

Box 6
Folder 3
Item 64
Page 1WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE PROVOST MARSHAL GENERAL
WASHINGTON

February 14, 1942.

MEMORANDUM for the Assistant Secretary of War.

Subject: Alien Enemies on the Pacific Coast.

1. On February 6, 1942, I submitted to you a memorandum setting forth four steps which I recommended be taken in connection with the alien enemy situation on the Pacific Coast. With that memorandum, I think, you agreed in general.

2. There are inclosed three letters from the Pacific Coast which urge that more drastic action be taken.

3. Incidentally, it is interesting to note that, although the Washington officials of the Attorney General's Office have adopted the rather timid approach to the problem and have obtained much publicity as the champion of civil rights, the press reports (see inclosed news ticker) on the utterances of Mr. Tom C. Clark, The Attorney General's representative on the West Coast, are to the effect that he is being restrained only by the Army's failure to ask for more drastic action. I cannot avoid the observation that fortuitously, if not otherwise, the Department of Justice is soon going to be in a position to jump either way.

4. "Restricted Martial Law" (see yellow slip) probably may be put in force in practice, but in legal contemplation I could not define it.

Allen W. Gullion,
Major General,
The Provost Marshal General.

4 Incls.

Ltr. Jos. J. Rifkind, 1/28/42.

Ltr. Bd. of Supervisors, Los Angeles, 1/29/42.

Ltr. Native Sons of Golden West, 2/3/42.

News Ticker.



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February 6, 1942.

MEMORANDUM for the Assistant Secretary of War.

If our production for war is seriously delayed by sabotage in the West Coastal states, we very possibly shall lose the war. I have not personally inspected the situation in those states, but from reliable reports from military and other sources, the danger of Japanese inspired sabotage is great. That danger cannot be temporized with. No half-way measures based upon considerations of economic disturbance, humanitarianism, or fear of retaliation will suffice. Such measures may be "too little and too late". Therefore, I recommend:

STEP 1

To declare restricted areas from which all alien enemies are excluded. This step has been begun and should be carried to completion.

STEP 2

Internment by the Army east of the Sierra Nevadas of all Japanese aliens, accompanied by such citizen members of their families as may volunteer for internment.

STEP 3

Change the nature of the restricted areas so as to make them, in effect, military reservations, to which admission will be granted only upon showing of proper credentials. As credentials would not be issued to citizens of Japanese extraction, this would result in excluding them from the restricted zones without raising too many legal questions.

STEP 4

In accordance with plans which may be developed by the Department of Agriculture, the Federal Security Administration, the Public Works Agency and other Government instrumentalities, to effect such resettlement and release from internment as may be possible and practicable, resettlement east of the Sierra Nevadas might be attempted. Resettlement is merely an idea, not an essential part of the plan, and not the function of the Army.



Allen W. Gullion
Allen W. Gullion,
Major General,
The Provost Marshal General.