

# Restrictions on Japs In Camps to Continue, Byrnes Announces

Dies Probers Plan to  
Ask Segregation of  
Disloyal Elements

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The restrictions on West Coast Japanese, who are under the scrutiny of the Dies committee, will remain in effect as long as the military situation requires, Director James F. Byrnes of the Office of War Mobilization announced last night.

Mr. Byrnes issued a statement covering broadly the treatment of persons of Japanese ancestry in relocation centers, which was prepared by the War Department and War Relocation Authority at the request of President Roosevelt, in response to a Senate resolution sponsored by Senator Downey, Democrat, of California.

Declaring that there have been only minor modifications in the restrictions originally imposed when aliens and citizens of Japanese ancestry either were evacuated from or placed in relocation centers in California, the western half of Oregon and Washington, and Southern Arizona, the statement said "there is no present intention to alter" the curbs, "nor is any relaxation under contemplation." A spokesman for the WRA said there had been reports that the Government was preparing to ease restrictions which are in effect in eight States.

## To Ask Segregation.

The reports bore the earmarks of a defense against some of the congressional charges of loose administration hurled against the 10 relocation centers, which are directed by the War Relocation Authority.

Meanwhile, it was learned last night that segregation of disloyal Japanese in the 10 centers will be one of the principal recommendations of a Dies subcommittee which

## Japs

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Representative Costello, Democrat, of California, is now preparing a report containing findings and recommendations, which it expects to finish about the middle of this week.

A similar segregation recommendation is contained in a 318-page report just filed with the Senate Military Affairs Committee by a special subcommittee which also investigated conditions in the relocation centers.

The Senate subcommittee, of which Senator Chandler, Democrat, of Kentucky is chairman, found that "many disloyal and vicious persons have been allowed to remain in the relocation centers, thus unduly influencing and seriously disrupting the normal routine work, even to the extent of physical violence."

"The bad ones," the report declared, "get away with very nearly anything, including intimidation and even physical beatings of other residents of the centers, without being properly apprehended."

Internment of the disloyal Japs and the troublemakers in an isolated camp, the subcommittee pointed out, is the best way to solve the problem.

## Restrictions Observed.

The White House statement declared that a move is now afoot to segregate those Japanese whose loyalties lie with Japan.

The statement touching on life in the centers said the evacuees, are fed at a cost of 34 to 42 cents a person a day, and "the food is nourishing but definitely below Army standards." All rationing restrictions imposed on the civilian population are observed and there are two meatless days a week. Only third-grade beef is served and in areas where milk is short, it is provided only for small children, nursing or expectant mothers and special dietary cases. Some of the food is self-produced; some perishable commodities are purchased locally and practically all other food is purchased through Army quartermaster depots.

The Senate subcommittee said, however, that "during this time of stress, with the press reports confirming severe battles, with many of our boys being killed and wounded daily, and with our civilian food and normal liberties curtailed, there is a growing severe and dangerous resentment in the communities surrounding the centers against the apparent easy, well-fed attitude of the Japanese evacuees visiting such communities almost at will for shopping and pleasure purposes

There is additional resentment at the fact that, since the Quartermaster Corps purchases their supplies, they secure certain foodstuffs denied other civilians."

Evacuee labor is utilized to the fullest extent, for all the work of the centers, the White House statement continued. Approximately 90 per cent of the employables were said to be working, and these receive \$12, \$16 or \$19 monthly, with clothing allowances for themselves and their families. The allowances, it was amplified, range from \$24 a year for small children in the southern areas, to \$45 for adults in centers where the winters are severe. Top positions are held by non-Japanese civil service employees.

## M. P.'s Guard Camps.

Housing and medical care are provided and schools are maintained, the statement said.

Military police guard the boundaries of each center, and on but one occasion, according to the statement, has their intervention been necessary to quell a disorder. The WRA said there have been but two major disturbances at the camps, though there have been some troubles characterized as petty.

The WRA is attempting to help "the loyal American citizens and the law-abiding aliens" to settle outside of the centers and away from the evacuated coastal zone in normal American communities.

Leave permits for this class are granted, it was explained, after searching character examinations. The statement added that "as a further precaution names of more than 45 per cent of the evacuees have been checked against records of the Federal Bureau of Investigation" to determine if they have a known criminal background.

"If there is evidence from any source that the evacuee might endanger the internal security of the Nation or interfere with the war effort, permission for leave is denied," it was said.

The evacuation program was undertaken immediately after the Pearl Harbor attack as a precautionary measure. The Army took over at first, and built the camps, but the management has been entirely under the WRA.

The Senate subcommittee's report





**BRIG. GEN. FRANK J.  
MCSHERRY.**

showed that of the 105,750 Japs in the relocation camps, approximately 4,650 have asked to be sent back to Japan, and 4,783 others refused to swear allegiance to this country.

Approximately 71,000 of the evacuees in the centers, according to the report, are Americans of Japanese ancestry, 5,680 of whom are Kebei (educated in Japan), and 65,320 are Nisei (educated in this country).

Other major recommendations of the subcommittee were:

1. That the Japs be drafted "in the same manner" as other residents of the United States.

**Recommend Work.**

2. That loyal, able-bodied Japs be allowed to work under proper supervision "in areas where they will be accepted, and where the Army and Navy authorities consider it safe for them to go."

The War Department, the report said, has developed satisfactory methods for "screening out bad Japanese," and is not opposed to the drafting of about 20,000 Japanese male citizens of military age. More than 7,000 Jap volunteers are now serving in the Army in a special unit stationed in Mississippi.

The report was sharply critical of the protective measures set up in the camps by the WRA and branded them as "inadequately and loosely administered."

"The external security personnel, as made up generally for each camp," the report declared, "consists of from 125 to 170 men, a larger percentage of whom have 'limited service' rating, meaning a physical disability, over age, or other limiting service factor, and in at least one camp, all arms and ammunition were stored in a barracks building, and the guards were not permitted to bear arms.

"The internal security was found to consist generally of one white chief with Japanese assistants of undetermined loyalty, and there was little assurance of just what they would do in case of real emergency."