEGREGATION: CONTINUED

A Third Rumor, on the other hand, is that the Army will take over in the inside of the segregation center. This idea also dates back to registration times when reports on rumors said all young men would be drafted, all old men who answered Yes would be forced to relocate, and the Army would take over inside the center. As you know, young men were not drafted, people who answered Yes are still here six months later, and the Army has never yet taken over in the administration of Tule Lake. I therefore say definitely that W.R.A. is the agency responsible for the internal administration of Tule Lake, and present plans do not contemplate any Army administration of the center. After segregation, the center will become a closed center and the Army will guard, and possibly patrol, the outside boundaries.

There was a Fourth Rumor that an application for indefinite leave for a certain Form 130, would be used in applying for a segregation hearing. People said that if they filled out this form, they would be forced to go out on indefinite leave once they reached the new relocation center. In the first place, this form is not used for segregation hearings, and the Tulean Dispatch in mentioning it before my arrival, was in error. We corrected that error as soon as we read it, and in the pages of the same paper. People are called to segregation hearings by individual letters from the office. No one is being asked to use an application for indefinite leave for hearings on segregation.

Along the same line, The Second Rumor is a rumor that those who move will soon be forced to relocate from the new center! Will the other nine centers be closed down immediately following segregation? The answer is a very strong No. The W.R.A. has no intention of closing the other nine centers in order to force people to relocate. The Army has never been any forced relocation, There never will be. W.R.A. has always looked upon relocation as a voluntary procedure, an opportunity available to those who wish to make the most of it. That opportunity will be taken away at Tule Lake following segregation. But it will continue at other centers and W.R.A. in nine other centers and in Relocation Offices throughout the country will continue to spend vast sums to help people establish themselves on the outside, if they so desire. From year to year, Congress has appropriated funds for the maintenance of the centers and these Relocation field offices. There is every reason to believe that the Congress will continue these services in the future, as long as needed.
definite stand; they are afraid of burning their bridges behind them. Let me answer this rumor by saying that your segregation hearings are entirely confidential, and are not seen by any other government. You will not be labeled as a resident of this center or of that one. We want you to make a free choice without fear of consequences. It is my opinion that after the war, no stigma will be attached to the residents of any particular type of center. You will be free to travel, as before, and your records in W.R.A. will be held confidential for you. There was a Sixth Rumor, a rumor that W.R.A. would not send people to the Center of their choice. The answer is that W.R.A. will do everything possible to see that people do get their choices. We cannot guarantee that every individual will get his first choice. But we will give preference to individuals joining their families in another Center, and to families joining their former neighbors from the same locality in another Center.

Very early, we noticed that some groups in this Center had few friends or relatives in other Centers, but rather that they had come here as a group. To allow such families, friends and Church groups to remain together, we have worked out a plan whereby such groups on the removal list may move together. They have told us that their wish to remain together is stronger than a desire to go to a particular Center. We will comply with these wishes though we cannot, of course, add a guarantee that they can go to the Center of their first choice. We can do this for groups of up to twenty families, and it may be necessary in some instances to further reduce this size in order to be fair to others. Such family groups may get together and have their leader submit their request through the Social Welfare Office at 1804. One can inquire about his plan through the Block managers. Such people, it is understood, give up the guarantee of a particular center; but gain the right to move together. Of course, we will try, as best we can, to send them to the Centers which they have groups select. In general, we cannot guarantee first choices of the individual or the group; but every effort will be made to meet these choices.

There is the Rumor, finally, that those who move to another Center will be unable to find jobs there, and will therefore be at a disadvantage. All I can say to this one, is that at the Denver Conference your representatives stressed this point, of providing jobs for Tule Lake residents in their new Centers. The Project Directors of all other Centers listened sympathetically. Many of them stated that they would establish quotas, a fair number of jobs, for newcomers from Tule Lake. All agreed that they would pay attention to Tuleans who had held key positions here. We have decided that workers here in key positions will delay transfer until segregation is completely carried through, will receive special recommendation to the Project of their destination. They will be known, upon arrival, as key workers of the Tule Lake Project. You may be sure that they will not be looking for jobs very long. There are other lesser rumors, too numerous to mention. One, heard recently, is that non-registrants who are called for interview, or hearing, are passed over primarily in the promise to relocate. As we have said before, this is false and mistaken to the core. The hearings are not intended to put people "on the spot"; they are informal, easy-going conversations in which you are welcomed to say what you sincerely believe. I am sure you may come to them without fear or annoyance.

In this talk, I have stressed rumors only to give you the facts which I know you want. As you know, we are not, in this program, repeating mistakes of registration times. On our part, we are giving you the information you need, all of it, in advance, and with every facility at our disposal. On your part, you are responding intelligently, and in a dignified and commendable manner. The colony and its administration never stood closer together, in trust, in confidence, in cooperation, than it does today. The decisions you will make are momentous, for you and your children. While I have mentioned rumors, I have mentioned them only to give you facts about the job we are doing, and doing successfully, together. I must end by congratulating the residents of this Center for their quick and thorough understanding of a difficult and complex program. And I must say that your intelligent and sober thought and action, as a group, will be of lasting benefit in establishing for Japanese-Americans throughout the nation a reputation which other peoples among us may well envy.

Thank you.
FACTS ABOUT GRANADA WRA CENTER

Granada Relocation Center, also known as the city of Amache, is situated on a low, sage-brush hill overlooking Arkansas Valley that traverses Prowers County of Colorado. It is in this valley, through which courses a river bearing the same name, that the only intensive farming of the county is carried on. The rest is composed mainly of flat-rolling prairie where lack of water has prevented the full development of agriculture.

Various geographical features combine to make this region, a part of the great western plains, much different from the Pacific Coast States in the matter of climate and appearance. The whole area, for instance, is situated well over 3,500 feet and the air is correspondingly rare.

Extremes in weather prevail with temperatures running over hundreds in summer and below zero in winter. The Colorado Year Book of 1941-1942 gives the following data: Annual mean temperature, 53.9 degree; highest, 103 degree; lowest, 10 degree. A peculiarity of this region is the large number of severe thunderstorms in the summer months.

The area in which the project is situated occupies the western edge of the dust bowl. For this reason dust storms occur with frequent intervals over the center.

PEOPLE

According to the official tabulation the original population of this center was 7,982 at the end of September 1942. Approximately 4,000 were from the Merced Assembly Center and the rest from Santa Anita. Out of the total 5,497 were American citizens and 2,204 were aliens.

On August of 1943, check revealed that 1,656 had left the center on various types of discharge thus decreasing the population to 6,165. These people represent the following California counties: San Francisco, Los Angeles, Merced, Stanislaus, Yuba, Yolo, Santa Rosa and Los Angeles.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

The entire project occupies a total area of 10,423 acres, most of which is land that has already been subject to cultivation by the native farmers. The project's northern boundary is formed by the Arkansas River and the others by cactus-covered prairie land. The center itself, where the homes of the evacuees are located, is shaped like a square with the sides a mile in length.

STORE FACILITIES

For the benefit of the evacuees the Community Enterprise of Amache, a business owned and operated by evacuees, provides the following facilities: General store, where unrationed groceries, magazines, tobacco, ice cream, cold drinks, and bakery goods are sold; clothing store; shoe repair shop; barbershop; novelty store; laundry; cleaning; shoe store; watch repair and optometry.

Goods not available in the above places may be bought in the town of Lamar located 17 miles away in Granada 16 miles from the center. Transportation to the former is difficult at time but the latter may be easily reached, even on foot.

Various sea-food may be obtained from a market operated in Granada by a nisei. Delivery service on certain week days.

HOUSING

The barracks are probably similar to those of the other centers and the only difference that may occur is in flooring which is made of a single layer of bricks laid directly upon the dirt. The apartments, during winter, are fairly good living quarters but in the summer there might be some uncomfortable hotness due to the fact that the buildings are spaced too closely to insure the proper passage of breeze. The units are provided with canvas cots.

PUBLIC HEALTH

The center has been fortunate in not having a single outbreak of contagious diseases or any sudden appearance of group illness. This is due largely to the efficient manner in which the medical officers handle the affairs of public health.

The hospital is well managed and sufficient personnel is available to care for most of the ordinary sickness. Furthermore very-serious cases are usually sent to a hospital located in the nearby town of Lamar or to other locations where proper facilities are available.

PUBLIC UTILITIES

The water for the project is supplied by four wells approximately 800 feet deep. The pumping capacity of 350 gallons per minute is more than ample to supply the needs of the people. The water, in addition to its high mineral content, is chlorinated for decontamination purpose. This makes it rather un-tasty for drinking purposes.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Different forms of recreation and creative pastimes are offered to the evacuees through the existence of clubs and organizations. Motion pictures are held every night in different blocks with an admission price of 10 cents.

CENTER EMPLOYMENT

There are certain type of work that requires further addition of personnel. This is especially true of the farms section where lack of labor shortage has been the chief problem.

The main industry of the Granada Relocation Center is agriculture. Its prime objective is to produce enough vegetables and meat so that it will, to a great extent, become self-sustaining. Fresh greens and tomatoes, ball tables lately attest to the fact that this project is meeting with success.
CORRECTIONS TO SEGREGATION PAMPHLET

Printed segregation pamphlet for evacuees was prepared in such hurry that it contains a few errors. They are listed below for your information.

1. On page 6, the last sentence under Group II does not mean that a person in Group II can get himself reclassified automatically to Group III by signing a loyalty statement. Sentence might have read as follows: Those who are not segregated will be reclassified to Group III and will receive further consideration in connection with their applications for leave clearance.

2. On page 7, the last paragraph under Group III is not strictly accurate. In most instances, leave clearance hearings will not be given to persons in this group until after they are removed from Tule Lake. Paragraph might have read as follows: Persons in Group III as outlined above, will be designated for transfer to another relocation center, where they will be given leave clearance hearings. Those who are denied leave clearance by the director will subsequently be returned to Tule Lake.

3. On page 8, paragraph 5, family members who may remain at Tule Lake with segregates are not restricted to persons in Group IV. Sentence would be correct if reference to Group IV were omitted.

4. On page 8, the second paragraph under the heading "Notice of Hearings" should be omitted. Persons in Group III will ordinarily not be given a leave clearance hearing prior to transfer from Tule Lake. Likewise in the next paragraph the reference to the Leave Section should be omitted, because persons given leave clearance hearings will not be notified promptly of the decision. That decision must be made by the director.

5. On page 9, the last paragraph under the heading "Who Will Transfer from Tule Lake Center" should be omitted.

R.M. Rowalt, Deputy Director