

SUGGESTED DRAFT OF PRESS RELEASE BY GENERAL EMMONS

A total of _____ persons of Japanese ancestry have been granted individual permits to reside in the West Coast evacuated area since September 1943, Lieut. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, Commanding General of the Western Defense Command, indicated today.

Reporting on the activities of the Western Defense Command during his tenure as commanding officer, General Emmons pointed out that he has continued the policy adopted by his predecessor, Lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt, of granting such permits in individual cases where circumstances warrant. As the dangers of attack or invasion on the West Coast have been reduced through military and naval actions in the Pacific, the Western Defense Command has gradually been giving favorable consideration to an increasing number of cases.

Permits are being granted, General Emmons explained, particularly to the wives and husbands of Caucasians, to the families of Japanese Americans in the armed forces, and to a variety of "special hardship" cases. The policy of granting individual permits, which was adopted in 1942 while the evacuated people of Japanese descent were in assembly centers under Army jurisdiction, will continue in effect until further notice.