

SEGREGATION OF EVACUEES

While the great majority of the residents of the relocation centers are loyal to the United States and sympathetic to its war aims, the presence of some who refuse to pledge loyalty or good behavior made it more difficult for the War Relocation Authority to fulfill its responsibility to the evacuated people. Accordingly, in May 1943 public announcement was made of plans to segregate the residents of relocation centers on the basis of national loyalty.

The Tule Lake center in northern California was designated as the segregation center, to be the place of residence for those persons who indicate their unwillingness to support the war aims of the United States. All persons found after careful study and investigation to be disloyal to the United States or unsympathetic to the war aims of this nation were designated for removal to the Tule Lake center. Those residents of the Tule Lake center who were loyal or sympathetic to the United States have been removed to other centers. The movement took place in September and October, 1943, and was carried out with the cooperation of the War Department.

Included among the segregants in the Tule Lake center are persons who have requested repatriation or expatriation to Japan, those who refused to pledge loyalty to the United States or (in the case of aliens) good behavior and persons who, because of unfavorable intelligence reports or other records of un-American behavior in the past, are found to be ineligible for leave under WRA procedures.

The population of segregants in Tule Lake, including family members who voluntarily went to the segregation center, is approximately 18,000.

Residents of the relocation centers will be eligible to relocate into ordinary communities, under leave regulations of the War Relocation Authority, but the privilege of leave will be denied segregants.

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