

INFORMATION BULLETIN

Tule Lake Center

Newell, California

January 3, 1945

NOTE: This bulletin is issued by the project administration for the information of center residents and to help them to better understand policies as a result of the lifting of the blanket exclusion order. It is a supplement to the policy statement furnished to center residents. In addition it contains a message from the Secretary of the Interior, Harold L. Ickes.

WRA Leave Clearance

Persons who are cleared by the Army authorities are no longer required to obtain leave clearance or permits from WRA in order to relocate from the center.

Exclusion Orders

Exclusees who have received individual orders from the Army specifying certain areas where they cannot go, may resettle in areas open for their residence, but at a date to be announced not before January 20.

Military Permits

Military permits will be required for exclusees when leaving this center.

Persons Not Eligible To Leave

The only persons not eligible to leave the center at this time are those who have been placed on a stop list by the Army, exclusees or parolees or deportees, ordered detained by the Department of Justice. All other persons will be permitted to leave on their own request. The fact that any resident has applied for repatriation or has been denied leave clearance by WRA or placed on a WRA stop list, will not prevent him from leaving the center, provided he is not on the Army stop list.

Army Stop List

The stop list prepared by the Army is a list of persons who may not leave the center. Cases are being considered for the purpose of classification either for exclusion, segregation or total clearance.

Army Hearings

Any exclusee who has received notice that he may not go to certain areas in the country, may apply to the Western Defense Command for a hearing if he wishes his exclusion to be reconsidered. To apply for appeal, a letter should be written to the Western Defense Command, Presidio, San Francisco, California.

Repatriation

Any alien or citizen wishing to apply for exchange to Japan, known as repatriation or expatriation, should do so through the Spanish Embassy. WRA will no longer take these applications, or withdrawals of requests previously made. Such applications or withdrawals will not affect the status of the applicant in so far as WRA is concerned, and will not be regarded by any Government agency as grounds in itself for detention.

Renunciation of Citizenship

A citizen who wishes to renounce his United States citizenship should apply to the Attorney General, Department of Justice, Washington D.C. The disposal of such cases and the subsequent status of such an individual will be determined by the Department of Justice. Further hearings by representatives of the United States Attorney General will be held at the center. Revocation of citizenship in itself will not be grounds for detention either under Army order by the Department of Justice.

Relocation Plans

Persons eligible to leave the center will be permitted to do so on 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 by WRA shall not be entitled to relocation assistance grants or assistance in property transportation. They will not be permitted to reenter the center except as visitors under new visiting restrictions. Aliens must comply with the laws requiring notification of the U.S. Attorney, the Immigration and Naturalization Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigations and obtain travel permits. Advance approval of the Department of Justice must be secured by parolees and deportees.

Relocation Office

Within a short time WRA will provide the facilities of a relocation planning office at this center. Every aid will be given here which is available to persons in the other Relocation centers. Detailed announcements of these services and the location of this office will be made as soon as possible.

Temporary Leave

Eligible citizen evacuees desiring to leave the center for a short period with the privilege of return may apply to the Project Director for such permission. The Project Director may grant such permission in special cases. He will then issue a pass indicating the date of departure, date of return to the center and the purpose of the trip. Failure to return as specified in the pass will make him ineligible to come back into the center and also ineligible for relocation assistance grants. In no event may a pass be granted for a period longer than 30 days. Eligible aliens may be granted such permission with advance approval of the Department of Justice. All such travel shall be at the expense of the evacuee.

Transfers and Visiting Between Centers

Visits between centers will be restricted to emergencies in cases of critical illness or funerals. In some cases visits may be arranged with the approval of the Relocation Planning Officer when it is necessary to complete family relocation plans. Except upon advance specific approval of Director Myer there shall be no further transfers of evacuees from one center to another.

Visiting By Outsiders

Visits to the center by outsiders will be necessarily restricted to limited cases. Advance approval of the Project Director will be required.

Message from Secretary Ives

To the great majority of you have been, or soon will be restored the full personal privileges which were yours before military necessity demanded the evacuation. My own reaction to the lifting of the mass exclusion orders is one of deep satisfaction. I am proud that our nation during the progress of a devastating world conflict, can concern itself with the restoration of complete civil liberties to a minority segment of our population.

I congratulate you upon the recognition you have received as a group and I want to express my heartfelt appreciation of the patience and understanding which the great majority of you have displayed as cooperative and law-abiding residents of relocation centers. Few groups in the population, outside of those in uniform, have made a greater personal sacrifice than you have during the past three years.

The one-third of your original group who have left the centers have proved to you that opportunity, acceptance and personal satisfaction may be yours in states other than those which were your former homes. More important to you, however, is the fact that these 33,000 men, women and children have proved to the nation that they, and you, may be quiet, law-abiding and useful members of a free society when given the opportunity. Still more important to you and to your future is the almost incredible record that your sons and husbands have made fighting for this country on every battlefield of the war. Every thinking man and woman in the United States shares my pride and thankfulness for their bravery and their unstinting sacrifice to home and country.

The announcement that the centers will of necessity be closed within one year should not be alarming to you, for many reasons. The facilities of the War Relocation Authority and the Department of the Interior will continue to be available to you for that period, and every assistance will be directed toward helping each of you to make a satisfactory resettlement in the community of your choice.

I hope that the great majority of families in the centers will find it possible to work out acceptable relocation plans during the next few months. I think that your best opportunity will be found while war production activities and employment needs still remain at existing levels. It is my considered judgment that a wider opportunity, for most of you, lies in states east of the Sierra Nevadas, where your friends, and in many instances members of your families, are establishing new and successful homes. But, regardless of where you finally decide to relocate, all of you who leave the centers during the next several months can be assured that the War Relocation Authority will make every reasonable effort to facilitate your transition back to private life.