

U.S. Army Military History Institute  
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4 Mar 2011

Civilian Conservation Corps

## **CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS, 1933-42**

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

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**CCC vs Potential Japanese Invasion, Baja, California, 1937-38**

A review of War Dept annual reports, pertinent periodical literature, Army War College course materials, volumes of the official U.S. Army in World War II series, and CCC histories and documents on file here failed to uncover any reference to a massive transfer of CCC men into Southern California. In 1938 the Regular Army comprised only 185,000 men, in contrast to a strength of 1,460,000 in 1941. Those 185,000 were thinly spread. Therefore, it is not surprising, when studying the Ninth Corps troop list of 20 Apr 1938, to learn that Southern California was defended by few men, largely comprising artillery

units that guarded the harbors. There is no indication that the Baja border was considered more vulnerable than other portions of the US border or coast, at least until the Pearl Harbor attack. Debate took place within the Army General Staff in 1938 as to how to utilize the CCC in the event of a mobilization. The discussion included induction of the 800,000 CCC men into the Army in the event of a national emergency and use of CCC buildings to house the expanded emergency force. However, no reference to a massive move to California appears in this file:

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U.S. Army. Western Defense Command. "History of the Western Defense Command." Vols. II & IV. Typescript, 1945. UA27.W46.U54.  
See App 5, p. 4 of Vol. IV & Chap 8, with enclosures of Vol. II.