

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

March 14, 1942

MEMORANDUM TO GOVERNOR SZYMCAK

Pursuant to your request, I am setting out the various phases of the evacuation program as outlined to date. I am attaching hereto two charts, the first showing the phases of the program and the second, the various divisions of responsibility.

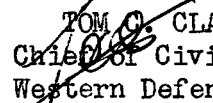
- I. From a military standpoint it is necessary to evacuate all the Japanese as quickly as possible. Orders of evacuation have not been issued. The exact date that these orders will be issued is not known for it depends on the solution of many other problems, among which are housing, disposition of property owned by the Japanese, health, etc. Since over 100,000 are involved it is quite a large task and must be planned very carefully else it would not only affect the economy of the areas wherein the Japanese are now residing but it would prove to be a blot upon our own history.

The plan of evacuation is to remove those residing in the most strategic areas first. For example, Bainbridge Island in Puget Sound, the area around the Boeing airplane plant, Palos Verdes in Los Angeles, etc. These areas are being suggested by the Sector Commanders and as soon as they are compiled and housing facilities are ready the General intends to issue the dates of evacuation.

In this connection we must also consider agriculture. For example, asparagus can be harvested if we have three or four weeks more labor supply. This is being taken into consideration and too, the plan of operation of Civilian Agencies includes responsibility on the part of the Federal Security Agency to be in charge of voluntary evacuation. This Agency has 80 offices in California and we have found it to be successful in handling matters of this kind. Voluntary evacuation will include financial aid through a Social Security Agency together with employment assistance through the United States Employment Service. In addition to this, the Farm Security Administration plans on making direct loans to complement regular banking services.

II. I have requested Mr. Hewes of the Farm Security Administration to have a man in each of the four offices you have in Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, and Los Angeles. This Agency, as aforesaid, will offer agricultural advice as well as attempt to give financial assistance beyond regular banking channels. I have also requested Mr. Miller of the Social Security Board to place a man in each of these offices. This party will give advice on the evacuation program, being able to tell inquirers whether or not they reside in a prohibited area, and will also furnish financial assistance, such as transportation to those unable to transport themselves. This "team service" should be available in your offices by Tuesday of next week, hence the representatives of these Agencies should have a conference prior to that time. I will be glad to arrange this or if you prefer one Sunday please call Mr. Howland or Col. Bendetsen here at the Whitcomb Hotel.

I wish you would have someone advise me when you add additional offices so that we would be able to furnish this service if you deem it advisable.


TOM C. CLARK
Chief of Civilian Staff
Western Defense Command

See you Monday