WRA GIVES ASSURANCES

Full assurances have been made that everything possible is being done both by the Project administration and the national WRA to eliminate all possibilities of future occurrences similar to the recent killing of a Topaz resident by a Military Police sentry, according to Acting Project Director J.F. Hughes. As some of the first steps now being taken to protect the residents, Caucasian Internal Security representatives will be stationed at all gates through which work trucks pass, and will accompany resident crews leaving the city limits to work in the Project area. These WRA employees will report in detail any action taken by the Military Police here.

Concurrently with the announcement of these assurances came the official notice from Lt. H.H. Millen, commanding officer of the local Military Police company, that the precautions of the recent "alert" taken by the military were completely lifted. Lt. Millen pointed out the emergency armament such as riot weapons and tear-gas bombs have been withdrawn, and the sentries on duty at the main gates of entrance and departure are now carrying only side-arms, which are part of the normal M.P. equipment. Soldiers posted on the sentry points adjacent to the City no longer carry the emergency weapons.

It was emphasized by Lt. Millen that the Military Police personnel are under orders not to molest or injure the residents or to exercise any unusual surveillance upon the evacuees. Moreover, orders have been issued that M.P.'s are not to enter the City except on official business approved in advance by the commanding military officer and the Project administration.

No more soldiers who have seen service on the Pacific battlefronts will be sent here, and soldiers now here who have seen such service will be withdrawn within a few days, it was learned from Fort Douglas authorities.

In order to clarify the announcment made in the dining halls Thursday, April 15, the following statement was released:

"The committee of 66 block representatives, which met the night of April 14, feels that all work stoppage should be discouraged in view of the fact that negotiations on the WRA case are being carried on by the committee of 15 through the WRA and the representatives of the Spanish Embassy and the State Department."