

WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
Washington

POST-EXCLUSION BULLETIN NO. 7

March 13, 1945

Visits by Persons Discharged from West Coast Institutions

There has apparently been some misunderstanding about the policy stated in Post-Exclusion Bulletin No. 5 governing center admission of persons of Japanese ancestry who are discharged from mental institutions and tubercular hospitals in the West Coast area. Since such persons, even though discharged, are frequently in need of almost continuous personal attention, it is important that they be reunited with their immediate family members at the earliest opportunity. The appropriate relocation officer in the West Coast area should effect such a reunion by developing a relocation opportunity for the family members who are still residing in relocation centers. Where this is not immediately practicable, but the family has a definite plan for later relocation, consideration may be given to having the discharged patient visit the appropriate center for relocation planning purposes in accordance with 150.1.10C even though the visitor in such case may not be in a position to take the initiative in such planning. Negotiations for such visits, of course, may be carried on between the field office and the center, (by wire, if necessary) and need not be approved by the Washington office. When a discharged patient visits a center and it appears that a hardship would result from his leaving at the termination of his approved visit, then a relocation plan should be developed for the entire family, specifying a departure date, and the case submitted to the National Director for extension of visit in accordance with 150.1.10H(3) and Post-Exclusion Bulletin No. 6.

Travel Permits for Alaska

Despite the notice in Post-Exclusion Bulletin No. 2, travel permits to Alaska are being handled somewhat differently from those involving travel to Hawaii. Evacuees desiring to relocate to Alaska should be advised hereafter to submit their applications to the Office of the Provost Marshal General, War Department, Washington, D. C. They should also be given to understand that the procedure for obtaining such a permit is a rather long and involved one and that a decision in their individual cases will probably not be forthcoming immediately. Sailing dates should not be set in advance of completion of necessary clearances as disappointment is almost certain to result. Each person or family will, however, be notified as soon as clearance and arrangements are actually completed.

Departure of Evacuees to Serve Short-Term Jail Sentence

Under Manual 50.11.10D evacuees leaving the centers to serve jail sentences of less than six months' duration should be issued short-term passes. Those leaving to serve jail terms of six months or more shall be put on terminal departure. Those who have previously been put on indefinite leave or terminal departure to serve jail sentences and who are now being discharged are not eligible for reinduction to the centers.

Relocation Assistance for Reservists

In accordance with the policy outlined by the Director in a letter to all project directors dated May 12, 1944, it has been determined that members of the Enlisted Reserve Corps will not ordinarily be eligible for relocation assistance since they are subject to call at almost any time. The one exception, however, is in case a member of the ERC is going out in company with one or more of his immediate family members to assist them in getting re-established. In such cases, the Reservist will be eligible for relocation assistance on the same basis as the other family members.

Property Transportation for those Relocating to Hawaii or Alaska

Shipment of personal property to Hawaii or Alaska at government expense will be available only for (1) evacuees who are leaving the centers to relocate in Hawaii or Alaska, and (2) evacuees who relocated prior to the lifting of the exclusion order and who were originally evacuated from Hawaii or Alaska. Previously relocated evacuees who now wish to go to Hawaii or Alaska but who were not evacuated therefrom are eligible for transportation of personal property (including commercial property under present limitations) to point of embarkation from Government storage, private storage in the evacuated area, and the railhead nearest point of relocation. Such shipments may be made even though the property has previously been moved at government expense. Manual Sections 100.3.8A(2) and 150.1.9B(1) are being revised accordingly.

Relocation Assistance for Evacuees on Trial Indefinite

It has been called to our attention that there is a conflict between Handbook Section 60.12.3B and preliminary revisions of 60.3.2, already sent to the field, governing the time limit on trial-indefinite leave people who apply for relocation assistance. Despite the implications of the latter section, evacuees on trial indefinite are eligible to apply for assistance any time within 30 days after their leave expires. In other words, there is a 30-day period of grace. This provision, however, does not apply to persons on seasonal leave. The latter group must apply before expiration of the leave permit (as originally issued or subsequently extended) in order to be eligible for assistance on the same basis as center residents.

More on Personal Property Transportation

It has been called to our attention that there are a number of cases where evacuees leaving the centers wish to relocate to one place for a few months' work and then later rejoin family members in another locality. Since Manual Section 150.1.9B specifies that personal property may be shipped only to the point of relocation, it has previously been impossible in such cases for center residents to have their property shipped at government expense to the point where they ultimately intend to settle. The Manual, however, is being changed

so that hereafter any center resident eligible for property transportation may have his property shipped to any point he may designate regardless of whether this coincides with his initial destination.

Deadline on Property in WRA Warehouses

All evacuees other than excludees, who have property in storage in WRA warehouses, shall be required to remove such property not later than 15 months after revocation of the general exclusion orders, or by April 2, 1946. Evacuees returning to the previously evacuated area shall normally be required to remove such property within 60 days after they return. However, if an evacuee is not prepared to remove such property within 60 days because of lack of family housing, a second move, or other personal circumstances, he may apply in writing to the appropriate area supervisor for an extension, giving full justification, and may be granted an extension of up to 90 days additional -- 150 days maximum total -- if in the judgment of the area supervisor the facts warrant. The time shall be computed according to the movement of the family member in whose name the property is stored. Manual Section 150.1.9C is being changed accordingly.

More on Travel Grants for Hawaiian Evacuees

Following our clarification on travel grants for Hawaiian evacuees carried in Post-Exclusion Bulletin No. 6, a question has been raised regarding assistance after March 1, 1946 -- the date when the field offices are scheduled to close. WRA, of course, can make no commitments that it will provide assistance after its field offices have ceased to function. However, if there are any Hawaiian evacuees who are unable to book boat passage at any time between now and March 1, 1946, it seems reasonable to assume that those with good reasons and insufficient funds for returning should be able to obtain assistance from the appropriate welfare agencies.

Visits by Soldiers' Wives and Family Members

Hereafter the wives of soldiers on furlough or the wives of enlisted reservists may accompany their husbands on visits to the centers even though the visits are merely for social purposes. In addition, approval may be given to visits by immediate family members of these men wherever it appears that this may be the final family reunion before the man enters active duty or is reassigned. All such visits, however, should be of limited duration -- with a time limit set in advance -- and the wives and relatives should be regarded as paying guests. Advance approval of the field relocation offices will not be required for such visits. However, the Project Director should be reasonably sure that it is understood that the wife or family member is returning for a visit and not permanent residence before he grants permission to enter the center.