

CONFIDENTIAL

OCS
GCM

7 October 1943

Dear Emmons:

This letter is for your eyes only and the discussion is to be entirely personal between the two of us.

Yesterday Senator Hayden of Arizona telephoned me. He queried regarding the interned Japanese in Arizona. His proposition was this:

The concentration of Japanese on the West Coast has always presented a very serious problem because of their low standard of living and the inevitable pressure on white competitors. He is hopeful that something can be done to break this concentration and more or less scatter these people.

Senator Hayden wished to know if the reception of Japanese into the Army had progressed to the point where we felt it permissible to proceed with the induction of those who have been screened for possible disloyal traits. He referred to the fact that bad actors had been largely eliminated from Arizona concentration camps and transferred to northern California. He also mentioned the fact that we had Japanese troops fighting in Italy and a large number training in Alabama.

General McNarney tells me that the present force has been built up entirely on a volunteer basis and that all who would volunteer have been taken. We have sent radios to General Eisenhower to get an exact statement of the conduct of the Japanese battalion that is now in contact with the enemy. If these troops have proved to be battleworthy, that is, will advance, attack, submit to losses, and still go ahead, the question then is, can we somewhat change our approach to the Japanese U.S. citizenship male problem in this country. Might we induct, should we try another recruiting campaign for volunteers, etc., etc.. Please give me your frank appraisal of the situation, assuming that General Eisenhower reports that the Japanese battalion in Italy has demonstrated its willingness to fight under our flag.

Faithfully yours,

(Sgd) G. C. MARSHALL

Lieutenant General Delos C. Emmons,
Commanding General, Western Defense
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