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# Contract Let For Jerome Jap Evacuation Camp

**CONSTRUCTION TO START TOMORROW. GENERAL CONTRACTOR TO HAVE OFFICES HERE**

Contract for the Jerome Japanese Evacuation Center was awarded to the A. J. Rife Construction Company of Dallas by the U. S. Engineers at Vicksburg Tuesday and representatives of that company said here yesterday they would open general offices in Dermott next week.

Although the exact bid upon which the Rife company was awarded the contract could not be learned, it was reported that the figure was in excess of \$3,000,000. The Rohwer contract was awarded several days ago for approximately \$3,100,000 and the Jerome center is reportedly planned to be slightly larger than the center north of McGehee.

Maj. A. M. Niema, area engineer in charge said construction at Jerome will begin tomorrow. Roads have been graded and work has already started on the deep well to be used as a source of water for the center.

All primary roads in the Rohwer center have been graveled this week and construction is also started.

In answer to the usual question asked by most Dermott citizens, "When will the crowd begin to come into Dermott," Maj. Niema said the workers could be expected within the next four or five days. He indicated however, the influx will be a gradual process for the next two or three weeks until construction at Jerome gets under way at the peak of production scale.

W. H. Ballard, former FSA Project Manager at Jerome who has recently joined the Re-location Authority and E. B. Whitaker, former FSA Regional Supervisor, who is now in charge of the evacuation centers in Arkansas visited Dermott and Jerome and Rohwer locations yesterday.

Ellis C. Gillham has been appointed acting manager of the Jerome FSA project.