

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA
EVACUATION AND RESETTLEMENT STUDY

August 15, 1942

Mr P.

I am about to begin one of the most amazing revelations of the Japanese situation which our study has as yet elicited. I shall present this in form of a diary from notes made in regard to my adventures or misadventures at the Gila War Relocation Center at Rivers, Arizona.

I left Berkeley on Monday, August 10, 1942 and took the train to Los Angeles. In accordance with the directions of the ticket offices of the Southern Pacific Railway I purchased a one way ticket to L. A. and another to Phoenix from Los Angeles. I was unfortunately obliged to stay over a day in Los Angeles because the train from Berkeley was delayed by other trains carrying troops and Japanese evacuees from points in the San Joaquin Valley to Gila. Connections were impossible with the result that I remained in Los Angeles until 8:10 PM when I took the train to Phoenix.

Arrived in Phoenix on Wednesday, August 12, 1942 at 10:00 in the morning. I immediately went to the Greyhound Bus Depot to see about transportation to the Gila River Center. I stated that I wished to go to the Gila River Center which I believed to be situated at or near Sacaton, Arizona. "Oh," said the clerk in charge, "You want to go to the Concentration Camp". "Yes," I said, assuming that they meant the Gila project. They sold me a ticket to Florence, Arizona and advised me to tell the driver that I wanted to get off at the Florence Concentration Camp some five miles from Florence. I saw an armed camp from the bus surrounded by high wire fences and with machine gun towers. The place was delightful with the exception of the latter two items. It was in a basin range valley with rich agricultural land all about. It was well irrigated and there seemed to be ample opportunity for reclamation and further irrigation. While I was surprised by the fence and the machine gun towers and searchlights I was not ~~XXXXX~~ too suspicious, having heard of the same things at Santa Anita. However, when I got off the bus I learned that this was the camp for prisoners of war and for enemy aliens convicted of sabotage and espionage. I identified myself and was brought before Col. Holden, military commander of the camp. Of course, there are no Japanese as yet convicted of either espionage or sabotage, nor are there any prisoners of war with the result that the military there is sitting about twiddling its thumbs and waiting for prisoners. I am going into some detail with regard to this because I want whoever is going to read this report to remember that there is a well constructed camp capable of housing some 10,000 people in the immediate vicinity of another camp where deplorable conditions exist. As I say, I met Col. Holden. He is a man of no little executive ability, as I later learned, but if he and his officers continue to hit the bottle, I pity any charges he might have entrusted to his care. When I arrived at the so-called "Florence Internment Camp" it was already late with the result that Col. Holden very decently offered to put me up. I didn't know then that he was going to charge me for it. This is the "Concentration Camp" of the area. The Phoenix people don't seem to know that the Japanese are being interned some 80 miles away. As a matter of fact, "Concentration Camp" is listed on the Greyhound bus schedules. The enlisted men of the men with whom I had ample opportunity to converse that evening, told me that such

prisoners as were brought here would be put to work in bakeries and laundries which were already set up in the camp. In other words, the camp is already to hold as many as 10,000 prisoners of war, to feed and clothe them and to provide occupational tasks for them. They are to be under the strictest supervision. The army has the naive belief that these prisoners, in baking bread for nearby garrisons and themselves, will attempt to poison such food as they prepare. Rumor among the enlisted men of the Arizona "Florence Internment Camp" has it that no prisoners will be brought there but that an air base will be constructed there, and the unreclaimed land will be used as a bombing range. There seems to be good deal of truth in their arguments. Remember though, that here are air cooled barracks, plenty of lumber, ample chance for occupational diversification and good farm land. All of it is idle.

I was allowed to call the Sacaton Pima Indian School which are the present offices of the WRA in the area. It takes 40 minutes complete a call of any kind. While Sacaton is about 34 miles from the Florence Camp, the former has only one telephone, jointly used by the Indian Service and the WRA. Finally I got my call through. Mr. Smith, I was told, was in San Francisco, but his assistant, Dr. Lew Korn, whom I know quite well, was at the office. He was glad to hear from me, knew that I was coming and said that he would send a car for me as soon as possible. I told him that I was able to stay the night at the Florence Internment Camp. He promised to send a car for me in the morning. I was able to stay in the air-cooled officers' quarters. Being a civilian, I was accorded no social standing and was rather snubbed by the portly, stuff shirts of the commissioned military. I went over to the enlisted men's barracks and was given quite a welcome. Passed the evening in a good bridge game.

The following morning I went to the gate to wait for the car that Dr. Korn promised me. I waited until 1:00 in the afternoon, got tired waiting, and hailed a ride into Coolidge. I was hardly in Coolidge before I met Mrs. Smith, a very good friend from Albuquerque. (Ph. D. Dr. Nan Cook - Anthropology - Yale) By this time the afternoon was pretty well spent and Mrs. Smith and I drove out to the camp, some 20 miles away to pick up the rest of the WRA staff. Mrs. Smith was grimly reticent about the subject of the Camp during our drive out there and we talked of non-essentials. We picked up the rest of the staff at Sacaton in the offices of the Indian School there. I had expected to see the camp at that time but I learned that the offices of the WRA were some six miles away from the actual center.

The staff at Gila consists of the following:

Mr. Henderson (San Francisco - FSA - Farm Administration and housing)
 Dr. Morton Gaba (Berkeley - WRA - Univ. of Calif. - Housing and Management.)
 Mr. John Landward (Sociologist - Harvard - WRA - Construction, Housing, Delinquency)
 Mr. Robert Yeaton (U.C. General Housing and management)
 Miss Hersh (Utah - Nurse)
 Miss Hurley (? - Nurse)
 Dr. Korn (U. of Pennsylvania - Anthropology - Asst. Manager) WRA

Dr. Nan Cook Smith (Yale - Anthropology - Asst. Director -
Temporary - Student Relocation - General
Adjustment into community)

Mr. Eastbourne Smith (Camp Director - at present in San Francisco)

So, we decided to have dinner together in Coolidge, all except Dr. Korn who was entertaining Myer in Phoenix and Smith who was in San Francisco. I might mention here, that when I arrived, Dillon S. Myer, national director of the WRA, was already in Gila. In recording my conversation with Mr. Korn later, I shall dwell more fully on Mr. Myer's visit. In addition to the other members of the staff already mentioned there is a Dr. Searle (?) who is medical director and who is at present horribly ill with dysentery. Dr. Gaba has been in the hospital at Sacaton with the same affliction for some time and although he joined us at dinner that evening, he returned to the hospital the following day. The above is the whole of the Caucasian staff.

By tacit consent, apparently, all refrained from mentioning the camp until at dinner. I was then asked just what the hell I expected to do here. A rather startling expose of the situation followed.

It seems that the site was selected in April by Coverley and his associates. The general tendency of the main WRA office in San Francisco has been to pooch-pooch any ideas of hardship of any kind. I used to wonder why Coverley got that peculiar gleam in his eye whenever Gila was mentioned. I think I know why now. Mr. Smith, of the Soil Conservation Service, was chosen to direct the activities of the camp in late April or early May. The building did not start until June, nor was the staff chosen until this time. The staff was then and is still, hopelessly undermanned. Until last week there was no fire squad. There was ~~no~~ doctor until August 1. The hospital has just been built and is now ready for use, even though it can accommodate only three persons. No arrangement was or has been made for Caucasian ~~XXXXXXX~~ personnel. The houses were built under army contract. The cheapest materials were used. The walls were made of beaverboard. You could simply put your fist through them. They would melt in a heavy rain. The rooves are of fireproof red shingles, that kind of bakelite composition. By July 20 there were at most accommodations for 3000. And so, says Mrs. Smith, (I am recording the conversations at dinner, August 13) the first evacuees were moved in ~~XXXXXX~~ July 20. They came at a rate of 500 a day for the first few days. The first center from which they came was that of Turlock. Dr. Searle arrived on July 19 to find no adequate hospital facilities. Electricity for the camp was irregular. No gas was to be had at this time since the pipes were not completed through/ from Coolidge and Sacaton. Incidentally, ~~Dr.~~ Searle came from Tule Lake, driving down leisurely at the advice of the WRA. Dr. Searle has worked like hell. When he arrived he found no adequate quarters nor hospital. He was faced with problems of mumps and dysentery. For those first few days the evacuees came in at the rate of 500 a day. They sent the lame, halt and blind. There were people afflicted with cancer, diabetes, paralysis, fevers of various kinds, people with trench mouth, toothache, impetigo, one serious poison oak case. Dr. Searle was alone and the evacuees

were coming in at the rate of 500 a day. It is noteworthy that most of these people were farmers from California interior valleys. In six days there were 3000 people, all that the camp could take at that time. They were mainly Nisei but such Nisei as to be considered Issei. Dr. Cook told me that a very few spoke English and were to be compared with the Indians who go to school, learn only what is necessary to pass, finish as soon as possible, and then go back to their own communities to revert to their original or native tongue and forget whatever they have known of Western European culture. I can well believe it and there were no interpreters. Every day 500 more came in. The army was supposedly responsible for every evacuee. They were supposed to declare every hospital case and to declare those who were in need of ambulance service. They shunted the responsibility however. They too, were supposed to pay for the ambulances. They refused to do so with the result that the question of who will pay the ambulance charges is still in abeyance. The train stops 20 miles from the camp and the army is supposedly responsible for every evacuee until they reach the camp when the WRA takes over and settles every evacuee in his proper home. The evacuees are brought from Casa Grande to the camp by Greyhound bus. Several cases which needed hospitalization were simply shoved on the bus by the army and just died on route. A building designed as a mess hall has been turned into a hospital. There are no proper medicines. There is a great quantity of poison oak remedy, not enough insulin. There is no poison oak in Arizona. One boy was sent who was paralyzed and insane. There were no facilities for him and he is a burden on his family and must be fed from a spoon. Nan Cook told me that at Parker, whose situation parallels this, two criminally insane were sent from Los Angeles. A cordon of 12 military police had to stand around the house to which these individuals were assigned. Eventually they were sent back to institutions in Los Angeles, not, however, before they had disrupted the situation at Parker. At Parker, too, there is a lack of medical supplies and personnel. The surprising thing is the utter patience of the people. They will apologize for asking for medical aid and will not do so except under the most stringent conditions. This is true at Gila and Parker both. The situation is simply ghastly.

Meanwhile evacuees came in at a rate of 500 a day. There was no proper staff to meet them and no proper facilities by which they could be fed. The process of construction is still going on. It is necessary to turn off the gas, lights, and electricity in order to build camp 2, still definitely in process of construction. The result is that we never know when lights, gas or water will be turned off. The contractors may do it any time. It may occur at 11:00 AM with the result that an adequate lunch cannot be prepared. 1,600 came in on Friday, August 14 with the result that there were 6,700 in a space provided for 3,000. Thursday night at dinner they were talking of this and wondering what they would do with the 1,600. I hope to tell you what they did in time.

There are no proper mess halls, the latrines and toilets are arranged to flush but there is no proper disposition of the sewage. The result is that cess pools are made and filled in with lime. The stench in certain parts of the camp is terrific. The toilets are of course, unpartitioned, both for men and women.

Because screens are on the priorities list they cannot be brought. Only the hospital has screens. The fly and insect problem is terrific. No house has screens and the sweating bodies of the inhabitants are an attraction to flies and vermin. In the mess halls, such as they are, flies make eating almost impossible. There are no facilities for proper refrigeration. Remembering that fruits and vegetables, meats and milk all require different temperatures, it is to be noted that there is only one main and inadequate refrigerator. The food spoils and spoiled food must be served.

I would mention here the problem of contracts. This is highly confidential although we have Dr. Korn's permission to broadcast it to the world when the war is over. The army will not allow a contract of over 30 days' standing. This applies to every contract let by the WRA. It is thus almost impossible to get a contract. Food and milk merchants want to be assured of contracts of greater duration. Thus, milk, food, houses, and all manner of supplies must be obtained on the basis of 30 days with no assurance of more time involved. The contractors are loath to accept any contracts on this basis. No one may be found who will build, who will supply milk for the children or food for all. I will go into some detail as to building in a moment.

The houses are cramped. I include a plan of the camp. It will be observed that down the middle of each block there are rooms for showers and ironing and washing. The latrines are also down in the centers of the blocks. Under the present situation it is necessary to house people in these commodity rooms, even in the latrines. Every available space is being used for housing. Buildings constructed for mess halls, for recreation halls, for sick bays, hold 50-60 people. In the beginning of course, apartments were built. These were built on a basis of 20' x 25' and were to accommodate 4 people. 25 people are living in them now. In the smaller apartments, 15' x 20' 9 - 12 people are living. The administration, and believe me, it is tops, are frantic. But what can they do? You can't shove people out on the mesa. These are not Japanese; they are cattle. They have no scrap lumber, there are no partitions. Families are separated and no discrimination is made as to sex, age, or family. There are maggot grubs in the food. There is epidemic dysentery, heat rash, sunstroke. There are no doctors to cope with it. The barracks are ovens. The daily temperature is 120°. Of course, I knew about that, but Coverley had led me to believe that the houses would be cool. They are not. I remember that Coverley said that there were tiled roofs, that there was the possibility that laborers would be put to work making adobe bricks for cool habitations. Dr. Korn said that Coverley just wanted to get rid of us. Dr. Cook said that Coverley is a horse's ass and a liar to boot. Mr. Henderson, of the FSA, whom I have already mentioned as a member of the staff, said that Coverley told him the same thing as he told us, that conditions were idyllic, that Gila was the best camp in the whole WRA outfit. Mr. Henderson said "Pardon my French, but Bullshit". The situation might be alleviated, it is true, by further rapid building. Unfortunately, however, the 30 day contract rule still holds with the result that contractors who do take the options cannot get supplies. Thus there is no promise of alleviation, none of amelioration. Mr. Henderson and Dr. Cook think that there is terrible graft in the army. The 30 day rule allows army officials to mulct each contractor. There is not enough milk for even the children. No one over 5 years of age may have milk.

The mothers of the camp are frantic and have often appeared en masse before Mr. and Mrs. Smith demanding some solution of the milk problem.

I recall a cartoon in the Santa Anita paper and also another in the Tulare paper emphasizing the Gila River project as a River. Of course, I lived for three years in the desert of this area and I love it. I know that there is simply no water here and that it is hot during the day. The cartoon in question showed a boy fishing. There is no water here. The Gila River is dry. The North Fork of the Gila has about three feet of water in it. There are however, irrigated ditches in which carp and catfish have been caught. But it is 5 miles to the North Fork of the Gila and the rest of the country is just sand and dust. I mentioned that there were floors of green lumber in the houses ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ and that they had warped so that when there was a dust storm, and these are a daily occurrence, the dust rises through the floors of the houses. The warped boards often leave a space of more than $\frac{1}{2}$ inch through which the dust may rise. Hay fever and asthma are prevalent. Regarding dysentery, I think that it is impossible to live in the Southwest and not get it at some time or other. Any group of 20 or more is bound to be afflicted with it. I'm not sure but I think it's the flies. I recall that when I first went into this area to do field work I suffered for five days of dysentery. Frankly, I can think of nothing worse; it's an affliction I wouldn't wish on my worst enemy yet every Japanese has it. The crowds around the latrines are phenomenal. It's like seasickness. As I was in camp on the following day I noticed so many suddenly rushing to the latrines or out to vomit and then ~~XXXX~~ scattered around the camp were bloody faecal matter. I recall that I had my share in Mexico; I should be immune. But I can think of nothing more horrible.

In the camp other supplies are lacking. The commissary is understocked and it is hard to get supplies. There is no scrip as yet and every item has to be bought cash. I mentioned that all mess halls, dormitories, and recreation halls must be devoted to family quarters. Baggage comes in broken and is not insured. The military police are most inconsiderate in regard to baggage. Mrs. Smith says that she has seen the M.P.'s kick in the sides of baggage when they were delivered. In spite of the fact that the M.P.'s must remain outside the camp except when a new consignment of evacuees arrives, the situation of reconciling the army with the evacuees is most difficult. The result in camp is that there is no morale, just utter resignation and patience.

Mrs. Smith gave me some examples of case histories. The problems which arise out of the permission to leave the camp and reside elsewhere are legion. These examples follow:

One girl was given permission to leave and go to Colorado to marry a man (Japanese) in the army there. Every affidavit was in order. The girl was about to go. The WRA suddenly denied permission on the ground that the commanding officer of the battalion had not as yet submitted a letter regarding the character of the Nisei in the army there. The commanding officer denied that a letter was forthcoming from him. He refused to write the letter in spite of

WRA demands, even though the lieutenant of the bridegrooms battery wrote such a letter. The petition was denied in spite of the girl's citizenship and the fact that she had never been in Japan.

2. A certain family wanted to follow their son to Colorado. Permission was denied them on the ground that they were Issei and that a son was a Kibei. The army denied permission for them to go. Only Nisei may leave camp now. Kibei (defined as anyone who has been to Japan and is of the Japanese race) and Issei must stay in the relocation centers.

3. Cornelius Chiomori: A student, was, while I was there, granted permission to go to the U. of Texas at Austin. He has a good deal of money. Those who have inadequate funds are just out of luck. Chiomori had been waiting for two weeks even though permission to go had been granted him in the Tulare Assembly Center.

Dr. Nan Cook thinks that the WRA is a political organization. The WCCA, she thinks, is worse, but the army worst of all. She has to contend with Majors, colonels, and generals who refer sneeringly to those "yellow bastards".

I believe that I mentioned that the offices of the WRA are some 6 miles away from the camp at Sacaton. These are in the offices of the Indian School at Sacaron. Because the Indian School takes up on August 20, the offices will have to be moved out to the camp. But there is no place for them to go; buildings are not available at the camp. Every available building is being used for housing. They don't know what they will do for offices. No ~~XXX~~ office supplies for the WRA are available. There are no typewriters, no desks, no paper clips, envelopes for only one day (Aug. 13) They must order all supplies from the WRA in San Francisco and the office there does not accede to their demands. There is no place for a Caucasian staff. Most of the staff are married and no houses are available for them or their children. They have to stay in Coolidge, some 24 miles away and do as best as they can. Coolidge is a defense area with the result that housing is at a premium. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have not seen their child in Albuquerque for three months. The staff are highly competent individuals and are in demand as sociologists and economists and do not wish to remain in Coolidge. The situation for all, Japanese and Caucasian alike, is intolerable.

Mr. Smith has lost 15 lbs. in a month. He is a great tall man and if Mrs. Smith can be believed, is a nervous wreck at present. Mrs. Smith also is a nervous wreck and can do nothing. The staff will not stay at the present rate. The WRA has not paid them in 6 weeks and they have to maintain residences separate from their families. No houses are available at either Coolidge or Casa Grande. Moreover, there are no restaurants, except one very very poor and expensive one, in Casa Grande or Coolidge. Food is almost impossible to get. The situation is almost impossible; I shall try to stop having our observers placed here.

At the camp itself, threats of curfew, curtailment of privilege etc. keep the Japanese in line. While there have been some gang fights, there has been no rape, voyeurism, or theft. The people are resignedly patient. The army, while it says it cannot send the items necessary to health and well-being, sends

6 tons of camouflage net.

No arrangement has as yet been made for the payment of the Japanese employees. A timekeeping department has been set up to keep track of hours worked. For each of the workers a separate time card has to be set up every day. This makes for a tremendous amount of paper work but it is according to WRA specifications. Mr. Smith, when he gets the time, is going to set up the WPA system of timekeeping as they have at Tanforan in spite of the WRA ruling. Korn convinced Myer that this was necessary. The decision as to the payment of workers has not been settled. It is now thought that Unskilled, Skilled, and Professional classifications will be lumped together and a straight general wage of \$12.00 monthly will be paid. This matter is still in abeyance and is awaiting a Washington decision. The army has insisted that work be begun immediately on the netting. It's terrifically hard labor in the heat and dust.

As I read over what I written here I wonder if I had a tendency to overdramatize the situation. I have recorded as best as I could the conversation of that evening at dinner. The drawn and haggard faces of the staff, their utter discouragement and depression lead me to believe that the situation could scarcely be worse. And the next day, when I visited the camp myself, I saw that they had not exaggerated.

On Friday, August 14 I went to the camp with Dr. Cook. We stopped first at Sacaton at the Indian School where the offices are. All business must be transacted there and there is a continual bustle ~~XXXXXX~~ of traffic through the hot dusty roads to the school and back to the camp. On August 20 the school will take up for its Fall semester and the WRA must abandon those offices. What they will do then without a phone, without offices, and without adequate office supplies is a problem. Dr. Cook drove me out to the camp after a time. It is on a flat mesa surrounded in the distance by low buttes. It is visible about 5 miles away and one can see the glare of the sun on the white beaverboard houses and the red rooves.

When I arrived, a last breakfast was being served. The gas and electricity was ~~XXXXX~~ turned off that morning with the result that barbecue pits in the open were being used for cooking. I arrived at 9:00 AM and learned that people had been waiting in the sun over an hour for the barbecued ham and toast which was being made over the open fires. I was told that the mess halls are in use but that they are used as dormitories and the sleepers there have to clear all their things out when the meals are to be served. That's assuming that the gas and electricity are working and that water is available.

Buses were coming from the train at Casa Grande. There were 1,600 arrivals that morning and the staff was frantic. Every mess hall was turned into a dormitory. The buildings destined for the administrative offices, and administrative barracks were quickly taken up. Groups of boys volunteered to move their beds out onto the mesa. (I should mention that "mesa" is a southwestern term for the desert.) This could not be permitted because of the great rattlesnake problem. There have been no bites as yet but they are

to be expected along with the other misfortunes. The new contingent was housed as best could be arranged. Fortunately, Myer, on seeing the situation, has arranged to stop any further movement into the camp for some time. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

The physical set up at Gila is like this: I hope to include a rough map with this report. Camp I is the only one inhabited at the moment. It is not completed. When it is finished it will hold 5000. There are quarters there now for 3000 as I said and the total population is 6700. Four miles away is Camp II. It is much larger and holds 10,000 on completion. The total population will be thus 15,000. Farm and range land are to the east of Camp I. Between Camps I and II there is just mesa with the giant saguaro cactus, sage, and cholla running wild over it. This is to be reclaimed for alfalfa. Alfalfa fields run to the north. See figures on enclosed information bulletins.

One administrative office is necessary in the camp. It is a mess hall, quite small but it is all the space the WRA here can allow itself. It is 120' x 20'. In it are a reception group for aid in house assignment and orientation, the employment office, the FSA representative's office, the offices of community management a lost and found, an information office, the block manager's offices. The result is a bedlam. One fights one's way into the place, yells his business in loud voice, and shoulders his way out again. Aisles are roped off so that lines may form to transact the necessary business in the proper place.

Each block is supposed to have a mess hall. Blocks consist of 16 buildings two of which are for recreation and mess halls. These latter two, as well as the buildings down the center, the latrines, ironing and washing rooms, etc. are all inhabited now. The Japanese feel quite pleased that here the mess halls are called by the administration "dining halls" thus the removing to some extent of the odium of the mess, concentrated feeling. The evacuees never know where they will eat their next meal. No gas may be on with the result that partially cooked food will be served around the barbecue pits. The reputations of the cooks vary. Some mess halls have more people than they can handle while others are empty. Much food is thus wasted and there is no arrangement as yet for controlling the eating. I was unable to get a report on meals.

Beside Dr. Searle, there are three Japanese doctors in use now. Another came in with ~~XXXXX~~ the 1,600 on the 14th. One of them Dr. Baba, wants to be a political big shot and devotes little time to his duties. He is quite a thorn in the side of the administration. Mr. Omachi, and Mr. Yahanda are lawyers and act as go-betweens for the administration and the people. They are perfectly swell and have done their utmost to guide the people over the rough spots.

Camp II is still in process of construction. No one can as yet be moved in there. In order to make the proper connections in wiring, gas, and water mains, these facilities must be turned off periodically. This explains the difficulties I mentioned before.

While I have a good many more preliminary observations on Gila I am not going to mention them here because of my recent

instructions to return there.

I would to make a few remarks regarding the type of people in the camp. I mentioned that there were mainly Nisei but such Nisei as to be considered Issei. They are subject more to Japanese than American patterns. I stated that Dr. Cook considered them a very Japanese group and indeed they are. I hope Charlie will be able to adjust to them O.K. Only a very few speak English with any degree of flawlessness. The lingua franca of the camp is Japanese definitely. It is to be remembered that most come from the interior valley of California, that they are almost all farmers who have been free to live according Japanese standards. This is excellent from the point of view of my own interests. Dr. Cook stated quite frankly that she believed that only 30 % could speak English. All kinds of interpreters are necessary. The two lawyers I mentioned above are active in this capacity. It is a rural group in the main, apparently predominantly Buddhistic.

No church services have as yet been held because of lack of available space. The Christians are vigorously ^{demanded} a preacher and Dr. Cook has promised to do what she could for one on August 23. No Buddhist services have been held. The Buddhists are much more reserved and cause less trouble. Dr. Cook says that the trouble makers are invariably Christian.

There is no provision for burials. Bodies have been shipped away but deaths have been few. A cemetery has not as yet been built or arranged for.

A Christian wedding in the Occidental manner is going to take place shortly. Dr. Cook has had a small honeymoon cottage built and has decorated it at her own expense with the aid of some of the more talented girls. It is to be given to each married couple for a week after marriage.

When I think of the arrogant and intolerant administration at Tanforan and of people like that dope Coverley and the high handed action of the army, I am more than ever grateful for the utter sympathetic understanding of the staff here. Mr. Smith has had one or two bad customers on his staff but they have not been allowed to remain. One Oakland high school teacher caused a great deal of trouble with his suspicion and disparaging attitude. He was an employee of Coverley's. Mr. Smith bounced him in five days. Landward, whom I mentioned, a Harvard sociologist, will be in charge of internal policing. He does not know a great deal about the Japanese but he is most willing to learn. He was asking me about the sexual behavior of the Japanese. I mentioned that in the ideal Japanese pattern, premarital defloration is not considered an abomination. I said that I thought that there would be carry-over of Caucasian attitudes here though and love affairs would be rather discouraged unless they led to marriage. He wants the people to do as they please in that regard. He is doing to best to show a sympathetic attitude in this regard. He said that if they want sexual laxity they may have it; it will be a part of his administrative

*The
Caucasian
soldiers and laborers
give rise
to self
problems.*

Spencer - 11

policy to condone exactly what the people want without attempting to force any administrative coercion on them. Good for him.

Each barrack has a manager. This group is headed by a block manager. There are about 18 blocks. At the present time, these block managers form a council. This is of course a temporary arrangement. When the housing is completed and the camp full, a similar pattern will be followed but the managers will be elected instead of appointed as now. The two camps will be run separately but will have a joint council for mutual self-government. All decisions however, will remain with the evacuees themselves.

All employment is now on a temporary basis. It is understood that all jobs will be free when the camp is full to allow an equal opportunity for every one to get the kind of job he wants. This is also true of the political set-up.

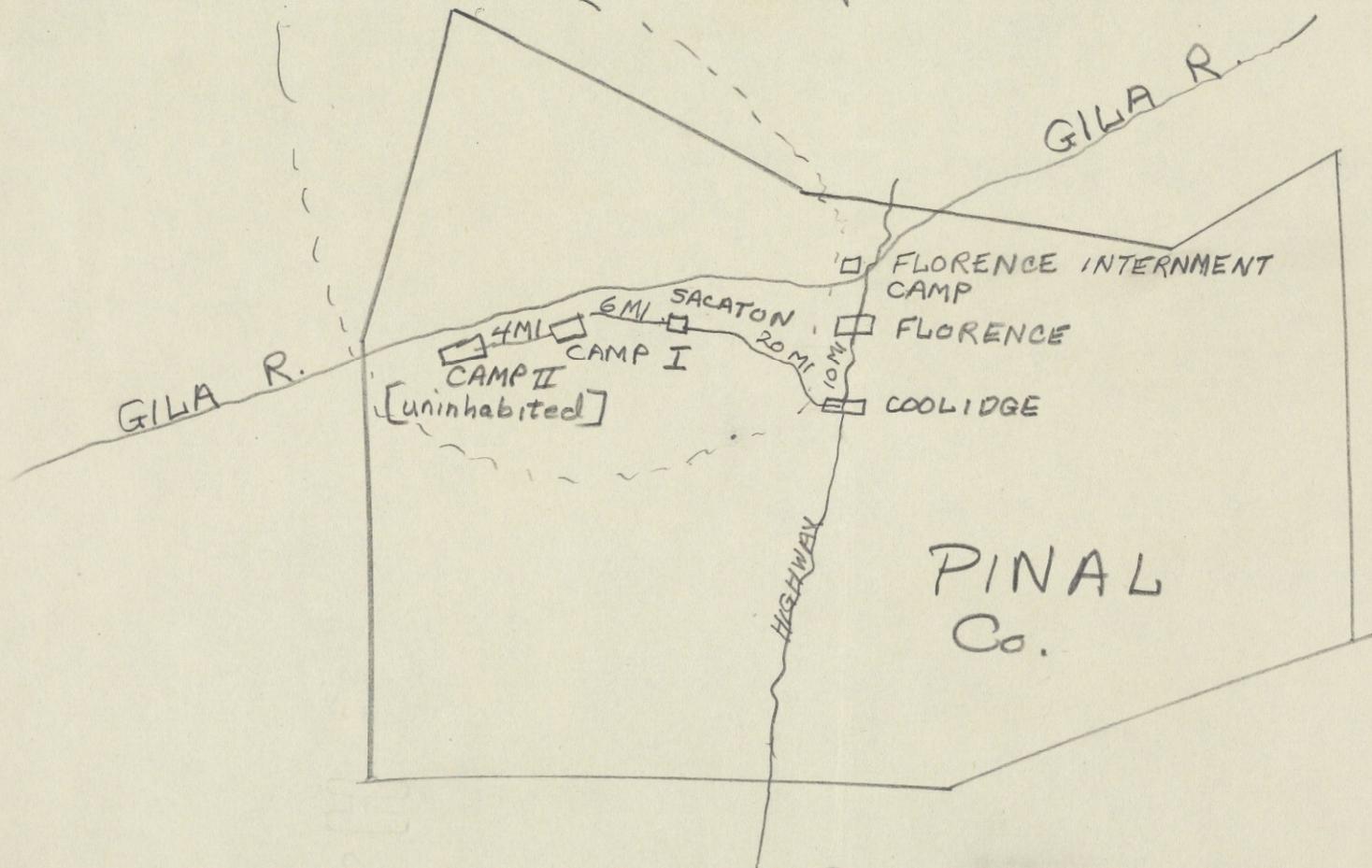
At present most everyone is sick with dysentery or idle. I cannot stress enough the appalling conditions at Gila. The fortitude and patience of the Japanese in face of this adversity is phenomenal. Dr. Cook says that she and her husband and the rest of the staff feel like criminals in having to settle the problems of these people. She and the rest of her staff feel only the stark tragedy of evacuation.

With her I returned late that afternoon to Sacaton. I finally saw Dr. Korn here and the three of us had a confab as to what would happen to me. In the opinion of both it was better that I should go elsewhere and return to Gila when conditions were more settled. I stated that in view of what I had seen I should prefer to remain and help where I could. They pointed out that I could not live at the camp, that I could not be sure of any consideration from them, that I could not eat there under any circumstances, and that to live in one of the neighboring towns was an impossibility - all housing was at a premium due to the defense workers in the area. I felt sure that I could make some arrangement but they advised me to return and go to some other better settled camp. In view of their advice, I saw no alternative to phoning Dr. Thomas in Berkeley and apprising her of the situation. I am glad of the opportunity to return and I'm sure that I can make some arrangement for the future. The problem here is tremendous and I want to be in on it.

A word on Parker: Exactly the same situation exists. It's worse if anything, since there are more people. It is situated in the same type of country but is open to storms more than Gila because of the long low plain leading in from the river. One terrific wind storm broke down several houses and blew the rooves off others. The problems there have been no less great.

I might mention that the playboys in army aeroplanes have been causing trouble at Gila. They pretend they are bombing the Japs and fly close to the buildings at a low altitude. This could be terribly dangerous in case of a crash. When I was there Dr. Cook took the numbers of two planes who did this and turned them in to Dr. Korn. He is preferring charges with the army and demanding a court-martial for the pilots. He is going to get it.

This is a rough sketch of Pinal County, Arizona, showing distances and Principal locations —
This is most inaccurate, it is drawn from memory, but it gives approximations. I'll present a more accurately detailed map some other time.



----- Boundary of Pima Indian Reservation