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Local Citizens Ask For Strict Rules At Camps

A committee of five local men called upon Senators A. B. Chandler and James E. Murray, members of the Senate Military Affairs Committee, while they were in McGehee Saturday. The Senators had completed their inspection of the Rohwer Relocation Center on Saturday afternoon. Their inspection of the Jerome Center was made Sunday.

The local men are reported to have requested that more rigid restrictions be placed over the evacuees and that those who have affirmed their allegiance to Japan be evacuated to prison camps.

They also suggested that the Jerome and Rohwer camps be placed under strict military jurisdiction. They gave as their reasons for complaints the following:

Evacuees climb through wire fences and roam through the woods in the vicinity of the camps.

They come into towns, shop and go to shows, and many have little respect for anyone whom they contact.

They are permitted to sign for packages which are taken into the camps without being inspected.

Twenty per cent at Rohwer and a higher percentage at Jerome have declared themselves enemies of this country.

When they refuse to do work about the centers the officials in charge are forced to employ or otherwise secure labor to complete the jobs.

Members of the committee also are reported to have expressed a fear that the WRA plans to infiltrate the evacuees in these camps among "our people" rather than return them to their homes as they promised. They have been informed, they said, that the states from where they came do not want them, now or at the end of the war, and that discussions on the matter have led to the belief the evacuees will be "localized" when they are released.

Members of the group from here who attended the conference at McGehee are: Judge John M. Golden; W. W. Jones, agent for the Missouri Pacific; Lee Edwards, telegraph operator for the Missouri Pacific; W. H. Moore, secretary of the Southeast Arkansas National Farm Loan Association and Dan Harrison. Citizens from McGehee and Lake Village also attended the meeting.