

APHIS ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTIVE 100.3
10/30/79

REQUESTS BY FOREIGN NATIONALS FOR ASYLUM

I. PURPOSE

This Directive states policy and procedures for APHIS personnel on receipt of a request for asylum from foreign nationals.

II. CANCELLATION

Cancel APHIS Directive 100.3 (4/28/72).

III. POLICY OF UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Foreign nationals requesting asylum or temporary refuge of the United States Government should have their requests considered as soon as possible. Each request must be handled on an individual basis, considering humanitarian principles, applicable laws, and other factors.

U.S. personnel who may receive a request for asylum within a territory under the jurisdiction of the United States, aboard a U.S. vessel or aircraft, or over U.S. territorial waters or the high seas, should become familiar with procedures for handling such requests.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. APHIS Personnel Stationed in a Territory Under the Jurisdiction of the United States. Upon receipt of a request for asylum, or an indication that a request is imminent, the APHIS Official-in-Charge should:

1. Immediately telephone the Operations Center (202-632-1512) of the Department of State, giving:
 - a. Name and nationality of person seeking asylum
 - b. Date and place of birth.
 - c. Current location (if aboard ship or airplane, expected arrival time at next port or airport).

The Center Operations Officer will maintain contact with APHIS until the designated action officer in the Department of State takes charge.

2. Confirm the telephone call by sending an IMMEDIATE precedence telegram to the Operations Center, 2201 C Street NW., Washington, D.C., summarizing all available information.
3. Provide protective custody or call upon law enforcement authorities to maintain order. However, the safety of United States personnel must be considered at all times.
4. Respond to inquiries from foreign authorities by stating the case has been referred to the Department of State for instructions.
5. Promptly advise the nearest office of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) of any request for asylum.
 - a. Furnish all known details.

- b. Arrange to transfer the case to INS as soon as feasible.
 - c. Follow any procedures already in effect between APHIS and INS.
6. Inform the Administrator, through the appropriate Deputy Administrator, of the request for asylum. Forward to the Administrator information copies of material sent to the Department of State.
- B. APHIS Personnel Stationed in a Foreign Jurisdiction. APHIS employees assigned to posts outside the United States should immediately contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or Consular Office for instructions.

Signed by:

JAMES O. LEE, JR.

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