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Committee on American Principles and Fair Play

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December 20, 1943

President Franklin D. Roosevelt The White House Washnington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Allow me to register the strong hope that you will refuse to comply with the recent demand for the removal of Lir. Pillon S. Lyer as Director of the War Relocation Authority.

I have followed every stage of the Japanese evacuation, and have visited several Assembly Centers under Army Control and Relocation Centers under W. R. A. control.

Although I could mention some mistakes made by Lr. Lyer, on the whole, his administration has been marked by sound judgment, unstinted devotion to the national interest, courage and tact under the bitter and unscrupulous attacks of certain ulterior interests, and fidelity to the plain provisions of the Constitution. I believe that all the members of this Committee who have closely followed the evacuation issue would fully concur with me in urging you to resist whatever sinister pressures may be applied to bring about Mr. Myer's displacement.

Mr. Hyer's removal would give confort to the race-baiters who hold that the Bill of Rights should not apply to citizens of Japanese descent, and would tend to confirm the charge of the Japanese propaganda that America scorns all colored races. It would further depress the evacuees themselves, to whom Mr. Myer has been an evidence of the justice and democracy of our nation, despite the "raw deal" given them by many Americans.

Respectfully yours,

Galen M. Fisher

"... Americanism is not, and never was, a matter of race or ancestry."-Franklin D. Roosevelt, February 1, 1943