

DRAFTQuestions to be determined re Japanese exclusion:

1. Is the President willing to authorize us to move Japanese citizens as well as enemy aliens from restricted areas.
2. Should we undertake withdrawal from the entire strip DeWitt originally recommended, which involves a number of over 100,000 people, if we included both aliens and Japanese citizens.
3. Should we undertake the intermediate step involving, say, 70,000, which includes large communities such as Los Angeles, San Diego, and Seattle.
4. Should we take any lesser step such as the establishment of restricted areas around airplane plants and critical installations, even though General DeWitt states that in several, at least, of the large communities this would be wasteful, involve difficult administrative problems, and might be a source of more continuous irritation and trouble than 100% withdrawal from the area.

General Gullion, the Provost Marshal General, has made the recommendations which are attached hereto. In substance they follow General DeWitt's intermediate recommendation.

General DeWitt recommends the intermediate plan and Colonel Bendetson, who is now with General DeWitt, seems to take the same position. The removal will as a practical matter involve the setting up of shelter and food arrangements for a very large number of people and probably can only be undertaken by the Army. The Department of Justice refuses to take any steps which affect citizens unless in accordance with the usual legal processes which are impracticable if the objectives sought are to be obtained. The Department of Justice has also refused to go on with the evacuation even of enemy aliens from the large communities, on the ground that it involves too large a problem for them; and they also question the advisability or necessity of doing it unless all enemies are excluded from all the coastal cities, or at any rate they have asked for the reasons why the suggested removals from Seattle and Tacoma should take place.

2/11/42

ALIENS