

PROGRESS REPORT OF INFORMATION OFFICE 5

The arrival of the new contingent of evacuees, on the tenth day of May, approximately twenty-five days following the opening of the Number three office, necessitated the opening of our Number five office on the afternoon of that same day at 22-8-1.

Mr. Koshi Matsumoto, Howard Mukai, and Frank Takimoto were appointed clerks, with two messengers to assist them. We were to work in coordination with Mrs. Hatsu Hayashi, from the social welfare Department with whom we shared the same office.

A week later, Mr. Takimoto was transferred to the Number two office, and it was not until the 27th of May that we were able to welcome our typist, Miss Chiyoko Hiramii.

Under the able leadership of Mr. Itami and Takeno, we were instructed to include under our jurisdiction six blocks; namely 21, 22, 27, 28, 32, and 33. But due to vacancies in most of these blocks, our duties were concerned mostly with residents of blocks 21 and 22, and the vicinity. Realizing the importance of maintaining the goodwill of the residents, we deeply regret the fact that not one of our mess halls under our jurisdiction were opened, which deprived us of the means to promote further coordination between our office and the residents. Nevertheless, the above members of our staff, I am confident to say, have directed their sincerest efforts in the execution of their duties to the utmost extent. Each individual was extended our undivided attention to assist him in his difficulties.

Our functions were to report lost and found articles to the Number 1 office, post new bulletins in every bulletin board, and mess halls under our jurisdiction, answer minor inquiries, and relay written suggestions, complaints and inquiries, filed by residents, to the No. 1 office which in turn was submitted to the administration for consideration. Furthermore miscellaneous services were offered to the public such as writing of letters, filling our draft questionnaires, and rendering assistance on current problems that might involve the residents.

Since the transfer of Mr. Takimoto, no alterations were effected in our personnel. However on the latter part of May, a sub-station of the mail delivery department was stationed in the rear section of our office to improve the facilities of distribution of mail and parcel-posts to the residents. The staff is headed by Mr. Shig Idebasu, and assisted by Mr. Y. Nakamura, F. Ono, and F. Yonai. we are proud to state that we have always worked in harmony maintaining our spirit of cooperation and mutual assistance with the staff members of these different departments who occupy the same office.

Recently, the vacant quarters under our jurisdictional area, were gradually being occupied. Complaints were pouring in daily.

The following is the approximate total of our accomplishment up to date.

I Services enumerated

a. Complaint and Suggestions	-----35
B. Roofing	----- 7
c. Electricity	----- 64
d. Carpenter	-----67
e. Stove	-----11
f. Plumbing	-----13
g. Miscellaneous	-----25
h. Selec. Service forms	-----20
i. Lost	-----20
j. Found	-----21
k. Miscellaneous	-----279
l. Inquiries	-----365
m. Family Reunion	----- 30
n. Change of address	----- 119
o. Letters	----- 30
p. F.R.B. Baggage	----- 6
q. Change of quarters	----- 21
r. Santa Anita baggage	----- 8

Total 1141

Considerable importance should be attached to the information offices, for their services rendered during the past three months. These offices administered needs of the residents in many ways, not only to official matters, but to sundry matters affecting each individual's lives here. It also rendered great services to the administration, in that it assisted them to maintain close contact and coordination with the people. Impartiality in our policy in dealing with the residents of this center, from the standpoint of democratic principle, has met the approval of the majority population here. It may also be emphasized that we have succeeded to some extent in our efforts to instill a sense of service and coordination amongst the people.

Now that the block leaders are about to take over our duties, it is our sincere desire that they too exert their utmost efforts to represent the true opinions of their respective block residents. With malice towards none and equality for all, they should strive for the advancement of our community.

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Mr. Dave Itami and Mr. Roy Takeno for their assistance rendered us and to the staff members of this office for their wonderful cooperation.

---- Howard Mukai