

Rules proposed for aliens seeking amnesty

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Reagan administration on Tuesday proposed strict continuous-residency requirements for illegal aliens applying for amnesty, including one that would limit absences from this country in recent years to 30 days at a time.

The tentative residency rules are among a series of proposals being circulated for informal comment by the Immigration and Naturalization Service.

Together, the proposed rules provide the most comprehensive look yet at how the INS plans to enforce the landmark immigration law approved last year.

Under one provision, U.S. citizens as well as

aliens applying for jobs would have to complete forms and provide documents showing they were legal residents and eligible to work in this country.

In releasing the rules, the INS followed an unusual procedure that made public a draft copy of the proposals.

Normally, such rules become public when tentative regulations are published in the Federal Register — an action not scheduled until the end of February by the INS.

"We are taking this unprecedented step to permit as much public input as possible to ensure that the new legislation will be implemented effectively, fairly and in an orderly manner," INS Commissioner Alan C. Nelson said.

He said final rules are expected in mid-April, just weeks before the May 5 starting date for the INS to receive amnesty applications from illegal aliens in the country since before Jan. 1, 1982.

The proposals also cover operation of the second major provision of the law: penalties for employers who knowingly hire illegal aliens.

Sanctions begin June 1, but first offenders will receive only warnings for the first year.

The residency rules attempt to deal with illegal aliens who have made trips back and forth across the border.

When an application is denied, the alien will have a right to appeal within 15 days and can submit new evidence during that process.

Iran claims high casualties in Iraq, civilian city struck

Iran said Tuesday its invasion of Iraq killed or wounded 1,500 Iraqi soldiers in fighting near Basra, provincial capital of southern Iraq. An Iranian missile exploded in Baghdad, and the Iraqis said it killed civilian plane.

Iraq's communiques claimed its troops repulsed an Iranian ground assault Thursday night outside Basra and left corpses of Iranian attackers "littering the battlefield."

The Baghdad government's official Iraqi News Agency quoted a military source it did not name as saying Iranian claims of an advance toward Basra were "cheap lies."

Reports carried by Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency said Iranian forces ambushed Iraqi troops overnight west of the Jasim river. That would put the Iraqis within six miles of Basra, which has been an Iranian objective since the war began in September 1980.

IRNA said Iranian warplanes made five bombing raids on Iraqi positions and troop concentrations

in the area, inflicting substantial casualties and losses.

It claimed 1,500 Iraqis were killed or wounded, bringing the Iranian claim of total enemy casualties to 31,500 since Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's government launched a thrust across the Shatt-al-Arab border waterway Jan. 9.

According to the dispatches from Iran, shelling by its artillery hit a petrochemical complex in Basra and several storage tanks exploded, spreading toxic gas in the area.

In its reports contradicting the Iranian claims, Iraq's agency quoted government sources as saying: "The Iranian military machine is on the verge of comprehensive and complete collapse."

The fall of Basra, Iraq's second-largest city with a population of a million people before the Iranian invasion, would be a major blow to President Saddam Hussein's government.

In Washington, a Reagan administration official confirmed "fierce fighting" near the city.

Finals

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ter, the proposal suggested that graduating seniors take their exams during what is now dead week. The rest of the student body would take exams Monday through Friday of the next week, as usual.

Vandiver, who has final approval power over University policy, made major changes in the recommendations given him by the academic calendar subcommittee.

"As the record of discussion and debate on this issue shows, no plan is completely satisfactory to all interested parties," said Vandiver's letter, which was addressed to Dr. Sam Black, speaker of the Faculty Senate. "I believe that this final plan will be acceptable to most," the letter said.

But Jerry Dingmore, a spokesman for the Student Senate, disagreed. Dingmore, a member of the calendar subcommittee, said he had been under the impression that the subcommittee had reached a workable compromise. He felt that the Student Senate's views were not taken into account in the final decision.

"We assumed, when we went into this task, that we had all bodies represented," Dingmore said Tuesday. "We weighed the two plans evenly. Our plan gave the registrar more time to get the grades through the automatic degree audit and check them; it gave more time for the students to check them."

Vandiver was not available for comment Tuesday.

Dr. Leonard Ponder, deputy speaker of the Faculty Senate, said: "I think the Faculty Senate sees the

compromise as a workable one."

Dr. Robert Chenoweth, an assistant dean in the College of Engineering, is the chairman of the calendar subcommittee. He said Tuesday he had not heard of Vandiver's changes except through stories he had read in local newspapers.

"I haven't gotten anything official," he said. "I read the *Eagle* article very briefly, so I don't think I can comment."

Dingmore complained about the loss of a day of class.

"The graduating senior class is just 10 percent of the entire student body," Dingmore said, "and we (the calendar committee) couldn't see taking a school day out for the rest of the entire student body."

Ponder said he believes the day will be taken into account in scheduling of classes during dead week.

"I'm not sure exactly what the president has in mind," Ponder said, "but . . . when the final tests start, classes will be over. Thursday will be the last day of classes."

Dingmore complained that the Student Senate was not called to vote on the proposal, while the Faculty Senate did vote on it. He said he believes the interests of the Faculty Senate played more of a part in the president's decision than the interests of the students.

"Vandiver did not ask the advice of the subcommittee, he did not ask the advice of the students," Dingmore said, "and that's his prerogative, but I don't think it was a good decision."

"We (the students) were affected by this as much or more so than the faculty were. So why don't we get to have a say?"

Blacks

(Continued from page 1)

admission program in the summer, and, if the students perform satisfactorily in coursework, they are allowed to continue studying here.

School Relations counselors also review the academic achievements and awards of the nominees as well as their extracurricular activities to see how well-rounded they are.

Davis says offers to students go out in December, and his office takes into account that some students will not accept. For instance, in 1985-86, 425 scholarships were offered but only 278 students accepted.

The University allotted \$1,420,000 for President's Achievement Awards in 1986-87, enough funds for 710 stipends per semester. These awards are allocated equally between black and Hispanic recipients.

School Relations coordinates scholarships with other departments and Student Financial Aid to ensure that students have enough money to get through

college. Davis says School Relations tries not to get into a stacking situation with University scholarships but that the students are encouraged to apply for financial aid and for awards in their own communities or nationally.

Student Financial Aid reports that 383 of the 780 blacks at A&M received University-sponsored academic scholarships — not necessarily for the first time — in Fall 1986. University scholarships also were awarded to 701 Hispanics and 5,283 whites in Fall 1986.

Davis says if the University increased the number of scholarships awarded to minorities, it would pay off in the long run.

"We have to make it even more attractive, so we can continue to attract the quality student who will graduate from here," he says. "The more black graduates we have, the more students we'll have attending without even having to offer scholarships . . . because if a student has a good experience here, he'll be more open to recommending it to someone else — a friend, a parent, a cousin, an aunt."

Ruling

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going to see this thing unto its conclusion whether it takes six months or a year or whatever."

Regardless of the outcome, a ruling on the case may very well be that long in coming.

Howard Swindle, assistant managing editor/projects for the *Dallas Morning News*, said that paper, along with Belo Broadcasting Co. — owner of both the *Morning News* and WFAA-TV (Channel 8) in Dallas — filed two separate lawsuits against the NCAA, the Southwest Conference and all SWC member schools in January 1986, demanding the release of copies of any investiga-

tions performed by the SWC or NCAA. The *Dallas Times Herald* subsequently joined Belo and the *Morning News* in the suit.

One of the suits was filed in state district court in Dallas County, while the other was filed in federal court in Austin. Some five to six months later, the state district court ruled in favor of the defendants.

But federal Judge James Nowlin ruled in favor of the news agencies. Swindle said the defendants have not exhausted all avenues open to them in Nowlin's court. If and when they do, the case will probably be appealed, Swindle said. Thus, the information sought has not yet been released.

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