

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY

Washington

January 3, 1944

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTICE

Subject: Manual Release No. 48

Distribution: A

Attached is another portion of the Manual Section on Community Activities, dealing with religious activities at centers, Section

30.5.20 to 30.5.25

This supersedes Administrative Instruction No. 32, which may now be destroyed. Note new material in 30.5.21 which provides for an inter-faith council, and in 30.5.24 which specifies conditions under which clothing allowances may be issued to families of religious workers.

Executive Officer

- .20 The right of freedom of religious worship in WRA centers is recognized and shall be respected. Religious services may be conducted in the Japanese language where that has been customary. Religious Rights at Centers
- .21 An inter-faith Council should be constituted at each center, with representatives of all sects, denominations and religions holding services represented. This council should consult with the Chief of Community Management or his designee concerning problems of general religious interest. Inter-Faith Council
- .22 Requests of pastors, ministers, priests, or other religious workers residing outside a center for permission to engage in religious activities within a center shall be submitted to the Project Director, and through him to the Community Council for approval. Permits to such religious workers shall be issued by the Project Director only when approved both by the Community Council and by him. The Community Council may designate the Inter-Faith Council to act for it in such matters. Requests for Religious Services
- .23 A. At each center, the War Relocation Authority, if materials are available, will provide for the construction of one building to be used as a general place of worship by the several denominations represented in the center.
- B. Labor for the erection of church buildings shall be provided by the War Relocation Authority from among the evacuees, as a work project.
- C. Altar furnishings and other religious equipment will be provided by each denomination. Church Buildings
- D. The Project Director may make available for church purposes other quarters such as recreation halls, school assembly halls, etc.
- E. Should church quarters be inadequate to permit separate rooms to be set aside for the sole use of each sect or denomination,

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the successive use of one building or room by several denominations or groups may be required. In such event the Community Council shall establish a schedule for each available facility indicating the days and hours of each week when such facilities may be used by each denomination.

F. Where the successive use of church quarters is necessary, each denomination will be required, when necessary, to remove and store at the conclusion of each service, any altars or other equipment peculiar to its own use and leave the quarters in readiness for the next user.

G. In the event any recognized religious denomination wishes to construct a church or chapel within a relocation area at its own expense, it shall make application to the Project Director for that privilege. The Project Director shall present such application to the Community Council and, if the application is approved by both the Community Council and the Project Director, the Project Director shall designate a place within the relocation area for the erection of such a structure. The Project Director shall advise the Director of every such decision and in the event that the Director approves the decision, he shall request the Solicitor to prepare a lease between the church and the War Relocation Authority, setting forth the terms and conditions upon which construction of the church shall be permitted. The terms of such lease shall contain among other necessary conditions, the following:

- (1) A rental of \$1.00 per year for use of the ground occupied by such church.

Church  
Buildings  
(Cont'd.)

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- (2) Evacuee labor used in the construction of such church buildings shall be on a voluntary basis and on the evacuees' uncompensated time.
- (3) The War Relocation Authority will furnish water, light, and heat for such churches, but all other expenses, including maintenance, repairs, replacement and janitor service, shall be borne by the denomination.

.24 The following regulations shall govern the compensation of religious workers:

- A. Evacuee religious workers may be assigned to regular project work for which they are qualified, and may receive compensation, including clothing allowances, for such duties, at the rates prescribed by the War Relocation Authority, or
- B. Evacuee religious workers may receive compensation from their congregation in the center or from the denomination which they represent.
- C. Evacuee religious workers shall not be eligible to receive WRA compensation (including clothing allowance) for the performance of religious duties. Where a worker receives compensation from a congregation or denomination in an amount not exceeding \$19 per month, his immediate family members shall be eligible to receive regular clothing allowances from the War Relocation Authority.

Compensation  
of Religious  
Workers

.25 Religious workers other than evacuees shall not be permitted to reside permanently within any relocation area.

Residence  
of religious  
Workers

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Supersedes, A.I. #32