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PROPOSED STATEMENT BY SECRETARY ICKES
For Release May 21, 1944

The Commanding General of the Western Defense Command has announced that, in recognition of the improved military situation, persons of Japanese descent are no longer excluded from the areas of the Pacific

Coast from which they were evacuated in the spring and

summer of 1942. ~~The exception of this right~~ The right to return will not be accorded ~~to~~

to those persons who have ~~applied for~~ been denied

leave by the War Relocation Authority, on the ground that because of their sympathy for Japan they might be ~~dangerous~~ dangerous to the ~~national~~ security of the United States.

In view of General Tommons announcement
The War Relocation Authority which has had jurisdiction over some 116,000 of the evacuated people, is now making ~~plans~~ plans to do two principal things:

~~First, to conduct an orderly program of relocation of the~~
~~evacuated people, within the~~

First; aid in the orderly return of the evacuated people to their former homes, if they want to return home, or to other locations; second, get out of business by the end of June, 1945. As an incident to getting out of business, we are now ^{making arrangements} ~~dealing~~ with the Department of Justice ~~the federal~~ for the transfer of Tule Lake center and its residents to the jurisdiction of that Department about the first of July, ~~1945~~ of this year.

This transfer will include the ~~xxxxxxx~~ people who have been denied ~~xxxxxxx~~ leave by the War Relocation Authority as well as ~~xxxxxx~~ members of their families, many of whom are eligible to return to their homes or to relocate elsewhere.

~~The orderly return~~

~~I believe that the return of the evacuated people to their former homes should be orderly.~~ I think a stampede back to the Pacific Coast area would be against the national interest and against the interest of the evacuated people themselves. Therefore, I am ^{directing} ~~asking~~ the War Relocation Authority to use its limited powers to see that the return of the evacuated people is as orderly as possible. W.R.A. ~~xxxxxx~~ ^{will not} deny any eligible evacuee the right to leave a center at any time to go anywhere he likes; but it will establish certain ~~xxxxxx~~ requirements which evacuees must meet before they will be eligible for ^{W.R.A.} ~~assistance~~ in relocating.

The evacuees were removed from their homes and ^{by the} from the Pacific Coast area ~~xx~~/government; ~~xxxxxxx~~ therefore, the government has an implicit obligation to assist in their return to normal life. W.R.A. will continue its policy of providing ^{transportation} ~~a railroad ticket~~ and a cash grant of \$25 for each evacuee who needs financial assistance in relocating, either ^{to} his former home or elsewhere. But to be eligible for this assistance, each evacuee must have either a job or a

place to live; and he must have a definite plan for the relocation of all his dependents.

There are some 23,000 evacuated people who ^{have} left the relocation centers. Many of them have established homes that promise to be permanent. ~~in their new locations~~ Many of them are engaged in work that is contributing to the nation's war effort ~~and~~ and should not be interrupted. An evacuee who already has relocated is eligible to receive assistance from W.R.A. only if he has a release from his employer or a certificate of availability from the War Manpower Commission, and if his plans to return to the state of his former residence include all his dependents now in relocation centers.

The return of the evacuated people to their former homes will not be without its problems. While the Japanese people in the United States traditionally have been self-sufficient, and have been conspicuous by their absence from public relief rolls, it must be recognized that they have been cut off from their usual means of livelihood for two years, and it will take ^{and some assistance} ~~time~~ time/for them to become reestablished. We believe there ~~are~~ are agencies of the government already established which can and should offer this assistance, ^{and we are now} ~~rather than~~ discussing with those agencies the assistance they can render ~~have the War Relocation Authority perpetuated.~~ ^{in their respective fields.}

We are ~~proposing~~ discussing with the Social Security Board the problems of relief, to be administered for the most part through state and local agencies; ~~the~~

The Farm Security Administration is authorized to lend money to farmers in order to get back into production, and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation has the power to make loans to business men. The U.S. Employment Service has placed thousands of evacuees in wartime jobs in other parts of the country, and it is the agency best equipped to handle the re-employment of those who return to the Pacific Coast area and need assistance in getting in non-agricultural work. jobs/ The War Food Administration is the agency designated to handle agricultural employment and the problems of procuring equipment which evacuee farmers may need in returning to agricultural production.

There are many ~~at the~~ individuals and groups on the West Coast who have indicated their desire to assist the evacuees in returning to productive life in their old homes. ~~It is voluntary assistance of this type which can do most to speed the readjustment of the evacuated people to life in normal American communities. With such~~
~~such assistance~~ The War Relocation Authority hopes have the cooperation of to/~~work with~~ such groups in every community, for it is voluntary assistance of this type which can ~~work with~~ do most to speed the readjustment of the evacuated people to life in normal American communities.

The ~~re~~establishment of the evacuees' right to return to the Pacific Coast areas does not mean that W.R.A. will discontinue its program of relocation in other areas. This ^{effort} ~~program~~ will continue and we hope

Pacific Coast. ~~This is a nation~~
America is a nation that has grown great through/ the
~~and it is a nation that~~ made up of people from many
contributions of people of many nations and races,
~~nationalities and races, drawing from each the~~

accepting the contributions that each can make. The Japanese and their American born children and grand-children were conspicuous/in certain areas on the coast, they were conspicuous when they were concentrated in the relocation centers. During the coming year, as the relocation centers are liquidated and disappear from the national picture, the nation and the ~~ever~~ Japanese people have the opportunity of ~~fashioning a solution~~ ^{salvaging} ~~for~~ the problem of the Japanese as a racial minority;

by spreading to all parts of the United States, this group of less than one-tenth of one per cent of the nation's population can cease to be a problem and can become a national asset.

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Statement by Lt. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, Commanding General
Western Defense Command

~~To be made before Governors, Mayors, representatives of churches,
unions, civic groups and other representative leaders.~~

*To be announced by conference phone call to Governors of
Western states, and released to the Press, May 20, 1944*
The Presidio

Effective immediately, the Public Proclamations and Exclusion Orders of the Western Defense Command which have excluded all persons of Japanese lineage from the entire state of California and from Military area 1 in the states of Washington, Oregon, and Arizona, and have designated as contraband certain items in their possession are rescinded. This rescission is made possible by the improvement in the military situation in the Pacific Area, reducing the danger of invasion of the Pacific Coast virtually to zero.

The defenses of the Pacific Coast, in the two and a half years since the outbreak of hostilities, have been multiplied in strength many times over. The American Navy controls the Pacific Ocean; American planes and anti-aircraft defense control the skies. Thus, the prime element which made evacuation and exclusion of all persons of Japanese descent a military necessity in March 1942, namely the danger of invasion by Japanese military forces, no longer exists.

The exigencies of the situation at the time evacuation was ordered, in March 1942, did not allow time to carry on the necessary screening of the 112,000 persons of Japanese descent who lived in the states of Washington, Oregon, California, and Arizona. Almost two-thirds of these people were American citizens by right of birth. While the great majority were loyal citizens or law abiding aliens, there were some whose loyalties were with the enemy, and who might endanger the defense of the West Coast.

Enemy aliens who were suspected of being dangerous were apprehended immediately after the outbreak of war and many, after hearings conducted by special alien enemy hearing boards, were sent to internment camps under jurisdiction of the Department of Justice.

During the past year, the War Relocation Authority has carefully and thoroughly screened the evacuee population in the relocation centers to determine national loyalty; this has been done in connection with the granting of leave from the relocation centers. The denial of leave to persons whose loyalties are found to be with Japan will not be affected by the removal of exclusion. Such persons have been or soon will be segregated to the Tule Lake Center, and no change in their status is contemplated at present. The population which was evacuated and which now will be eligible to return to their former homes thus has been twice-screened.

I should like to emphasize that evacuation was determined upon strictly in the light of the military situation as it existed in the early months of the war. The removal of the exclusion is possible because of the improvement in the military situation. Insofar as the Western Defense Command is concerned, no other factors have had an influence in either decision.

It must be recognized that many problems of a social and economic nature will be encountered in the return of the evacuated people to their former homes. The Army is not unmindful of these problems and stands ready to assist in any way which might be deemed appropriate; however, the civilian departments and agencies are deemed the proper branches of the Federal government to deal with such problems. State

and local governments will have the certain types of responsibility growing out of the return of the evacuated people to their former homes.

It is essential from a military point of view that law and order be maintained, and that it be maintained by the appropriate officials.

omit
It would be most unfortunate if any incident should take place which might make the presence of Japanese nationals or Japanese Americans in the military area once more a matter of military concern.

Each elected official and each organization and group represented here can help to make the public understand that the democratic ideals for which this nation is fighting are at stake in the lifting of the exclusion orders and permitting the evacuated people to return to their former homes if they desire to do so. Our allies, our enemies and the people of neutral nations alike must be given no room to doubt this nation's adherence to the principles set forth in our American constitution.

During the period of time when persons of Japanese descent were excluded from their homes, hundreds of young men in the relocation centers volunteered for service in the United States Army. Since January of this year, they have been subject to induction through Selective Service in the same manner as other Americans. The total number of Americans of Japanese descent now serving in the Army is approximately 10,000. Some have been killed in action; many have suffered wounds, fighting for their native land, the United States of America. The parents, wives, and children of many of these men will be returning to their homes.

At the time of the evacuation, there was full cooperation on the part of the people being evacuated. There is every reason to anticipate

that their conduct as they effect a gradual return to the formerly excluded area will be equally cooperative. It is incumbent upon those with whom the wartime situation has dealt less harshly to grant them the opportunity of re-establishing themselves without interference or discrimination.

CONFIDENTIAL

*Was this ever made?
No!*

*Draft
JEB
5-12-44*

PROPOSED STATEMENT BY SECRETARY STIMSON TO WEST COAST CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION, May 20, 1944.

I have asked you gentlemen of the Congressional delegations from the Pacific Coast states and Arizona to meet with me in the War Department in order that I might advise you of an announcement which is being made today by the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command, Lt. Gen. Delos C. Emmons. This announcement is of nation-wide concern but it is of particular interest to you who represent the states of the far West. The statement which I should like to read to you is being made first to the Governors of the four states of Washington, Oregon, California, and Arizona and immediately thereafter will be released to the press and radio. An amplification of the statement will be made in a radio broadcast on West Coast networks tonight.

I should like to read General Emmons' statement.

This concludes the statement by General Emmons. The suggestion that the exclusion orders should be rescinded was made by General Emmons and was heartily concurred in by the War Department and by the President.

The removal of the exclusion orders, of course, poses problems for many groups and for several agencies of the Federal government. It is my understanding that the Secretary of the Interior, who has jurisdiction over the War Relocation Authority, and probably the Attorney General will issue statements within the next 24 hours reporting on actions which will be taken by their Departments to expedite the return of those evacuees who wish to go back to their homes. I should like to emphasize that the War Department recognizes the right of the evacuated people who have not been denied leave by the War Relocation Authority to return to the areas which have been excluded or to go to any other area which is not closed to other citizens and law abiding aliens.

It is essential to the national well-being that the reestablishment of the evacuated people into normal American life should be unmarked by disturbances of any sort. This will require understanding of the status of the people who were evacuated some two years ago because of military necessity and a general recognition on the part of all residents of the United States that the evacuees are under no restriction, legal or otherwise. I earnestly solicit your assistance in clarifying the situation among your constituents and impressing upon all with whom you may come in contact the legal and moral obligation of this nation to not only permit but assist this segment of our population to resume normal life as speedily and harmoniously as possible.

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF WAR

For release 5:00 P.M. EWT December 17, 1944

Favorable progress of the war in the Pacific, as well as other developments, has resulted in a determination by the Commanding General of the Western Defense Command, with the approval of the War Department, that the continued mass exclusion from the West Coast of persons of Japanese ancestry is no longer a matter of military necessity.

For this reason, mass exclusion orders under which persons of Japanese ancestry were evacuated from the Pacific Coast Area in 1942, were revoked today through the issuance by Major General Henry C. Pratt, Commanding General of the Western Defense Command, of Public Proclamation Number 21.

The revocation order provides that any person of Japanese ancestry about whom information is available indicating a pro-Japanese attitude will continue to be excluded on an individual basis. Those persons of Japanese ancestry whose records have stood the test of Army scrutiny during the past two years will be permitted the same freedom of movement throughout the United States as other loyal citizens and law-abiding aliens.

The decision to revoke the exclusion orders, first applied on March 24, 1942, was prompted by military considerations. Since the evacuation, our armed forces steadily have pushed the enemy in the Pacific farther from our shores and closer to the Japanese home islands. Although hard fighting is ahead in the Pacific, it no longer can be said as it could be said in 1942, that an enemy invasion of the West Coast on a large scale is a substantial possibility.

In 1942, it was impossible to make an immediate determination of which persons of Japanese ancestry were loyal and which were not. Mass treatment of all Japanese-Americans, therefore, was a necessary military precaution. Since that time, persons of Japanese ancestry who were evacuated from the coastal area have been thoroughly investigated from the standpoint of loyalty, probably more thoroughly than any other segment of our population.

As a result of these investigations, it has been possible to make progress in separating those who may be dangerous from those who are loyal to the United States. One of the first steps in this direction was taken by the Army itself in selecting those persons of military age among the persons of Japanese ancestry who were acceptable for the Army, initially as volunteers and later under Selective Service. Many of these men were recruited from relocation centers and many of them have families in the centers. The outstanding record which these men have made fighting for the United States in Italy, in France, and in the Pacific, has shown conclusively that it is possible to make sound judgments as to their loyalty.

The War Department is aware that the rescission of mass exclusion will create certain adjustment problems beyond military considerations. It believes, however, that adequate solutions for these problems exist. The Department of the Interior has informed the War Department that it intends to put into effect a program based on a gradual and orderly return to the West Coast and a vigorous continuation of its efforts to relocate persons of Japanese descent throughout the United States.

The War Department believes that the people of the Pacific Coast Area will accord returning persons of Japanese ancestry all the considerations to which they are entitled as loyal citizens and law-abiding residents.

END

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SUGGESTED DRAFT OF PRESS RELEASE BY GENERAL EMMONS

A total of _____ persons of Japanese ancestry have been granted individual permits to reside in the West Coast evacuated area since September 1943. ~~xxxx~~ Lieut. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, Commanding General of the Western Defense Command, indicated today.

Reporting on the activities of the Western Defense Command during his tenure as commanding officer, General Emmons pointed out that he has continued the policy adopted by his predecessor, lieut. Gen. John L. DeWitt, of granting such permits in individual cases where circumstances warrant. As the dangers of attack or invasion on the West Coast have been reduced through military and naval actions in the Pacific, the Western Defense Command has gradually been giving favorable consideration to an increasing number of cases.

Permits are being granted, General Emmons explained, particularly to the wives and husbands of Caucasians, to the families of Japanese Americans in the armed forces, and to a variety of "special hardship" cases. The policy of granting individual permits, which was adopted in 1942 while the evacuated people of Japanese ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ descent were in assembly centers under Army jurisdiction, will continue in effect until further notice.

J 1/4/45 #6 WRA Pamphlet on Closing

A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

The lifting of the blanket exclusion orders by the Western Defense Command is undoubtedly the most significant event since evacuation both in the lives of the evacuated people and in the program of the War Relocation Authority. To the great majority of the evacuees, it means full restoration of the freedom of movement which is enjoyed by all other loyal citizens and law-abiding aliens in the United States. To the War Relocation Authority, it signifies the beginning of the final phase of the relocation program.

Our prime objective in WRA, as always, is to restore the people residing in relocation centers to private life in normal communities. The lifting of the exclusion orders makes it possible to broaden the scope of this program and put it for the first time on a completely nationwide basis. Within the next few weeks WRA will establish field relocation offices at key points in the evacuated area and will extend assistance to those who have good reason to return. At the same time, we shall also continue our relocation offices and assistance for those who wish to locate in other parts of the country.

Although the WRA is now entering the final phase of its program, the relocation centers will not be closed immediately. All of them will remain in operation for several months so that all the residents will have reasonable and adequate time and opportunity for the development of sound relocation plans.

During the period ahead, many of the facilities at the centers will have to be sharply curtailed as the population declines. Schools, however, will be continued through the current school year. This will enable families with school-age children sufficient time to plan their relocation so that the pupils may reenter school in their new communities at the beginning of the fall term. All the really essential services at the centers, including mess operations, housing, and medical care, will of course be provided until the time each center actually closes.

The re-opening of the evacuated area and the broadening of the relocation program come at a fortunate time for the evacuated people. Largely as a result of the splendid record which your sons, brothers, and husbands have achieved in the armed services, the American public has come increasingly to a recognition of the essential good faith and loyalty that characterize the great majority of people of Japanese descent. Today the evacuees as a group have more friends and supporters throughout the Nation than at any previous time. They are being accepted in hundreds of communities as fellow-workers, friends, and neighbors. The removal of the restrictions that formerly applied in the West Coast area underscores this growing public acceptance and should help to bring about even more widespread recognition of the fact that the great majority of the evacuees are loyal and law-abiding people.

It is fortunate, too, that the WRA program enters its final phase at a time when there is a good demand for workers in war plants, in civilian goods production, in service occupations, and on the farms. Both from the standpoint of the national welfare and the evacuees' long-range economic security, it is highly important that the people now residing at the relocation centers make the transition back to private life at a time when employment opportunities are still plentiful.

Recognizing that there are a number of people in the relocation centers who have not been able to relocate previously because they are incapable of self-support, the War Relocation Authority is now making intensive efforts to meet this problem by mobilizing facilities and resources that are available for public assistance in normal communities throughout the Nation. Special funds have been provided by Congress through the Federal Security Agency for the assistance of needy people who have been displaced from their homes by restrictive governmental action. All evacuees -- both citizens and aliens -- who are in need of such assistance are eligible to apply for it under the terms of this Federal law. In addition, old age assistance and grants to certain other types of handicapped people are available to both citizen and alien evacuees as they are to all persons who can qualify under the regular programs of the Federal Security Agency. In the development of individual or family relocation plans at the centers, the Welfare Section will give special attention to those who may need some form of public assistance after relocation. In all cases of this kind, the specific needs of the family or individual will be presented in advance of relocation through the WRA field office to the appropriate agency in the community of proposed resettlement. Wherever individuals or families find themselves in need of public assistance after relocation, the WRA field offices will help to facilitate arrangements with the appropriate state or local agency. In view of the funds that are available and the arrangements that are being made, the War Relocation Authority feels wholly confident that no evacuee will be deprived of adequate means of subsistence by reason of the closing of the centers.

It is possible that some evacuees who have relocated outside the evacuated area will now wish to avail themselves of the opportunity of returning to their former homes. The final decision as to whether this is the best thing to do rests with the individual relocatee. Many have homes, business connections, or close personal friends in the evacuated area and will be anxious to get back to them. On the other hand, many relocatees have found new friends and much greater opportunities, both social and economic, than they enjoyed prior to evacuation. There is every indication that these greater opportunities will continue for most persons. The WRA believes that all relocatees should carefully consider all factors before breaking their present connections and moving back to their old home communities. It should be remembered that the entire West Coast area has undergone a tremendous change since evacuation. Hundreds of thousands of war workers have moved into the area. Housing is difficult to obtain and living conditions are extremely complex and expensive. Many relocatees will find that it will be much easier and more advantageous to have Center family members join them in their present location than to dislocate themselves again to return to something new and untried.

If after careful consideration and investigation the relocatee decides to return to his former home he should see his local relocation officer. The Authority will furnish the usual types of relocation assistance to such people provided they have a sound plan for resettlement in the evacuated area and provided that certain other requirements, such as those of the War Manpower Commission, are met. This assistance will be available for the duration of the relocation program and there will be no need to make hasty decisions in order to qualify for it. It will be available only in the field and cannot be obtained if the evacuee returns to a relocation center or the evacuated area without the approval of the relocation officer.

Those relocated evacuees who have close family relatives still residing at the centers and who need to consult with these family members in the development

of relocation plans may apply at the nearest WRA field office for permission to visit the center. However, in view of the War Manpower Commission regulations governing job transfers and the congested transportation facilities in the vicinity of the centers, it is exceedingly important that all relocated evacuees desiring to return to the centers at this time actually obtain such advance approval. Those who attempt to come back without it may be denied admission to the center and may become ineligible for all future relocation assistance.

More detailed information on the policies and procedures which the War Relocation Authority will follow in the final phase of its program, insofar as these have now been determined, is contained in the attached bulletin. As additional policy decisions are made and procedures further clarified, every effort will be made to provide the essential information both to the people at the relocation centers and to those who have relocated.

In conveying this message to you, I want to express my sincere appreciation of the fine, cooperative attitude which has been displayed by the overwhelming majority of the evacuated people over the past two and one-half years under the most trying of circumstances. All of you who have already left the relocation centers or who will be leaving in the next several months have my very best wishes for a successful and satisfying life in the communities where you choose to make your homes.

D. J. Myer
Director

SUMMARY OF WRA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE FINAL PHASE OF THE RELOCATION PROGRAM.

Now that the blanket exclusion orders have been lifted, the War Relocation Authority has made a number of basic policy decisions covering the immediate future of its program. These decisions are:

- (1) WRA assistance will now be made available for relocation in the evacuated area on the same basis as elsewhere.
- (2) All relocation centers will be closed within a period of six months to one year after the revocation of the exclusion orders. No center, however, will be closed without three month's advance notice to the residents.
- (3) Essential services at the relocation centers -- food, housing, and medical care -- will be provided until the centers close. Schools will be maintained at the centers through the end of the present school year.
- (4) Relocation in areas outside the evacuated zone will continue.
- (5) WRA assistance will be extended, within certain prescribed limits, to evacuees who have previously relocated and who now wish to return to the evacuated area.
- (6) There will be no further processing of evacuees for leave clearance and leave permits will no longer be necessary for relocation. Relocation assistance, however, will be made available only to those whose relocation plans are approved by WRA.
- (7) Arrangements will be made with appropriate state and local agencies to provide public assistance throughout the country for those evacuees who are incapable of self-support.

RELOCATION ASSISTANCE

Relocation offices will be established in the immediate future at key points throughout the evacuated area. These offices, like those already functioning in other sections of the country, will assist relocating evacuees in a wide variety of ways to become satisfactorily established in the communities where they decide to make their homes. In this effort the field offices of WRA will call on the resources and facilities of a great many public and private agencies which have indicated their willingness to cooperate in the relocation program. Relocation offices, both in the evacuated area and elsewhere, will be maintained for a period of not more than two months after all relocation centers have been closed.

Travel grants will hereafter be made available to all evacuees whose relocation plans are approved by the War Relocation Authority. This will apply both to those who are leaving the centers for the first time for relocation to any part of the country and those previously relocated who have an approved plan for resettling in the evacuated area.

Relocation grants and subsistence while en route will be provided to center residents, as previously, only upon application and on the basis of actual need.

Leave permits will no longer be required of evacuees wishing to leave the relocation centers for purposes of relocation. However, those who leave without having their relocation plans approved by the WRA, will not be eligible either for relocation assistance or for re-entry to the center. Seasonal leave and trial indefinite leave will no longer be available. Short-term leave will be retained in its present form. Travel for the purpose of investigating relocation opportunities in the evacuated area, however, will be at the evacuees's own expense.

Visits to relocation centers, either by relocated evacuees or by residents of other centers, for the development of family relocation plans must be approved in advance by the Project Director of the center where the visiting evacuee resides or (in the case of relocated evacuees) by the nearest WRA field office. Those who undertake trips of this kind without obtaining such approval may be denied admission to the center and may become ineligible for all future relocation assistance.

Re-induction for residence at the centers will no longer be possible once an evacuee has left for the purpose of relocation.

PROPERTY ASSISTANCE

Transportation of household goods and personal effects, like travel assistance, will hereafter be available to all relocating evacuees whose relocation plans are approved by WRA. This will include transportation (1) from a WRA warehouse in the evacuated area to a point of relocation anywhere in the United States (except that those relocating within a reasonable trucking distance of the warehouse will be expected to provide their own delivery service), (2) from a relocation center to a point of relocation anywhere in the United States, (3) from a railhead in any community outside the evacuated area to a point of approved relocation within the evacuated area, and (4) from a railhead in the evacuated area (in cases where properties are now in private storage) to a point of approved relocation anywhere in the United States. As previously, the WRA will provide assistance and materials for the crating of such property both at the WRA warehouses in the evacuated area and at the relocation centers. However, those evacuees whose goods are being moved from a point of private storage within the evacuated area or from a point of previous relocation outside the evacuated area will provide their own crating facilities and deliver the property at the nearest railhead. At the receiving end, properties of relocating evacuees will be delivered at the railhead nearest the point of relocation.

WRA warehouses in the evacuated area will be maintained for a period of not more than three months after the closing of all relocation centers. Evacuees who have property in storage at these warehouses and who return to the evacuated area will be required to remove their goods from the warehouses within a period of 60 days after their return.

Other types of property assistance will continue to be available through the Evacuee Property Offices and the Assistant Solicitor's office in the evacuated area as well as through the Evacuee Property Officers and the Project Attorneys at the relocation centers. Such service will be maintained within the evacuated area for a period of not more than three months after all relocation centers are closed. However, when an evacuee returns to an area in

which his property is located, assistance will not be given beyond a 60-day period.

Contraband property, such as cameras and radios, previously surrendered by citizen evacuees to the United States Government may now be returned to the owners. Citizen evacuees should make application to the War Relocation Authority on prescribed forms (WRA-156 and WRA-260) supplying whatever identifying information or receipts they may have. Contraband property surrendered by alien evacuees cannot be recovered at the present time.

WELFARE ASSISTANCE TO RELOCATEES

The War Relocation Authority will make every effort to see that adequate assistance is provided outside the relocation centers through the appropriate public welfare agencies for evacuees who are incapable of self-support or who are in need of financial aid in an emergency situation. Special funds, appropriated by Congress to provide such assistance for people who have been affected by government restrictions, are available to needy evacuees from state and local welfare agencies. Such assistance is available to both citizen and alien evacuees alike.

Public assistance is available under this program to evacuees who need medical care, money for rent or groceries, or money for emergency living expenses. Those needing such assistance should consult the nearest public welfare office or the nearest field office of the War Relocation Authority. They should be prepared to describe their financial resources in some detail. Depending on the individual situation, the welfare office may provide personal help in solving the problem or may furnish cash resources for the purchase of the needed goods or services. Cash grants of this kind are available on the basis of actual need even though the applicant may not be a resident of the community where he is making application, even though he may be employed, and even though he may have property which is not in expendable form.

Special aid for the aged, the blind, and needy children is available to relocating evacuees, as it is to all other persons in these categories, under Federal programs which are administered by state agencies. For more detailed information on these types of assistance, evacuees should consult the nearest public welfare office or the nearest field office of the WRA.

Assistance for dependents of servicemen is now being extended under the Dependency Allowance and Allotment Act. Relocated evacuees desiring detailed information about such assistance should consult the nearest office of the American Red Cross.

Social insurance may now be obtained by evacuees over 65 years of age whose employers withheld part of their salary for this purpose prior to evacuation. Those who believe themselves eligible for such insurance should consult the nearest field relocation office or the welfare section at the center for the name and address of the nearest field office of the Bureau of Old Age and Survivors Insurance of the Social Security Board. Full particulars may be obtained by writing or visiting the latter office. The applicant should furnish the Social Security Board office with his Social Security number and with essential information about his pre-evacuation employment.

CENTER OPERATIONS

Essential services -- food, housing, and medical care -- will be provided for the residents of each center until the date when that center actually closes. In some cases, it may be necessary, because of shortage of trained personnel, to close the hospital at the center before the center is completely de-populated. If this should happen at any center, WRA will make arrangements for providing necessary medical service at some outside hospital.

Schools will be maintained at the centers at least through the end of the present school year in June, 1945. If summer sessions are found to be necessary at any of the centers, the schools may be kept open beyond that date but in any case not later than August 31, 1945.

Business Enterprises, including all types of cooperative stores and services, will be encouraged to continue operations as long as possible, taking into consideration the time required for orderly liquidation.

Farm operations at the centers will be sharply curtailed. Both vegetable and feed crops planted during the fall of 1944 will be harvested at all centers. No crops will be planted during 1945 except at Gila River and Poston. At those two centers, the vegetable crop program previously planned, with some modifications for declining population, will be carried out. Hog feeding will be continued based on anticipated declining population so that all hogs can be slaughtered and consumed before the closing of the center. No more feeder cattle will be purchased and any cattle remaining on hand at the time of center closing will be sold. No additional chickens will be purchased and both meat birds and laying hens will be slaughtered and consumed well in advance of the closing date for the center.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

Travel permits must be obtained by all alien evacuees before the travel is actually undertaken. Aliens at the relocation centers going out on relocation either to the West Coast or elsewhere may obtain permits covering travel to the original point of destination by applying to the relocation office at the center. All those outside the centers desiring to travel either back to the centers or to another community should apply for a permit at the office of the United States Attorney for the district in which they are currently residing. Within five days after reaching the point of destination on any type of travel, alien evacuees must report their new address to the Alien Registration Division, Immigration and Naturalization Service at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and to the Federal Bureau of Investigation field office mentioned in the alien's certificate of registration. If there is any further change of address, the same requirements apply.

Travel to Hawaii and Alaska is controlled by the War Department. Evacuees wishing to go to either of these territories should apply to the Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, Washington, D. C.

Frozen funds are not affected by the lifting of the exclusion orders. Alien evacuees eligible for relocation throughout the United States whose assets have been frozen and who now wish to regain possession of them should

consult the nearest office of WRA. In justifiable cases, arrangements will be made for taking the matter up with the Foreign Funds Control Division of the Treasury Department.

Legal residence of evacuees in the states from which they were evacuated has not been affected by reason of their having lived in a relocation center. Those who have relocated and who have acquired legal residence in other states, however, can regain legal residence in the states of the evacuated area only in accordance with the provisions of the state law.

Voluntary evacuees who have never resided in relocation centers and who have an approved plan for returning to the evacuated area are eligible for relocation assistance (if they request it) on the same basis as persons who have been relocated from WRA centers. For this purpose, a voluntary evacuee is defined as a person of Japanese ancestry who left the evacuated area in response to government urging between February 16, 1942 and the date when voluntary movement from that area was prohibited by military order (March 29, 1942 in the case of Military Area No. 1; June 2, 1942, for the remainder of California) or who later departed by special permission of the Western Defense Command. Application should be made at the nearest field office of WRA.

Deportees and parolees now residing at relocation centers may relocate under sponsorship arrangements approved by the Department of Justice, and are eligible for relocation assistance on the same basis as other evacuees. Full particulars may be obtained from the relocation office at the center.

Government property at the relocation centers which is surplus to the needs of center operations will be disposed of through the regular established procedures of the Treasury Department. WRA has no authority to make such property available to evacuees either through sale or any other arrangement.

Gate control will be maintained at all relocation centers even though leave permits are no longer required of those going out on relocation. All evacuees leaving or entering the centers will be expected to report at the gate.

Address cards will be furnished, as previously, to all relocating evacuees in order that they may report arrival at their destinations and subsequent changes of address. There are many situations where the WRA will wish to communicate promptly with evacuees regarding restoration of personal property and similar matters, or where the Authority will be called upon to furnish the address of a relocated evacuee to friends, relatives, and business associates. It is highly advisable, therefore, for all evacuees to keep the WRA constantly informed of changes of address as long as the field relocation offices remain in operation.

TELETYPE MESSAGE - December 20, 1944 4:44 PM

Yesterday, Supreme Court upheld validity of original evacuation orders in the Korematsu case. Roberts, Jackson, Murphy dissenting. Court unanimously ordered habeas corpus writ for Endo, holding invalid the provisions of WRA leave regulations requiring application for indefinite leave and showing of means of support and community acceptance at destination. Court's opinion did not pass upon validity of detention pending loyalty clearance or detention of persons of doubtful loyalty. Copies of opinions will be distributed to Centers and field offices as soon as available.

All Project Directors are instructed as follows:

1. Persons not placed on the center stop list under paragraph 8 below shall be permitted to leave center upon request, subject to gate control procedures, without application for indefinite leave, approval of destination, or showing of means of support. However, persons whose relocation plans are not approved shall not be entitled to relocation assistance grants or assistance in property transportation, and upon departure shall not be permitted to re-enter a WRA center except as visitors under new visiting restrictions. Indefinite leave permits shall no longer be issued. In case of aliens, present instructions renotifying U.S. Attorneys, 8, and N.S., and FBI remain in effect, as do requirements for advance approval of Justice Department in case of parolees and deportees.

Teletype Message, December 20, 1944 - 2.

2. Relocation plans involving relocation assistance to points outside evacuated area shall automatically be approved where destination is within district in which community invitation exists. Otherwise, prior approval of appropriate relocation officer required.
3. No relocation plan involving return to evacuated area shall be approved prior to January 3 for anyone without special military permit to return, nor thereafter for anyone then on army excludee list. In case of eligible evacuees, relocation plan for return to evacuated area shall be approved only if there is satisfactory evidence of adequate prior arrangements for means of support under criteria which will soon be furnished to you.
4. Departure advices on persons leaving a center shall be routed as heretofore.
5. Persons leaving center to relocate, whether or not relocation plan is approved, shall be given change of address cards as heretofore, and requested to keep WRA informed of arrival and address changes.
6. Short-term leave may be issued under Handbook 60.2 to any persons not on stop list under paragraph 8 below. Seasonal leave and indefinite leave trial period shall no longer be issued.

Teletype Message, December 20, 1944 - 3.

7. There shall be no further leave clearance processing. Cases Board prior to December 17 shall be completed and transcripts and recommendations forwarded to Director immediately. Forms WRA 261 and attachments for all cases, whether or not hearings yet held, shall be returned.

8. Center residents who are on the tentative army excludee lists shall be placed upon a temporary stop list until January 3 or until they have been served with exclusion orders, whichever is sooner. Before permitting any person to leave the center, the project director shall check with army representatives at the center to determine whether such person is eligible to leave under the preceding sentence. Excludees who are designated by the army as ineligible for relocation shall be continued on the stop list and will be ineligible to leave the center without War Department approval.

Appropriate manual and handbook revisions are in process.

D. S. MYLER, WRA
WASHINGTON

T E L E T Y P E

Because there may be some people at the centers who may want to be removed from Army's Cleared List, the following statement should be well publicized to clarify policy--quote

As of December 17, 1944 leave clearance processing by the War Relocation Authority will be discontinued. After a short time leave permits will no longer be required and the only persons not free to leave any War Relocation Authority Center, including Tule Lake, will be persons who have been put on a stop list which will be established by the Army, or parolees and deportees ordered detained by the Department Of Justice. All other persons will be permitted to leave a center upon request without applying for a leave permit, except that a military permit will be required for persons residing in centers in the evacuated area who have received notification of exclusion therefrom. Persons leaving a center without a relocation plan approved by the War Relocation Authority will be ineligible for relocation assistance grants or property transportation assistance. The fact that a person has applied for repatriation or has been denied leave clearance or placed on a WRA stop list will not preclude his leaving a center if he has not been put on a stop list by the War Department.

EXCLUDEES---The Army has prepared a list of evacuees who are ineligible to return to any point within the redefined exclusion area. Each person on this list will receive notification of his individual exclusion. Excludees may remain in a War Relocation Authority Center until the centers are closed or they may resettle in other parts of the United States outside the exclusion area. Any excludee may apply to the War Department for a hearing if he wishes his exclusion to be reconsidered.

The Army has also prepared a list of evacuees whose cases will be further studied with a view to possible segregation. Each person on this list will receive individual notification that he is to remain in a War Relocation Authority Center for the present. All persons on either the exclusion or the segregation lists who have previously received WRA leave clearance will be given priority by the Army for further investigation and hearings, if needed, before their cases are finally determined.

REPATRIATION---Any alien or citizen wishing to apply for exchange to Japan (Generally known as applications for repatriation or expatriation) after the date of the lifting of Exclusion Order may do so through the Spanish Embassy. Such application will not affect the status of the applicant in relation to War Relocation Authority operations and will not be regarded by any government agency as grounds in itself for detention. Officials of the War

Relocation Authority will no longer assist in the making of such applications.

RENUNCIATION OF CITIZENSHIP--A citizen may apply to the United States Attorney-General to renounce his citizenship. The disposal of such applications and the subsequent status of such individuals will be the responsibility of the Department Of Justice.

CLOSING OF CENTERS---War Relocation Authority Centers, other than Tule Lake, will exist for not less than six nor more than 12 months after the date of the lifting of the Exclusion Order. During that period they will serve as shelters for evacuees who are in the process of reestablishment in normal American communities. If during that period any statements or actions

of center residents indicate possible danger to the national security, the facilities of local law enforcement agencies or of the Federal Department Of Justice will be utilized, but such actions will not be cause for detention in a War Relocation Authority Center.

Detailed policies for operation of the Tule Lake Center have not yet been finally determined. The War Relocation Authority will continue to administer the Tule Lake Center. However, once the segregation program has been finally completed, the segregation center, wherever located, will be operated by the Department Of Justice.
Unquote.

The statement above supersedes language in previously furnished policy statement about leave clearance and permits. Should be made available to all residents as supplement to previous statement.

D S MYER