



WHERE THE ANGELS OF MERCY DREAD

The three Center hospitals were not centralized, but were located in three different sections. Hospital 1 was situated between sections A and C, Hospital 2 between blocks D and F, while Hospital 3 was located across Butler Avenue which separated the Center into two divisions.

Hospital 2 housed the dental clinic, formula room, pharmaceutical department, minor surgical room, waiting room, wards, and a maternity ward consisting of delivery, nursery and recovery rooms.

A central kitchen and a business office, where records for all three infirmaries were filed, were located at Hospital 1. An experimental laboratory was the addition at Hospital 3.

THE CENTER INFIRMARIES

In any community where compact conditions exist, there must be an institution established to maintain the health standards of the community. Such was the case of this Center. As if overnight, the Fresno Fairground was changed from the place of pleasure to a home for approximately 5,000 evacuees. In such a closely-knit society the health of the residents could not be overlooked, for the general well-being was greatly dependent upon the physical condition of each individual.

The W. C. C. A. provided the Center with three hospitals staffed with the resident doctors, nurses, pharmacists and other employees. The hospitals were under the jurisdiction of the Service Division, supervised and operated by United States Public Health Service.

Although at the inception the hospitals were not fully equipped to meet the more serious cases, they were able to give medical attention for the immediate minor surgeries and illnesses, while the major cases were sent to the Fresno General Hospital and other outside hospitals.

HOSPITAL 1 HEADED BY DR. KODA

Hospital 1 was under the supervision of Dr. Kikuto Koda, physician-in-charge, who arrived in the earlier part of June from Salinas. Until then Dr. Hashiba was in charge of both Hospitals 1 and 3. The staff at Hospital 1 included the following persons: Fusaye Yamaoka, registered nurse; Kimiko Kawano and Elaine Abe, practical nurses; Agnes Sugimoto, Jane Ohta, Yoshi Hase, Nobu Misono, Shizuko Furukawa, Mrs. G. Kaniuchi, Sumi Uchita, Kiyoko Sugano, Mary Okahata, Virginia Iwanoto, Masako Kurushima, Kiyoko Nakanura, Isako Horie and Florence Koda, nurses' aids; May Asaki and Naomi Tagawa, secretaries; Louise Kawamura, dietician; Michio Toshiyuki, pharmacist; Mrs. K. Funahashi, Mrs. K. Matsubara, Coyo Nakagawa and Aei Furukawa, kitchen help; George Urushima, John Yamagishi, Jimmy Hosoda, Tom Miya and Yoshimi Nakauchi, orderlies; Yoneo Horiuchi and Howard Matsumura, messengers; Ino Abe, Lewis Toshiyuki and Nobu Renge, sanitation committee; Karl Nagata, Tsugio Yamasaki, Harold Arase and Ken Matsuda, hospital managers.

The central kitchen for all

the hospitals was located at Hospital 1 where all foods were prepared and delivered to the other infirmaries. Here the dietician had full authority to prepare the special diets of the patients, thereby conserving time and food products.

Vital statistics and hospital records for the three hospitals were filed here by the secretaries, and the hospital managers made all the medical purchases which were checked and distributed by this department.

The sanitation committee checked the latrines, mess halls, shower houses and laundry rooms, making daily reports.

The ambulance service was carried on a 24-hour service, transporting the patients to and from the hospitals. The drivers were Tom Okano, Henry Goishi, Larry Shigaki, B. Tsuda, and Lloyd Kumataka.