

ORIGINAL

Decision No. 56994

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of GREEN BARNETT and EARL LAWRENCE, )  
 doing business as BLUE & WHITE TAXI & JITNEY )  
 SERVICE, for a certificate of public conven- )  
 ience and necessity to operate as a passenger )  
 stage corporation in the transportation of )  
 persons and baggage between Four Corners, )  
 Twentynine Palms and Marine Corps Base, )  
 Twentynine Palms, California. )

Application  
No. 40007

Green Barnett and Earl Lawrence for applicant.  
John C. Hastie for 29 Palms Stages, protestant.

## O P I N I O N

By this application, as amended, authority is sought to establish and operate a passenger stage service between the community of Twentynine Palms in San Bernardino County and the Marine Corps Base situated approximately five miles northerly of said community. The application was protested by John C. Hastie, doing business as 29 Palms Stages, who is now certificated by this Commission to operate a bus service between Twentynine Palms and said Marine Corps Base and also between Banning, California, and said Marine Corps Base via Twentynine Palms.

A public hearing was held in Twentynine Palms before Examiner Mark V. Chiesa. Upon the testimony of the respective parties and their witnesses the matter was submitted for decision.

The Commission finds the following facts:

Applicant is a partnership consisting of Green Barnett, a sergeant at the Marine Corps Base at Twentynine Palms, and

Earl Lawrence, who operates a taxicab business in the said community. They propose to commence operations with a nine-passenger Ford sedan or station wagon operating an hourly schedule between 5 p.m. and 12 midnight daily except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, when the schedule would be extended to 2 a.m. Applicant proposes a one-way point-to-point fare of 45 cents, except that 25 cents would be charged for a ride of less than 2 miles.

Other than the applicants, only one witness testified that the present service is inadequate. This witness, who operates Garrigan's Rendezvous, situated 2 miles from the said base, favored more service in the interest of protecting hitchhikers. There is evidence indicating that some of the hitchhiking is due to the desires and/or financial condition of the hikers and not the lack of public transportation.

Protestant's contention that the service now rendered by him is adequate and that it is operated at a loss is substantiated by the evidence. He now operates six round trips daily, and an additional round trip on Saturday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 1:30 a.m. His present fare is 30 cents one way and 55 cents round trip. The record shows that the present schedule is set up to meet the needs of the military and civilian personnel at the base. Protestant testified that he has not been contacted with reference to schedule revision and that he is ready and willing to make any change that would contribute to the convenience of his customers.

For the 10-day period between May 15 and 25, 1958, protestant transported 246 passengers between Twentynine Palms and the Marine Corps Base for a total revenue of \$61.90 at an expense of \$165.60, or a net loss of \$103.70. Protestant's patronage is adversely affected by the use of private automobiles, share-the-ride, taxicabs, and free U.S.O. transportation.

Protestant also testified he is willing to provide such service as is satisfactory to the Commission.

Having considered the matter, the Commission is of the opinion and finds that an additional passenger stage service between Twentynine Palms and the Marine Corps Base as proposed herein is not required, that under the present circumstances protestant's service is reasonably adequate, and therefore we conclude that this application should be denied. It will be so ordered.

O R D E R

A public hearing having been held, the Commission being fully advised in the premises and having found facts as hereinabove set forth,

IT IS ORDERED that the application of Green Barnett and Earl Lawrence, doing business as Blue & White Taxi & Jitney Service, being Application No. 40007, be and it hereby is denied.

The effective date of this order shall be twenty days after the date hereof.

Dated at San Francisco, California,  
this 15<sup>th</sup> day of JULY, 1958.

[Signature]  
President  
[Signature]  
[Signature]

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Commissioners

Matthew J. Dooley  
Commissioner Theodore H. Jenner, being necessarily absent, did not participate in the disposition of this proceeding.