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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

November 25, 1943

Restricted

To: All Project Directors

Subject: Leave Clearance Hearings

Distribution: E (plus RS and RO)

We have recently received inquiries from some of the projects with reference to cases returned for hearing as a result of negative recommendations by the Japanese-American Joint Board, pointing out that the files did not disclose the reasons upon which the Joint Board had based its negative recommendations.

Ordinarily a docket will indicate the factors which may have influenced the Joint Board to recommend against leave clearance. There are, nevertheless, instances in which those factors will appear only in intelligence agency reports; in most cases we will be able to include a summary of such reports. There are certain intelligence reports, however, which we are not permitted to furnish to the projects or to summarize, and where those reports are the basis of a Joint Board negative recommendation we are unable to include that information in the dockets that we returned to the projects.

It is suggested that where an analysis of the docket does not otherwise indicate ineligibility but the Joint Board has nevertheless recommended against indefinite leave, the interview and investigation should develop information on family member's, contributions to or membership in Japanese organizations, fixed deposits in Japan, employment by Japanese firms, and all of the other factors listed in the recent revision of Section 60.10.2 of the Leave Handbook that may possibly be present in the particular case.

Another type of case in which the reasons for a Joint Board negative recommendation may not appear in the docket is that of a married woman whose husband's case is considered unfavorably by the Joint Board. The Joint Board is not clearing many wives where the husband's dockets present doubts. In cases where there is cause to believe that this is the reason for a negative recommendation, it is suggested that the interview and investigation be pointed toward covering the degree of influence which the husband has over the wife, as well as other applicable factors listed in Section 60.10.2 of the Leave Handbook.