

TELETYPE

Mr. James G. Lindley  
Granada Relocation Center  
Amache, Colorado

Teletype Message No. \_\_\_\_\_



9505 342.18 Top - Amie  
 Relocation

Please feature following release in your project newspaper under Washington date line of February 3. Story follows:

A general registration at relocation centers of all evacuees who are 17 or more years of age will start next week, E. M. Rowalt, acting director of WRA, announced here today.

At the same time the War Department announced that teams of Army representatives left Washington yesterday for the Granada and other WRA centers to obtain questionnaires from all male American citizens of Japanese ancestry who are 17 or more years of age.

The War Department's action follows the announcement last Thursday by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson that a combat unit of American citizens of Japanese ancestry will be formed for active service in a theatre of war.

All Nisei at the Granada Project who desire to volunteer for service in the combat unit will have an opportunity to do so while the Army representatives are there. Nisei who do not desire to volunteer at this time or who are beyond military age will be considered for jobs in agriculture or industry, including jobs in plants producing war materials.

Included in the WRA registration to be made at the same time will be all females, regardless of citizenship, who are 17 or more years

-2-

of age, and all alien Japanese men over 17. No registration will be made, however, of persons who have applied for repatriation.

Mr. Rowalt explained that through this general registration the WRA expects to get clearance on a large number of employable persons before they apply for leave and thus be able to speed up the relocation program.

"We are not trying to force any person to relocate who does not desire to do so," Mr. Rowalt said. "But there are increasing opportunities for evacuees to get jobs and if we can get a backlog of registrations on which we can be working, we should be able to get clearance for indefinite leave for many people who later will want to relocate."

Heading the team of Army representatives who will visit the Granada Project is Captain William S. Fairchild. He will be accompanied by Staff Sergeant Robert I. Bischoff, Sergeant George T. Davis and Technician, fourth grade, Fred H. Odanaka. Similar teams will visit all other relocation centers to start the registration not later than February 10.

Final plans for the registration at the Granada Project will be worked out in conferences between the Army team and Project Director James G. Lindley. End of story. You may want to add some paragraphs from last week's Stinson Announcement, but should not go beyond that to any interpretation of War Department action.

E. M. Rowalt  
Acting Director