



# In Search of Eldorado



Day 26  
Wednesday  
January 30th

Parker  
to  
Quartzite

Weather  
Great today. 60's and sunny

## Hello to Family & Friends

I left the WalMart in Parker and headed south to Boston. Wait...What? Good Grief Charlie Brown, some juvenile delinquent changed the "P" to a "B". I mean Poston. A little levity since my next stop is a little somber and remains a blemish on our American history.

In 1942, as war with Japan escalated, President Roosevelt became worried that Japanese Americans living in the USA could be a threat to the security of this country. He created the WRA, War Relocation Authority. The WRA was in charge of rounding up Japanese living here in the US, whether they were US citizens or not, and placing them in internment camps on Indian reservations throughout the west.

The CRIT, Colorado River Indian Tribes, agreed to host one of these internment camps. The facility was named after Charles Poston, an engineer who designed much of the irrigation in the area.

In April of 1942, 120,000 people of Japanese descent were rounded up, being allowed to take only what they could carry in their arms, and shipped to 11 different internment camps throughout the western United States. 17,867 landed here in Poston.

There were schools, athletics, internees were paid for their labor, but it is still a miscarriage of major proportions.

That is the gist of the story. It is outlined in much more detail in the plaques below if your interest is piqued. The memorial contains 12 plaques relating the history of Japanese internment here in the US.

## Eldorado

By Edgar Allen Poe

Gaily bedight,  
A gallant knight,  
In sunshine and in shadow,  
Had journeyed long,  
Singing a song,  
In search of Eldorado.

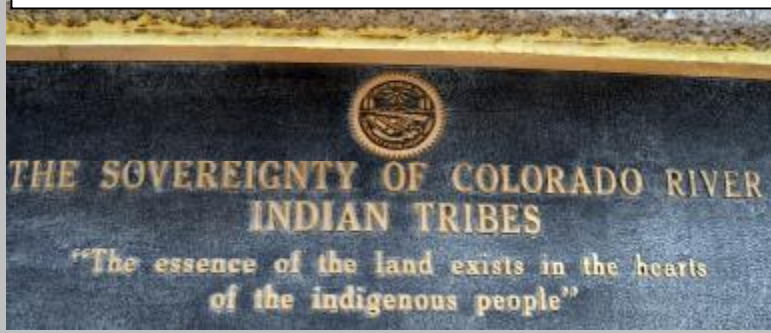
But he grew old—  
This knight so bold—  
And o'er his heart a shadow—  
Fell as he found  
No spot of ground  
That looked like Eldorado.

And, as his strength  
Failed him at length,  
He met a pilgrim shadow—  
'Shadow,' said he,  
'Where can it be—  
This land of Eldorado?'

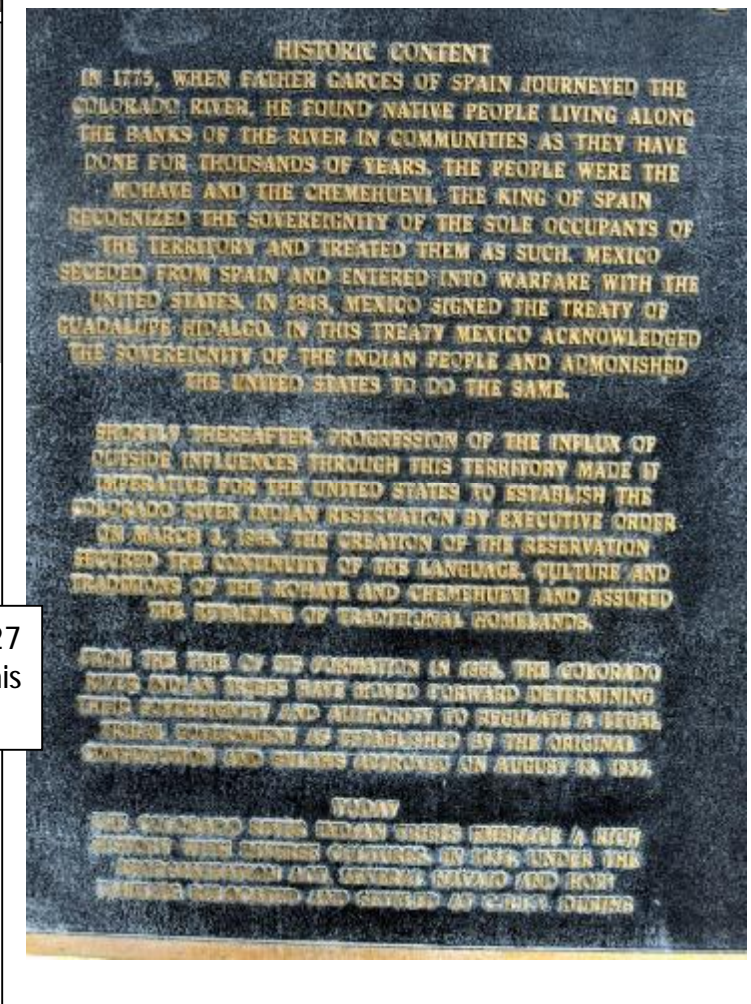
'Over the Mountains  
Of the Moon,  
Down the Valley of the Shadow,  
Ride, boldly ride,'  
The shade replied,—  
'If you seek for Eldorado!'



The complete memorial



This is the hardest one to read. 27 years of weathering did its job on this one



# POSTON 1942 - 1945

## WELCOME

TO THE POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT SITE.  
THIS INFORMATION KIOSK IS DEDICATED  
TO THE "MAGNIFICENT 8" WHO BUILT THE  
POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT DURING  
1992. THE VOLUNTEERS FROM SACRAMENTO,  
CALIFORNIA ENDURED THE AUGUST SUN AND  
HEAT FOR MORE THAN 3 WEEKS.

WORLD WAR II, THE UNITED STATES WAS IN CONFLICT  
WITH JAPAN. THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT BUILT SEVERAL  
JAPANESE INTERNMENT CAMPS ON RESERVATIONS  
THROUGHOUT THE SOUTHWEST PURPORTEDLY FOR NATIONAL  
SECURITY REASONS. C.R.I.T. WAS DESIGNATED AS ONE SITE.

THESE HISTORIC DEVELOPMENTS BROUGHT CHANGES TO THE  
RESERVATION. AS ROADS WERE CONSTRUCTED, LAND WAS  
CLEARED AND INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS WERE  
TESTED AND RESULTS SUCCESSFULLY RAISED THE ECONOMY.

TODAY, THE FOUR TRIBES ENROLLED AT C.R.I.T. RESIDE ON  
878,000 ACRES OF PRISTINE LAND. EACH PRESERVES A  
DISTINCT CULTURE AND TRADITION. THE C.R.I.T. TRIBAL  
GOVERNMENT OVERSEES THE FUNDAMENTAL COMPLEXITIES  
OF BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS. THE GOVERNING BODY  
CONSISTS OF NINE MEMBERS: CHAIRMAN, VICE-CHAIRMAN,  
SECRETARY, TREASURER AND FIVE COUNCIL MEMBERS.  
BUSINESS TRANSACTIONS PERTAIN TO AGRICULTURE,  
TOURISM, RECREATION AND MODERATE INDUSTRIALIZATION

THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES

## CHILDREN

AMIDST THE TRAUMA OF FORCED EVACUATION AND  
THE INDIGNITIES OF INTERNMENT, CHILDREN WERE  
THE FIRST TO ADAPT TO THE ROUTINE OF CAMP LIFE.  
THEY FOUND NUMEROUS PLAYMATES, BUT THEY  
LACKED TOYS AND PLAYTHINGS AS INTERNEES WERE  
LIMITED TO ONLY THE ESSENTIALS THAT THEY COULD  
CARRY. CREATIVE PARENTS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS  
RELIED ON THEIR IMAGINATION TO MAKE PLAYTHINGS  
FROM SCRAP LUMBER, ROCKS, TREES, BRANCHES,  
SHELLS AND OTHER AVAILABLE MATERIALS.

## TRIBUTE

22,532 AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY  
SERVED IN THE US ARMED FORCES BETWEEN  
JULY 1, 1940 AND JUNE 30, 1945  
MORE THAN 1200 MEN AND WOMEN SERVED  
FROM POSTON. 117 CASUALTIES WERE REPORTED TO  
POSTON INCLUDING 25 MEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES  
FOR THEIR COUNTRY AND THE PRINCIPLES OF  
DEMOCRACY. IN 1944 PFC FRANK OSHITA VISITS HIS  
FAMILY BEFORE DEPARTING FOR THE EUROPEAN  
THEATER WITH THE 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM.

## THE CLIMATE

17,876 EVACUEES FROM THE PACIFIC COAST STATES AND ARIZONA ARRIVED  
FROM MAY THROUGH AUGUST 1942. MOST OF THE EVACUEES WERE FROM  
CALIFORNIA. THE RELENTLESS SUMMER SUN SCORCHED THE EARTH AND  
THE FREQUENT WINDS WHIPPED THE SANDS INTO BLINDING DUST STORMS.  
IN THE WINTER CHILLING WINDS EASILY PENETRATED THE WALLS OF THE  
FLIMSILY BUILT TAR PAPER BARRACKS AND THROUGH THE WIDE CRACKS  
IN THE FLOORING. THE INFREQUENT BUT SUXENTIAL RAINS QUICKLY  
TURNED THE PARCHED WALKWAYS AND ROADS INTO A SLEETTY  
TREACHEROUS AND MUDDY QUAGMIRE. THE EXTREME ENVIRONMENTAL  
CONDITIONS ADDED TO THE HARSHNESS OF INTERNMENT.

## SCHOOLS

IN OCTOBER OF 1942, 5,300 CHILDREN FROM NURSERY SCHOOL THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL WERE ENROLLED. THE FIRST SCHOOL CLASSES WERE HELD IN BARRACKS IN A REGULAR BLOCK SET ASIDE AS A SCHOOL SITE. EVACUEES MADE ADOBE BRICKS FOR A MORE PERMANENT CAMPUS WHICH WAS COMPLETED IN 1943. POSTON CAMP I, II AND III EACH HAD AN ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOL WHICH PROVIDED ACADEMIC AND ATHLETIC RIVALRY AND COMPETITION.

## WATER

AN IRRIGATION CANAL WAS BUILT WHICH RAN THROUGH POSTON CAMP I, II AND III TRANSPORTING WATER FOR AGRICULTURAL CROPS. THIS CANAL PROVIDED AN IDEAL CONDITION TO CONSTRUCT A "SWIMMING HOLE". THIS FACILITY WAS BUILT WITH COTTONWOOD LOGS GATHERED FROM THE NEARBY COLORADO RIVER WHICH PROVIDED A PLACE FOR RECREATION AS WELL AS RELIEF FROM THE HOT SUMMER SUN AND HEAT. WHEN WATER WAS BROUGHT TO POSTON IN 1943, 34 VARIETIES OF FOOD CROPS RANGING FROM BEANS TO WATERMELON WERE GROWN AND HARVESTED. WHITE RADISH (DAIKON) WAS ONE OF THE SUCCESSFUL CROPS YIELDING 9,149 POUNDS PER ACRE.



## POSTON

THIS MEMORIAL MONUMENT MARKS THE SITE OF THE POSTON WAR RELOCATION CENTER WHERE 17,867 PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY, THE MAJORITY OF WHOM WERE UNITED STATES CITIZENS, WERE INTERNED DURING WORLD WAR II. FROM MAY 1942 TO NOVEMBER 1945, ALL PERSONS OF JAPANESE DESCENT LIVING ON WEST COAST FARMS, BUSINESSES, TOWNS, CITIES AND STATES WERE FORCIBLY EVACUATED BY THE UNITED STATES MILITARY ON THE GROUNDS THAT THEY POSED A THREAT TO THE NATIONAL SECURITY. THIS MASSIVE RELOCATION WAS AUTHORIZED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066, SIGNED BY PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT ON FEBRUARY 19, 1942.

THIS MEMORIAL IS DEDICATED TO ALL THOSE MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WHO SUFFERED COUNTLESS HARDSHIPS AND INDIGNITIES AT THE HANDS OF A NATION MISGUIDED BY WARTIME HYSTERIA, RACIAL PREJUDICE AND FEAR. MAY IT SERVE AS A CONSTANT REMINDER OF OUR PAST SO THAT AMERICANS IN THE FUTURE WILL NEVER AGAIN BE DENIED THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS AND MAY THE REMEMBRANCE OF THAT EXPERIENCE SERVE TO

ADVANCE THE EVOLUTION OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT.

THIS MEMORIAL MONUMENT IS ERECTED IN COOPERATION WITH THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES, FORMER INTERNEES OF POSTON, VETERANS AND FRIENDS OF THE FIFTIETH YEAR OBSERVANCE OF THE EVACUATION AND INTERNMENT.

OCTOBER 6, 1992



## POSTON

### EVACUATION

PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT SIGNED EXECUTIVE ORDER 9066 ON FEBRUARY 19, 1942. THIS EXECUTIVE ORDER AUTHORIZED THE SECRETARY OF WAR OR ANY MILITARY COMMANDER DESIGNATED BY THE SECRETARY TO ESTABLISH ZONES FROM WHICH ANY OR ALL PERSONS COULD BE EXCLUDED OR EVACUATED. 120,000 PERSONS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY LIVING IN STRATEGIC WESTERN STATES WERE EVACUATED AND INTERNED BY MILITARY LAW IN FIFTEEN (15) WARTIME CIVILIAN CONTROL ADMINISTRATION (WCCA) CENTERS. THESE HASTILY BUILT DETENTION CENTERS WERE, IN MOST CASES, EITHER FAIR GROUNDS OR RACE TRACKS THAT WERE SURROUNDED BY BARBED WIRE FENCES AND PLACED UNDER HEAVY MILITARY SURVEILLANCE BY ARMED U.S. SOLDIERS.

### WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

ON MARCH 18, 1942, PRESIDENT FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT SIGNED EXECUTIVE ORDER 9102, ESTABLISHING THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY (WRA). THE WRA WAS A CIVILIAN AGENCY CHARGED WITH OVERSEEING THE MILITARY EVACUATION AND INTERNMENT OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY. THE WRA DEFINED A WAR RELOCATION CENTER AS A PIONEER COMMUNITY WITH BASIC HOUSING AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FOR THE INTERNEES FOR THE DURATION OF WORLD WAR II.

### POSTON

POSTON WAS ONE OF THE TEN (10) WRA CENTERS CONSTRUCTED IN 1942. IT WAS PLANNED IN COOPERATION WITH THE U.S. INDIAN SERVICE, AS IT WAS SITED ON THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN RESERVATION, A HOY AND AHD AREA OF ARIZONA. POSTON WAS BUILT AS THREE SEPARATE UNITS (POSTON UNIT I, II AND III). THE FACILITY WAS NAMED AFTER CHARLES POSTON, A GOVERNMENT ENGINEER WHO PLANNED AN IRRIGATION SYSTEM TO SERVE THE NEEDS OF THE INDIAN PEOPLE ALONG THE COLORADO RIVER. WADE HEAD, THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE PAPAGO INDIAN RESERVATION OF ARIZONA, WAS APPOINTED POSTON PROJECT DIRECTOR. THE INTERNEES WITH THEIR LIMITED BAGGAGE BEGAN TO ARRIVE ON MAY 3, 1942 AND BY AUGUST 1942, THE POPULATION PEAKED AT 17,867. ALMOST OVERNIGHT POSTON BECAME ARIZONA'S SECOND LARGEST CITY.

## POSTON (CONTINUED)

EACH UNIT WAS SELF-GOVERNED WITHIN THE GUIDELINES ESTABLISHED BY THE POSTON ADMINISTRATOR. THE COMMUNAL UNIT REVOLVED AROUND THE INTERNEES HOUSED IN THE BLOCK OF FOURTEEN (14) BARRACKS, MESS HALL, LAUNDRY AND IRONING ROOM, AS WELL AS SEGREGATED LATRINE AND SHOWER FACILITIES. EACH BLOCK ELECTED A MANAGER AND COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE WHO MET WITH THE UNIT ADMINISTRATOR WEEKLY OR AS NEEDED.

THE DOUBLED-ROOFED, TAR PAPERED BARRACKS WERE 20 FEET WIDE BY 100 FEET LONG. THIN WALL BOARDS PARTITIONED THE BARRACKS INTO 20 FEET BY 24 FEET ROOMS, EACH ROOM HOUSING A FAMILY OF UP TO EIGHT INTERNEES.

THOSE WHO WORKED WERE PAID FOR A 48-HOUR WORK WEEK. THERE WAS A MAXIMUM SALARY OF \$19.00 PER MONTH FOR PROFESSIONALS, SUCH AS DOCTORS, MANAGERS, AND TEACHERS; \$16.00 PER MONTH FOR BLUE COLLAR WORKERS, COOKS, BAKERS, TRUCK AND TRACTOR DRIVERS AND WAREHOUSEMEN, AND \$12.00 PER MONTH FOR LABORERS.

HEALTH CARE WAS PROVIDED BY INTERNEE MEDICAL DOCTORS, DENTISTS, PHARMACISTS, NURSES AND NURSES AIDES. A HOSPITAL WAS MAINTAINED IN UNIT I AND CLINICS IN BOTH UNITS I AND II.

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS AND TEACHERS WERE HASTILY RECRUITED FROM THROUGHOUT AMERICA, BUT MANY OF THE INSTRUCTORS WERE INTERNEES WHO WERE EITHER COLLEGE STUDENTS OR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES. CLASSES RANGED FROM PRE-SCHOOL THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE. INITIALLY, CLASSES WERE HELD IN DESIGNATED EMPTY BARRACKS. LATER, CLASSES WERE HELD IN ADOBE SCHOOL BUILDINGS CONSTRUCTED WITH BRICKS MADE BY THE INTERNEES. ADULT EDUCATION CLASSES IN ENGLISH WERE PROVIDED FOR THE ISSEI, FIRST GENERATION JAPANESE-AMERICANS AND WERE VERY WELL ATTENDED.

MANY INTERNEES BROUGHT WITH THEM PACKETS OF GARDEN AND VEGETABLE SEEDS. THE SMALL GARDEN PLOTS BETWEEN THE BARRACKS WERE SO SUCCESSFUL THAT A FULL-SCALE IRRIGATED FARMING PROGRAM WAS INSTITUTED. THE HARVEST FROM THE FARMS YIELDED BOUNTIFUL CROPS OF MELONS AND ASSORTED VEGETABLES. A CHICKEN RANCH AND A HOG FARM WERE ALSO SUCCESSFULLY ESTABLISHED AND MAINTAINED.

THE INTERNEES SETTLED INTO THE ROUTINE OF CAMP LIFE. SPIRITUAL LIFE WAS STRENGTHENED. CHURCH SERVICES WERE CONDUCTED FOR BUDDHISTS, CHRISTIANS AND THOSE OF OTHER FAITHS. IN ORDER TO COPE WITH THE BOREDOM OF CONFINEMENT, INTERNEES SEARCHED FOR AND DEVELOPED MANY PURSUITS. TALENTS WERE UNLEASHED TO CREATE MANY PAINTINGS, HAIKU, AND OTHER WORKS OF ART. PERIODIC TALENT SHOWS AND MOVIES PROVIDED ENTERTAINMENT. BASEBALL AND BASKETBALL WERE THE TWO MOST POPULAR SPORTS WITH COMPETITIVE BLOCK TEAMS VYING FOR UNIT AND ALL-POSTON CHAMPIONSHIPS. A WEEKLY NEWSLETTER WAS PUBLISHED BY THE INTERNEES TO GIVE INSTRUCTIONS AND TO REPORT EVENTS WITHIN EACH CAMP UNIT.

## POSTON (CONTINUED)

### SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY

IN 1943, MORE THAN 1,200 INTERNEES VOLUNTEERED TO SERVE WITH THE 442ND REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM. MOST OF THESE VOLUNTEERS WERE NISEI, SECOND GENERATION JAPANESE-AMERICANS WHO WERE AMERICAN CITIZENS BY BIRTH. THEY LEFT THEIR PARENTS AND LOVED ONES BEHIND IN CAMPS LIKE POSTON TO FIGHT AND DIE FOR THE UNITED STATES ON THE BATTLEFIELDS OF ITALY, FRANCE AND GERMANY. THE 442ND EMERGED AS THE MOST HIGHLY DECORATED U.S. ARMY UNIT IN WORLD WAR II. OTHER INTERNEES SERVED IN THE MILITARY INTELLIGENCE SERVICE IN THE PACIFIC THEATER WHERE THEY PERFORMED WITH VALOR AND DISTINCTION IN THE WAR WITH JAPAN. IN THE FALL OF 1943, THE NISEI BECAME DRAFTABLE AS THEIR SELECTIVE SERVICE CLASSIFICATION WAS CHANGED FROM 4-C, ENEMY ALIEN, TO 1-A.

NISEI MEN AND WOMEN SERVED IN NEARLY EVERY THEATER OF OPERATIONS WITH HONOR, COURAGE AND PRIDE TO HELP PROTECT AND PRESERVE FOR ALL AMERICANS THE SAME CONSTITUTIONAL FREEDOMS THAT WERE, AT THAT VERY TIME, BEING DENIED THEM AND THEIR FAMILIES.

### RESETTLEMENT

IN THE FALL OF 1942, MANY INTERNEES RESPONDED TO THE URGENT CALL FOR WORKERS TO ASSIST IN THE HARVEST OF THE SUGAR BEET CROP IN THE MOUNTAIN STATES. ANOTHER VANGUARD OF THE RESETTLEMENT WERE COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS WHO WERE ASSISTED BY THE NATIONAL STUDENT RELOCATION COUNCIL, THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE AND NUMEROUS INDIVIDUALS. IN 1943 MANY INTERNEES RESETTLED IN THE MOUNTAIN, MIDWEST AND EASTERN REGIONS OF THE U.S. FOR EMPLOYMENT AND A BETTER WAY OF LIFE.

ON DECEMBER 17, 1944, THE WAR DEPARTMENT ANNOUNCED THE REVOCATION OF THE WEST COAST EXCLUSION ORDERS FOR THE PEOPLE OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY EFFECTIVE JANUARY 2, 1945. THE FOLLOWING DAY, WRA DIRECTOR, DILLON S. MYER, ANNOUNCED THE CLOSURE OF ALL WRA CENTERS BY DECEMBER 31, 1945 AND THE ABOLISHMENT OF THE ENTIRE WRA PROGRAM BY JUNE 30, 1946.

### 1992

DURING THE FIVE DECADES FOLLOWING WORLD WAR II, THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN RESERVATION HAS BEEN TRANSFORMED INTO A BLOOMING GARDEN BY A SERIES OF INNOVATIVE IRRIGATION AND HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS. STILL THE HOME OF THE COLORADO RIVER INDIAN TRIBES, IT NOW STANDS AS A TRIBUTE TO ARIZONA'S BRIGHT AGRICULTURAL FUTURE. VERY LITTLE REMAINS TO REMIND THE PUBLIC OF WHAT TOOK PLACE IN THIS PEACEFUL VALLEY FIFTY YEARS AGO, WHEN THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY WERE TAKEN FROM THEIR HOMES, NUMBERED, TAGGED AND THEN HERDED INTO PLACES LIKE POSTON WHERE THEY WERE HELD CAPTIVE BY THEIR OWN COUNTRY UNTIL THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT FINALLY REALIZED THE FULL MORAL AND LEGAL IMPLICATIONS OF WHAT IT HAD DONE TO ITS OWN CITIZENS.

HENCE, WHAT HAPPENED IN POSTON DURING THOSE FEW YEARS, 1942-1945 SHOULD BE A CONSTANT REMINDER THAT ALL AMERICANS WITHOUT QUALIFICATION OR EXCEPTION HAVE THE CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS TO LIVE IN THAT SOCIETY GOVERNED BY REASON AND LAW AND BY TRUTH AND JUSTICE.

OCTOBER 6, 1992

## TRIBUTE

TO ALL MEN AND WOMEN WHO HONORABLY SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES IN DEFENSE OF THIS NATION AND ITS PEOPLE, PARTICULARLY TO THOSE AMERICANS OF JAPANESE ANCESTRY WHO, DURING WORLD WAR II, FOUGHT SO VALIANTLY FOR THEIR COUNTRY WHILE THEIR PARENTS AND FAMILIES WERE BEING INTERNED IN THE POSTON WAR RELOCATION CENTER WITHOUT DUE PROCESS OF LAW

AND TO THOSE BRAVE YOUNG MEN WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES IN SERVICE TO THEIR COUNTRY.



PFC. HERO ENDO  
S/SGT. ABE H. FUJI  
PFC. CHARLES FUJIKI  
PFC. TADA0 HAYASHI  
PFC. TORAO HAYASHI  
PFC. PAUL HORIUCHI  
PVT. EUGENE INOUE  
PFC. HENRY IZUMIZAKI  
PFC. HARRY MADOKORO  
PFC. HACHIRO MUKAI  
PFC. FUMITAKE NAGATO  
CPL. JOHN NARIMATSU  
PVT. TOM T. NISHIMOTO  
PVT. KONGO NITTA  
SGT. JOHN UDAWA  
T/SGT. ABERHAM DHAWA  
PFC. LLOYD ONOYE  
E/SGT. ATSUSHI SAKAMOTO  
PVT. JOE SHIOWICHI  
S/SGT. JAMES K. SHIRAMIZU  
PFC. MICHIO TEHINA  
PFC. MICHIO TOYOTA  
PFC. DANIEL TSUKANOTO  
PFC. JOHN YAMAMOTO  
SGT. TOSHIO YAMAMOTO

YOUR SACRIFICES SHALL ALWAYS BE REMEMBERED.

THIS PLAQUE IS DEDICATED BY THE POSTON MEMORIAL MONUMENT COMMITTEE, FORMER INTERNEES OF POSTON, VETERANS AND FRIENDS OF THE FIFTIETH YEAR OBSERVANCE.

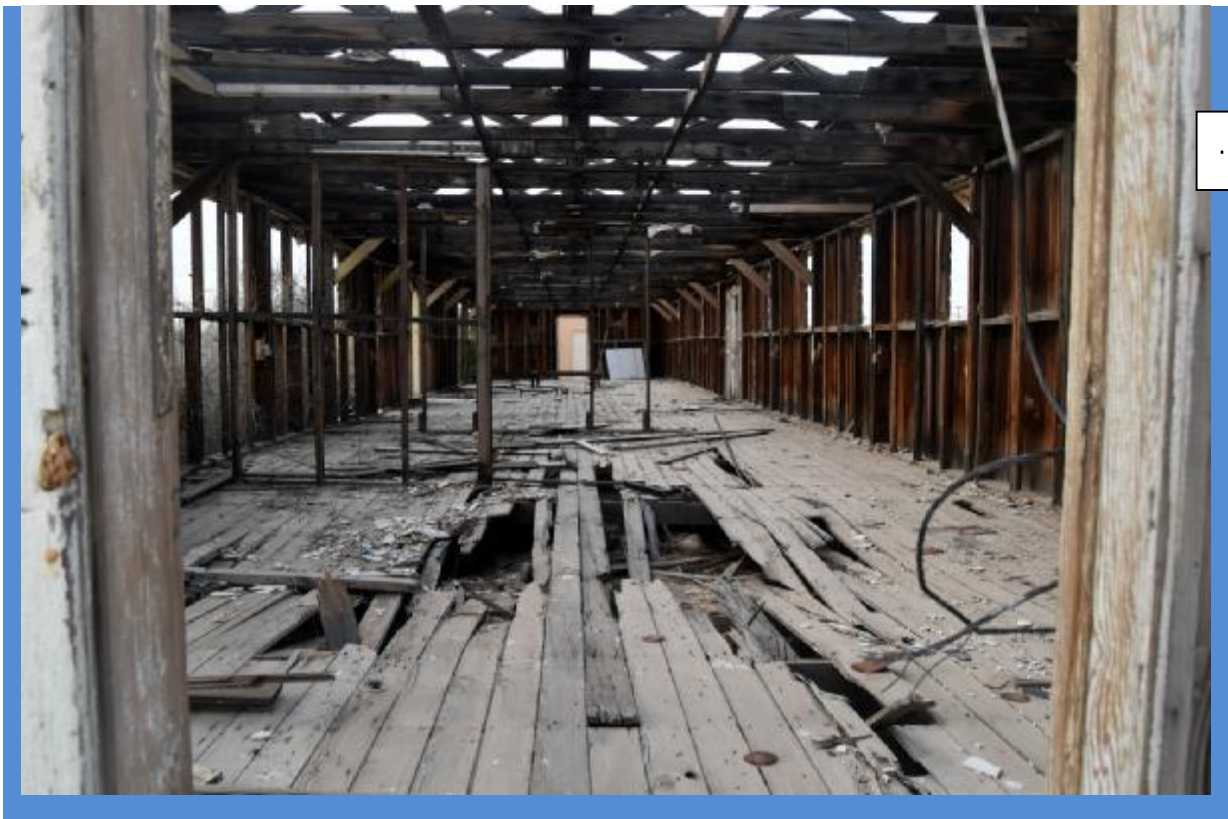
OCTOBER 6, 1992

The lip on the top of the memorial prevents water from staining the sides.



Below is, I think, the only remains of the Internment camp Poston Camp I – the outside....





...the inside



As is often the case, out of adversity comes opportunity. During the internment, Charles Poston and the Japanese built many irrigation ditches in order to grow crops for eating. Those irrigation canals have been expanded on and today, this is the greenest part of the desert I have ever seen. Field after field of green and growing agriculture just like those below.



I did not just 'run across' this memorial, I went out of my way to get there. I had read about the Japanese internment years ago and when I saw there was a memorial near my route, I knew I had to pay it a visit.. I'm glad I did and that I could share it with you.



Back onto a happier note – The scenery is pretty nice.



After stopping for gas, 14.2 MPG, I caught a glimpse of my first real Saguaro Cactus. I had seen them in photos and on TV, but this was a first.



I actually stopped at a campground for the night. Unbelievably, only \$30 a night and right on Main St. in Quartzite. I plugged in the laptop, Super power pack, smaller power pack, the bike battery, the kindle, and two portable cell phone chargers. Good thing I have 6 USB ports and 6 regular outlets.





## LAST CAMP OF HI JOLLY

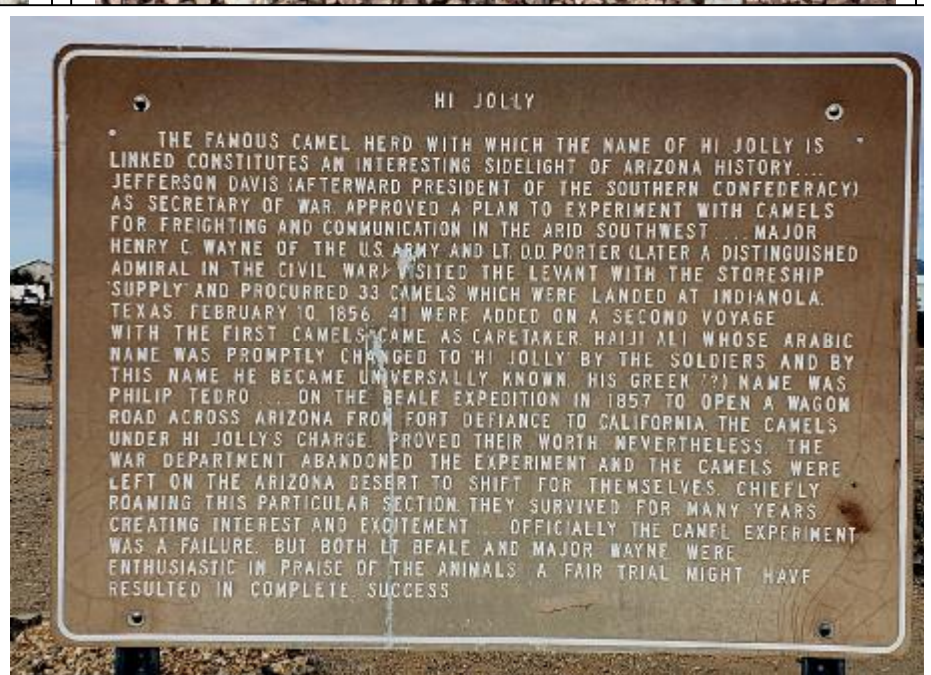
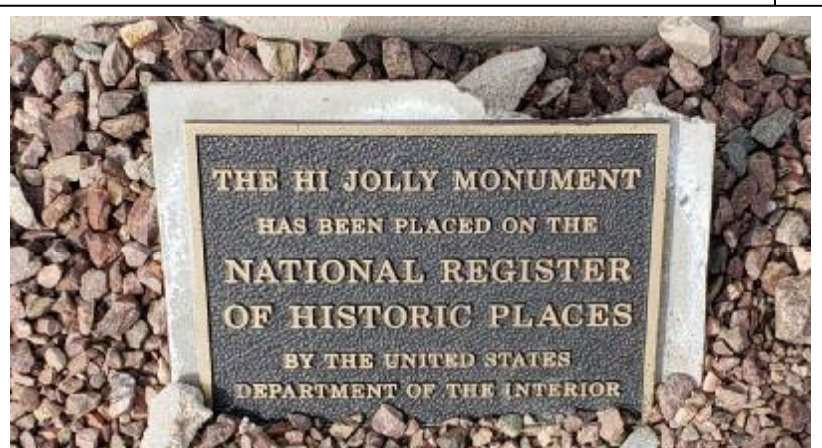
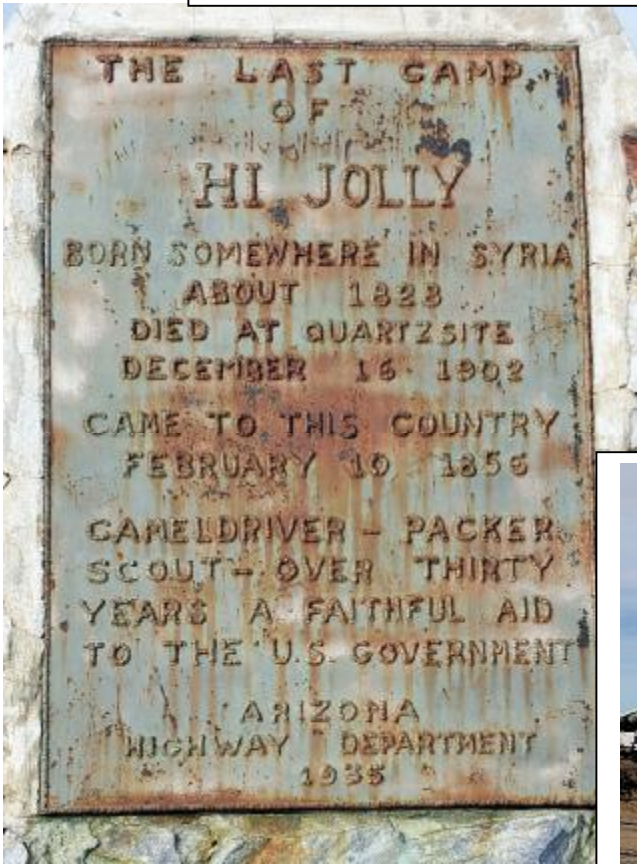


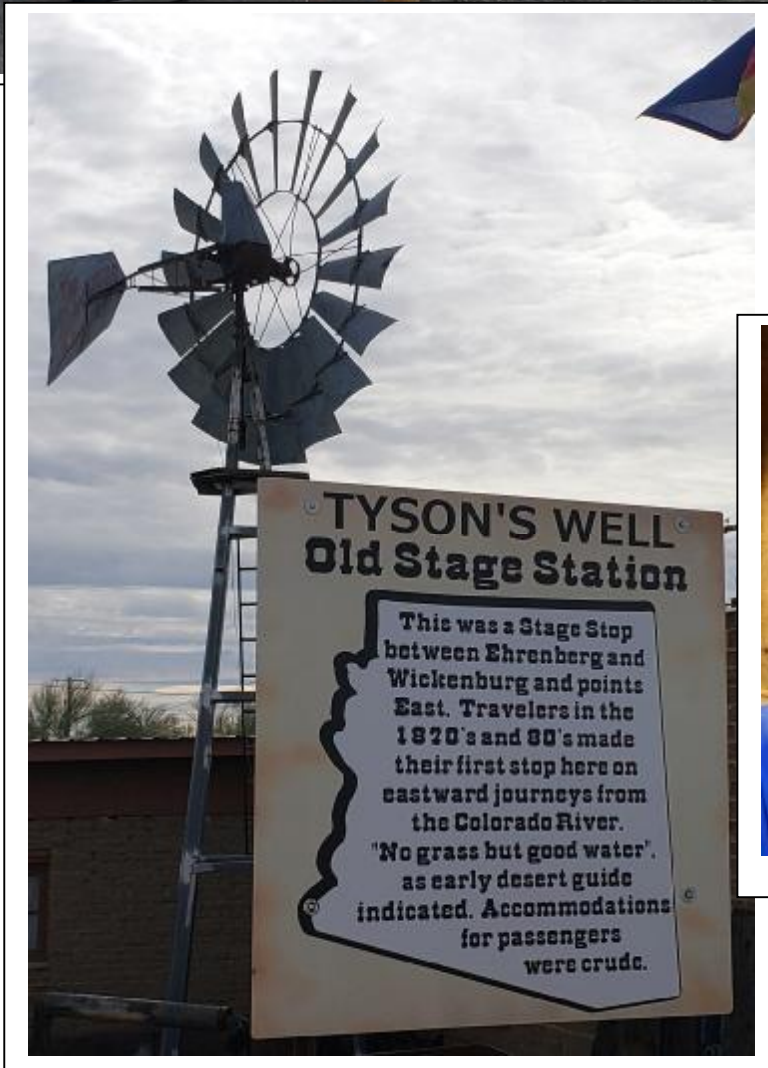
This pyramid of native stone marks the resting place of Hi Jolly, a Greek born in Syria, also known as Philip Tedro and Hadji Ali. Hi Jolly was hired in 1857 as a camel herder in the U.S. Army's short-lived historic Camel Corps by Lt. Edward F. Beale in his expedition to chart a wagonroad across New Mexico and Arizona, ending at the Colorado River. In 1861 the Civil War commenced, ending the day of the Camel Corps. Hi Jolly returned to Quartzsite, trying his hand at mining, packing, scouting, delivering the "Jackass Mail", and selling water to travelers. The Quartzsite Cemetery is named in Hi Jolly's honor.

ARIZONA



I think I related the story of the camel experiment, here in the desert southwest, during my last trip in October. This is the guy that all the fuss is about.





Yup, that doorway is a little low, barely 5'. Reminds you of how short the population was back in the 1860's.



Dirt floor in this room which was once the Post Office



Mr. Barrett retired here to Quartzite and filled his days building these stone miniatures of local buildings, ones from his home in Washington State and from where he was born in North Carolina





**MARIQUITA  
ASSAY OFFICE**

THIS OFFICE WAS LOCATED AT THE OLD MARIQUITA MINE, NORTH OF I-10, ON MARIQUITA PASS. IT WAS BUILT ABOUT 1920 BY BILL KEISER WHEN HE WAS RUNNING THE MINE. IN 1950 IT WAS MOVED TO QUARTZSITE BY MR. SCOTT. IN 1980 IT WAS DONATED TO TYSON'S WELL STAGE STATION MUSEUM BY GENE SENTER.



Once I plugged everything in I hopped on the bike and took off to sight see. First stop was the Chamber of Commerce for a map. Naturally they close at 2:00, about 30 minutes ago. So I winged it. But I did get some help from the docent at this museum. She was very knowledgeable regarding Quartzite. All in all about 9 miles on the bike today.



I had no idea a Saguaro Cactus had this kind of a structure beneath its skin. I was informed that it was mostly cellulose. Who'd a thunk?



This is what it looked like when it was alive.



Next stop was a very old tree

Great tree  
Olneya tesota ( ironwood )  
age 1010 years old D13H 311'  
Growth rings were counted and totaled 60 rings per inch  
Rings per inch were multiplied by the radius of the tree  
Tree was dated in 2009 using a cut limb

Across the street is the City Park. Very large with lots of facilities like a baseball diamond, disc golf course, dog park, skate park, RC dirt track (that was cool), community center, playground, horseshoe pits, dance area, hiking, sport courts, and the area to the right. Celia's Rainbow Garden. Celia died when she was about 8 years old, not sure of the cause, but her parents created this memorial to her memory. It has grown over the years to several acres and there are hundreds of memorials in it.





This is the pavilion her parents dedicated to her. The handprints are from her classmates.



On the way back to the campground I saw this beauty. It will be fun when I get to Saguaro National Park. Probably be bored of them by then.

It was a pretty busy day all-in-all. Lots of information, many things I had a desire to see, history, scenery, greenery (certainly a shortage of that down here), and electricity.

I was surprised to find an empty campsite after the tale I told you yesterday. My neighbor told me I had perfect timing (must be a first), the big crowds just left with the end of the sports and RV show over the past 10 days. Just lucky I guess.

Since I could use the microwave I cooked up the leftover Outback ribs from last Thursday's goodbye dinner at Al & Deb's. They were on the top shelf of the fridge for 6 days, right under the freezer, so they were half frozen. A little dry but still good. Since I will be boondocking again starting tomorrow, I just had to eat them all,  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a rack of ribs. I'm stuffed.

I think I have seen most of my list for Quartzite, maybe try a couple things tomorrow morning before I hit the road. The next couple of days should be scenic as I hike into the mountains and camp off the grid in the Kofa National Wildlife Refuge. Looking forward to some peace and quiet.

Until the next one.....