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Wm. Smith

WEEKLY REPORT
ROHWER RELOCATION CENTER
July 7, 1944

GENERAL COMMENT BY PROJECT DIRECTOR

On Friday, June 30, at 6:30 p.m., the regular quarterly census was taken. The procedure followed at this time was similar to that used at the end of March, except that more detailed information concerning center residents was obtained. The block managers and their workers prepared lists of the residents of their block, starting with Barrack 1 Apartment A, and on through Barrack 12 in numerical order. These lists contained all the information which was needed by the statistical section. On the day before the count was actually made, the members of the appointed personnel who were to assist in the census, were called together and given detailed instructions. Two of the appointed personnel were assigned to each block and each of these checked the residents and the information concerning to them for each half of the block. Correct and current end information concerning the residents of the center is especially desirable at this time since complete records on more than 2500 transfers from Jerome have not yet arrived and because many original residents of this center were required to change their place of residence in preparation for the coming of the Jerome people.

The census was conducted without undue difficulty and was completed within an hour. Its purpose and the procedure for taking it was explained to the block managers at their regular meeting, and the center

paper was used to explain it to the people. The recent arrival of the Jerome people made the task more complicated. This was especially true because of the fact that more than 300 of the Jerome post-contingent group entered the center on the day the count was made. Much credit is due to block managers and their workers for their help and cooperation and the attitude of the people was also good. Otherwise, the task would have been very difficult.

Relocation continued its upward swing during the week. Fifty-nine seasonal workers will leave in one group on July 2.

Four evacuees attended a conference of church workers at Hollister, Missouri. Approximately 200 delegates from four states attended the meeting. All the people from this center reported that their reception was very favorable.

Twenty-six center residents who had been inducted into the Enlisted Reserve Corps were called for active service on June 30. Notice has been received from the draft board that another group will be called for induction and examination about the 20th of July. Many of the evacuees who registered for selective service in California are finding it difficult to get the California local boards to answer inquiries concerning their status. In one particular case that was called to our attention, a man had written several letters and had sent two telegrams and his employer had sent a telegram concerning his chances for deferment. This man was 37 years of age and was engaged in essential

industry. His deferment was practically a matter of form, but he was not able to get a reply from his board until the last minute and was forced to return to this center from Milwaukee in order to be here for his induction if his request was denied. He was finally given a 30 days postponement of induction.

Many boys of draft age are still careless about complying with Selective Service regulations. This is practically true where change of address is concerned. The local board at McGehee continues to be lenient in these cases, but this week a flagrant violator was advised by the board that he would be subject to immediate induction because he had not reported his change of address and had failed to complete on time Selective Service questionnaires which had been sent to him.