DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 893602

CONFIDENTIAL

Distributed by SD to

ALIEN DETENTION CAMP

SHARP PARK, CALIFORNIA, July 26, 1943.

I. OFFICER IN CHARGE: F. O. Seidle.

Assistant: David Aldridge.

Date: 8/4/43

II. CAMP VISITED BY: Captain Antonio R. Martin, Spanish Vice-Consul at San Francisco, California, and representative of the protecting Power.

Accompanied by: Mr. James E. Henderson, representative of the Department of State, Washington, D. C.

Mr. A. S. Hudson, Acting District Director of Immigration and Naturalization, San Francisco, California.

III. POPULATION (as of July 24, 1943):

	Japanese	German	Italian	Miscel.	Total
Men	202	31	1	34	268
Women	8	7	0	1	16
Children	5	3*	0	0	8
	215	41	1	35	292

*The three German children are boarders, admitted to the Camp only for the summer vacation to permit them to be with their parents. They will return to school soon.

The population of the Camp is made up largely of aliens brought to the United States from Peru or other Latin American republics.

IV. GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

(a) Acreage: Approximately three acres within the enclosure, plus several acres under cultivation outside of the enclosure.

(b) Geographical location: At Sharp Park, California, on the Pacific coast; about 15 miles south of the Civic Center at San Francisco; approximately eight miles south of Daly City.

(c) Nature

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 893602

(c) Nature of surrounding country: Rolling hills, typical of the central Californian coast. In driving to the Camp from San Francisco, one observes numerous truck gardens.

(d) Climate: That of San Francisco; cool and, in general, sunny; occasional fog.

(e) General appearance: Exceptionally pleasing, owing particularly to the profusion of flowers and the general neatness of the Camp, which was formerly used by the State Relief Association.

(f) Security measures: The Camp is surrounded by a high steel-wire fence near which, at intervals, are five guard-towers commanding a view of the Camp and of the surrounding area. There have been no attempts to escape.

V. HOUSING:

(a) Number and size of buildings: There are 10 sleeping barracks for men (Area I) and 1 sleeping barrack for women (Area II), each 120 feet by 18 feet. In addition, the Camp includes the following buildings:

Boiler room	Mess halls and kitchens
Carpenter shop	Recreation hall
Garage	Laundry
Gymnasium *	Administrative offices
Hospital	Warehouses I and II

*The gymnasium is in a back-barrack, the structure joining several barracks.

(b) Type of construction: Wooden buildings, well-constructed, with numerous windows. Painted a light tan color, with window and door frames of a soft green, the buildings present a more pleasing appearance than do most barracks.

(c) Interior arrangements:

Size - Each of the men's sleeping barracks is divided into 5 rooms approximately 24 feet by 18 feet. Each room contains 8 to 10 beds. The women's sleeping barrack, on the other hand, is further subdivided to provide a separate cubicle for each woman.

Bedding - Each person is provided with a bed, mattress, blankets, linen, and towels.

Heat - Oil stoves.

Light - Electric lights.

(d) Total

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 893602

(d) Total capacity: Five hundred men and seventy-five women. The capacity can be doubled by using double-deck beds.

VI. WASHING AND TOILET FACILITIES:

Approximate number for each 2 barracks.

(a) Latrines: 10 water closets.

(b) Wash basins: 10

(c) Baths: 10 shower baths.

(d) Laundry: Bed linen, towels, et cetera are laundered in the Camp laundry. The detainees do their own personal laundry.

VII. SANITATION:

(a) Sewage disposal: Sewage is piped to septic tanks about one-half mile from the Camp.

(b) Drainage: The nature of the terrain assures good natural drainage.

(c) Garbage disposal: Garbage is hauled away from the Camp under private contract, to be fed to hogs.

VIII. FOOD AND COOKING:

(a) Mess halls: One for women; one for men; and one for the administrative staff.

(b) Method of serving: Cafeteria style, in the men's mess hall. The women are served at table.

(c) Kitchens: One for each mess hall, plus a kitchen in the hospital. Clean and well-equipped.

(d) Menus: See specimen menus attached. The mixture of nationalities at the Camp complicates somewhat the problem of preparing acceptable menus. However, a satisfactory solution seems to have been provided by permitting the spokesmen of the various nationality groups to meet each week and agree among themselves upon the menus for the succeeding week.

(e) Those employed in mess halls and kitchens:

Detainees, under the general supervision of the Steward of the Camp.

IX. MEDICAL

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 893602

IX. MEDICAL FACILITIES AND SICKNESS:

(a) Description of hospital: The hospital is of the same general construction as the barracks. It contains a men's ward, a women's ward, an operating room adequate for emergency operations, a well-stocked supply room (medicines, drugs, and other supplies), et cetera.

(b) Capacity: Women's ward, 8; men's ward, 18; total, 26.

(c) Staff: The United States Public Health Service furnishes the following staff:

A doctor, who calls at the hospital periodically and is always subject to call, and the following full-time members:

1 Head nurse.
1 Male attendant.
3 Female attendants.

(d) Number of patients: Five (July 25, 1943), all of them for minor ailments. Serious cases, if any, are transferred to the Marine Hospital at San Francisco.

(e) General health: Very good. Upon arrival at the Camp, the detainees are examined briefly by the doctor. Every morning, there is a sick call for those wishing medical attention.

(f) Deaths: There have been two deaths at the Camp, plus one death of a detainee transferred from the Camp to the Marine Hospital.

X. CLOTHING:

The detainees are furnished all necessary clothing, as determined by the Camp authorities.

XI. WORK:

(a) Types of work:

Carpentry	Mess halls
Painting	Camp maintenance
Gardening	Laundry
General repair	Et cetera

(b) Rate of pay: Ten cents ($.10) an hour. The camp's limited allotment of funds for the employment of detainees will probably be insufficient to permit all of the detainees to work full time and will require henceforth a certain rotation of jobs.

XII. MAIL

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 893602

XII. MAIL AND OTHER COMMUNICATIONS:

(a) Mail: Detainees may send 3 letters a week. Incoming mail is unrestricted.

(b) Packages: May be sent or received without restriction.

(c) Censorship: The Camp has its own censor. Both mail and packages are subjected to his examination.

(d) Visitors: Detainees may receive visitors on Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday, mornings and afternoons; and on Saturday afternoons.

(e) Visits outside of camp: Detainees are permitted to leave the Camp for necessary dental work and occasionally for such purposes as shopping. The manager of the Canteen may also leave the Camp to make purchases for the Canteen.

XIII. RECREATION:

(a) Indoor sports facilities: The gymnasium provides facilities for boxing, wrestling, ping-pong, et cetera, and contains punching bags and other sports equipment.

(b) Athletic fields: One (1) plus tennis court, bowling alley (Bocci ball), court for pitching horseshoes, and volley ball court.

(c) Sports equipment: Furnished by the Camp.

(d) Library: About 1,600 volumes.

(e) Movies: Once a week. The detainees also have their own talent shows, from time to time, and outside entertainers visit the Camp occasionally.

(f) Radio: Receiving sets for broadcast band permitted.

XIV. FIRE PREVENTION:

There are fire hydrants throughout the Camp; an adequate water supply; fire-hose; and sand-barrels. A fire-fighting crew of detainees has been organized.

XV. CANTEEN:

(a) Types of merchandise: Cigarettes, tobacco, candies, toilet articles, magazines, newspapers, et cetera.

(b) Prices:

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 893002

(b) Prices: Market.

(c) Profits: Devoted entirely to the detainees. A canteen council of detainees determines the uses to which the profits will be put. Some of the profits are expended in connection with the theatrical activities of the detainees; some are returned to purchasers on a cooperative basis.

XVI. INTERNAL ORGANIZATION:

Each barrack elects a spokesman. Furthermore, there is a spokesman for each nationality group.

XVII. EDUCATION:

The necessary material for educational courses is available at the Camp for any detainees that may wish to make use of it. No such courses are being given at present.

XVIII. RELIGIOUS SERVICES:

The detainees are free to hold whatever religious services they wish. A Roman Catholic priest calls periodically. An American Methodist minister, who speaks Japanese, calls about twice a month. A deaconess calls on the women detainees from time to time.

XIX. REQUESTS AND COMPLAINTS:

The representative of the protecting Power interviewed the Japanese spokesmen alone. He stated that in general there were no complaints. They had mentioned the two following matters, but had added that they realized that the authorities were doing everything possible with respect to them:

(a) Shirts: Some of the detainees need work shirts. The officer in charge at the Camp stated that it was almost impossible to buy work shirts at San Francisco, but that an effort was still being made to obtain them.

(b) Funds from Panama: Some of the detainees from the Panama Canal Zone assert that they have not yet received pay due them for certain work performed before they were brought to the continental United States. They were informed by the representative of the protecting Power that they should prepare a fully-detailed written statement with respect to any such

claims,

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 893602

claims, but they replied that they would wait a while longer as they realized that it would take time for payments to reach them from Panama.

XX. REACTION OF REPRESENTATIVE OF PROTECTING POWER:

Captain Martin has visited the Sharp Park Alien Detention Camp often. It was evident that he was entirely satisfied with conditions there.

XXI. COMMENTS:

One could hardly ask for a more pleasant place of detention. The Camp has every appearance of being well-run. Furthermore, as is indicated above, the situation, climate, facilities, and physical condition of the Camp are almost ideal. The day of the visit was sunny and mild. Some of the detainees were working; others were pitching horseshoes, bowling, or sitting out-of-doors reading. They seemed cheerful and healthy.

James E. Henderson.

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED
Authority NND 893602

MENU FOR THE WEEK OF

Monday July 26th through Sunday August 1, 1943

DAY	BREAKFAST	LUNCH	DINNER
MONDAY:	Farina - Milk Stewed Prunes Hot Cakes Jam Nucoa Coffee Sugar	Noodles & Egg Sauce Fresh Greens Salad Apple Sauce Bread Milk	Lamb Stew Corn Dill Pickles Jello Bread & Rice Tea
TUESDAY:	Dry Cereal - Milk Boiled Eggs Fried Potatoes Toast Coffee Sugar	Vegetable Soup Crackers Baked Beans Pickles Beets Peanut Butter Bread	Beef Tongue Baked Potatoes Fresh Spinach Lettuce Salad Canned Peaches Bread & Rice Tea
WEDNESDAY:	Grapefruit Hot Cakes Syrup Oleo Coffee Sugar	Chop Suey Rice Endive Salad Canned Blackberries Bread Milk	Baked Fish Mashed Potatoes Green Beans Pickle Relish Apple Butter Bread & Rice Tea
THURSDAY:	Rolled Wheat- Milk Stewed Prunes Toast Jam Cocoa Sugar	Macaroni & Milk Sliced Cheese Carrots & Peas Salad Cherries Bread	Frankfurters Sourkraut Boiled Potatoes Celery Pudding Bread & Rice Tea
FRIDAY:	Dry Cereal - Milk Scrambled Eggs Fried Potatoes Bread Coffee Sugar	Pea Soup-Crackers Boiled Red Beans Pickles Apple Butter Bread Milk	Fried Fish Scalloped Potatoes Stewed Corn Salad Canned Cherries Bread & Rice Tea
SATURDAY:	Oranges Hot Cakes Syrup Oleo Coffee Sugar	Spaghetti, Italian Fresh Spinach Endive Salad Jam Bread	Broged Lamb/Spanish S'ce Boiled Potatoes Fresh Beets Cake Bread & Rice Tea
SUNDAY:	Rolled Oats - Milk Stewed Apricots Toast Jam Cocoa Sugar	Noodle Soup Crackers Salmon Salad Pickled Beets & Onions Canned Plums Bread Milk	Roast Pork/Gravy Mashed Potatoes Cauliflower Salad Pumpkin Pudding Bread & Rice Tea