

MIXED MARRIAGE POLICY

Early in the evacuation program this mixed-marriage problem came to the attention of the War time Civil Control Administration and was presented to the Commanding General, who authorized the release of those persons whose backgrounds made it reasonably clear that their sympathies were, and would remain, American. Accordingly, a policy was established that permitted the release of these persons under the following conditions:

1. That a family be eligible to reside outside the Western Defense Command area if the husband is full Japanese, wife non-Japanese, and children unemancipated.
2. That a family be eligible to reside within the Western Defense Command area if the head of the family is a citizen of the United States or of a country, (such as China), provided that:
 - a. Husband is non-Japanese, wife full Japanese, and unemancipated children;
 - b. Caucasian mother with minor children, sired by a Japanese father who is either dead or has long since been separated from the family;
 - c. Caucasian foster parents of full or part Japanese children.
3. That a family or individual be eligible to reside within the Western Defense Command provided the environment of the family or person has been Caucasian, and if the head of the family or individual is a citizen of the United States or of a friendly nation and, providing:
 - a. One spouse is part Japanese ($\frac{1}{2}$ or less), other spouse non-Japanese, and unemancipated children;
 - b. Both spouses part Japanese ($\frac{1}{2}$ or less), and unemancipated children;
 - c. Mixed blood individuals, who are part Japanese, ($\frac{1}{2}$ or less).
4. A Japanese member of a family cannot be released if one spouse is Japanese, the other spouse non-Japanese, and there are no children, unless one spouse is serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, and then only for relocation outside the Western Defense Command area.

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5. Members of a family will be permitted to resume residence within an evacuated area in cases where a family has become separated by reason of voluntary evacuation, and provided that all conditions as set forth above are followed.

The mixed-marriage policy as outlined above was established on July 3, 1942, and was immediately communicated to the Center and Relocation Project Managers. As a condition of release or exemption from evacuation, the individual concerned must secure clearance from the local police of the community in which the individual is expected to reside. The police took the position, with some justification, that the release of Japanese was a military matter, and that they, as police, were without the power to either authorize or deny residence to anyone. It became clear that, unless the Wartime Civil Control Administration took the initiative in regard to police clearance, the mixed-marriage program was bogged down. Thereupon a procedure was adopted whereby the Wartime Civil Control Administration notified the police chiefs concerned of the proposed releases, and gave them an opportunity to register whatever objections might exist. As was anticipated, the police were very cooperative and no releases were protested.

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