

Bigelow

INFORMATION DIGEST

No. 48

August 23, 1943

For the Use of the WRA Staff

SEGREGATION--

All reports reaching Washington on segregation indicate that the process is going smoothly and according to schedule. No general attitudes of objection have developed at any center. While evacuees are asking numerous questions about their individual problems, the project staffs seem to thoroughly understand the segregation procedures and to be able to answer practically any questions which arise.

The Ninth Service Command under General Joyce has been designated by the War Department to handle the physical transfer of evacuees, and Colonel Karl Bendetsen has been detailed from the Western Defense Command to the Ninth Service Command to carry out the assignment. Malcolm Pitts is working with Colonel Bendetsen at Fort Douglas, Utah, the headquarters and control center for transfer questions.

To lessen the heavy work load on the Tule Lake staff resulting from segregation, a number of temporary staff additions have been made there. Several persons have been appointed to the Welfare section to help with the great volume of interviewing. Four persons have been detailed from other projects to serve on the segregation review board. Five relocation officers and one relocation supervisor have been assigned to Tule Lake to carry out the relocation aspects of the segregation process, and several Washington staff members are at the center helping out in other capacities.

Uniform pupil record transcript forms have been sent to each center school system for use in transmitting records of pupils to be transferred from one center to another during segregation.

DIRECTOR MYER'S FIELD TRIP--

Director Myer returned to Washington on August 18 from an extended trip which included the Denver segregation conference and visits to Granada and Heart Mountain centers, relocation offices at Columbus, Kansas City, Denver and Chicago, and property offices at Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle, and meetings with civic and business leaders and officials.

At both Heart Mountain and Granada, Mr. Myer noted the progress made since his last visits a year ago in physical facilities and general atmosphere of the communities.

The Director expressed particular interest in the start being made by relocation offices toward exploring relocation opportunities in the smaller communities of five or ten thousand population where there are good educational opportunities and reasonable living costs and where labor is needed.

While on the West Coast, Mr. Myer made trips out of the evacuee property offices inspecting evacuee-owned property and getting a first-hand picture of representative types of property problems.

He delivered two addresses one, before the Commonwealth Club in San Francisco and the other to the entire student body and faculty of the University of California. He also made numerous informal talks before small groups.

Among the organizations and individuals with whom Mr. Myer conferred during his trip were representatives of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Los Angeles League of Women Voters, Committee on American Principles and Fair Play, San Francisco labor leaders (both A.F. of L. and C.I.O.), the Mayor of San Francisco and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, John Regan of the Native Sons of the Golden West, Seattle business men, American Legion representatives and key civic leaders. In addition, he held several press conferences. The Los Angeles League of Women Voters seemed particularly interested in getting information on the WRA program and on national legislation affecting evacuees.

PHYSICIANS AND NURSES FOR CENTER POSITIONS INTERVIEWED--

The shortage of qualified applicants for medical positions at the projects is still critical, and the possibility of obtaining an adequate staff for center medical programs through the ordinary channels does not appear too favorable at the present time. Mr. Earl Brooks of the Washington personnel office recently returned from a trip to New York City where he interviewed a number of physicians and nurses whose names he had received from the War Manpower Commission. No qualified doctors from those sources were located, although Mr. Brooks found that there are numerous foreign physicians, most of whom have their first citizenship papers and are licensed to practice in New York State.

With respect to nurses, Mr. Brooks reports that his trip was somewhat more fruitful. He interviewed five nurses who appear to be qualified and who are now under consideration for positions at the centers.

PROGRESS ON WRA MOVIE--

The shooting of the 16 millimeter, colored movie on the relocation program has been completed, and Tom Parker of the Denver photographic unit is now in Washington to handle editing of the film.

The movie is intended to help the public get better acquainted with evacuees and the relocation program in general. It will show life within the centers, relocated families in cities and on farms, and the combat team in training at Camp Shelby.

PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES--

The following table shows the number of evacuees participating in various center activities as of July 15, 1943:

PROJECT	GIRL SCOUTS Scouts & Brownies	BOY SCOUTS Scouts & Cubs	YVCA	GIRL RE-SERVES YWCA Group	YVCA	HI-Y YMCA Group	CAMP FIRE GIRLS	AMERICAN RED CROSS	SERVICE TO VISIT- ING SOL- DIERS	PARENT TEACHERS GROUPS
Colorado River	419	162	30	50	-	-	-	4,000 Sr. 4,600 Jr.	-	-
Manzanar	-	200 ^{/2}	190	164	100	-	-	1,500 Sr. 1,294 Jr.	-	2,500
Gila River	305	432	125	250	53	-	-	450 Sr.	82	1,025
Tule Lake	22	375	52	180	-	41	60	900 Sr. 3,600 Jr.	-/5	2,000
Central Utah	120	240	185 includes Girl Reserves		50	-	-	868 Sr. 100% room member- ship- Jr.	-	300
Minidoka	175	125	150	150	-	30	-	2,000	450	350
Heart Mountain	280	360	410	40	385 ^{/1}	21	50	-/3	15/4	38/6
Granada	125	315	110	90	- ^{/3}	14	-	840 Sr. 150 Jr.	150	500
Rohwer	140	232	50	125	12 (Y Bd)	30	-	2,279 Sr. 1,635 Jr.	-	305
Jerome	-	-	100	75	30	-	-	-/3	165	400

1. Includes affiliated clubs
2. Approximately
3. Being initiated
4. USO affiliate
5. Membership not known
6. Block delegate basis

GILA RIVER DEHYDRATION PLANT IN OPERATION--

The Gila River dehydration plant started operations on July 21 with the processing of 2,800 pounds of bulb onions. An estimated gross of 1,000 tons of dehydrated vegetables including carrots, spinach, potatoes, and beets is expected to be produced this year.

FIELD REPORTS OFFICERS TO BE APPOINTED--

The Bureau of the Budget has approved the appointment of reports officers at Cleveland, Chicago, Kansas City, Denver, and San Francisco. The jobs will be filled as soon as they are approved by the Civil Service Commission and qualified people can be recruited.

The reports officer attached to the San Francisco office will be responsible for all phases of WRA's public relations program in that area, and in particular for the public relations phase of the evacuee property program. He will also keep the projects informed on property matters.

At the other cities, the reports officers will be assigned to the relocation offices. They will be engaged in the public relations aspects of the area relocation program, in assembling relocation guidance material for their area, and in reporting to the Washington office on the progress of relocation.

NEW WRA PUBLICATIONS--

The following publications have been issued by WRA within the last several months:

The Relocation Program (English and Japanese versions), pamphlet for distribution to evacuees. A sufficient number was sent to each project so that one copy in each language could be delivered to each apartment.

Relocation of Japanese Americans, illustrated booklet for general public on the whole relocation program.

Pertinent Facts About Relocation Centers and Japanese Americans, multilingual leaflet. Quotations from prominent people on Japanese-Americans.

RED CROSS DRIVES--

Amounts collected for the Red Cross at each relocation center are tabulated below. The figures are as of July 15, 1943.

<u>Center</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Colorado River	(not available)
Manzanar	\$1,554.00
Gila River	2,156.86
Tule Lake	1,900.00 - Sr. 400.00 - Jr.
Central Utah	1,660.00 - Sr. 60.00 - Jr.
Minidoka	2,600.59
Heart Mountain	(Drive in process)

Center cont'd

Amount cont'd

Granada

1,840.00

Rohwer

3,654.00 - Sr.

127.41 - Jr.

Jerome

(Drive in process)

PERSONNEL CHANGES---

John Embree, Head of the Community Analysis Section, will leave about September 1 to serve on the staff of the Far Eastern section of the Army Specialists Training program for officers at Chicago University. Mr. Embree will continue to hold an appointment with WRA as Consultant.

Frank Sweetser, Mr. Embree's assistant, is also leaving to accept a commission in the United States Navy. Edward Spicer, community analyst at Poston, will succeed Mr. Sweetser. No successor for Mr. Embree has yet been appointed.

Joseph Fitzhenry, who has been in charge of the transportation section of the San Francisco evacuee property office, has resigned to accept a commission in the Transportation Corps of the Army. S. A. Dunsay, formerly employed in the Los Angeles property office, is replacing Mr. Fitzhenry.

Two public welfare consultants, Orville Crays and Charles Guild, have been appointed on the Washington staff of the welfare section. They will visit the center from time to time to consult with project directors and welfare staff members regarding the operations of the center welfare programs.

LEAVE CLEARANCES--

35,800 cases have been submitted to the Provost Marshall General's office for clearance by the Joint Board, and 12,836 cases have been returned. Of that number, 121 were approved for war work and 12,000 for employment or residence within the Eastern Defense Command.

76,600 cases have gone to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and 73,313 have been returned.

CENTRAL UTAH RELOCATION PROGRAM

Techniques adopted at Central Utah in connection with the relocation program may be of interest to other projects.

Last April a relocation council or committee was organized which began by holding daily conferences for the purpose of presenting ideas for speeding up the program and reporting on progress. The project director took charge of this phase; associating with him were the chief of employment, placement officer, welfare chief and others. A complete cross-indexing of potential man and woman power was prepared; job offers were posted and otherwise publicized. As greater and greater stress was placed on the relocation phase of center activity, it was decided late in June to reorganize the project leave program completely. The reorganization involved the following:

(1) Centralization of all leave activities:

All activities involved in the relocation process were housed under one roof, including placement, leave, family relocation, student relocation, representatives of the evacuee property office, fiscal office, welfare and relocation, a traffic desk, and counseling unit. A large CCC building was taken over by the leave office for this purpose. The entire process of being relocated from the first inquiry about an available job offer to the final clearance, issuance of indefinite leave and ration books is now accomplished at the same place.

(2) Case history docket:

Each visitor to the relocation office is greeted by a Receptionist Counsellor who prepares a docket or secures a docket previously prepared from the files, covering the service rendered and indicating the status of the resident's relocation procedure. Entries are made showing what is accomplished on each visit, whether it is for information only or for final clearance.

(3) Analysis of job offers:

Every job offer is carefully studied in order that the relocation office may be sure that there is no one within the project who might take the offer but who has not had an opportunity to learn all about it. This involves personalized service as well as published announcements.

(4) Relocation forums:

A relocation forum, established under the chairmanship of the head of the adult education section, acquaints the prospective outside worker with a picture of civilian life, of customs being followed in wartime, of rationing and housing in various regions, and any other facts which may be of assistance in helping evacuees to reestablish themselves. Residents who are planning to relocate are urged to attend this forum at least once before they leave the center.

TEACHER SHORTAGE A PROSPECT--

There will probably be a shortage of teachers at many centers when the schools open in September. A number of former teachers have advised WRA that they are not coming back next year. Special requests have been filed with the District Civil Service offices for assistance in recruiting teachers.

ENGRAVED SCHOOL DIPLOMAS PROHIBITED--

The Congressional Joint Committee on Printing has advised WRA that engraving and binding of diplomas for schools at centers is not a justifiable expenditure of government funds. Printed, unbound diplomas may be furnished to students, however, the committee said.

FIELD PROCUREMENT OFFICES OPEN--

WRA field procurement offices are now staffed and open for business at Los Angeles, Denver, Chicago, and Little Rock.

TULE LAKE RELOCATION PROGRAM--

The increase in indefinite leaves at Tule Lake during the segregation period has been greater than at any other center. The increase in absences there for the week ending August 14--which saw the largest net weekly increase since July 10--was double that of the previous week.

Taking all 10 projects together, there has been a gradual weekly rise in the number of persons out on indefinite leave from July 17 (278) to August 14 (391).

AGRICULTURAL AND CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS--

Agricultural production at most centers will probably fall somewhat short of the amount originally planned for, according to Ervin J. Utz, Chief of the Agricultural and Engineering Division, who recently returned from a trip which included Minidoka, the California and Arizona centers, and Granada. Tule Lake and Gila River will probably most nearly reach their goals. The low volume of production, Mr. Utz feels, is partly due to the difficulty the centers have had in getting their livestock enterprises started and the failure to construct facilities on time. Crops were looking well at most centers, although in Arizona the tomato crop is falling far short of expectations as a result of the extremely hot weather.

Mr. Utz's observations bear out a progress survey made by the Agricultural Division as of the end of June. This showed that the centers as a whole had reached less than 60 percent of the production estimates planned in March. From the project food budget of 45¢ per person per day, only 31¢ may be used for the purchase of food on the market. Since the other 14¢ must be produced on the center, the production program will necessarily have to be speeded up to meet present requirements.

A bright spot in the total agricultural picture comes from Gila River where 2,301,476 pounds of vegetables were harvested in July. Included in this figure were 922,032 pounds of watermelon, of which 26,000 pounds were shipped to Poston and 67,389 pounds were sold to the local Army Quartermaster depot and to appointed personnel. Since the inception of the Gila agricultural program in July, 1942, the value of the gross agricultural production is almost half a million dollars. This has furnished a considerable portion of the food consumed at Gila River, as well as more than 100 carloads of vegetables for other centers.

Construction work is progressing slowly, Mr. Utz found, and developmental work at several centers is being held up because of inability to secure repairs for equipment.

SPACE AVAILABLE AT CRYSTAL CITY--

As a result of the anticipated sailing of the Gripsholm, it is expected that space will be available within a couple of months at the Crystal City family internment camp for 50 additional families from relocation centers. Only about 7 percent of those who have applied can be accommodated at that time.

CIVIL SERVICE APPOINTMENT OF EVACUEES--

On August 13, the United States Civil Service Commission issued Circular Letter No. 4056 stating that it would complete its investigation of any U.S. citizen of Japanese descent within three weeks after the eligible is selected for appointment.

The effect of the new order is to make the Civil Service appointment of evacuees a practical possibility by shortening the period between the time when the applicant is selected by the employing agency and the date he can report for duty. The ordinary Commission character investigation takes anywhere from one to six months.

The requirement of a special Civil Service investigation for all U.S. citizens of Japanese ancestry was established by the Commission on June 23, 1943. For three months prior to that date, the Commission had a policy under which evacuees who had been granted indefinite leave could be appointed on the same basis as any other Civil Service eligible, with the character investigation taking place after appointment.

Copies of the Circular Letter are being mimeographed for distribution to relocation and employment offices.

PROCEDURAL ISSUANCES--

The following procedural material has been issued since August 2.

Administrative Instructions

AI 13, Sup. 2, Rev.	Basic Personnel Manual-- Classification of Positions	8-12-43
AI-13, Sup. 4,	Basic Personnel Manual--Emergency Assignment	8- 5-43
AI-13, Sup. 5	Basic Personnel Manual--Temporary Appointments	8- 5-43
AI-13, Sup. 6	Hours of Work, Overtime & Compensatory Leave for Appoinitive Personnel at Relocation Centers	8- 5-43
AI-13, Sup. 7	Leave for Personal Business, Projects	8- 5-43
AI-15, Part III, Sup. 2	Communications Procedures--Printed Letterheads	8- 4-43
AI-16	Cancellation	8- 5-43
AI-17	Cancellation	8-16-43
AI-27, Rev.	Employment & Compensation	8- 4-43
AI-33, Sup. 4	Staple Foods Inventories and Requisitions	7-29-43
AI-39, Sup. 2, Rev.	Release of Bonding Companies from Liability under Bond	8- 6-43
AI-41, Rev.	Accounting--Transmission of Finance Manual	8-11-43
AI-45, Sup. 4, Rev.	Assignment to Evacuees Granted Indefinite Leave for the Purpose of Accepting Employment	8- 7-43

AI-78, Sup. 2	Storage and Transportation of Household Goods, etc.--transportation in the event of taking indefinite leave from Tule Lake in lieu of moving to another center	8-17-43
AI-92, Sup. 1	Position Control--Budget Control Items	8- 4-43
AI-104	"Family Status Withholding Exemption" of Evacuees on Leave	8- 7-43

Handbook Releases

I	Issuances of Leave for Departure from Relocation Area	7-20-43
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Manual Releases

I	Table of Contents and Procedures	7- 6-43
2	Solicitor's Opinions and Official Forms	7- 6-43
3	Legal Services at Centers	8- 9-43
4	Organization of WRA	8- 7-43