

execution of this recommendation would have required the evacuation of about 10,700 additional enemy aliens and, as in the case of California, only about 40 percent of these would have been Japanese. As a practical matter the Department of Justice would have found it extremely difficult to supply either the manpower or the internment facilities that a compulsory evacuation of 17,000 or 18,000 enemy aliens would have required, and by 4 February its representatives were intimating that, if there were any further Category A recommendations or if the evacuation of any citizens were to be involved, Justice would have to bow out and turn its evacuation responsibilities over to the War Department. General DeWitt on 4 February was considering putting the whole Los Angeles area into Category A, because his Air commander had recommended Category A zones around 220 different installations that, when plotted on the map, almost blanketed the area anyway. For the same reason, General DeWitt believed he might have to put all of San Diego in Category A also.⁵⁰ He finally recommended the blanket Category A coverage of these two cities on 7 February, and five days later he recommended that almost all of the San Francisco Bay area be put in Category A. If all of General DeWitt's recommendations for Category A areas through 12 February had been accepted, it would have made necessary the evacuation of nearly 89,000 enemy aliens from areas along the Pacific coast—only 25,000 of whom would have been Japanese.⁵¹ Additionally, of course, General DeWitt was counting upon the California state authorities to persuade the citizen Japanese to evacuate California's urban areas and other sensitive points along the coast.

On 9 February Attorney General Biddle formally agreed to announce the Category A areas initially recommended for Arizona, California, Oregon,

⁵⁰ Tel Conv, Gen DeWitt with Col Bendetsen, 4 Feb 42; Tel Conv, Gen DeWitt with Gen Gullion and Col Bendetsen, 4 Feb 42. Both in GHQ G-1 file, Subversive Activities, WDC. Memo, CG WDC for PMG, 5 Feb 42, PMG 384.4 WDC. The memo also contained General DeWitt's detailed justification for the Washington-Oregon recommendation, which Justice had requested and this information was transmitted to Justice by Ltr, SW to Atty Gen, 11 Feb 42, PMG 384.4 WDC.

⁵¹ The statistics in this paragraph have been compiled from General DeWitt's several recommendations and supplementary communications that he wrote in justification of them, which are located in various PMG files. None of the enemy alien program recommendations submitted by General DeWitt through 16 February included any American citizens of Japanese or other extraction. The concentration of the Japanese population near strategic points seemed in itself to be sinister in 1942 and was advanced in the War Department, *Final Report* (p. 9) as one of the reasons that made their evacuation necessary. Actually, there was a greater proportionate concentration of German and Italian aliens near strategic points than there was of Japanese. General DeWitt's Category A recommendations would have affected nine-tenths of the west coast German alien population and nearly three-fourths of the Italian aliens, but less than two-thirds of the Japanese aliens.