Yesterday I had a long visit with M. V. Mechau (pronounced Mako), a long-time friend of mine from the time when we were both newspaper reporters together. At present he is information director for the Hart Mountain Japanese Relocation Center at Cody, Wyoming, under the WRA. During our visit he told me a number of things that might be of interest to you and some of your connections.

Mechau said that it is pretty generally felt that a lot of the trouble that brews comes from the Judo Clubs. I understand that these are the old traditional wrestling clubs and that the wrestling is part of the Japanese religious rituals. He said that the Judo club was the first thing that was organized at the Cody center and that many of the leaders of this club are loyal to Japan. The camp officials feel that this club will be at the bottom of any trouble that starts at the center.

Mechau supervises the printing of a camp paper and has as editor a 27-year old chap named Bill Hosokowa who is openly and ardently loyal to the United States. He is a man with a lot of newspaper background and a fine education. He is one of the leaders of the Japanese-American Citizens League, and this organization is resented by the Japs who are loyal to Japan. He is a strong advocate of segregation of the trouble makers even if it would mean splitting up families.

It is the opinion of Mechau that 75 per cent of those at Cody want the allies to win the war. He said that the one thing you could nearly depend upon was that those who have lived in Japan since 1932 are loyal to Japan and that the trouble makers are in this group. One thing that causes the most unrest,
Mechau said, was the fact that they do not have enough work for the Japs. He said that only about 40 per cent of the people had anything to do, or enough to do to keep them busy. Also the food wasn't any too good but this has been improved during the past couple of weeks.

He said that a number of alien Japs were loyal to the U. S. He pointed out one family of a mother, father and daughter at the camp. The old folks were born in Japan, the girl is American born. One son of the couple is a professor at Harvard and another is an officer in the American army. Another family, mother and son, at the camp is about the same way. The boy, American born, was head-cheerleader at UCLA, an honor student, on the student council and an officer in the military corps. Mechau feels that these older people, whose children are really making a success of life, are loyal to the United States and want to see the allies win.

These are just bits of information that Mechau told me during a general conversation. He does not know that I am at all interested other than from a standpoint of curiosity.

ODC: lm