

March 19, 1942

Board of Governors  
Mr. Wyatt, General Counsel

Executive Order establishing  
War Relocation Authority

For the Board's information, there is attached a copy of an Executive Order issued yesterday afternoon establishing the War Relocation Authority and prescribing its functions. Mr. M. S. Eisenhower of the Department of Agriculture was appointed Director of this Authority and took his oath this morning.

Special attention is invited to the following paragraphs:

Paragraph No. 5, which may create some conflict with the work now being done by the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco with respect to the protection of property of evacuees under authority delegated by the Treasury, the Alien Property Custodian, and the military commander.

Paragraph No. 8 establishing a Liaison Committee on War Relocation, which includes representatives of several departments and agencies, not including the Board, and authorizing the Director to add representatives of additional agencies.

Paragraph No. 10, which is designed to prevent duplication of evacuation activities.

I am informed by the General Counsel of the Director of the Budget that Mr. Eisenhower intends to delegate to the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco authority to continue to protect the property of persons being evacuated from the Pacific Coast military areas. This may add to the existing confusion respecting the authority and duties of the Federal Reserve Bank.

I have brought this to the attention of Mr. Bernard Bernstein, Assistant General Counsel of the Treasury Department, and we shall confer on what steps, if any, should be taken to clarify the position of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.

Respectfully,

Walter Wyatt,  
General Counsel.

Attachment

3/18/42

EXECUTIVE ORDER

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ESTABLISHING THE WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY IN THE  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT AND DEFINING  
ITS FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES

By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes of the United States, as President of the United States and Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy, and in order to provide for the removal from designated areas of persons whose removal is necessary in the interests of national security, it is ordered as follows:

1. There is established in the Office for Emergency Management of the Executive Office of the President the War Relocation Authority, at the head of which shall be a Director appointed by and responsible to the President.
2. The Director of the War Relocation Authority is authorized and directed to formulate and effectuate a program for the removal, from the areas designated from time to time by the Secretary of War or appropriate military commander under the authority of Executive Order No. 9066 of February 19, 1942, of the persons or classes of persons designated under such Executive Order, and for their relocation, maintenance, and supervision.
3. In effectuating such program the Director shall have authority to--
  - (a) Accomplish all necessary evacuation not undertaken by the Secretary of War or appropriate military commander, provide for the relocation of such persons in appropriate places, provide for their needs in such manner as may be appropriate, and supervise their activities.
  - (b) Provide, insofar as feasible and desirable, for the employment of such persons at useful work in industry, commerce, agriculture, or public projects, prescribe the terms and conditions of such public employment, and safeguard the public interest in the private employment of such persons.
  - (c) Secure the cooperation, assistance, or services of any governmental agency.
  - (d) Prescribe regulations necessary or desirable to promote effective execution of such program, and, as a means of coordinating evacuation and relocation activities, consult with the

Secretary of War with respect to regulations issued and measures taken by him.

(e) Make such delegations of authority as he may deem necessary.

(f) Employ necessary personnel, and make such expenditures, including the making of loans and grants and the purchase of real property, as may be necessary, within the limits of such funds as may be made available to the Authority.

4. The Director shall consult with the United States Employment Service and other agencies on employment and other problems incident to activities under this order.

5. The Director shall cooperate with the Alien Property Custodian appointed pursuant to Executive Order No. 9095 of March 11, 1942, in formulating policies to govern the custody, management, and disposal by the Alien Property Custodian of property belonging to foreign nationals removed under this order or under Executive Order No. 9066 of February 19, 1942; and may assist all other persons removed under either of such Executive Orders in the management and disposal of their property.

6. Departments and agencies of the United States are directed to cooperate with and assist the Director in his activities hereunder. The Departments of War and Justice, under the direction of the Secretary of War and the Attorney General, respectively, shall insofar as consistent with the national interest provide such protective, police and investigational services as the Director shall find necessary in connection with activities under this order.

7. There is established within the War Relocation Authority the War Relocation Work Corps. The Director shall provide, by general regulations, for the enlistment in such Corps, for the duration of the present war, of persons removed under this order or under Executive Order No. 9066 of February 19, 1942, and shall prescribe the terms and conditions of the work to be performed by such Corps, and the compensation to be paid.

8. There is established within the War Relocation Authority a Liaison Committee on War Relocation, which shall consist of the Secretary of War, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of Labor, the Federal Security Administrator, the Director of Civilian Defense, and the Alien Property Custodian, or their deputies, and

such other persons or agencies as the Director may designate. The Liaison Committee shall meet at the call of the Director and shall assist him in his duties.

9. The Director shall keep the President informed with regard to the progress made in carrying out this order, and perform such related duties as the President may from time to time assign to him.

10. In order to avoid duplication of evacuation activities under this order and Executive Order No. 9066 of February 19, 1942, the Director shall not undertake any evacuation activities within military areas designated under said Executive Order No. 9066, without the prior approval of the Secretary of War or the appropriate military commander.

11. This order does not limit the authority granted in Executive Order No. 8972 of December 12, 1941; Executive Order No. 9066 of February 19, 1942; Executive Order No. 9095 of March 11, 1942; Executive Proclamation No. 2525 of December 7, 1941; Executive Proclamation No. 2526 of December 8, 1941; Executive Proclamation No. 2527 of December 8, 1941; Executive Proclamation No. 2533 of December 29, 1941; or Executive Proclamation No. 2537 of January 14, 1942; nor does it limit the functions of the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
March 18, 1942.

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