

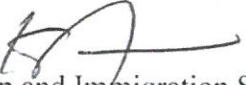


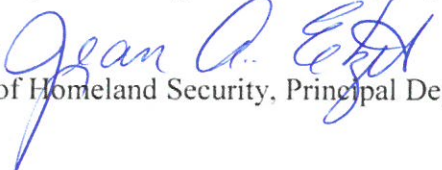
U.S. Citizenship
and Immigration
Services

APR 07 2015

Memorandum

TO: Howard Shelanski
Administrator
Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs
Office of Management and Budget

THROUGH: Keith A. Jones 
U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, Deputy Chief Information Officer

FROM: Jeanne Etzel 
Department of Homeland Security, Principal Deputy Chief Information Officer
(Acting)

SUBJECT: Request for Emergency Office of Management and Budget Paperwork Reduction
Act Clearance Form I-131, Application for Travel Document, OMB Control
Number 1615-0013

USCIS is requesting emergency approval of this collection of information under 5 CFR 1320.13.

The Department of Homeland Security has previously indicated that it would establish a process to allow certain family members of Filipino-American veterans to request parole on a case-by-case basis to come to the United States to provide support and care to their Filipino veteran family members who are U.S. citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents. More than 260,000 Filipino soldiers enlisted to fight for the United States during World War II. Estimates indicate that as many as 26,000 of these brave individuals became U.S. citizens. As U.S. citizens or Lawful Permanent Residents (LPRs), these individuals may petition for certain of their family members to come to the United States. For some Filipino American families, the wait for a relative to receive a green card can exceed 20 years. Estimates indicate that there are approximately between 2,000 to 6,000 Filipino American World War II veterans still alive in the United States today, many of whom greatly desire to have their family members in the United States during their final days.

The Department of Homeland Security has discretion to parole individuals into the United States on a temporary and case-by-case basis for urgent humanitarian reasons or significant public benefit. The policy to consider parole for these family members to allow them to wait in the United States until they may be able to adjust status under existing immigration laws instead of

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in their country of nationality recognizes the extraordinary contributions and sacrifices of Filipino veterans who fought for the United States during World War II. In certain cases where the Department determines that exercising such discretion is appropriate, paroling these family members would also enhance the ability of such elderly veterans and their spouses to obtain care and support from their family members abroad. The longer the period before such a parole process is implemented, the greater the risk that this already elderly population of Filipino World War II veterans will be unable to benefit from it and have their family members provide support and care for them in the United States during their last days.

USCIS requests a 180-day approval of this request. USCIS believes that it is in the public's best interest to forgo public notice and comment before implementation of these new information collection requirements. The form is not being revised and the changes are limited to instruction changes to implement certain family reunification parole policies.

USCIS certifies that the requirements of 5 CFR 1320.13(a)(1) are met and that:

- The subject collection of information is needed immediately and is essential to the mission of the agency; and
- The agency cannot reasonably comply with the normal collection procedures because public harm is reasonably likely to result if normal clearance procedures are followed;

USCIS greatly appreciates the timely consideration of this request.