U. S. Department of Labor

BUREAU OF LIMIGRATION

Washington

No. 53430/110 55266/General

September 26, 1927.

GENERAL ORDER NO. 97.

SUBJECT: Voluntary Departure of Aliens Unlawfully in the United States.

(a) If and when an alien unlawfully in the United States elects, and is permitted, voluntarily to depart therefrom without formal deportation proceedings having been instituted, the immigrant inspector actually witnessing the departure will cause completed voluntary return card (Form 642) to be signed by the said alien, which card shall be filed in the immigration office to which the said immigrant inspector is attached. The number of aliens of each nationality so departing and the number departing to each country shall be reported monthly on Form 651. Of the preparation of voluntary return card Form 642, the country for which the alien departs will be shown in the blank space reserved for "Remarks".

In cases arising under the provision of law relating to the criminal, immoral, or anarchistic classes voluntary departure shall not be permitted without Departmental approval.

(b) When a warrant of arrest has been applied for but not received, the alien covered thereby may be permitted in emergent or meritorious cases to depart voluntarily, as provided for in paragraph "a" hereof, although when warrant has been received even though not served, Departmental approval for voluntary departure must be obtained. If a warrant has been served and the alien, at any stage of the warrant hearing, personally or through his attorney, makes written request voluntarily to depart, the facts with recommendation may be communicated briefly to the bureau, by wire (if necessary), to be followed by record of hearing. In the classes of cases covered by this paragraph, Forms 642 and 651 will be employed. In all cases of the foregoing character where warrants of arrest are issued, the warrants shall be returned with appropriate indorsement showing disposition of the aliens thereby covered.

Districts which have not heretofore used the cards above referred to may secure them immediately upon special request and later upon regular requisition as required.

HARRY E. HULL, Commissioner General.

APPROVED:

ROBE CARL WHITE, Assistant Secretary.

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