



SPECIAL TRAIN IN AUGUST

It was announced yesterday afternoon by J. F. Rains, Acting Project Director, that another special train would leave the Project for the West Coast Area the week of August 12-18. The tentative date is August 17, but the definite date will be established by next Friday.

Mr. Rains said, "I have been advised by the Washington office that the Army and the Office of Defense Transportation have agreed to release railroad equipment for another special train to leave this month. This was done on our assurance that full use would be made of the equipment provided. The number of passengers who had signed up by noon Monday, when we made our report to Washington, was not quite sufficient to fill the train but we told officials there we were sure that enough people would register later to make full use of the equipment. We were forced to obligate ourselves to fill the train before the equipment could be released but because of the fine cooperation of the center residents in the past we are confident that we can fulfill this obligation."

Relocation Program Officer, C. B. Price, urged all center residents who plan to return to the West Coast Area on this train to come to the Relocation Office at once and make the necessary arrangements. Mr. Price said, "It takes several days to process the papers for leave, to make and pay grant vouchers, to arrange for freight shipments, and to get railroad tickets for a group movement such as this. It will save last minute delay and confusion for everyone concerned if this is done well in advance of departure."

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE NO. 285

Most of the Instructions and Notices that we receive from the Washington Office concern only the routine operation of the Project. However, the following Administrative Notice No. 285, is of such vital concern to so many people here, it was thought that it was worthwhile to reproduce it in full and make it available to all center residents.

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY WASHINGTON

July 25, 1945

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE NO. 285

Subject: Relocation of Dependent Persons from Relocation Centers

Summary

Dependent families who have been accepted by public welfare agency, with assistance and housing assured, will be required to set date for departure. If housing is not assured, Dis-

strict office will attempt to secure the dependent families who refuse to indicate choice of location or to discuss relocation will have to make their relocation plans by certain date or plan will be made for them. No transportation or other financial assistance shall be provided to dependent persons who depart for States in which they have no legal residence without assumption of responsibility for their support by other family members and without approval of public welfare agency in community of destination. No change is made in procedure for advance planning for dependent persons but centers are instructed as to procedure to use when planning is completed or when family fails to cooperate in planning.

I. Since the closing dates for the centers have been announced, it is necessary that we give special emphasis to the relocation of the dependent families and individuals who are still in the centers, in order that there may be an even flow of terminal departures.

By August 10 all dependency summaries, the "390 cases", will have been completed and referred to the various Area Relocation Offices. The only dependency cases for which summaries (WRA-390's) must be prepared after that date will be those not previously identified as needing continuing assistance.

It is the responsibility of the WRA to give dependent evacuees all available assistance in completing plans to leave the centers at the earliest possible date. It is our job to instill in them self-confidence which they once had and to assure them that assistance will be provided for upon relocation. These cases will require all the skill and assistance of the welfare staff in planning with the dependent evacuees. Although relocation of dependency cases must proceed in a regular and orderly manner, it should be borne in mind that no undue hardships should be imposed upon those who are confronted with a serious relocation problem. The approach of the staff toward relocation, particularly of this dependent group, should be one of friendly, but firm, action.

II. The group of dependent persons remaining in the centers fall into the following categories:

1. Those dependent persons who have been accepted by the public welfare agency of their State of legal residence, and for whom both assistance and housing have been assured, but who have postponed their departure for personal reasons.

If the reason for postponement is sound, and if the date on which they wish to leave will cause no difficulty in the transportation schedule their plan may be followed. Otherwise, the Project Director shall set a date for their departure, and shall follow through to make certain that they leave by the date set. If such persons wish to adjust their plans and leave the center at an earlier date, they shall assist them in completing arrangements.

2. Those dependent persons who have been accepted by the public welfare agency of their State of legal residence, with both assistance and housing assured, but who refuse to leave the centers.

In such instances the welfare staff shall discuss relocation plans with them, advising them that they have been accepted for assistance and that housing is available for them, stressing the importance of making plans to leave the center at an early date. The family shall be advised that they shall be advised of the departure date. If they refuse to arrange for packing of personal effects, arrangements for the packing to insure their leaving according to schedule shall be made for them. The attitude of these families shall not effect their eligibility for relocation assistance grants, temporary assistance, travel grants, and other assistance provided by WRA.

3. Those dependent persons who have been accepted by the public welfare agency of their state of legal residence for assistance, but for whom housing has not been located. The Project Director shall have prepared as soon as possible, and shall

supplement from time to time, a list of the dependent persons who are unable to leave the center because housing has not been located and shall send it to the appropriate district Relocation Officer, with copies to the area supervisor and to the Relocation Division of the Washington Office. The District Relocation Office shall give priority to those dependency cases for which housing has not been located. If the District office is unable to secure housing for such cases within two weeks the Relocation Division of the Washington Office shall be notified through the area adjustment advisor in order that necessary plans can be made to arrange for housing. After housing has been provided, the Welfare Section shall review the relocation plans with the family or individual, shall arrange a date for departure, and shall proceed as outlined in paragraphs 1 and 2.

4. These dependent persons who have been accepted by the public welfare agency of their State of legal residence, but who prefer to relocate in a State other than that of legal residence.

The Welfare staff shall review the relocation plan with the family, pointing out that States do not generally provide continuing assistance to persons who have not previously resided in the State. They shall be informed that the State in which they have legal residence has accepted them for assistance and the advantages of returning to that State should be pointed out to them. They shall be advised that the Welfare Section can assist them in planning to resettle in a community in which they do not have legal residence only if family members who are willing to assume responsibility for them have already relocated in that community.

In such cases a complete summary, including full information as to the probable extent of dependency in the family, shall be sent to the appropriate Area office. The plan shall be fully discussed by the Area or District officer with the relocated members and with the public welfare agency. If the relocated members will agree to assume responsibility for the dependent persons, or the public welfare agency shall approve the plan, the Authority will assist the family in arranging to resettle in that community.

If the plan is not agreeable to both the relocated members and the public welfare agency, the family shall be informed of this and advised to return to their community of legal residence. If they refuse, the procedure outlined under paragraph 5 shall be followed.

The attitude of these families shall not affect their eligibility for relocation assistance grants, temporary assistance, travel grants, and other assistance provided by WRA.

5. Those dependent persons who refuse to indicate a choice of location, but for whom the State of legal residence will assume full responsibility.

In such instances the Welfare Section shall inform the dependent persons that the public welfare agency will assume full responsibility, shall point out the advisability of returning to the State of legal residence, and shall inform them that although they do theoretically have a free choice in selecting a place to relocate, there will be no assurance of continuing assistance in a community in which they do not have legal residence.

Because of the statutory requirements of States in regard to legal residence for dependency cases, the Welfare Section shall not assist dependent persons in planning to locate in communities other than their legal residence unless their family members have resettled in the community and are willing and financially able to assume responsibility for the dependent members, and the local public welfare agency has approved the plan. If the dependent person insists on going to a State in which he has no legal residence and no relocated family member who is willing to assume responsibility for him, he shall be advised that he does so on his own responsibility and that the State may return him to his community of legal residence.

Such dependent persons shall be advised that they must indicate a departure date as well as destination within two weeks, and

the Project Director shall proceed as outlined in paragraphs 1 and 2, except that no transportation or other financial assistance shall be provided to dependent persons who depart for States in which they have no legal residence without an assumption of responsibility for their support by other family members and without the approval of the public welfare agency of the State or county of destination.

6. Those dependent persons who refuse to discuss relocation plans.

The Welfare Section shall interview the family or individual and advise them that they must submit a relocation plan, indicating date of departure and location, within two weeks. The advisability of returning to the place of legal residence and the problems involved in relocating in a community in which they do not have legal residence shall be pointed out.

If within the prescribed period they have not formulated a plan, including the date of departure and destination, the Welfare Section shall proceed to process the case as outlined in paragraph 5.

7. There will be a number of cases on which the center can take no action until negotiations with the Area office and the State or County Welfare Department have been completed. This group consists of:

- A. Those cases on which summaries have been submitted to the Area office, but replies have not been received.
- B. Those cases which the Area office has returned to the center for additional information.
- C. Those cases for which the public welfare department has been unable to establish residence. For example, itinerant farm laborers who have not maintained continuous residence in any one county, but who may be State residents.

Action on such cases shall be processed as promptly as possible. No dependent family shall be sent to a community until the summary has been approved by the welfare agency and arrangements for housing have been made.

III. The Welfare Section shall plan to visit each dependent family or individual and urge them to complete their relocation plans at the earliest possible date. The fact that a dependent person has not been informed as to the exact amount of grant that he will receive upon arrival in the community is not a legitimate reason for delaying relocation, inasmuch as it is the established policy of Welfare agencies to determine the family's needs and income. This analysis cannot be made until the family is physically present in the community.

IV. In arranging for transportation of the dependency cases discussed in this notice, it is essential that necessary clearance with the Area and District Relocation Offices, and State and county welfare departments, be made prior to their departure. In some instances it may be necessary for a WRA representative to accompany such dependent persons to the place of relocation. It may be advisable to arrange for housing at a hostel pending the location of more permanent housing.

In all cases, however, after the case has been accepted by the public welfare agency and a departure date has been decided upon by the center, the center shall advise the Area and District Relocation offices of the departure and arrival dates. After the final plan has been cleared with the public welfare agency, the Area office shall advise the center that clearance has been received. The center shall then arrange for final departure of the evacuee and advise the Area office. It may be necessary in particular cases to meet the bus or train and assist families in making their contacts with the local public agency.