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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

AUGUST 5, 1943

To: Field Assistant Directors
Project Directors
Relocation Supervisors and Officers

Distribution: E

Because of a drastic reduction in budget, the Office of War Information has been forced to discontinue the newspaper clipping service which it has been providing for WRA and other war agencies. The loss of this service will probably mean a temporary reduction in length of our Weekly Press Review and may make it temporarily difficult for us to keep abreast of public attitudes toward the program.

Within the next few weeks, however, we are hopeful that arrangements can be worked out in Washington so that we will have some sort of regular clipping service. In the meantime, we are asking members of the staff at all field offices to make a practice of clipping articles on the program from local newspapers, periodicals, and publications.

Such clippings should include news stories and editorials (favorable and unfavorable), feature articles and pictures, cartoons, comment by columnists, letters to the editor, statements and speeches with reference to WRA and its program. Clippings of major articles and particularly significant editorials should be forwarded immediately to the Director in Washington; clippings of more routine news stories

may be submitted on a weekly or semi-monthly basis. On each clipping indicate the date it appeared and the name and location of the paper from which it was taken. Send all clippings to the Office of Reports, Washington, D. C.

It is hoped that all members of the field staff will co-operate in this program for maintaining a modified clipping service of our own. It will not be necessary, however, to clip articles appearing in major magazines of national circulation or WRA by subscription:

Arizona Farmer
Arizona Republic
Arkansas Democart
Arkansas Gazette
Billings Gazette (Montana)
California Cultivator
Cody Enterprise (Wyoming)
Commercial Appeal (Memphis, Tenn.)
Denver Post
Granada Journal
Greeley Daily Tribune (Colorado)
Herald and News (Klamath Falls, Oregon)
Idaho Daily Statesman
Inyo Independent (Independence, Calif.)
Jerome North Side News
Los Angeles Times
Millard County Chronicle (Delta, Utah)
Montana Standard
New York Times
Oregonian
Powell Tribune (Wyoming)
Rocky Mountain News (Denver, Colorado)
Sacramento Bee
Salt Lake Tribune
San Francisco Call-Bulletin
San Francisco Chronicle
San Francisco Examiner
San Francisco News
Seattle Post-Intelligencer
Spokesman Review (Spokane, Wash.)
Times News (Twin Falls, Idaho)
Tulelake Reporter
Visalia Times-Delta (California)
Wyoming State Tribune

Signed Leland Barrows
Acting Director

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

August 11, 1943

MEMORANDUM TO: All Project Directors

DISTRIBUTION: E

The enclosed letter from the Assistant Secretary of War, dated August 9, 1943, clarifying certain provisions of the segregation program outlined in correspondence between the War Department and WRA is forwarded for your information and guidance in following the Manual of Evacuee Transfer Operations issued to you at the Denver Conference.

Your particular attention is invited to the fact that WRA is responsible for transporting evacuees and their baggage from the relocation center of origin to the railhead and from the railhead to the relocation center of destination. At some centers this will require careful planning in order to avoid delays in train movements mentioned in paragraph 6 of the letter.

Also this letter contemplates as does the WRA Manual the possibility of being called upon to furnish the evacuee personnel necessary both to prepare and dispense the subsistence enroute.

Sincerely,

E. M. Rowell

Acting Director

Enclosure (1)

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

9 August 1943

Dear Mr. Myer:

With reference to the Army's responsibilities in connection with War Relocation Authority's segregation program, which were broadly outlined in my letter to you of 6 July 1943, and your reply thereto of 12 July, there remain one or two matters of importance which should be clarified at this time to avoid any future misunderstanding which might interfere with the efficient execution of the program.

1. Army responsibility extends only from railhead of origin to railhead of destination. Although my letter of 6 July contemplated that control would be assumed by the Army at the Relocation Project of origin and relinquished at the Relocation Project of destination, I understand that preliminary discussions have demonstrated the desirability of placing responsibility in the War Relocation Authority for the movement of evacuees from Relocation Project of origin to railhead of origin and from railhead of destination to Relocation Project of destination. Our plans are accordingly going forward on the basis that Army responsibility extends only from railhead of origin to railhead of destination.

2. The Army will schedule and control all train movements. As you have previously been advised, the Army will try to conform to WRA plans and desires with respect to train schedules. However, it is essential that the Army exercise exclusive control over such schedules, including times of departure and arrival, train composition, and the number of evacuees to be accommodated on any one trip.

3. The Army will be responsible for furnishing all necessary personnel, supplies and equipment, with certain exceptions. WRA will furnish all items of a special nature for infant feeding or special diets, such as Pablum, Dextra Maltose, SMA formula, etc. WRA will also provide such special medical supplies and equipment as may be required for women or infants, or for special sick or infirm cases, including any necessary special dispensary utensils. Subsistence furnished by the Army en route will conform to normal Army rations or to that ordinarily obtainable through issuance of meal tickets where dining cars are attached. The Army will be responsible for furnishing all other supplies and equipment, although the procurement may be from WRA if agreeable. The Army will furnish all necessary personnel, although it

is contemplated that assistance in the distribution of food, and in other respects will be obtained from the evacuees. In this connection, it would be desirable if you would instruct Project Directors to organize each transfer movement so that the transferees will be ready to dispense, and prepare, where necessary, their subsistence and supplies en route.

4. Hand luggage and baggage. It is understood that baggage accompanying the evacuee movement will be limited to hand luggage and 150 pounds of checkable baggage per full fare ticket. The Army will furnish WRA with a list of prohibited articles which may not be transported on the trains.

5. The Army will not be expected to undertake the responsibility for minor movements. Obviously it would be uneconomic and unwise to have the Army responsible for the movement by train of evacuees in small lots. While, generally speaking, the Army will plan to continue its participation to the conclusion of the segregation movement, it reserves the right to decline responsibility when the number of persons designated for transfer at any one center falls much below 250*. Moreover, all responsibility for further transfers will cease November 30, 1943 unless it is expressly extended beyond that date.

6. Movement of evacuees from relocation project of origin to railhead of origin and from railhead of destination to relocation project of destination. As stated in Paragraph 1 above, the Army will not be responsible for these movements. The Army will expect the WRA to have the specified number of evacuees on hand at the specified place at the specified time. This information will be furnished to WRA at the earliest possible moment in advance of each movement. In the event of delay, unavoidable or otherwise, the Army reserves the right to reschedule or cancel any train movement.

In accomplishing the movement of evacuees from relocation project of origin to railhead of origin, and from railhead of destination to relocation project of destination, the Project Director may call upon the commanding officer of the escort guard detachment located at the project for escort assistance. Such escort assistance will be furnished to the extent that personnel and equipment are available for such purpose at the time of request.

Please let me know at your earliest convenience whether or not the method of operation outlined above is agreeable to you. I would like an answer within the next day or two, as our plans are moving ahead.

Sincerely,

Mr. Dillon S. Myer, Director
War Relocation Authority
Room 822, Barr Building
Washington, D. C.

/s/ John J. McCloy

*except Granada.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

August 12, 1943

MEMORANDUM

To: Project Directors

Subject: Action by the Japanese-American Joint Board.

This will refer to the Director's memorandum of May 21, 1943, on the subject of "Eligibility for war production employment, and indefinite leave in the Eastern Defense Command and the Gulf Coast Area."

We have been receiving a considerable number of requests from project directors requesting that "action be expedited" to secure the approval of the Joint Board for particular individuals for residence in the Eastern Defense Command and/or employment in vital war plants. We also receive similar requests from relocation officers on war plant clearance.

The purpose of this memorandum is to explain the present situation on these two matters and to indicate what may reasonably be expected. First, as to Joint Board approval for the Eastern Defense Command on lists 258a. As a practical matter very little can be done to expedite action for individuals who may have employment opportunities waiting for them in the Eastern Defense Command. The Joint Board has a set procedure for various types of cases, and some types take longer than others. It is anticipated, however, that the great majority of all the American citizens who registered during the general leave registration will be processed by the Joint Board in the next six or eight weeks. Some 10,000 cases have already been recommended for indefinite leave by the Joint Board and their names sent to you on Forms WRA 258a. When we receive a request for special action on an Eastern Defense Command case, we flag it and notify the project director by teletype when the Board has acted, thus saving a few days. We are not, however, able to expedite action by the Board itself.

We have received some requests for Eastern Defense Command clearance for persons age 16 and under. Such clearance is not necessary. (See Leave Handbook, Section 60.4A(5).) Project directors may issue indefinite leave to persons 16 years of age and younger to any part of the United States except the evacuated areas on the Pacific Coast. We also receive some requests for Eastern Defense Command clearance for aliens. Since the Joint Board is not considering the cases of all aliens automatically, action on these alien cases will be slow. The names of any aliens who might be interested in relocation in the Eastern Defense Command should be submitted to us as far as possible in advance of the time they might wish to go. It is also suggested that in recruiting on employment offers in the Eastern Defense Command, recruitment be limited to persons on lists 258a and 258b so that there may be no possibility of delay for lack of clearance.

The matter of clearance by the Joint Board for employment in war plants is a separate and distinct question. Some 2,000 American citizens are being automatically processed by the Joint Board to establish their eligibility for employment in vital war plants. These two thousand individuals are selected on the basis

of their personal records and histories and their occupational backgrounds. It is expected that the field investigations on all of these two thousand individuals will not be completed for some months, but two or three hundred cases may be expected to be acted upon by the Joint Board each month until the 2,000 cases have been completed. Mr. Holland's memorandum of August 3, 1943, on the subject of "Procedure for placement of persons with war plant clearance (Form 258b)", covers the procedure which will be used in attempting to secure employment opportunities for these individuals. We are transmitting requests to the Joint Board for field investigations to determine eligibility for work in war plants for certain additional persons who have prospects of such employment, but there is no assurance that any particular case will be investigated by the War Department. The personal records and histories of some individuals will not meet the very high standards set up by the War Department for this type of employment. Other persons will not be investigated because the War Department has only a certain limited investigating staff assigned to this particular work. Finally, if the case is accepted by the War Department for field investigation, it will require several months to secure a determination from the Joint Board because of the backlog of prior cases which have accumulated. In view of these factors, it will be seen that unless a person has special skills and/or a particularly good education and a very clear background the chances of his case being accepted by the Joint Board for field investigation looking toward employment in vital war plants are not good. It should be borne in mind also that other types of employment and business activity, such as agriculture and many essential civilian services, are likely to be much more stable and offer better long run opportunities for American citizens of Japanese ancestry than industries temporarily engaged in war production.

E. M. Rausell

Acting Director

cc: Relocation Supervisors
Relocation Officers

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

AUG. 14, 1943

MEMORANDUM

To: Project Directors

Subject: Army recall to active duty of American citizens
of Japanese ancestry in the Enlisted Reserve
Corps.

The Army will be recalling to active duty a number of American citizens of Japanese ancestry who have previously been in active service and who are now in the Enlisted Reserve Corps. When Enlisted Reserve Corps men in the relocation centers receive official Army orders to report for active duty, they should be given indefinite leave immediately under Section 60.4.4B (1) of the Leave Handbook.

E. M. Rowalt

Acting Director

cc Relocation Supervisors

*Sandoz
cc: Pomeroy*
COPY**WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY**

Washington

Office of the Director

Aug 21, 1943

AIRMAILMEMORANDUM FOR ALL PROJECT DIRECTORS

The contraband list applicable to the Tule Lake Center is now being revised by the Western Defense Command. The list of contraband articles hereinafter set forth is now under consideration and will probably be adopted. It should be used as a guide when advising evacuees going to Tule Lake of the articles they should not take with them.

"(1) Those articles, commodities or things; the use, possession or operation of which are prohibited by paragraph 6, Proclamation No. 3, this headquarters, i.e., firearms, weapons and devices ordinarily capable of such use, or implements of war or component parts thereof, ammunition, bombs, explosives or the component parts thereof, shortwave radio receiving sets having a frequency of 1,750 kilocycles or greater or of 540 kilocycles or less, radio transmitting sets, signal devices, codes or ciphers, cameras.

(2) Those articles, commodities or things; the use, possession or operation of which are prohibited by Public Proclamation No. 2525, promulgated by the President of the United States on 7 December 1941, i.e., papers, documents or books in which there may be invisible writings; photographs, sketches, pictures, drawings, maps, or graphical representation of any military or naval installations or equipment of of any arms, ammunition, implements of war, device or thing used or intended to be used in the combat equipment of the land or naval forces of the United States or of any military or naval post, camp or station.

(3) F flashlights larger than two cell and all flashlights regardless of size if equipped with colored lens or bulb.

(4) Any article designated in writing by War Relocation Authority as contraband.

(5) Such other articles as may from time to time be designated by the Commanding General, Western Defense Command and Fourth Army, as contraband."

D. S. Myer /s/

Director

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WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

WASHINGTON

1. Mr. Harbner
2. Mr. Carter

August 23, 1943

To: All Project Directors
Attention: Community Activities Supervisors

The attached Statement of Relationships between the Boy Scouts of America and the War Relocation Authority is sent out in full realization of the fact that well-developed Scouting programs are already in progress at all relocation centers.

This joint Statement of Relationships results from the desire, on the part of both organizations, to have set down in written form the main points concerning the establishment and operation of the Scouting program within the centers.

Solon T. Kimball
Solon T. Kimball, Acting Chief
Community Management Division

Attachments

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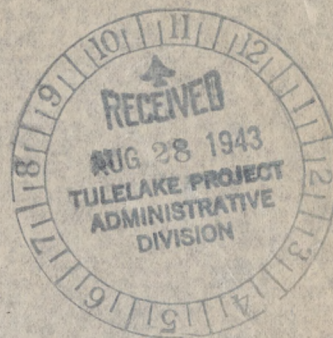


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[Handwritten notes in the bottom left corner, including the word 'copy' and some illegible scribbles.]

WASHINGTON

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