

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 24261

BEFORE THE RAILROAD COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of)	
L. H. GUEST for a certificate of public)	
convenience and necessity to operate a)	Application No. 24261
passenger stage line between Taft and)	
the Taft United States Army Airfield.)	

BY THE COMMISSION:

O P I N I O N

By this application filed on June 7, 1941, L. H. Guest seeks a certificate of public convenience and necessity to operate a passenger stage service for the transportation of persons and their baggage between Taft and the United States Army Airfield, near Taft.

The application alleges that applicant proposes to operate one 40-passenger bus in regular scheduled service, eight times a day including Sundays and holidays, between Taft, on the one hand, and the Army Airfield, located nine miles southeast from Taft, with no service from or to intermediate points. The proposed route follows a new county road extending directly from Taft to the Airfield.

In support of the application, it is further alleged that no public transportation agencies are now operating between the points proposed to be served. It is asserted that the United States Army has recently established a permanent airfield about nine miles southeast of Taft; that within a short time approximately 2500 men will be permanently situated at said airfield; that the city of Taft is the only nearby point of any consequence for marketing and recreation and will undoubtedly be the center for most activities of military personnel when off duty.

Applicant proposes to operate eight schedules per day in each direction between Taft and the airfield at two-to three-hour intervals beginning at 6:00 A.M. and ending at 11:30 P.M. The proposed terminal in Taft is to be located at the Fox Hotel while the Airfield terminal would be at the main entrance to the military reservation. Applicant proposes a one-way adult fare of 30 cents and a round-trip fare of 50 cents with one-half of such fares for children between the ages of five and twelve years. Children under five years of age would be carried free. Adult's baggage not exceeding 50 pounds in weight and children's baggage not exceeding 25 pounds in weight would be carried free, with excess baggage to be charged for at a rate of one cent per pound.

Applicant asserts that he has a present and potential capital of \$5,500 and is financially able to undertake and carry on the proposed operations; that he has no indebtedness of any kind at the present time and that his resources are sufficient to maintain the proposed service during the development period. Applicant states he has had experience in passenger transportation service in Coalinga and the adjacent oil fields and also has had experience in the maintenance and repair of automotive equipment. He proposes to drive the bus himself.

From the foregoing representations it appears that the Army personnel at Taft airfield will shortly need a regular public transportation service for persons traveling from and to the city of Taft. The service proposed by the applicant would appear to meet this need. While the volume of traffic which the applicant may transport is somewhat speculative so that it is difficult at this time to estimate the revenue he may expect to derive from his operation, nevertheless, applicant has offered to adjust his time schedules and make such changes in fare structure as will be conducive to efficient service and compensatory operation.

At the present time there are no public transportation agencies operating between the points proposed to be served. In view of this fact and other evidence of record herein, this does not appear to be a matter in which a public hearing is necessary. We are of the opinion and find that public convenience and necessity justify and require the establishment and maintenance of passenger stage service by applicant for the transportation of passengers and their baggage between Taft and the army airfield at Taft. The application will be granted.

O R D E R

Upon a consideration of the foregoing application and the Commission's finding of fact that public convenience and necessity so require,

IT IS ORDERED that a certificate of public convenience and necessity be and it hereby is granted to L. H. Guest authorizing him to operate as a passenger stage corporation as that term is defined in section 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ of the Public Utilities Act for the transportation of persons and their baggage between Taft, on the one hand, and the United States Army Airfield near Taft, on the other hand, subject to the conditions hereinafter set forth.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that in the operation of the passenger stage service pursuant to the foregoing certificate of public convenience and necessity, applicant shall comply with the following service regulations:

1. File a written acceptance of the certificate granted and commence the service authorized herein within thirty (30) days from the effective date of this order.

2. Subject to the Commission's right to change or modify said route at any time, the operation herein authorized shall be conducted over and along the new county road running in a southeasterly direction for a distance of nine miles between Taft, on the one hand, and the United States Army Airfield near Taft, on the other hand.
3. File, in triplicate, within thirty (30) days from the effective date hereof, but on not less than five (5) days' notice to the Commission and the public, appropriate tariffs and time schedules conforming to the schedules of service and fares set forth in the application.
4. Applicant shall not sell, lease, transfer or assign the foregoing certificate of public convenience and necessity unless or until such lease, sale, transfer or assignment shall have been approved by the Railroad Commission.
5. Applicant shall comply with the provisions of General Order No. 93-A of the Railroad Commission applicable to the operations herein authorized.

The effective date of this order shall be ten (10) days from the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California, this 14th day of

June, 1941.

[Signature]
Way & Riley
James F. Casner
Francis J. Havens
Richard [Signature]
COMMISSIONERS