

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

WAR. Box 48
APR 15 Folder 4
ASST. SEC. Item 21
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APR 15 1943

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Short -
Selberins Service

Mr. John J. McCloy
Assistant Secretary of War
War Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. McCloy:

There is attached a copy of a letter from
Mr. J. E. Otis, Jr., President, Dodge Manufacturing
Corporation, Mishawaka, Indiana.

Mr. Otis makes a very interesting point which
may be of use to you in your discussion of the Selec-
tive Service problems with respect to Japanese-American
citizens.

Sincerely,

E. M. Powell

Acting Director

Enclosure

X - Powell
X - Otis
327.31 (Japanese Am.)
4-15-43



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DODGE MANUFACTURING CORPORATION

Mishawaka, Indiana

April 13, 1943

Executive Offices

Mr. Elmer L. Shirrell
War Relocation Authority
226 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Shirrell:

Since my last discussion with you and since your representative was in this territory, I have had a good many discussions regarding the Japanese-American situation and I find there is very little antagonism anywhere regarding the rights which American-born Japanese should be entitled to. However, there is a very distinct objection to having them come into a community of this kind not subject to the draft.

At the last meeting of the War Manpower Commission held on Friday of last week a resolution was passed in which they said in short that they would not be willing to accept young Japanese-Americans in this community unless they were subject to the draft as all other boys in this community are.

This is for your confidential information. No publicity has been given to the subject and there probably won't be.

Yours very truly,

/s/ J. E. Otis
President

JEOtis, Jr.
HE

*Copy sent to Col. E.S. Kilman, 10-1 Apr. 19-43, VPR
or notation & filing*