

Jap Tells How Citizens Group Got WRA Data

By United Press

Private Joe Kanazawa, an American citizen serving in the Army's Japanese combat unit at Camp Shelby, Miss., told a Dies subcommittee yesterday that, as Eastern representative of the Japanese-American Citizens League, he had received confidential reports from the War Relocation Authority.

Kanazawa, wearing his Army uniform, told the subcommittee that, before entering the Army on May 22, 1943, he frequently discussed policies with WRA officials, including Director Dillon S. Myer.

However, he "referred the committee to the author" when questioned about letters written by the league's president, Mike Masaoka, indicating that he dictated WRA policies.

Had Confidence of Staff

In a report to the league's headquarters at Salt Lake City, Masaoka, according to committee investigators, said Myer told him "he and his staff (on WRA) deals with us (of the league) on the same basis of confidence and mutual trust as they do among themselves."

"Up to now I have been permitted to sit down and discuss every major policy before it was finally passed on," Masaoka allegedly reported. "Up to now, no confidence has been betrayed. Up to now we have worked and co-operated with them to a fine degree.

"The WRA desires to continue that fine relationship and will continue to do so as long as confidential matters are kept in confidence and as long as we sincerely try to co-operate with them on the improvement of conditions.

"He [Myer] is afraid that certain guys in Congress would jump down their collective throats if they could only imagine a part of the part which we play in forming WRA policy."

Willkie's Name Mentioned

Kanazawa told the committee he had suggested that Wendell L. Willkie be asked to write a brief in a case in which the Supreme Court recently upheld the right of the military to impose a curfew on west-coast Japanese. He did not make clear whether Willkie was asked to do so, however. Willkie

never entered into the case.

Kanazawa said that before entering the Army he entered the case. A "not so successful freelance writer," he said he sold stories to the Christian Science Monitor, Thrilling Sports, and Common Ground.

He said he had been an official in the Japanese-American Committee for Democracy, which he described as an "anti-Fascist, Americanization group, but, in a sense, you could call it communistic."