

Hideo Takeuchi - Amache Camp Draft Resister.

Amache address: 7G-2B

Current address: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

In 1944, while incarcerated with his family in the Amache Relocation Center near Granada Colorado, Hideo Takeuchi was sent a draft notice to report for a physical examination for induction into the United States Army. He was asked to report for the physical at Sacramento, California. When he tried to get a pass to travel to Sacramento, he was denied the request. The reason given for denial was that the West Coast was still an exclusion zone for persons of Japanese ancestry.

About four weeks later, Hideo was sent another notice. This notice ordered him to report for the physical examination in Denver. He did not go. When Amache Police Chief Tomlinson called Hideo to his office and asked him why he did not report, Hideo's response was that he had no reason to go. He felt that he was essentially a "man without a country". He said, "Why go to Denver if you can't go to Sacramento?" Chief Tomlinson said that Hideo would be considered a draft dodger. Handcuffed together with Sadao Nadabayashi, another draft resister, the pair were sent under armed guard to Denver for incarceration to await trial for the federal offense.

Hideo and Sadao were not alone in resisting the draft. Thirty two men from Amache were eventually tried and found guilty of draft evasion. The men were paired off, handcuffed and placed in leg irons for transportation by rail to a federal prison in Tucson, Arizona. The train on which they were sent to prison was heavily guarded with barred windows and shades pulled down.

Hideo was sentenced to ten months in the federal prison. Others were sentenced from eight months to two years.. Hideo was released in 1945. Hideo and three other men whose families were still in Amache decided to return to the relocation center. They were denied entrance to the camp because they were considered "troublemakers". Hideo and his friends decided to rent a small house in Granada where they could be near their families. Each night after dark, they sneaked into the camp to see their parents! Word of their nightly visits reached the Amache police force. A police patrol was initiated to circle the parent's barracks each evening. Since

## Hideo Takeuchi - Amache Camp Draft Resister.

the surveillance ended at midnight, Hideo and his friends merely waited for the patrol to end before sneaking under the fence to visit with their families and return to Granada before daybreak.

Later, Hideo got word that some friends had found jobs at the Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs. Deciding to join them, Hideo left Granada for the Broadmoor where he found a job on the golf course. His parents were still in Amache.

In 1946, Hideo received a letter of pardon from President Harry Truman. The letter was similar to one sent to all draft resisters from the relocation camps. Unfortunately Hideo's letter of pardon has been lost in the intervening years. He has tried to located paper work related to the draft resister's trial and incarceration in Denver but was informed that all records had been destroyed.