

Rap Dies' Smear on Relocation Board

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Another demand for the dissolution of the notorious Dies Committee was made yesterday by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties as a result of its "irresponsible and detrimental attack" upon the War Relocation Authority.

A subcommittee of the Dies Committee started smear hearings yesterday in Los Angeles on the operation of the War Relocation Authority, the agency which has successfully undertaken the removal of more than 110,000 Japanese from the West Coast to inland relocation centers.

In a letter to Speaker of the House of Representatives Sam Rayburn, the National Federation pointed out that Dillon S. Myer, director of the War Relocation Authority declared that the Dies Committee charges had the effect of "misleading the public on an important principle of democracy."

The National Federation declared that in view of the enormous problems which faced it, the War Relocation Authority had done a commendable and constructive job.

UNQUESTIONED LOYALTY

"We recognize the widespread hysteria which prevailed on the Pacific Coast in relation to the large Japanese population after Pearl Harbor," George Marshall, Federation chairman said. "WRA, in cooperation with the Western Defense Command of the Army, carried through the necessary evacuation efficiently and quickly.

"Now WRA has taken steps—after thorough investigation—to release evacuees of unquestioned loyalty to farming and other essential work. Many others have also volunteered and been admitted to the armed services.

"Now Mr. Robert Stripling and Martin Dies charge that WRA has released potential spies and saboteurs. It is clear that these charges have the same motive as past charges by Dies against the OPA, Board of Economic Warfare and other war agencies they are designed solely to interfere with and disrupt essential war work. If Mr. Dies has information questioning the loyalty of evacuees who have been released, he has an obligation to turn that information over to the security agencies such as Army Intelligence and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Mr. Dies' attempt to secure publicity on this issue proves anew that his publicity-seeking instincts are far more developed than his patriotism.

"We are more convinced than ever, by this latest action of Martin Dies, that the House of Representatives, in the interests of victory, must move immediately to dissolve the Dies Committee."