

Dies to Probe Riot And Policy on Freeing Japanese Evacuees

Accuses Tokio Agents Of Promoting Racial Prejudice in Detroit

The Dies committee, after a long period of inactivity, will swing into action Monday with a two-fold purpose:

1. To inquire into recent racial disturbances, including the Detroit riot which took 31 lives.
2. To inquire into Japanese activities and the method of releasing Japanese from relocation camps.

The program was announced yesterday by Chairman Dies following his return to Washington after a long absence. He said the committee has evidence that Japanese agents, working through established organizations, had promoted racial prejudice in the Detroit area presumably to interfere with war prosecution and to break down home-front morale.

Mr. Dies declared recent testimony given a subcommittee of his unit disclosed that the Ku Klux Klan had enrolled many members in the Detroit area. He did not indicate, however, whether the committee would inquire further into the activities of the Klan.

WRA Chief First Witness.

The first witness before the committee, Mr. Dies said, probably will be Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority which has supervision over the 10 camps in which the Japanese evacuated from the West Coast after the attack on Pearl Harbor were relocated. Later, he declared, the committee may call the three American-born Japanese working on the farm of Secretary of Interior Ickes near Olney, Md., and some of the 25 Japanese employed in the Washington headquarters of the WRA.

Meanwhile, Representative J. Leroy Johnson, Republican, of California announced he would seek early action on his resolution providing for deportation at the close of the war of all Japanese aliens in the United States as well as those who are citizens and have been disloyal to the country.

Mr. Johnson's resolution, introduced a few days ago, is pending in the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Mr. Dies said records seized by committee agents in a raid June 11 at the Washington branch office of the Japanese-American Citizens' League show "a very close contact" between the organization and WRA and indicate that the league "has largely dominated and dictated some of the policies" of the gov-

"bring about the release of all the Japs, irrespective of their loyalty."

As Mr. Dies revealed the program of the committee, four labor leaders and a churchman from New York and Detroit visited the White House yesterday to ask that President Roosevelt act to prosecute those responsible for the Detroit riots.

Asked to Dissolve K. K. K.

One of the group, Charles Collins, executive secretary of the Negro Labor Victory Committee in New York, said the President also was asked to dissolve the Ku Klux Klan and arrest its leaders. Mr. Collins asserted 15,000 of the 25,000 Klansmen in Michigan were concentrated in the Detroit area and were responsible for a substantial share of the blame for the race riots through distribution of leaflets and the keeping alive of racial antagonism.

The delegation, which presented its views to Presidential Secretary Marvin H. McIntyre, also included Norman F. Kinzie of the Council of Churches of Detroit, Sheldon Tapp, secretary of the Ford local of the United Auto Workers, CIO, in Detroit; Morris Gumpel of the Furriers' Union, New York, and Sam Kramberg of the Joint Executive Board of the Hotel and Restaurant Employes and Bartenders' Unions, New York.

ernment agency.

Officers May Be Called.

Two officers of the league now serving with the Army and stationed at Camp Shelby, Miss., probably will be subpoenaed to testify during the investigation, Mr. Dies said. Their names, he declared, will be disclosed "at the proper time."

The Texan explained that evidence in possession of the committee show that many of the Japanese released from the relocation camps had been given their freedom through co-operation of the league and "without any check whatsoever" except several questions dealing with their loyalty. The objective of the league, he declared, is to