

Mr. Schmidt

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR JOINT MEETING OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL AND THE CO-ORDINATING  
COMMITTEE OF THE TULE LAKE CENTER  
March 3, 1944

The regular meeting of the Advisory Council and the Co-ordinating Committee of the Tule Lake Center was held on March 3, 1944, at the Personnel Recreation Hall, from 4:30 p.m. Acting Project Director Harry L. Black presided.

Those present were: Advisory Council: Harry L. Black, Markley, Kent Silverthorne, P. Robertson, Dr. Opler, and L. Huycke. Co-ordinating Committee: J. Naydo, G. Yamatani, K. Okamoto, J. Nakao, I. Namekawa, A. Takahashi, and B. Akitsuki.

Mr. Spicer, Chief Reports Officer from Washington D. C., was introduced to the body by the Chair.

The floor was thereon taken by Mr. Huycke who advised and called attention to the fact that the organization of a Young Men's Association be progressed. Such organization will bear some influence on the activities of the Co-ordinating Committee and the work of the Administration, he stated. Mr. Black added that from the Administration's point of view, their desire is to have such an organization carry out a constructive program, and at the same time, have an understanding with the work being done, so that the Administration can delegate some responsibility, which otherwise must be carried by the WRA. He then suggested that this organization matter be left with the Committee, which shall act as a liaison body in this respect.

Abstracts of the FBI reports have been received, which will expedite further releasements. Mr. Black stated that the Army and the Administration are attempting to accelerate, as fast as possible, the clearance and release of people detained in the stockade. Names of recommended detainees by the Committee have been referred to Mr. Schmidt. Subsequent to the departure of the Project Director for Washington, the Advisory Council, Colonel Austin, and Lt. Forbes have met and discussed the way by which releasement could be facilitated. Upon the Colonel's suggestion, at that time, it was agreed among them to establish a committee whose main function is to investigate name by name the persons who are suggested for releasement. The committee set up includes Chief of Police and Project Attorney, Lt. Forbes, Lt. Shoner, and Captain Hartman from the Army. Furthermore, the State Department has requested that aliens be given priority of consideration in the releasement process. Most instances, such people should be released into the colony; however, in few other instances, such persons will be released into an internment camp. Appertaining to releasement, Administration would still welcome any recommendations from the Committee as heretofore. At this time, B. Akitsuki requested for a list of the entire stockade internees with denotation of citizens and aliens.

Mr. Black further continued to mention that the Colonel was very much impressed by the Minutes of the Interview with the 12 stockade internees on February 28, 1944.

In reference to the submittal of a letter of resignation by B. Akitsuki, Executive Secretary, Mr. Black commented, on behalf of the Council,



that the effort expended by him is greatly appreciated; however, resignation matter will be left up to the Co-ordinating Committee's own discretion to take whatever action it may deem necessary.

Mr. Robertson stated that the farm program has been discussed at a meeting with Mr. Utz, at which time preference of equal distribution of farm program among all people from various centers was stressed. The Committee's recommendation in reference to Miho and Kawamura as supervisors will be given special consideration, Mr. Robertson stated.

The recommendation, which suggested Messrs. Seki and Ogawa as field recruiters on employment problems in the Placement Office by the Committee, has, as yet, not been taken up with Mr. Fagan, Placement Chief, Acting Project Director announced. Employment practices have been altered as was previously practiced; that is, all Request for Labor should be submitted without specification of names. In an event, a special skilled person is necessary, such name may be suggested in an attached memo as a recommendation.

At this time, it was announced that 74 segregees from Poston are scheduled to arrive here on Sunday; however, no special welcome program has been prepared, due to the fact that it involves comparatively few people.

Mr. Markley believed that the last page of the news article submitted by this Committee was not constructive and suggested that it will be more advisable if the fact that a joint Committee of the WRA and evacuees had been working for such an object, is emphasized. Permission to publish such bulletins by the Committee was granted. Mr. Black suggested that a representative of the Committee should work in close co-ordination with Mr. Markley to get whatever assistance in revisions or otherwise available.

Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Byron Akitsuki  
Executive Secretary