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WEEKLY REPORT
HOOPER RELOCATION CENTER
OCTOBER 7, 1944

GENERAL COMMENT BY PROJECT DIRECTOR

On Saturday, September 30, a memorial service was held for five Nisei soldiers killed in Italy, who have relatives in this center. Nearly half the center residents were present, and the ceremony was very impressive. It was sponsored by the Community Council, which is composed almost entirely of Issei. The master of ceremonies was an evacuee who is a World War veteran, and the Project Director and the chairman of the Community Council made short addresses. The Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Buddhist and Christian ministers, and the high school band participated. The Arkansas Gazette carried a short news item concerning the service on October 7; and on Sunday, October 8, it was the subject of a brief but unusually fair editorial in the same paper. Copies of the news item and the editorial are attached.

As we have previously reported, relocation officials were disappointed for some time over the lack of interest shown by evacuees in the employment offer by the Sioux Munitions Depot. However, one of the relocation advisors and two evacuees--one a Nisei, and one Issei--inspected the Sioux plant this week, and all were favorably impressed. Meetings in some of the blocks to advise the people of the results of the investigation are being planned, and it is believed that there will be a reasonable number of persons who will accept the offer. A recruiting team, composed of plant officials and a WRA representative, will come to the center the latter part of next week and will spend several days here. The two evacuee representatives were

selected by a committee which included the chairman of the Community Council, the chairman of the block managers, the editor of the Japanese section of the project paper, and several of the evacuee leaders.

Special reports will be forwarded within a short time describing in detail the memorial ceremony previously mentioned, and a special report will also be submitted with reference to the Sioux Munitions Plant offer.