

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVY DEPARTMENT
Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
Washington

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A8-2/EF37
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Serial 01715316

2 July 1943

From: Director of Naval Intelligence.
To : Distribution List Appended.
Subject: Relocation of Japanese.
Reference: (a) Conf. ltr. from DNI to Distribution List X-r,
same subject, dated 15 March 1943.
(b) Conf. ltr. from DNI to Distribution List X-r,
same subject, dated 21 April 1943.
Enclosure: (A) Sample form of O.N.I. sheet showing W.R.A.
releases.

1. References (a) and (b) among other things outlined proposed methods for informing the various District Intelligence Officers of Japanese being released from Relocation Centers and of disseminating to the District pertinent information as to the background and future plans of these released individuals.

2. It is to be noted that for some time there have been two separate and unrelated release programs under way:

- (a) The War Relocation Authority releases on its own responsibility and for various kinds of leave those Japanese (aliens and citizens) who appear to be loyal to the United States and who have not caused disturbances within the relocation centers. This program, which has resulted in the release of approximately 8,500 persons to date, has absolutely no connection with the activities of the Japanese-American Joint Board. Furthermore, only in cases of indefinite leave are the Japanese concerned file-checked with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (not with the Office of Naval Intelligence).
- (b) Simultaneously Japanese (citizens almost exclusively) in relocation centers are being certified by the Japanese-American Joint Board for (1) enlistment in the Army, (2) employment in war plants and facilities under indefinite leave, and (3) indefinite leave without approval for war plant employment. In certain cases where derogatory information seems to warrant it, the Japanese-American Joint Board refuses to

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recommend any of the above three actions and so advises the War Relocation Authority. In this program the decision of the Joint Board is final in the case of employment in war plants and facilities, but is advisory only in all other respects. To date approximately 7,100 persons have been recommended for indefinite leave by the Joint Board, of whom less than 75 have been certified for employment in war plants; in approximately 125 other cases the Joint Board has refused to recommend indefinite leave.

3. After consultation with the War Relocation Authority and the Office of the Provost Marshal General in the Army, the Office of Naval Intelligence has determined upon the following program for the dissemination of information regarding released Japanese:

- (a) Under the program described in paragraph 2 (a) the War Relocation Authority has agreed to inform the Office of Naval Intelligence (as well as the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Office of the Provost Marshal General) of releases granted for both seasonal (or group) and indefinite leave. The Office of Naval Intelligence receives this information in the form of a single copy of the so-called WRA "Departure Advice", which provides the following data:
1. Name, sex, and age,
 2. Relocation Center from which released,
 3. Citizenship and alien registration number, if any,
 4. Type and date of release,
 5. Address to which destined, name of sponsor or employer and proposed occupation (often incomplete),
 6. Number of dependents accompanying subject and number remaining at the Center,
 7. Last address prior to evacuation. (This is recorded under "Remarks" on the "Departure Advice.").
- (b) In order to get information of these releases into the field the Office of Naval Intelligence will distribute periodically to all interested Naval Districts lists containing the important data on the above-mentioned WRA "Departure Advice" plus some indication of the result of an ONI file check

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(see Enclosure (A)). It will then be the responsibility of each District Intelligence Officer to collect and maintain his own files on the individuals coming within his jurisdiction.

(c) Because of the temporary nature of so many of these WRA leaves and the movements (frequently unreported for long periods) of those persons on indefinite leave, it is impossible at this time to formulate any uniform method of following cases and of keeping dissemination between Districts on a current basis. It will therefore be the duty of each District Intelligence Officer to advise both the Office of Naval Intelligence and any District or Districts concerned whenever he becomes cognizant of the movement of a released Japanese to a point beyond the limits of his District.

(d) Notification of those Japanese released under the Joint Board program described in paragraph 2 (b) will be made at a slightly later date. It is suggested that each District Intelligence Officer keep information on the two programs separate, paying particular attention to those cases which have been processed by the Joint Board and advising ONI as well as interested Districts of irregularities or travel necessitating change in jurisdiction.

4. It should also be noted that the Security Section of the Base Maintenance Division (Op-30-S) has been consulted in the matter of the security problem involved in the relocation of Japanese and has expressed its agreement to have information on released cases maintained by the Office of Naval Intelligence and the District Intelligence Officers. It is further agreed that the District Security Officers shall at all times have access to this information in order to discharge satisfactorily their responsibility for the security of naval shore establishments. (The Base Maintenance Division is now in consultation with the Office of the Provost Marshal General in the Army concerning the employment of Japanese-Americans in private commercial plants holding classified Navy contracts.)

/s/ Wallace S. Wharton

Wallace S. Wharton
By direction.

Distribution:
List X-r.

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