

University of Washington
INTERDEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

Date March 25, 1942

M E M O R A N D U M

TO: President Sieg

RE: Conference on Japanese American Students and Faculty Members

1. Although there will be virtually no exceptions made to the orders calling for the evacuation of Japanese, both alien and American born, it may be possible that the army would favorably consider a letter from you addressed to Colonel Boekel, Assistant Provost Marshall, Western Defense Command, 4th floor of the Hotel Whitcomb, San Francisco, regarding permission to retain Tatsumi and his language teaching staff.

2. With the recommendation of Professor Steiner it might be possible to find a job in another area, but under the evacuation program, for Miyamoto. It appears that any other Japanese connected with our faculty and staff would have to be strictly on their own in finding positions.

3. The army official stated definitely that evacuation for Seattle will take place before the end of our Spring quarter and that students in college would not be exempted from the orders.

The University of California, according to Deans Voorhies and Goldworthy, is planning to give partial credit at partial pay to their students who are evacuated. They also are hoping to provide enough work by correspondence and extension to make it possible for Juniors and Seniors to graduate from the University of California.

Dean Onthank of the University of Oregon and Professor Chambers of Oregon State College hope to make some kind of arrangements so that Seniors graduating in June may complete their work by extension if necessary. However, their programs, like ours, have not developed an extension division large enough or flexible enough to meet this situation.

4. The attitude of the civilian and army officials in charge of evacuation toward the training of American born Japanese is extremely generous and fair minded. As a result of talking to Colonel Boekel, Pierce Davies, (University of Washington alumnus who is liaison officer between the civilian and army sections of the evacuation corps) and Helen V. Bary, executive assistant to the Social Security Administrator, I believe that I could state the government policy as follows:

The continued education and training of the Nisei is of definite advantage both in the assimilation of the Japanese after the war and in providing technically trained people (engineers, doctors, nurses, social workers, etc.) to replace

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white Americans in the reception centers.

The government is interested in this project to the extent that they will be glad to provide transportation to new colleges for students from the evacuated areas. They also feel that colleges in other sections of the country should show their cooperation by taking as many American born Japanese as possible. They heartily commended the University of Washington for the assistance which was voluntarily given to the army in working on this problem and in sending out letters from your office.

5. The conference in Berkeley worked on a plan of coordinating the efforts of the colleges on the Pacific coast with relation to the evacuation problem of students. It was decided that regional committees be set up in Los Angeles, San Francisco, and Seattle, with sub-committees at other colleges with a fair sized Japanese student population, such as University of Oregon and Oregon State College.

The function of these committees would be to immediately make a census of Japanese American students on the Pacific coast and their financial situation and desires in relation to continuing their education. This census would be taken this week and the results tabulated and forwarded to the army authorities in San Francisco. The committees would also facilitate the evacuation of the Nisei and alien students.

It was further recommended that a full time official be appointed to work with the educational institutions and the army in coordinating the redistribution of students from Pacific coast colleges to institutions in other sections of the country.

I was offered this position myself but did not want to leave this Seattle area and so it has been offered to Mr. Joseph Connard, former head of the Institute of International Relations at Mills College. The salary for the new position was set at \$3600.00 and I understand it is being paid by the Y.M.C.A. and the Y.W.C.A. with some potential assistance from the Hazen Foundation.