Dear Lent:

Thank you for your letters of March 25, 29, and April 6, together with the attached newspaper clippings and descriptions of the newspaper and radio coverage given to the Presidential declaration of March 24. I appreciate the trouble you have gone to in collecting this information for us.

Ira Hirschmann has just arrived from Ankara. He has given us a very favorable account of what you and Saxon are trying to do, as well as an indication of some of your difficulties. At my first opportunity I shall take up with Hirschmann the possibility of fitting Gabby Kerekes into the Turkish picture. However, even if he feels there is a spot in Turkey for a man with Gabby's background, there is always the difficulty of persuading the War Department to permit his transfer to Turkey.

What do you think of the possibility of having Gabby assist in developing the war refugee program in Italy? We are discussing the Italian and Yugoslav situation as indicated by you. We share your view of the importance of the matter and will do everything possible to carry out your suggestions. You and Jim are to be congratulated on the effective manner in which you have dug into this urgent problem.

In your letter of March 29, you refer to the recent Balkan developments and their effect on our program in Turkey. We understand that you have discussed this with Hirschmann, and are therefore aware that refugees are continuing to arrive in Istanbul from the Balkan areas adjacent to the Black Sea. Ambassador Steinhardt is sufficiently enthusiastic concerning the possibility of the further evacuation of refugees from Constanta that he has requested the Joint Distribution Committee representative in Lisbon to negotiate for the charter of a Portuguese ship for the same purpose.

Jim Mann is looking into the question of the 6,000,000 francs belonging to the Spanish Republicans. Thus far we have been unable to obtain any information on this matter in Washington. I would appreciate your furnishing us with any other information on this subject that you may have together with your recommendation as to what should be done. Meanwhile we shall continue to see if any light can be thrown on the matter from this end.

A representative of the Unitarian Service Committee recently went to Mexico to confer with Mexican officials regarding the admission into Mexico of 1,400 Spanish Republican refugees. He has received
assurances from the Mexican Government that the necessary visas will be granted.

We are taking up the question of obtaining more cooperation for you from representatives of various United States Government agencies in Algiers.

The desirability of making a direct approach to the German Government with the request that it permit a mass evacuation of Jewish refugees has been under consideration here in Washington for some time. The principal question is the matter of timing. If our proposed program to receive refugees in this country for the duration is approved, it might be desirable that at that time to make a direct approach to the German Government requesting it to release refugees en masse at the same time that we announce to the world our readiness to receive them temporarily in this country.

Meanwhile we are taking steps designed to delay the Nazi program of annihilation. Thus, if clearance can be obtained from the State Department, we shall ask the International Red Cross to approach the German and satellite governments with the request that Jews, and other persons confined because of race, religion or political belief, receive treatment equal to that accorded civilian internees, to whom the Geneva Convention, relating to prisoners of war, is applied by analogy. If this request is rejected by the German Government, the International Red Cross is to be asked to press at the very least that such persons be permitted to receive packages under International Red Cross supervision and under guarantees equal to those in effect with respect to civilian internees. The International Red Cross is also being requested, through appropriate approaches to the German and other authorities in German controlled territory, to do what it can to assist the departure of Jews and other persecuted minorities to neutral countries.

We have also taken other action along the same lines. Recently we received information to the effect that the German authorities are inquiring through neutral sources into the validity of Latin-American passports held by Jews in certain camps in occupied Europe. Until now such Jews appear to have been receiving better treatment than their less fortunate brethren who lack such passports. Acting on the assumption that hitherto the German motive in granting such Jews preferential treatment includes some hope that such persons might be considered exchange material against Germans in the Western Hemisphere and also some fear that German ill-treatment of such persons might afford the Latin-American countries a pretext for further limiting the freedom and economic activities of German residents in Latin American countries, we
are requesting the Swiss to advise the German Government that the United States Government is now undertaking discussions with the Latin American countries for a further exchange of Germans in the Western Hemisphere for persons in German controlled territory, and that this Government considers persons holding Latin-American passports as eligible for exchange. We are similarly advising the Latin-American countries concerned. Even if no exchange materializes, the reopening of exchange negotiations may help stay the executioner's hand.

Sincerely,

(Signed) J. W. Tobie

Mr. Leonard R. Ackermann,
Special Representative,
War Refugee Board,
/o American Consulate,
Algeria, Algeria.

Original signed by

Copy to Mr. Fuchs
4-25-44

[Signature]

K.Janssen 4-19-44
Dear John:

I am enclosing herewith another batch of material on the dissemination of the President's message. With the exception of the first two items, they all come from Italy and include an excerpt from a leaflet thrown over the German troops by air, information and excerpts from Naples and Bari, broadcasts, news bulletins distributed by the FBI in English and Italian, and newspaper clippings.

The latest development on Fedhala is the trouble in connection with securing a ship for the transport of the refugees. After one ship had been promised, it was found to be unavailable and we were therefore given a French ship. This ship, however, is now being repaired and, according to present indications, will not be finished for another three to four weeks. Upon inquiry I learned that the long delay in repair is due to the shortage of manpower and I intend to go to Oran as soon as I receive travel orders to discuss with the United States Naval authorities the possibility of hastening the repair. If no extra help is secured, the ship should sail from Spain in the latter part of May. If I am successful in securing the Navy's cooperation, the sailing date may be advanced by several weeks.

A few minutes ago I received a call from a Colonel connected with the OSS. I will see him tomorrow and discuss with him the possibility of securing OSS assistance in France and in Spain. As you are no doubt aware, we are already receiving cooperation from the Italian and Yugoslav representatives of this organization.

M. Mendes-France called me the other day and told me that he had received a message from Monnet regarding difficulties in connection with the Fedhala refugee center. I called upon him and explained that some of our earlier problems had been solved, but that I anticipated some trouble in connection with the admission of further Sephardic Jewish groups and that I feared the camp might turn out to be a concentration camp. He was quite sympathetic and asked
me to prepare a memorandum which I have done. He stated that he would take the matter up with Massigli and Frenay in an effort to clear up these problems.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Leonard B. Ackermann
Special Representative
Mediterranean Area
War Refugee Board

Mr. John W. Pohle
Acting Director
War Refugee Board
280 Main Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.
Dernière Nouvelle - Algiers

7 April 1944

A l'occasion des Pâques juives

Le grand rabbin NEUMANN adresse un message d'espérance aux Juifs du monde entier.

New York — A l'occasion des Pâques juives, le grand rabbin neumann adresse un message d'espérance aux Juifs du monde entier. Il appelle à la solidarité et à la fraternité en ces temps difficiles, et encourage à la résistance en face de l'oppression. Il invite à ne pas abandonner l'espoir en une victoire finale contre le malheur.

Les appels à la solidarité et à la résistance se multiplient dans le monde juif, dans le but de réunir tous les efforts pour faire face à l'oppression.
VOIX: Chers amis de France,

J'allais, ce soir, donner quelques derniers échos de la presse américaine commentant les récentes déclarations de Monsieur Cordell Hull.

Et puis nous avons appris ici, ce matin, l'abominable crime d'Asaq, près de Lille où 86 Français ont été assassinés par les Allemands.

Alors, que voulez-vous, il est des moments où on n'a ni le goût ni le coeur d'aborder des sujets de politique intérieure ou internationale, si importants qu'ils soient.

Je pense que l'histoire doit maintenant être connue à travers la France entière, comme elle est connue ici; on revit la scène. Dans la nuit du premier avril un train allemand franchit la frontière belge et pénètre en France. Près du village d'Asaq, près du tout petit village d'Asaq, c'est le dérangement. La locomotive et deux wagons quittent la voie. Les Allemands sautent du train, se ruant sur la gare et abattant les trois employés de chemin de fer qui s'y trouvent.

Ensuite, les Allemands, Gestapo ou S.S. déferlent dans le village et en tuent froidement et méthodiquement toute la population mâle. Quatre-vingt-six Français sont ainsi assassinés. Le curé, appelé à la haste, reçoit les confessions des mourants et leur apporte les saints sacrements. À son tour il est abattu, dans l'exercice de son ministère, d'un coup de revolver dans le dos.

Vous le savez, chers auditeurs de France, nous n'avons jamais, à la Radio des Nations Unies, voulu donner dans le genre
pathétique ni furieux. Tout comme je le faisais autrefois à Radio Boston, nous essayons surtout de vous informer sur ce
qu'on fait et comment on pense dans le monde; sur ce qu'il
dépasse libre en Grande-Bretagne et en Amérique; sur ce qui
se passe en Afrique du Nord. Nous essayons de vous apporter
des faits, à vous qu'une censure allemande et collaborationniste
veut maintenir dans l'ignorance. Nous savons que vous avez
bien plus besoin d'être renseignés que d'entendre des oslets de
voix ou des protestations d'amitié ou de colère.
Mais un événement atroce comme le massacre d'Ascoq fait
oublier toute règle, tout précepte, toute habitude.
Ah pourvu que ces Allemands la qui ont perpetré ce
crime aient pu être repérés. Pourvu qu'il se soit trouvé
quelqu'un, à Ascoq, à Lille, quelque part tout près pour connaître
les noms des coupables, la formation à laquelle ils appartaient.
Le crime est monstrueux. Le châtiment doit être
terrible.
"Il convient que nous proclamions a nouveau notre
résolution qu'aucun de ceux qui ont participé à ces actes de
barbarie ne reste impuni. Les Nations Unies ont clairement
enoncé qu'elles pourchasseront les coupables et les livreront
afin que justice soit faite...." Ces paroles sont celles du
Président Roosevelt, du 24 mars dernier, il n'y a donc même pas
un mois, et le Président a ajouté: "Tous ceux qui participent
au crime participeront au châtiment".
Malheur donc à ces assassins. Malheur à ceux qui les
commandent. Et croyez, chers amis de France, que vos amis, en
dehors de la muraille qui nous sépare encore, font tout pour
reprendre dans le monde la glorieuse verité sur votre résistance,
sur votre courage, sur vos sacrifices.
Et enfin ce dernier mot pour des occupants, pour les
auteurs du crime de la nuit du ler avril. Un mot pour eux, et
nous savons qu'il leur parviendra: Tremblez, Tremblez, craignez
le châtiment. Où que vous vous cachiez, votre sort est réglé.
Si vous échappez à la mort lors des défaites dernières des armées allemandes, vous n'échapperez point à la justice. Vos crimes se paieront. Tremblez donc, meurtriers d'Asaq.

VOIX: Vous venez d'entendre Douglas Schneider.

61 lignes.
Einen Teil weitergebe,

"SOLDATEN NACHRICHTEN"

8-11. April

WARUM FÜHRT AMERIKA KRIEG?

... und eine Welt zu schaffen, in der Tyrannen und Verbrechen
ging nicht Raum, eine Welt auf Freiheit, Gleichheit und Ge-
richtigkeit gegründet; in der alles
Menschen ohne Angene benazter Far-
der- Farbe, so oder des Gabehens
in Frieden, Liebe und Würde leben
sollen.

Diese Erweiterung unseres Hor-
Zirkus überrascht mehr, als siechen
vollständige Entfaltung der politischen
Gleichheit in einem von sittenrei-
ben Menschen geleiteten Staat, den
unter gleichen Leib und Freiheit
und der Größe der Menschen
Gleichheit sich vor Augen führen,
also die Regierung zu führen, die
an Stellen vertreten, an der
sich das Volk und seine

Werte durch die Macht sichert.

Der Kampf für die Menschenrechte
könnte der unteren Schichten
Sektionskriege, den Kämpfen, in den
er zum Opfer fällt, sollte, um 11. Februar,
ich hoffe, dass der Welt
gegen die Widersacher
die Welt
sichert,

Das ist die Sprache von Menschen,
die den Jahren der Kindheit,

persönliche Erfahrungen machen,

persönliche Erfahrungen machen,

persönliche Erfahrungen machen,

persönliche Erfahrungen machen,

persönliche Erfahrungen machen,
Dear Rayner,

With further reference to the telegram from Algiers regarding the use made of Mr. Roosevelt's speech of March 24th, it is now confirmed that all sound transmissions on March 25th contained references to and extracts from the speech, but I regret that scripts are not available.

This information was telephoned to the message centre in your office this morning.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

John Rayner, Magra,
P.W.B. Unit No. 8,

[Additional note]
To: J. D. Ravotto  
Chief  -  ABC Italian Radio

From: R. D. Ferneri  
Editor  -  Naples Radio

Subject: FDR Warning on War Crimes of 3/24

April 11, 1944

1. Attached are 3 News Items and 2 Features on above mentioned subject.
2. News has been re-written several times for later shows, and features broadcast more than once.
3. Quotations from the President's statement have been and are being used in features and commentaries.

Radio Broadcasts - Naples
WASHINGTON: Il Presidente Roosevelt, in una formale dichiarazione alle stampe circa le atrocità e i crimini di guerra, ha dichiarato testualmente che chi condividerà la colpa condividerà anche il castigo. Il Presidente degli Stati Uniti ha fatto notare che, in seguito agli eventi degli ultimi giorni, cattive di migliaia di abili struotti minore alla persecuzione nazista e rifugiatisi nei paesi Baleschimiano adesso minaccianti di distruzione. "Sarebbe una tragedia ancora maggiore ha aggiunto il Presidente Roosevelt che questi innocenti martiri sopravvissuti per una decade alle furia di Hitler dovessero perire proprio alla vigilia del trionfo sulla barbarie simbolizzata dalla loro persecuzioni."

Il Presidente Roosevelt ha proseguito: "Le Nazioni Unite hanno già manifesto chiaramente la loro intenzione di perseguire i colpevoli e conseguirli e di doverla percuo' giustizia sia fatto. Questo ammonimento si riferisce non solo ai dirigenti, ma anche ai loro funzionari e ai loro subordinati in Germania e nei paesi satelliti. Tutti coloro i quali coscientemente prendono parte alla deportazione di ebrei a morire in Polonia, o di Norvagasi e Francesi a morire in Germania, sono tanti colpevoli quanto il carnegi stesso. Tutti quelli che condividono l'umanità la colpa, ha specificato Roosevelt, condivideranno la punizione."

Proseguendo nella sua dichiarazione alla stampa, il Presidente degli Stati Uniti ha affermato che Hitler commette ogni delitto contro l'umanità in nome del popolo tedesco. "Chiedo ad ogni Tedesco e ad ogni uomo ovunque sotto la dominazione nazista—ha proseguito Roosevelt— di
mostrare al mondo con il suo operato che egli non condivide in suor sua queste folli bramosie criminali."

Il Presidente Roosevelt ha inoltre chiesto che tutti i popoli liberi, in Europa ed in Asia, aprano le porte dei loro paesi alle vittime dell'oppressione e della persecuzione totalitaria.
DICHIARAZIONI DI ROOSEVELT SU CRIMINALI DI GUERRA — Ieri, il Presidente Roosevelt ha riaffermato la decisione degli Alleati di punire tutti i criminali di guerra. Questo nuovo avvertimento vale sia per i capi che per i loro accolti, sia per la Germania che per i paesi satelliti.

Londra, a Londra, è stato dichiarato ufficialmente che il Governo britannico è completamente in accordo con le parole del Presidente Roosevelt e che contribuirà, con ogni mezzo, a dare ausilio e ricovero a tutti coloro che si sottrarranno alla tirannia nazista.
LONDRA - E' stato annunziato negli ambienti ufficiali che il
Governo Britannico si associava pienamente alla dichiarazione
del Presidente Roosevelt che mette in guardia la Germania
e i suoi satelliti circa le conseguenze di ulteriori perse-
cuzioni nei loro territori.
La ministri ungheresi a Stecchio e a Madrid, per essere richiesti di aderire al servizio ufficiale della loro patria ai tedeschi, sono stati privati della nazionalità maggiore. Ecco i primi effetti della dominazione nazista. Comincia la grande era delle persecuzioni a quelli, profitando ancora di un simulacro di relativa libertà nell'Ungheria, vi si erano rifugiati. Sopra tutto gli ebrei. Roosevelt ha chiesto ai popoli liberi di Europa di aprire le loro frontiere ai profughi dell'Ungheria invasa.

E' in nome dell'umanità, che egli ha fatto appello al dovere di dare asilo ai perseguitati. Giuste parole di ragionevole sensibilità contro i responsabili di nuove persecuzioni sono state pronunziate dal Capo della grande Democrazia americana. E' tempo che la Germania, infurrita come le bolle respinte col fuoco alle sue loro tane, cessi di far le sue vendette contro ieri innocenti (col quali viene in contatto nelle sue invasioni e protetto difensivo) nei paesi considerati finora come alleati. Dalle sue sconfitte cerca di riabilitarsi in danno di una troppo facile preda. E' nello spirito tedesco di infliggere contro chi non può difendersi, così come è schiarendo germanico mettere tra sé ed il nemico incalzante, lo scudo della ritirata strategica.

Vengono contemporaneamente fuori nuove manifestazioni dell'incoerente spirito settario dei nazifascisti. La repubblica di Verona aveva solennemente annunziato che l'obbligo della tessera era abolito indistintamente per tutti i funzionari statali. Senonché il gruppo dei dipendenti dall'avvocatura dello Stato, come informe radio Roma, ha votato una mozione, per chiedere l'obbligatorietà della tessera fascista repubblicana da parte di tutti i funzionari dello Stato. Si ritorna al vecchio tema della "fedele Camelia nera", per il quale da una parte si inavvolsero di inetti e di disonesti tutti i pubblici uffici, e dall'altra si violarono le coscienze dei più timidi o dei più bisognosi, costringendoli ad una ipocrita dichiarazione di sentimenti fascisti, ispirata dall'atmosfera di terrore. A qualche mese di distanza, orolla fragorosamente la clamorosa indipendenza del cittadino dalla disciplina del partito. Il quale ha finito per prendere ipoteca anche sul paradiso; non importa se ciò dispaccia al neo-pamenoico di Hitler. In mancanza del maggio musicale, si è inaugurata a Firenze una nuova Sera, che terminerà il 19 maggio, intitolata ai "Santi italiani". Ma già parlato Guido Mannocchera, su San Bonifacio. Terrà l'omelia finale
non Giovanni Gentile, la cui vita si svolge tra i più aromatici effluvi di santità. Altro che il venerabile Beda! L'insigne saggiafico, che ha fatto della cattedra, dell'Accademia, dell'Enciclopedia un surregata dei Settanta e della Vulgata, dischiude o serra a suo talento le porte del Paradiso. Bisogna rivolgersi a lui soltanto per trover santi protettori.
Il truceo "Povero tedesco" che a guerra perduta pianguecolossamen-
to si dichiarava irrisponsabile delle colpe del suo governo, non
potrà più ripetersi. Il soldato che segue gli ordini dei suoi ca-
pi, rispettando le leggi della guerra, non si può rimproverare di
aver compiuto il suo dovere; ma quando, superati i limiti che
il diritto delle genti, la morale, la civiltà hanno assegnato alla
forma del combattimento; si entra nel campo della ferocia, dell'atro-
cizia, della barbarie, non si fa luogo a discriminazioni fra mandan-
te ed esecutore materiale.

L'ultima diffida, contenuta nella recente dichiarazione di
Roosevelt alla stampa è chiara e solenne. E' in gioco, in questo
momento, la vita di centinaia di migliaia di persone che, sfuggendo
tutta nazista si erano rifugiate nei paesi balcanici. I militari
Ora che le truppe tedesche, oltre l'Ungheria, hanno occupato la
Romania e la Bulgaria, la situazione è diventata graviissima, per
questi aventurati innocenti, oggetto della implacabile ferocia na-
zista. All'arrivo delle forze tedesche a Budapest ha fatto segui-
to immediato un rincuoramento delle disposizioni emanate in
Ungheria contro gli ebrei. La campagna antisemita, con quello
che comporta di più selvaggia sanguinaria furia, dilaga nei
paesi balcanici. A breve distanza dal trionfo definitivo delle
(continua)
nazioni democratiche, questi profughi sfuggiti sinora con
stanti attenti alla persecuzione nazista, vivono le ore della più
dell'umanità insieme al popolo tedesco. Di conseguenza il Presidente ha detto: "Chiedo ad ogni tedesco, ed ad ogni uomo che ovunque si trovi sotto la domazione na-
sista, di mostrare al mondo con il suo operato che egli non
divide la criminosa follia hitleriana".

Questa è l'ultima diffida. Vediamo qui a Napoli, nei
giorni dell'armistizio, i soldati tedeschi vagare standati, di
chiarandosi pronti a deporre le armi. Bastò che l'ordine venisse
se dalla Germania perché essi serrassero i ranghi e, dimenendo
l'offerta di ree, divanissero gli automati esecutori dei
più nefandi ati di ferocia. Ora l'avvertimento è stato dato in
tempo. Chiunque attuera contro i profughi dai
paesi invasi, attiratisi singoli o collettivi, ne incorrerà
in pieno la responsabilità, la quale, essendo stata prospettata
tempestivamente, sarà colpita dalla pena più grave. Roosevelt
ha parlato in nome delle Nazioni Unite. Se i tedeschi non
intendono altro linguaggio che quello della violenza, sapeva
no che la più formidabile delle violenze si prepara, per colto di
essi che l'avrammo meritata.
WASHINGTON, March 25.--(U.N. INT--REUTER)--President Roosevelt, in a formal statement at his press and radio conference Friday, warned Germany and her satellites that they cannot escape punishment for their acts of enslavement, and urged the free peoples to cooperate in receiving refugees.

In the first of six proposals the President urged the free people of Europe and Asia to open their frontiers temporarily to victims of oppression, and reaffirmed the intention of the United States to help in the escape of refugees marked out for death by the Axis.

"The United Nations," the President said further, "are fighting to make a world in which tyranny and oppression cannot exist: a world based upon freedom, equality and justice, a world in which all people--regardless of race, color, or creed--may live in peace, honor, and dignity.

"In the meantime, in most of Europe and in parts of Asia, the systematic torture and murder of civilians--men and women and children--continue unabated. As the result of the events of the last few days, hundreds of thousands of Jews who had been living under persecution and had at last found a haven from death in Hungary and the Balkans, are now threatened with annihilation as Hitler's forces descend more heavily upon these lands.

"That these innocent people, who have already survived a decade of Hitler's fury, should perish on the very eve of the triumph over the barbarians which their persecution symbolizes, would be a major tragedy. It is therefore fitting that we should again proclaim our determination that none who participate in these acts of savagery shall go unpunished. The United Nations have made it clear that they will pursue the guilty, and deliver them up in order that justice may be done. That warning applies not only to the leaders, but also to their functionaries and subordinates in Germany and in the satellite countries. All who knowingly take part in the destruction of Jews to their death in Poland, or Norwegians and Poles to their death in Germany, are equally guilty with the exceptioner.
"All who share guilt shall share punishment." Hitler is committing these crimes against humanity in the name of the German people. I ask every German, and every man everywhere under Nazi domination, to show the world by his actions that in his heart he does not share these insane criminal desires. Let him hide these pursued victims, help them to get over their sorrows, and do what he can to save them from the Nazi hangman. I ask him also to keep watch and record evidence that will one day be used to convict the guilty.

"Insofar as the necessity of military operations permits, this government will use all means at its command to aid the escape of all intended victims of the Nazi and Japanese executioners, regardless of race, religion or color. We call upon the free peoples of Europe and Asia temporarily to open their havens of refuge for them. We shall find means for their maintenance and support until the tyrant is driven from their homelands and they may return."

25/3 12:40 RA ND 6d
WASHINGTON, 25 Marzo (NNU+REUTER) —— Il Presidente Roosevelt in una formale dichiarazione alla riunione dei rappresentanti della Stampa e della Radio venerdì, ha ammonito la Germania e i suoi satelliti che essi non potranno sfuggire alla punizione per i loro atti di crudeltà ed ha invitato i popoli liberì e cooperare per rivedere i rifugiati.

Nel primo dei sei punti della sua dichiarazione il Presidente ha invitato i popoli liberi dell'Europa e dell'Asia ad aprir temporaneamente le loro frontiere alle vittime dell'oppressione ed ha riaffermato l'intenzione degli Stati Uniti di aiutare nella fuga i rifugiati condannati a morte dalle potenze nemiche.

"Ne Nazioni Unite — ha detto inoltre il Presidente — combattono per la nascita di un mondo nel quale non possono esistere la tirannia e l'aggressione; un mondo basato sulla libertà, l'uguaglianza e la giustizia, un mondo in cui tutti gli uomini, senza differenza di razza, di colore o di credenza, possano vivere in pace con onore e con dignità.

"Intanto, nella maggior parte di Europa e in una parte dell'"asia continua senza diminuzioni la sistematica tortura e l'assassinio di civili, uomini, donne e bambini. In conseguenza degli eventi degli ultimi giorni continua di migliaia di ebrei vissuti sotto la persecuzione che avevano affinata trovato un rifugio in Ungheria e nei Balcani sono ora minacciati di distruzione, ora che le forze di Hitler sono entrate in massa in questi paesi.

"Sarebbe una vera tragedia se questi innocenti che già hanno sopportato ad un decennio di furia hitleriana dovessero perire all'alba del trionfo suoi barbari, rivoltati nella loro vera essenza nelle persecuzioni. E' perciò necessario che noi ancora una volta proclamiamo la nostra ferma decisione che nessuno di coloro che hanno partecipato a simili atti di barbarie resti impunito. Le Nazioni Unite hanno dichiarato che perseguiteranno i colpevoli e faranno in modo che giustizia sia fatta. Questo ammonimento non si rivolge solo ai capi ma anche ai loro funzionari e sottordinati in Germania e nei paesi satelliti, tutti coloro che (segue)
hanno avuto parte consistente nella deportazione degli ebrei perché venissero uccisi in Polonia o dei norvegesi e dei francesi perché venissero uccisi in Germania sono ugualmente colpevoli come gli assassini.

"Tutti coloro che hanno parte nella colpe avranno parte nella punizione. Hitler commette questi crimini contro l'umanità a nome del popolo tedesco. Io chiedo ad ogni tedesco ed a ogni uomo sotto la dominazione nazista di mostrare con le sue azioni che egli, nel suo animo, non condivide questi insani criminali propositi. Nascondete queste vittime perseguite, aiutate a passare il confine e fate ciò che potete per salvare dai carnefici nazisti. Io chiedo inoltre ad ognuno di esercitare l'attenta sorveglianza e di raccogliere prove che verranno un giorno usate per convincere i colpevoli.

"Per quanto io permettano le necessità militari, il nostro governo userà tutti i mezzi a sua disposizione per aiutare le fuggi di tutte le vittime predestinate dai carnefici nazisti e giapponesi senza differenze di razze, di religione o di colore. Noi ci rivolghiamo ai popoli liberi d'Europa e dell'Asia perché aprano temporaneamente le loro frontiere per darvi ad essi rifugio. Noi troveremo i mezzi per il loro mantenimento ed il loro sostentamen-
to fino a che il tiranno non amerà cacciato dai loro paesi ed essi potranno ritornarvi."

25/3
505
1635
6K
AA
Ld'A
**Ammonimento**

Dare ancora vita l'orrore dei mondi alla Germania, e ad un dramma che non potrete sfuggire alla pena per i liberi atteggiamenti che vedono al di là dei confini, attingendo a tutti i popoli liberamente e legittimamente. 

La legge marziale a Bucarest

**La legge marziale a Bucarest**

LONDRA - L'Unione Sovietica britannica ha comunicato oggi che la Germania ha invaso la Romania. La legge marziale è stata proclamata a Bucarest, secondo quanto si è riferito ad Andreevski...

**Continua l'avanzata dell'Armata rossa**

**Un'importante altura conquistata dagli Alleati**

**Gravi problemi per il governo tedesco**

**Unione Sovietica, al conferimento di茎andade e di Odesse - Polzavat e Trolleyskii occupate**

FRONTE ITALIANO

Un solitario progresso in direzione di Stindaver e di Odesse. Polzavat e Trolleyskii occupate

FRONTE ITALIANO

La legge marziale di Bucarest...
Ammonimento

La legge marziale a Bucarest

Continua l'assedio d'Atene

Un'importante altura conquistata dagli Alleati

FRONTE ITALIANO

La campagna di Creta

FRONTE ITALIANO

La capitale di Creta

Mentre pescano diminuono sempre più i contrasti tra le forze inglesi e quelle tedesche negli oceani, le forze italiane e quelle tedesche sull'isola di Creta. La capitale di Creta, Heraklion, è l'obiettivo principale delle forze tedesche. Le forze italiane sono state costrette a ritirarsi dal centro della città. Il giorno dopo, le forze tedesche hanno continuato l'offensiva, conquistando una serie di villaggi e località strategiche. La capitale di Creta è stata teatro di una serie di scontri feroci tra le forze italiane e quelle tedesche. La situazione è critica per le forze italiane, che rischiano di essere circondate e isolate. La capitale di Creta è diventata un centro di resistenza per le forze italiane, che si sono rifugiate in una serie di fortezze e posizioni difensive per opporsi alle forze tedesche. La situazione è tesa e delicate, con le forze tedesche che minacciano di conquistare completamente l'isola di Creta e di stabilire un'importante base militare nelle Filippine.
"La Gazzetta, a quattro pagine"
SUBJECT: EVACUATION OF REFUGEES FROM YUGOSLAVIA

TO: Office of American Minister
    Office of British Resident Minister

1. Enclosed in copy draft appreciation to be submitted to Chief Administrative Officer.
2. Before submission your comments are requested as soon as is conveniently possible.

CHARLES M. GOFFORD
Colonel, O.S.C.,
Chief of Section

Incl: as above
Subject: Evacuation of Refugees from Jugoslavia

To: Chief Administrative Officer.

I. Problem

General Velebit raised two matters in the above connection with MG8:

a) Evacuation of further refugees ex Jugoslavia. It was desired to evacuate further refugees at the rate of 4,000 - 5,000 per month, when the present total of 25,500 already agreed was complete.

b) Transfer of refugees from Italy.

A large majority of the refugees evacuated through Italy to Egypt are women and children, who have been sent to a camp in the Canal Zone. General Velebit is afraid that the climate will shortly be so unsuitable as to make their existence very hard. The point has also been raised by ACO directly with this Section.

General Velebit made it clear that b above, although urgent, was subsidiary in importance to a.

II. Discussion

a) As at 24 April the situation was as follows:

19,700 had already been evacuated to Mid-East leaving 5,800 to complete quota.

3,300 were held in Italy.

Arrivals during the preceding 6 weeks had averaged around 1,850 per week.

b) The request to increase the quota is made because of the policy of indiscriminate massacre described by General Velebit. A decision of policy is necessary as to whether further evacuation is to be permitted, provided it is in fact physically possible to accept further evacuation.

c) On the assumption that further evacuation is to be permitted the following are among the factors involved:

DECLASSIFIED

By Authority of JCS

Letter 7-5-72

By S/LR

Date MAR 8 1973
Location: Egypt.

In addition to the climate objection already indicated, it may be difficult for Mid-East to accept numbers additional to the 25,500. Objections were raised (political, permission of Egyptian Govt., Administration, including lack of medical resources) when 25,500 were originally reluctantly accepted.

On the other hand, food, particularly cereals and vegetables are more readily procurable. YUO (Yugoslavia) has medical and relief personnel available for employment until such time as they may be needed in Yugoslavia.

Tentage of EPI type is believed to be available in some quantity.

Syria.

This was suggested by General Velobit, and would be a matter for consideration by Mid East. Arab feeling against influx of Christian refugees might be an additional adverse factor.

Cyrenaica & Tripolitania.

Presumably much the same objections as under Egypt; otherwise no doubt Mid East would have sent previous consignments there.

Tunisia & Algeria.

This was the solution pressed by General Velobit, both in respect of present quota and future requested shipments.

Preliminary enquiry from M & T indicates that it might be possible to transport 5,000 refugees a month from Italy to North Africa in returning fitted type Liberty ships.

General Velobit stated that if tentage, wood and other necessities were provided, his government would ensure that all labour was forthcoming and that discipline and running of such camps would be a Yugoslav responsibility. Such refugees would be repatriated as soon as sufficient areas of Jugoslav were liberated.

It is possible that there are military installations, now due to be demolished, which could be made available.

General Velobit said they would rely upon Red Cross (Presumably American, British) for medical supplies and clothing.

The main difficulties are:
Political. Whether the French authorities would agree.

Food. Allied Military authorities would have to take full responsibility for provision for bulk.

There is also the question of segregation from the Yugoslav Labour companies at present working for British military at Bone, Maison Blanche and elsewhere.

d) It appears from the above that acceptance of further refugees is possible but difficult.

e) It is pertinent to raise the larger question of temporary asylum for numbers of European refugees which may arise during the next 6-9 months. With the approach of summer, and the possibility of "Rankin C" conditions, it may be that refugees not only from Yugoslavia, but other Balkan and Mid European countries may try to get into liberated Italy across the Adriatic. It may be wise to consider camps for reception of such additional refugees on a larger scale upon a contingency basis. As a basis for further discussion a general survey of possible military camps which may become available and other possible sites in the theater would be useful.

Recommended.

1. That a policy decision be sought as to whether, in principle, additional Yugoslav refugees be accepted; if affirmative.

2. That suggestion for accommodation of additional refugees in Tunisia and Algeria be considered, first obtaining views of French authorities.

3. If 2 above is not possible, that GHQ MEF be required to arrange reception in Egypt.

4. That consideration of movement of refugees now in Egypt be deferred until position on 1 and 2 above is clear.

5. That directions be given as to a survey as a basis for provision of further refugee camps on a contingency basis.

CHARLES M. STOFFORD,
Colonel, G.S.O.,
Chief of Section.
April 29, 1944

To: Military Government Section
AFHQ

SUBJECT: Evacuation of Refugees from Yugoslavia

Reference is made to your memorandum (MGS 383.7-2) of April 25, with which was enclosed copy of a draft appreciation on this subject to be submitted to the Chief Administrative Officer.

I have seen Mr. MacMillan's comments with which I agree in general, but I feel that not only should we not encourage the Partisans to send further refugees out of Yugoslavia, we should in fact take positive action to discourage them in this regard. It appears to be clear that whatever our policy may be, a large number of refugees will succeed in making their way across the Adriatic to Italy and we shall, of course, have to do our best to take care of them. At the same time the potential proportions of this immigration are such that we cannot accept formal responsibility for their care.

General Velebit's recent complaints regarding the facilities provided Yugoslav refugees already in the Middle East is an indication of the type of difficulties that may be expected to develop.

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all Allied personnel in contact with the Partisans should be instructed to discourage the evacuation of refugees from that area. Allied personnel operating landing craft used to carry provisions across the Adriatic should be instructed not to provide transportation to Yugoslav refugees when returning to Italy except in such cases where it is impossible to refuse to do so.

ROBERT D. MORPHY
American Ambassador
Dear John:

I am enclosing herewith an additional batch of material on the dissemination of the President's message on refugees collected since I last wrote you on April 6th. As I have already cabled you, there has been only a small amount of publicity on this statement since April 1st. The local OWI representatives have used it twice in radio broadcasts. Except for special features which are usually broadcasts by local foreign persons to their homelands, the OWI principally broadcasts news. As you will note from the enclosed directive for the week beginning April 10th, item 4 calls for a repetition of the President's statement in connection with other news items. I believe that it is questionable whether this will result in any great use of the statement. I therefore suggested in my cable that you approach the OWI in an effort either to get them to use the statement on broadcasts which are relayed by the Algiers radio, or to have them cable their local representatives as to the importance of continuing to keep the message alive.

Everything onheedala appears to be moving according to schedule. All of the preliminary screening of refugees has been completed. Beckelman and his staff at Casablanca are getting the camp into shape for the reception of refugees and the only remaining problem is the question of transportation. It was originally planned to send a British ship to Cadiz, but due to shortage of both British and American ships the present plan is to use a French ship. This may raise certain difficulties since no French ships have put in at a Spanish port since the landing of the Allies in North Africa. The British Ministry, which is handling the question of shipping, is cabling its Madrid office today to ascertain whether or not this will cause any difficulties. I am advised that no problem is anticipated.

Your cable No. 4 of April 13th just arrived. I will examine the lists of excluded pre-1933 refugees with Beckelman and then decide whether or not to press the question further.
Your cable No. 3 of April 12th, extending my jurisdiction and designating Jim to work with me, was received today. Jim and I are discussing the matter in an effort to plan for the future. We are also awaiting your reaction to the report given orally to Ira Hirschmann.

In the meanwhile I have been continuing to discuss various minor problems with local Army people here. I had received several reports that G-2 was discouraging the entrance of refugees into Italy, both those coming from Yugoslavia and those through the enemy lines, because of the difficulties of security screening. It appears that the Germans have been forcing refugees through the lines as a cover for their own agents. The G-2 authorities, with whom I am now fairly well acquainted, advised me that the necessary arrangements for screening all refugees have now been completed and that while they will not publicly encourage the admission of refugees, they will neither discourage their entrance nor send them back.

Discussions have also been held with a number of French officials, particularly that branch of the Secret Service which is in contact with the underground movement in France and assists in the evacuation of persons from France. While they expressed their sympathy with the idea of removing as many refugees from France as possible, they stated that their facilities were now overtaxed. They assist not only in bringing out Frenchmen, but also Americans and British and they state that they have a priority list which precludes them from assisting in the escape of any but the most important people. I discussed their statements with our G-2 officials and received confirmation thereof. This same statement also follows in the case of evacuations by boat from the mainland to Corsica. This movement has been very slow because the coast of Southern France is extremely well guarded. I doubt whether we will be able to effect any movement at all through this route as long as present conditions continue.

As soon as I have definite word on the date for the number of refugees to Frederic, I will advise you by cable.

Sincerely,

Leonard E. Ackermann
Special Representative
War Refugee Board.

Mr. John W. Pehle
Acting Director
War Refugee Board
2887 Main Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.
M. ROOSEVELT
lleure un solennel avertissement
aux criminels de guerre

Washington (Service).—Hier, au cours d'une conférence de presse, M. Roosevelt a déclaré aux peuples libres de l'Europe qu'il y avait des ennemis venus de séparer les éléments de l'Europe alors unis. Pour les opprimés qui ont été exilés ou déportés, il a déclaré que la justice et la liberté étaient les droits de tous les peuples libres.

LONDRES APPROUVE

Londres (service).—On a eu droit, dans les milieux officiels locaux, de lire un discours politique écrit par le Président Roosevelt à l'Alliance de la paix, qu'il a transmis au sujet des crimes de guerre.

PARIS. — Edmund Rouds, frère du célèbre peintre, vient d'ouvrir à Paris l'Expo-

nential, une manifestation de peinture d'un style remarquable.
RESTORATION OF LABOR DAY

MILANO, MARCH 26 (ANB) -- A spokesman for the Communist
and Socialist parties announced Monday that the parties will ask
for restoration of the traditional Labor Day, May 1, which
was abolished in Italy by the Fascists.

The parties will recommend, the spokesman noted, that in view of the necessity of an uninterrupted war effort
on the part of labor, that Italian workers should work all day
on a Sunday in April, to make up for the Holiday May 1.

WASHINGTON, MARCH 28 (OIT) -- The U.S. War Refugee
Board reported Monday that it has been assured by the Swedish
Minister that his government is prepared to do everything
possible to aid the board in evacuating Jewish refugees from
Rumania and Black Sea ports.

Though the matter is now under discussion, added the board
no final arrangements have been made. However, the board said,
it was hoped that provisions for the evacuation would soon be made with the Swedish government, "which has continually
shown a sympathetic interest in humanitarian efforts of this
kind."
In an editorial entitled "Humanity's Conscience Speaks," the CHICAGO TRIB recently stated:

"Roosevelt has appealed directly to the German people for an end to the ruthless murder of innocent civilians. This action and its cause — that of humanity — has the approval of all the decent peoples of all faiths and of all origins. Roosevelt acted because hundreds of thousands of human beings in Hungary are suddenly faced with the senseless threat of human annihilation.

"The President is starkly correct in stating that this would be a major tragedy if those innocent people who already have survived a decade of Hitler's fury should perish on the very eve of triumph over barbarism which their persecution symbolizes.

"The President hopes that there are enough Germans with enough conscience — despite what the Nazis have done to their conscience — to halt the killings and that measures in Hungary of the kind that have occurred in Poland and in Czechoslovakia.

"The President has given a voice to the conscience of humanity."
HOLLAND FLOODED

LONDON, March 31 (UW) --- A United Press dispatch quotes Dutch circles in Britain as saying that several more areas in southeast Holland had been flooded.

The dispatch said several polders (tracts of reclaimed land) in the southern part of Zeeland, a province bordering on Belgium, were reported under water.

North and south of the railway which runs across the Zeeland mainlands, Kruiningen and Pieters polders were inundated.

The region around Ossenrech on the north Brabant mainland was also flooded.

The dispatch added that evacuees from the mainland in the province of South Holland had been streaming into Rotterdam from where they are being sent to other sections.

SWEDES ON PERSECUTION

STOCKHOLM, March 31 (UW) --- The newspaper NYA DAGLIGTALLEHANJE writing on the anti-Jewish measures introduced in Hungary since the occupation by the Germans said Tuesday, "The whole world has been anxiously following the fate of the Jews. There are no limits to the humiliation and torture which Germany inflicts on those of Jewish ancestry.

This reflection of Swedish feeling significantly echoes the statement of President Roosevelt a few days ago when he told a press conference "The United Nations are fighting to make a world in which tyranny and aggression cannot exist. It is fitting that we should again proclaim that none who participate in the acts of savagery shall go unpunished."
Gestern Abend

Ich spreche heute zu euch, weil wir sehen, dass in der letzten Stunde die Nazis bevor Ihnen die Haft entlassen wird, noch Tausende und noch Tausende unserer Freunde zu Tode schlagen, ohne dass wir helfen können.

Wir Österreichern haben hier in Französisch Nord Afrika an eigenem Leibe erfahren, was so heißt, den Nazis in die Hand zu fassen. Es gibt keinen unter uns, der nicht Hitler und den Verlust dessen, was er besass und was ihm teuer war, zu danken heeft. Wir haben das nackte Leben aus den deutschen Konzentrationslagern oder den Strafkolonien retten können. Aber das war nur möglich, weil jeder von uns den Eins oder den Anderen gefunden hat, der ihm geholfen hat. Wir wissen, welchen Gefallen Ihr euch ausgesetzt habt und euch noch weiter aussetzt um unseren Häuptlingen zu helfen, die wissend, was Du, Prakti Wien, Burtli in Ossau, Robert in Salzburg und Ihr alle anderen leistet. Wir wissen, Hilde in Klagenfurt, wieviele bei dir versteckt worden sind. Uns kann keiner einreden, dass die Österreichler freiwillig Hitlers Hunderknöchel gesehen sind.

Wir Österreichern in Nord Afrika tun was wir können. Es gibt keinen von uns, und wir sind an die 2,000, der nicht in irgend einer Form gegen Hitler kämpft. Die Leisten mit der Waffe in der Hand, aber wenn der alte Paul sich mit 56 Jahren hinstellt und in einem Hafen Lebensmittelsammlung und Munitionskisten schüttelt und so mithilft dem Nachschub für die allierten Truppen sich weiterzustellen, dann leitet er sicher ebenso viel, wie unsere Jungen die bei den Fliegern untergekommen sind.

Wir wissen, dass ihr in der Heimat mehr leistet und gefährliche Arbeit tut als hier draussen und doch müsst ihr noch einmal helfen. Ihr alle, die ihr noch hört, habt vorige Woche die Botschaft des Präsidenten Roosevelt verkommen in welcher er die ganze Welt um Hilfe für die neuen Flüchtlinge aus Rumänien und Ungarn anruf. Die allierten Armeen stehen an der Grenze. Es gibt wohl niemanden mehr der nicht sieht, das
dieser Krieg fuer Hitler verloren ist, ein Fluechtling der fuer Wochen, fuer Tage gerettet ist, ist dauernd gerettet.


wir haben ganz genaue Berichte über das was zu Hause vorgeht. wie kommen jeden Einzelnen und wissen w*er sich benennen hat.


wir hoffen dass wir am Tag der Abrechnung - und er ist nicht mehr fern - werden sagen konnen: es hat vielleicht Oesterreicher gegeben, die geirrt haben. Aber Menschen- schinder waren keine darunter. ein Oesterreicher hat seinen klausurchen nicht, sondern er nilst ihn.
I. SOUTHEAST AND CENTRAL EUROPE

A. The prime task of our propaganda remains the same as that outlined in the extremely important Directive issued April 3rd, i.e., to hamper the Germans in their disorderly retreat before the victorious Russian armies.

B. To this end, follow the lines prescribed by Directive of April 3rd and Special Guidance of April 1st, adding the following themes:

1. Exploit allied air attacks against Central European and Balkan targets, pointing out in each case the unity of allied grand strategy.

2. The presence of the Red Armies at the Czechoslovak frontier calls for heavier emphasis on Czechoslovak news. Stress Russian and other allied messages to the Czechoslovaks, report President Beneš' appeals and all Czechoslovak resistance items.

3. Stress news of resistance in Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria, linking it whenever possible to other patriot movements in the Balkans. Care must be exercised, however, in languages other than Rumanian, Hungarian and Bulgarian, not to give offence to our friends of long standing by too hearty a welcome to these workers of the eleventh hour.

4. Bring out all evidence of local co-operation with the advancing Russian armies. It has been reported that their behaviour is exemplary. When material becomes available to illustrate this, it will be a useful theme, especially in our output to neutral countries.

II. ITALY

A. Military

1. For general coverage of the Italian front, follow the usual line of sober, objective reporting. In appropriate languages stress action by the forces of different nationalities engaged on the Italian front.

2. Continue to report allied air activity from Italian bases against targets outside of Italy, in close connection with general Mediterranean and Russian strategy.

3. Make only the briefest mention of Fascist Italians fighting for the Germans. They should be represented as "propaganda soldiers" who are not fighting as a body, but are mixed in with German troops, as a precautionary measure.

B. Liberated Italy

Report the developments of internal politics, but avoid speculation on the subject. Do not give great prominence to the present compromise discussions. Although these are
Important and valuable, they must be subordinated to what should be the main Italian interest: to help win the war and liberate the country. Our implicit attitude is that, having criticized polemics in the past, we now approve or constructive efforts toward a compromise, but that winning the war comes first.

III. SECRETARY OF STATE'S SPEECH

Give the fullest possible treatment to Mr. Cordell Hull's speech of the 9th in every medium.

For radio start by using extensive quotations, then keep alive by press comment, allied and neutral. When this is exhausted, revive the speech by use of brief quotations as leads or tail-pieces for appropriate items in the news.

Mr. Hull's speech being an important declaration on American policy, it will be preferable to use it verbatim, or to paraphrase it merely for condensation, rather than to endeavour to explain it by use of personal commentaries.

IV. ATROCITIES

When giving news of resistance from any area, report also well-authenticated stories of German atrocities. End such reports on a note of warning, recalling allied statements on the punishment of the guilty (e.g. President Roosevelt, March 24th 1945).

V. FRANCE

A. Communist participation in FCM: Use available material to show that the Communists, who are now taking their share of responsibility, have long shared in the efforts and sacrifices of French resistance.

B. When carrying out the following themes, avoid any suggestions that landings in and the liberation of France are imminent:

1. Report appeals or advice from French sources concerning the constitution of family reserves of food and fuel against the day of military action in France.

2. Show that after liberation, improvement in material standards of life can but be slow, although allied organizations, such as UNRRA, to which France has adhered, are already busying themselves with the problem of supplying Liberated France.

C. Report fully but objectively any developments in the FCM and the French High Command, stemming from the recently published Ordonnance of the Comité. Such developments are not proper subjects for personalized radio feature treatment or editorials.

VI. On all other points continue to carry out the Directive for week beginning April 3rd, with special emphasis on Central and Southeastern Europe, as covered in the Special Guidance of April 1st.
Following is full text of President Roosevelt's statement of March 6, 1945, on War Guilt. (Substitute Ex 79 of 3/15.)

"The United Nations are fighting to make a world in which tyranny and oppression are not existing; a world based upon freedom, equality and justice, a world in which all persons regardless of race, color or creed may live in peace, honor and dignity. In the meantime, in most of Europe and in parts of Asia, the brutalities of torture and murder of civilians -- men, women and children -- by the Nazis and the Japanese continue unabated, in areas subject to the armies of invasion by the United Nations, Canada, Norway, Denmark, France, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, and many others -- are being, achieved or carried out in a system based on a campaign of annihilation of civilians not only of civilians not only of civilians but also of our own gallant American soldiers and others -- these are scandalous examples of what goes on day by day, year in and year out, everywhere in the world, just as our military control -- free to follow their brutal purposes. One of the blackest crimes of all history -- begun by the Nazis in the day of peace and multiplied by them a hundred times in time of war -- the wholesale systematic murder of the Jews in Europe goes on unabated everywhere, as a result of the events of the last few days. Hundreds of thousands of Jews, the while hiding under protection have at least saved a haven from death in Hungary and the Balkans, even now threatened with participation in Hitler's forces, whose fate now hangs heavily upon these events. Those innocent people who have already survived a record of Nazi savagery should not, on the very eve of triumph over the barbarians whose senseless brutality marks a major tragedy, sit in the temple of justice and demand that we should have provided our determination that none who participate in those acts of savagery shall go unpunished. The United Nations have made it clear that they will pursue the full range and deliver trials in order that justice be done. The morningmypathnot only to the lessons but also to those sanctions and retribution in Germany and in the satellite countries, as the betrayed the part, this succeeds of their. The death in Poland on Hungary and France to those judges in Germany are..."
equally guilty with the conquerors. All who share the guilt shall share the punishment. Hitler is committing these crimes against humanity in the name of the German people. I ask every German and every man everywhere under Nazi domination to show the world by his action that in his heart he does not share these inhumane criminal desires, but his hands these armed victims, help them to gain their freedom, and do what he can to save them from the Nazi hordes. I ask him also to keep watch and to record the evidence that will one day be used to condemn the guilty. In the meantime and until the victory that is now as near in time, the United States will persevere in its efforts to rescue the victims of brutality of the Nazis and the Japs. Insurers as the necessity of military operations permit, this Government will use all means at its command to aid the cause of all intended victims of the Nazis and Japs, without regard to race, color, religion, or creed. We call upon the free peoples of Europe and Asia to open their frontiers to all victims of oppression. We shall find means of refuge for them, and we shall find the means for their maintenance and support until the tyrant is driven from their homelands and they may return in the reign of justice and humanity. Let all freedom-loving peoples rally to this magnificent undertaking!

(Foreign to see EL R. 7/1/7)
le 5 avril 1944.

Déclaration de Mgr. HINCKY, Prélàt alsacien,
délegue auprès des Réfugiés et Expulsés alsaciens et
lorrains en Afrique du Nord.

Tous ceux qui, dans le monde, ont garde la notion de ce qui
est juste et injuste, de ce qui est vrai et faux, de ce qui est bien
et mal, constatent avec une indignation grandissante comment sont
menacées aujourd'hui les principes de la morale naturelle et de la
morale chrétienne par le nazisme qui a voulu imposer à l'Europe une
conception du monde absolument opposée aux principes humains et
chrétiens.

Ces jours-ci le Président Roosevelt a attiré l'attention du
monde civilisé sur les événements qui se déroulent actuellement en
Europe centrale, les persécutions abominables, dont, en outre, les
israéliens réfugiés en Hongrie, sont victimes, appartenant une preuve
nouvelle de l'inhumanité de l'ordre nouveau dont les Nazis veulent
gratifier l'Europe sous leur domination.

Depuis la triste époque où les masses populaires vivaient en
esclaves, sans loi et sans droit, on n'a pas vu pareille aberration.

En condamnant le nazisme, le racisme et leurs succédanés,
à l'Église catholique demeure dans la ligne droite de son histoire et
de sa divine vocation.

Les préceptes du droit naturel ne peuvent être impunément
violés. Leur transgression ne va jamais sans entraîner de désastreuses
consequences pour ceux qui en font litière. Il faut remonter jusque
dans les pires les plus barbares pour retrouver un pareil mepris de la personnalité humaine. Qui aurait jamais pu imaginer que dans les temps modernes, un pays qui prétendait atteindre au sommet de la civilisation et du progrès, peut pousser la perversion morale jusqu'à exiger des peuples asservis par lui qu'ils lorgent des armes contre leur propre patrie et aillent se battre contre leurs propres frères?

C'est pour mettre fin à ces horreurs, dont la France est l'une des grandes victimes, que se sont liguées les "Nations Unies". Leur croisade est celle du droit et de la justice. Elle doit assurer au monde les libertés essentielles, le respect de la dignité humaine, la justice sociale, sans lesquelles il n'y a ni équilibre ni de paix internationale.
EN 01 4/5  1938 / NATIONAL CONDEMNATION OF NAZI PERSECUTION / ALGERS, April 5 -- Monsignor Hinky, Alsatian prelate, and delegate to the Refugees from Alsace-Lorraine in North Africa has issued the following statement strongly condemning the Nazi persecution of racial groups:

"All people of the world who have a care for what is lawful and unlawful for that which is false and true great with growing indignity today the way in which the principles of natural and Christian morals are ignored by Nazis which seeks to impose upon Europe a conception of life absolutely opposed to human and Christian principals.

These days President Roosevelt has called attention of the civilized world to the events actually happening in central Europe, of which the victims are Jewish refugees in Hungary, furnishing new proof of the inhumanity of the new order with which the Nazis wish to assure that part of Europe under their domination.

Since the sad period during which masses live in slavery without law or right, such aberration has never been seen.

In condemning Nazism, racism and their successors, the Catholic church keeps to the straight path of its history and its divine vocation.

The proceeds of natural right cannot be violated without impunity. Their transgression never occurs without disastrous consequences for those responsible. One has to go way back to barbaric times to find such sin against human individuality. Who could ever have imagined that in modern times a country which pretended to have achieved the heights of civilization and progress could have forced moral perversion to the point where it demanded the people serving it that they forge arms against their own country and go fight their own brothers?

It is to put an end to these horrors, of which France is one of the greatest victims, that the United Nations have joined together. Their crusade is one of right and justice. It aims to assure for the world its essential liberties, respect for human dignity, social justice, without which there is neither equilibrium nor international peace.

(Source FWB)
Dear Lent:

Larry Lesser has told me of your interest in being kept up to date on affairs transpiring with us in Washington. I think that our various letters and cables, such as the letters of March 9, 1944, March 16, 1944, March 31, 1944, and the various cables which we have transmitted to you, probably contain most of the information in which you are interested. Insofar as general background and developments on an overall scale are concerned, I understand that our weekly reports are being regularly transmitted to you. Accordingly there is probably not a great deal which I can say now which has not been said before.

As you know, we have been pushing rather strenuously on a government program under which the President could announce to the world that we are prepared to receive refugees who are fortunate enough to escape from enemy territory. Our plan is that these refugees will be treated as prisoners of war and kept in centers in the United States for the Duration, at which time they would be returned to their homes or elsewhere depending upon the circumstances. The War Refugee Board people and we secured approval of this program and we are now pressing of it.

We have received quite favorable reports on the effect of the President's Declaration of March 24, 1944, which we cabled to you. It appears that considerable cooperation has been received from most quarters with respect to publicizing this announcement. As you may have heard, Anthony Eden made a similar announcement in the House of Commons a short time after the President's Declaration. I understand that this announcement, which went somewhat further than ours in pointing out that those in Axis and Satellite countries who follow the right path will not be forgotten in the day of final reckoning, will receive the widest possible publicity in all enemy or occupied countries.
I think you are probably familiar with the situation in Spain. A number of requests have been made by the War Refugee Board and the State Department that Ambassador Hayes approach the Spanish Government or otherwise take steps in accordance with our objectives. To date, the Ambassador has not seen fit to comply with our requests. In addition, he appears quite opposed to the assignment of a full time representative of the War Refugee Board in Madrid. You will recall that we first proposed Blickenstaff as our representative. Ambassador Hayes, before discussing the matter with Blickenstaff, cabled that, by reason of the excellent work which Blickenstaff was already doing in heading up the relief organizations in Spain, he did not feel Blickenstaff could devote his full time to WRB activities. In view of this, and in view of certain other information which we had indicating that Blickenstaff might not be the type of person who would adopt an aggressive approach to the refugee problem, we proposed Jim Saxon. Ambassador Hayes then came back objecting to this on the ground that he was not convinced of the necessity of appointing a full time WRB representative. He said that if any appointment were necessary, he preferred Blickenstaff. This, I think, indicates what we are up against in Spain.

The foregoing is, of course, for your information only, and is to be regarded as most confidential. Accordingly, I have hesitated to write you "V-Mail", although I am fully cognizant of your feeling on the matter. I have, instead, transmitted this letter to Mike Hoffman in the hope the same result may be achieved, as I feel it should on all such letters.

Sincerely,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Leonard E. Ackermann
Special Representative
War Refugee Board,
c/o Finance and Control Division,
North African Economic Board
Civil Affairs Office
Allied Force Headquarters
Algiers, Algeria
Dear John:

I am enclosing herewith some material which is in addition to the clippings sent you in my last letter of March 29th. There are also enclosed some press releases, statements and copies of broadcasts. Finally, there is a statement monitored from the German-controlled Hungarian radio which indicates that official German groups, at least, have heard of the President's statement. I have also been informed by the Psychological Warfare Branch that the Germans mentioned the President's statement over Radio Berlin. A transcript of this announcement was not available. You will note that the President of the Austrian Committee in Algiers and the Greek Representative have made statements on the President's appeal. I am also informed that Bonnet, Commissioner of Information, will make a statement, but have not seen a copy thereof. There have also been several other broadcasts but the transcripts have not as yet been furnished to me. I will send this additional material to you as soon as it is ready.

I cabled the latest information on Fedhala to you yesterday. I do not have complete lists of all of the persons involved but can give you approximate figures thereon. Out of approximately 900 persons, 76 have been rejected for security reasons, and about 120 were rejected because of the claim on the part of the French that they were not refugees, having arrived in Spain prior to 1933. As I previously advised you, this pre-1933 group was larger but the French finally agreed to relax with respect to these persons in the pre-1933 group who were in prisons or concentration camps. I have made an analysis of the group of rejectees numbering 41, who applied in the second batch of applications, and it is my opinion that at least half of them should be classified as refugees despite their early arrival in Spain, since they are stateless. The other half is made up of a variety of persons of all nationalities who, for one reason or another, apparently have decided to apply for admission to Fedhala as a means of getting out of Spain and going elsewhere. However, it would be difficult to call them refugees. I cannot give you a similar breakdown on the 79 persons rejected out of the first batch of applications, but as soon as I get a complete list, will furnish this to you.
As I advised you yesterday, I have seen the cable FEA sent to Beekman, No. 44 to Casablanca, dated 30 March, in which FEA states its position that all refugees desiring to go to North Africa from Spain should be accepted and that the length of residence in Spain was not taken into consideration in the original agreement. The cable also stated that the War Refugee Board and the State Department were conferring thereon and would cable Algiers with reference thereto. As yet no such cable has arrived and as it is the State Department representative's opinion that we should not press this question on a high diplomatic level until further instructions are received, I have not proceeded any further.

As I also advised you, the French raised no question with reference to the Sephardic Jews, as such.

Patrick Molin of the Intergovernmental Committee has been in town for a few days. He intends to leave for the States today. I have had several discussions with him concerning refugee problems from which I gathered that he is now principally engaged in planning for the movement of refugees to permanent homes where refugees cannot be repatriated to their former homes, which is, for the most part, a post-war job. In the course of his travels through Italy, Turkey and the Middle East, he also looked into the problem of immediate rescue. It is his opinion that this is extremely difficult and that while certain clandestine efforts may succeed in saving small numbers of persons, no mass movement is possible without the consent of the Germans. While he was in Italy he examined the question of the refugees on Rab. It is his opinion that there never were as many as 4,000 refugees on Rab, and that the number was closer to 2,000. He also states that according to the best information available to him, most of these refugees left Rab and reached other parts of Yugoslavia or Italy. If he is correct, it may be considered somewhat heartening news, since, as I previously advised you, the Army now believes that Rab has been or is about to be recaptured by the Germans. Nevertheless, the message from the Combined Chiefs of Staff is being forwarded to Marshal Tito for his opinion. The Army people who are in touch with Tito gave a preliminary opinion that financial considerations are an inconsequential part of the problem of the movement of refugees from Yugoslavia and that the principal questions appear to be the availability of the refugees, transportation and politics. I am not exactly sure what is meant by "politics" but intend to look into it further. It probably has something to do
with the enmity existing between the Partisans and the Chetniks which has been a source of trouble in the Italian refugee camps. I probably will also have further information on this matter as soon as Jim Saxon returns from his trip to Bari.

I received a telephone call yesterday from one of the officials in the French Commissariat for Prisoners, Refugees, and Deportees asking me to call on him. I do not know the purpose of this request but will be able to inform you better after I have had the conference tomorrow morning.

I will write you again early next week and if anything important develops in the meanwhile will keep you advised by cable.

Sincerely yours,

Leonard E. Ackermann,
Special Representative,
War Refugee Board.

Mr. John W. Pehle
Acting Director,
War Refugee Board
288 Main Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.
Roosevelt über die Lage der Juden in Ungarn

Roosevelt, der Präsident, erschien einem Aufruf über die Geschehnisse in Ungarn.

In diesem Aufruf besann er sich aber nicht mit die 13 Millionen Ungarn, sondern nur über den Lese der Juden in Ungarn macht er sich sorgen.

[Other news]

Dr. Goebbels Artikel in "Reich"

Über den Luftringe.

Der Großvater von Jerusalem über den engl-osmanischen Krieg.

[Other news]

Dr. Dionisio wechselt die jugoslawische Flotte für Yalta.

Aufruf gesamter Sozialflüge an der Roten Armee, zwecks Wandern baldschinischer Regime in Russland.

Psychologisches Waffenwinkel - Axis Broadcast Monitoring Report

Monitor from Radio Budapest - March 24, 1944.
Comme commentaires, voici notre commentaire américain, Douglas MacArthur.

Dès le début de cette guerre, ceux qui n'ont jamais doute de la victoire des Alliés se sont posé la question : Que ferait-on de l'Allemagne après sa défaite ?

La réponse que nous nous posions cette question en France, même au début de l'occupation. Et des alliés, rencontrés ici à Alger, et très récemment sortis de France, me dirent que l'avenir de l'Allemagne continue à préoccuper l'opinion publique française.

En Angleterre, en Amérique, dans les pays occupés par l'Allemagne, il en est de même.

Le 17 mars, Sir Eric PHIPPS, ancien Ambassadeur de Grande-Bretagne à BERLIN, publiait les lignes suivantes dans le journal "Evening News" de Londres : "... concentrons notre attention sur deux points essentiels, au sujet desquels ne devrait exister aucune divergence sérieuse, entre nous et les autres Nations unies." a dit l'Ancien ambassadeur anglais, que je cite à nouveau : "Premier, le désarmement immédiat et permanent de l'Allemagne, sur terre, sur mer et dans les airs. Second : Obligation pour le Reich de fournir les reparations necessaires pour ses crimes et pour les dommages de toute sorte qu'il a causés." Voici les prononcées les paroles suivantes au cours d'une radio-diffusion faite à BOSTON :

"Les dirigeants nazis, qui ne se font plus d'illusions, s'efforcent cependant de mettre..."
de leur côté, toutes les chances qui restent au Reich, si
minces soient-elles. "Et l'ambassadeur anglais a parlé
ensuite des efforts que ne manqueraient pas de faire les
Allemands pour arracher une paix de compromis.
"Mais, a conclu Lord Halifax", les Alliés savent
qu'une paix de compromis amorcerait un désastre et ils sont
trop épris pour se laisser prendre à des paroles douceuses
ou à tout autre piège." Voilà ce qu'a dit à BOSTON, l'ambas-
sadeur de Grande-Bretagne.

La presse clandestine, elle aussi, étudie le
problème. Voici l'éditorial d'une feuille norvégienne :
"A quel point une nation porte-t-elle la responsabilité
des actes de ses chefs ? Sans le plein appui des
masses, la minorité n'aurait jamais pu réaliser ses
seuls désirs, indépendamment des projets d'autres.
Il serait précieux pour le peuple allemand de se
trouver un alibi ; ce serait pain bénit pour eux de
présenter leurs chefs comme des boucs émissaires et eux-mêmes
comme des braves garçons. Mais ceci ne peut réussir et
ne réussira pas. Une Nation doit répondre de ses actions."

La presse clandestine danoise donne le même son.

Je cite : "Les gangsters nazis ont accédé au Pouvoir
avec le plein assentiment du peuple allemand." Pages et
Holländais aussi insistent sur la responsabilité de tous
ceux qui ne s'opposent pas activement aux théories et aux
actes des Nazis.

Mais ces discussions, toutes passionnées qu'elles
soient, n'auront nullement la voix de la raison. Un
journal clandestin hollandois affirme que les Alliés ne
doivent pas s'abaisser au point d'adopter les méthodes
nazies. "Il y a des gens" écrit la feuille hollandoise,
"qui voudraient se venger de toute la misère endurée, et appliquer aux Allemands les méthodes qu'employèrent contre les peuples des pays occupés...\(\text{célèbre}\) cependant dépasserait les bornes d'un juste châtiment. Les affirmations pondérées des Alliés insistent sur un châtiment mérité des criminels allemands, mais déplorent toute tentative de vengeance contre la Nation allemande toute entière."

Cette citation d'une feuille hollandaise trouve son écho dans un journal belge qui écrit:

"Belges, la guerre ne gagne dans la colère, mais non la paix : pour celle-ci, nous aurons besoin de clairvoyance d'intelligence, d'une patience inlassable et d'une grande bonne volonté."

Voilà plusieurs points de vue sur la question.

Je n'ai pas encore parlé de l'attitude des États-Unis.

Croyez bien que la presse et surtout les revues américaines y consacrent de longs articles, où toutes les théories peuvent voir le jour. L'essentiel est qu'on y pense, qu'on réfléchit des maintenant au problème de l'Allemagne d'après guerre. Les paroles du Président Roosevelt, dans sa déclaration du 24 mars, résument en tout cas l'opinion générale des Américains pour autant que je puisse en juger.

Le Président Roosevelt a réaffirmé la résolution des Nations-Unies de poursuivre les coupables et de les livrer à la justice. Il a rappelé que les crimes actuels sont commis au nom du peuple allemand. Le Président a fait appel à tout Allemand de montrer au monde, par ses actions, qu'il ne partage pas, au fond de son cœur, ces désirs criminels et fous.\(\) Et le Président Roosevelt a prononcé ces paroles lourdes de sens pour les Allemands qui les connaîtront: "Tous ceux..."
VOIX

Vous venez d'entendre Douglas SCHNEIDER, abattu en

96 I/

...
ALGIERS, March 19 (FWB) -- The newspaper ALGER REPUBLICAIN

Tuesday devoted its editorial by Michel Rouze to a discussion of

President Roosevelt's recent statement about the punishment to

be administered war criminals.

Rouze said:

"In the course of a press conference Roosevelt solemnly

repeated the warning the United Nations have already given war

criminals. These men must be punished in proportion to the heinous

crimes they have committed as soon as the victorious advance of

armies of liberty will have made their capture possible.

"The President of the United States did not talk that way

just to recall positions already taken. His new warning is based

on the most tragic happenings. The German army has invaded

Hungary. The German army is exerting its influence on Rumania

and Hungary. The Hitlerian seizure of Central Europe will be

all the more bitter and more demanding as the Germans feel

themselves forced to the ultimate extreme. And the little count

risk seeking a repetition of the horrors which have already been

committed in the eastern plains.

"Everyone has the right within himself to like or not to li

the particularities of a given ethnical group. But anyone who,

hearing the stories of the atrocities committed by the Nazi in

many of the occupied countries, would not feel his heart filled

with sadness and anger, is not worthy of the name of a man.

Jews just because they were Jews, Russians and Poles because the

Slavic countries had to be depopulated, were coldly and systematic

massacred, sometimes in small groups, often in mass manoeuvres

in which modern technique made use of a barbarousness risen from

the dark ages.


more


It might have been possible to doubt the first stories because of the indescribable horror of the acts related. Unfortunately there are too many documents to allow further doubt. Do we not know that even in France with the active complicity of Vichy, human creatures have been treated as beasts one would send to a slaughterhouse?

"The satellite countries of Germany in Central Europe, although they limped along the official path of Hitlerian theories, did not push the application of these theories to their extreme consequences. In Hungary, for instance, several there lived hundreds of thousands of unhappy persons, some of them refugees from Poland on whom SORPRES torture and death close down now once again.

"Certainly it is not possible to definitely stop such crimes other than by beating down the Hitlerian monster. But it is possible to reduce their horror or to cut down their number. For that it is sufficient to let the criminals know that they will be punished, as Roosevelt recently said, and at the same time to make them understand that this is not just a proceeding. This will not stop runtis, but those runts will cease. The Nazi police are not the only ones who must be killed. They have accomplices, not all of whom are Germans, who will give them matters thought. Soviet Russia and France have shown the methods to use. At Kharkov war criminals were judged and executed. The same thing happened at Algiers. This way is the only way to do it. Millions of unhappy persons, still locked in the Hitlerian jail, place their foolish hope in our pitiless justice."

(...500...)
Answer of the President of the Austrian Committee in Algiers to President Roosevelt's statement on refugees, March 24th, 1944.

The Austrian Committee is deeply impressed and grateful for President Roosevelt's declaration of March 24th concerning Nazi persecution in Europe and promises to use all its influence to bring the maximum aid to refugees. The committee would like to recall the fact that according to the Nazis themselves, more than 500 Austrians have been executed for having aided deserters and refugees, and it would like to state that in spite of bloody reprisals Austrians worthy of the name continue to offer resistance to German atrocities.

The Committee hopes that the President will soon give Austrians who have been forced to serve in the German army and are now prisoners of war the chance of taking up arms in an Austrian army at the side of the Allies.

signed: C. G. Mattenbreuer

President of Austrian Committee in Algiers

March 31st, 1944
ALGIERS, April 2: (FNS) -- C. G. Mattersdorf, president of the Austrian Committee in Algiers, said Sunday that the committee was deeply grateful for President Roosevelt's declaration of March 24 concerning Nazi persecution in Europe and promised that the committee would use all its influence to bring the maximum aid to refugees.

Mattersdorf said the committee would like to recall that, according to the Nazis themselves, more than 500 Austrians have been executed for aiding desertors and refugees. He added, however, that in spite of this, Austrians worthy of the name continue to offer resistance to German atrocities.

He said the committee hoped that Mr. Roosevelt would give Austrians who have been forced to serve in the German army, and as prisoners of war, a chance to take up arms in an Austrian army at the side of the Allies.
Je lis cette lettre qui a paru dans le journal "Combat" de ce jour, pour trois raisons:

1. Parce que les témoignages nous parviennent.
2. Parce que les Allemands qui nous écoutent - et ils nous écoutent - savent que les crimes que nous commettons, comme l'a dit le président Roosevelt, "Ceux qui participent au crime, participeront au châtiment."
3. Parce que nous avons été arrêtés par l'autorité allemande.

Voici la lettre d'une Française à laquelle je voudrais ajouter un mot de commentaire:

"Il y a un an, mon mari, mon père, une jeune sœur, et nous avons été arrêtés par l'autorité allemande. Mon œuvre a été dure et dure que parfois elle ne réalisait plus être un être humain. Son attitude a été splendide. À une Allemande qui lui disait le soir de son arrestation, "Du courage" elle a répondu: "On ne dit pas du courage, à une Française que l'on met en cellule."

"Pour moi, vous devez se voir comment j'étais avec mes enfants et étant enfant, j'ai fait en prison une naissance complète pour laquelle je n'ai eu aucun soin, où la visite d'un seul docteur, ni boîte-femme, infranifable, et comme au bout de deux mois de prison j'ai été libérée. Papa a été condamné, il est actuellement en Allemagne, mais j'ignore s'il est encore en vie. Il est parti chercher quelque chose qu'il m'a dit qu'il allait avec ses filles, afin d'être exécuté. Mon père, papa et moi..."
Mon mari est un héros et un martyr. Nul ne sait les souffrances physiques et morales qu'il a endurées en prison. Il a eu si fausse qu'il menaçait de la paille et des bouts d'étoffe. Pendant tout le procès qui a duré plusieurs semaines, j'ai eu le droit de le voir chaque jour entouré d'officiers allemands, évidemment, je n'ai pas pu le faire connaitre.

Il n'a cessé de rire, de plaisanter et de faire preuve du plus grand courage. Quand on a lu l'acte d'accusation il a levé et a crié "Vive la France". Après le jugement il n'a demandé si j'avais des regrets. Sur sa réponse négative, il a pleuré d'émotion en se disant que cela avait été sa seule crainte. Pourtant il ne connaissait suffisamment pour savoir que des regrets, j'étais incapable d'en avoir. Quant parfois la douleur me semble trop forte, je pense à ce que m'ont dit les officiers allemands qui m'interrogeaient : "Vous pouvez être fière d'être la fille et la femme de ce homme. Votre mari est un héros, il mérite une statue". Il a donc été condamné à mort, mais douze jours après il a été gracié. J'ai eu le droit de le voir une fois par semaine. Ensuite mon droit de visite n'a été retiré et il a été avec d'autres exécuté. On les a prévenus à dix heures du matin et exécuté à huit heures.

Il a combattu sur le terrain même d'exécution. Il n'a pas eu d'action de grâce : au moment où il reçut Dieu, Dieu le recevait. Au poteau d'exécution il a retiré ses objets qu'il ne laissait particulièrement : son chapeau, son cravate, son alliance, sa chevalière, pour bien montrer combien jusqu'au bout il avait pensé à moi. L'autorité l'a banni. Il a crié une dernière fois : "Vive Dieu, Vive la France".

Les autres ont aussi crié "Vive la France" quand la cloche retentit.

Le coucou qui a été éveillé a résonné sur la porte de garde du camp de concentration dès l'heure qui le.
Il était foncièrement chrétien. C'est une si belle figure que parfois je me sens indigné de lui, qu'ain si il savait ce qu'il risquait. A son frère qui lui reprochait de s'exposer quelque circonstance visible, il a répondu: "Il y en a qui refusent d'agir parce qu'ils ont des enfants, moi, c'est parce que j'en ai. Je fais quelque chose"

Dans vingt ans, quand mes filles me diront "Papa la France a été occupée par les Allemands, qu'as-tu fait?" Je ne veux pas leur répondre "rien". Il a ajouté, les larmes aux yeux: "Ma mort sera, et je dois mourir, leur sera plus utile que ma vie, sans avoir le courage de faire quelque chose pour la France". Il disait cela deux mois avant son arrestation. Maintenant il ne reste deux filles à élever et à rendre dignes de leur père.

Je viens de vous lire la lettre d'une Française, veuve d'un patriote français, mort au champ d'honneur de la résistance française.
LAGERS, April 5 — The Greek representative in Algiers to the French Committee of National Liberation has answered President Roosevelt's recent appeal to aid the refugees of occupied Europe. The Greek representative, Mr. M. F. Comnatos, said:

"President Roosevelt's appeal will have found nowhere a more heartfelt response than in Greece, which has resisted first Italian and afterwards German and Bulgarian attempts to exterminate her.

"After the Italians had tried what they could to bend the inflexible will of Greece, the Germans set to work with devilish thoroughness, employing mass executions, starvation, torture and deportation to achieve their ends.

"As an example, there is the systematic deportation to unknown destinations in central Europe of the whole Jewish population of Greece of about 100,000 men, women and children, who before the German occupation had lived the life of free Greek citizens.

"No one knows what their fate has been... one can only guess what has happened to them from what is going on now in Greece. German methods to terrorize the population and stop the Guerilla warfare have resulted in the destruction of thousands of villages and the murder of thousands, which is equivalent to first and at this very moment, two million peasants are homeless.

"The Bulgarians have not lagged behind their German masters. In fact, they have been more vile if such a thing is possible, and in areas of northern Greece occupied by the Bulgarians, the situation is still worse. The Greeks not to work with terrifed population has been more than halved.

"The rest had either fled to other parts of Greece occupied by the Germans, preferring even a German hell to a Bulgarian hell or been sent to central Europe to do compulsory labor, unknown destinations in a camp somewhere, which they feared or have been killed.

"The answer of Greece is: yes, more sympathy is needed.

"Let us hope that President Roosevelt's appeal will not be lost on the British people. We are sure that the British and the American people only be heard and heeded by the torturers but that the tortured, too, will hear it and draw encouragement from the President's noble words: "Nothing short of complete victory for the freedom-loving people of Europe can be acceptable."

Source: The Times
Answer of the Greek Representative in Algiers to President Roosevelt's appeal to aid the refugees in Occupied Europe, made on March 24th 1944.

President's Roosevelt appeal will have found nowhere a more heartfelt response than in Greece which has resisted first Italian and afterwards German and Bulgarian attempts to exterminate her. After the Italians had tried what they could do to bend the inflexible will of Greece the Germans set to work with devilish thoroughness, employing mass executions, starvation, torture and deportation to achieve their ends.

As an example there is the systematic deportation to unknown destinations in Central Europe of the whole Jewish population of Greece of about a hundred thousand men, women and children, who before the German occupation had lived the life of free Greek citizens. No one knows what their fate has been... one can only guess what has happened to them, from what is going on now in Greece. German methods to terrorise the population and stop the Guerilla warfare have resulted in the destruction of thousands of villages and at this very moment two millions peasants are homeless. The Bulgarians have not lagged behind their German masters... in fact they have been more vile if such thing is possible, and in areas of Northern Greece occupied by the Bulgarians the population has been more than halved. The rest have either fled to other parts of Greece occupied by the Germans preferring even a German hell to a Bulgarian hell, or have been sent to Central Europe to do compulsory labour, or have been killed.

Let us hope that President Roosevelt's appeal will not only be
heard and heed by the torturers, but that the tortured too will hear it and draw encouragement from the President's noble words.

signed: H.P. Cosmetatos

Greek Representative accredited to the French Committee of National Liberation in Algiers.
Le président Roosevelt déclare : « Il convient que nous proclamions notre volonté qu'aucun des hommes qui participent à des actes de sauvagerie n'échappe au châtiment. »
Kallay Quit When Told Of Committee To Nazis

ISTANBUL — Nicholas Kallay, former prime minister of Hungary, was forced to resign from his post last week due to his disagreement with the Nazi government over the treatment of Hungarian Jews. When Kallay refused to support the Nazi policies, he was dismissed from his post.

The present Hungarian cabinet was described by the Foreign Office as a "coalition of pro-Nazi elements," according to the Associated Press.

Relief agencies in Budapest have already begun to distribute food and clothing to refugees from Hungary, according to a report. The refugees were driven out of Hungary by the Nazi invasion and are now being sheltered in Budapest.

Poster Contest Seeks 'Win The War' Ideas

A 'Win the War' poster contest, open to all American citizens and residents, is being held. The contest will end on August 1st.

At a meeting with Hitler on March 10, Kallay reported to the Führer that the Hungarian government had agreed to the Nazi demands for the suppression of the Hungarian government. Kallay further reported that the Hungarian government had agreed to the Nazi demands for the suppression of the Hungarian government.
La déclaration du président ROOSEVELT
en faveur des minorités opprimées

Dans tous les pays occupés,
des milliers d'individus
persécutent
victimes de la sauvagerie hitlérienne

Tous les peuples, tous les hommes épris de liberté,
doivent aider et défendre
les réfugiés menacés d'extermination.

Les

Dernières Nouvelles

Vendredi
31
Mars
1940

8e Année Quotidien d'information du Sud
imprimé téléphoné 150-64, 152-57, 152-62
a Alger le 1er
March 29, 1944

Dear John:

After dispatching my letter of 25 March to you, I received a copy of your cable of the 24th containing the President's Declaration on refugees. I immediately discussed the matter with Selden Chapin who suggested that I see the Psychological Warfare Branch which is the local office of the OWI in this area. They advised me that they had already received word of the President’s statement, strangely enough, through a Reuters Dispatch. On the basis of their preliminary information they prepared a press release, a copy of which is enclosed, which was distributed to all the local papers and was then radioed to the OWI offices in Naples, Bari, Tunis, Palermo, Sardinia and forward points. As a result of the issuance of the press release, the four local Algiers newspapers wrote short stories on the subject, all of which appeared on the first page of such papers on March 26, 1944. On March 27, 1944, the “Algier Républicain” published an editorial on its front page. Clippings are enclosed. In addition, the story appeared in the "Stars and Stripes." A clipping on this was enclosed in my previous letter.

The OWI also broadcast the announcement in four languages over radios which they operate in Algiers and Tunis. It was broadcast from Algiers in French on March 24 and March 25. A copy of the French broadcasts are enclosed. It was broadcast in Italian on March 24 and twice on March 25. During the second Italian broadcast the British endorsement of the program was used. Algiers radio broadcast the story in English twice on March 24 and again on March 25. The last two broadcasts contained the British endorsement. Broadcasts in German to Austria were made on March 24 and 25. Copies of these broadcasts will be forwarded to you as soon as possible.

I do not as yet have a complete story of the broadcasts from Tunis, but I am informed that broadcasts were made on March 24 and 25 in the four languages mentioned above and that since that time news items have been issued containing the reaction of the press and Congress to the President’s statement. I have also been promised copies of these broadcasts which will be forwarded as soon as available.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
As for future dissemination. The OWI directive for this week contains a program for the continued use of the statement and news items in connection therewith via radio, the issuance of further press releases for distribution to the local newspapers and forwarding to other OWI units, and the possible preparation and distribution of a propaganda leaflet. Harold Glasser, who just returned from Naples, also advises me that the story appeared in Naples newspapers. The OWI will contact various French and foreign personages to get their reactions on a news basis. Selden Chapin will also approach these persons indirectly while I will also talk to several individuals with whom I am personally acquainted.

On March 28, after I had sent off my letter, I received a call from the head of the local office of the War Shipping Administration who showed me certain cables concerning the charter of a boat to the Turks in exchange for the one that they would make available for refugee evacuation. He said that there were many difficulties involved in such a transfer and had previously advised Washington that he thought it would be a bad precedent to promise to replace a ship for one that was lost. He said that it was possible that the French or Italians might ask for the same treatment. I spent some time with him explaining the work of the Board and told him that in my opinion the Turks, being a neutral nation, could be placed on a different basis from France or Italy who were belligerents. Before I left he dictated three cables - one to Cairo, the second to Washington and the third to Ankara in an effort to move the program along. I believe that my talk had some effect since he stressed the need for speed in these cables. In view of the recent developments in Hungary and Rumania, it would appear to me that the program envisaged in these cables may no longer be possible of achievement. However, it is my opinion that it was a good idea for him to proceed with his steps along these lines so that, if proper arrangements for evacuation can be accomplished in the future, some of the red tape will have been eliminated.

Jim and I have been continuing our calls on various people who might be of assistance. Thus far while we have been cordially received we have not achieved much in the way of active cooperation, since all of these persons are busyly engaged in their own problems. One suggestion was made, however, which might be entitled to some consideration. I might add that Gabby made the same suggestion to me some time ago but I proceeded on the assumption that you already had thought of it. Since I have heard nothing
from you along these lines, I pass it on. The suggestion is
this: that a direct approach be made to the German Government
through either the Swiss, Swedish or Spanish Governments re-
questing the mass evacuation of refugees. In exchange, no
doubt the Germans may require some extremely valuable considera-
tion - it may be one that is impossible to accept. On the
other hand it may be a consideration which the United States
could accept and if the proposal is made, even though never ul-
timately worked out, its discussion might possibly stay the
Germans' hands for a time.

While Harold was in Italy he met with General MacFarlane
who is connected with the Allied Control Commission on the
question of evacuating refugees now in Hungary and Rumania
through Yugoslavia. General MacFarlane was of the opinion that
the trip was so difficult that only very small numbers could be
evacuated in this fashion without a great deal of help. We are
now going to discuss with General Devers or General Sir Henry
Watt and Wilson whether an approach could be made to Piko or
other assistance be given which would expedite such a movement.
Harold and I have an appointment with General Devers for to-
morrow morning and we will advise you of the results thereof
as soon as possible.

A letter stating that the second batch of Fedhala applica-
tions were being forwarded has been received but the applica-
tions have not as yet put in an appearance. I should know to-
day or tomorrow the exact number to be accepted in the first
group and as soon as this is known we will again renew my efforts
to get this group moved by separate ship. Your letter of
March 21st has been received. We will make every effort to
expedite the program mentioned therein. Just how it will be
accomplished is something that we have not ascertained as yet.

Sincerely yours,

L. E. Ackermann
Special Representative
War Refugee Board

Mr. John W. Pehle,
Acting Director,
War Refugee Board,
2001 Main Treasury Building,
Washington, D. C.
L'ancien premier ministre KALLAY fait un récit complet des événements de Hongrie

Convaincu de la nécessité d'acquérir toute l'aide possible à la Wehrmacht

HORTHY CEDA A BERCHESTGADEN

À TOUTES LES EXIGENCES D'ITALIAN

Budapest, — De Robert Digby, correspondeur de l'IWM.

Le récit du général des armées KALLAY, ancien président de l'Assemblée nationale hongroise, est au lendemain de l'armistice. C'est un récit des événements qui ont précipité la chute de l'empire austro-hongrois en août 1919, et des relations qui ont précédé la défaite de l'armée hongroise.

KALLAY, qui a été ministre de la Guerre pendant l'armistice, a dit que la Hongrie avait été contrainte de capituler par l'armistice de Saint-Germain-en-Laye. Il a dit aussi que la Hongrie avait été contrainte de céder à l'Allemagne les provinces de la Transylvanie, de la Bukovine et de Transnistrie.

L'ancien président de l'Assemblée nationale hongroise, qui a été ministre de la Guerre pendant l'armistice, a dit que la Hongrie avait été contrainte de capituler par l'armistice de Saint-Germain-en-Laye. Il a dit aussi que la Hongrie avait été contrainte de céder à l'Allemagne les provinces de la Transylvanie, de la Bukovine et de Transnistrie.
A Washington, le président Roosevelt a demandé aujourd'hui, aux peuples libres d'Europe et d'Asie, d'ouvrir temporairement leurs frontières aux victimes de l'oppression. Il a affirmé de nouveau la volonté des États-Unis d'aider à l'évacuation des réfugiés menacés de déportation dans les pays dominés par l'Axe, 

Cette déclaration officielle a été lue par le président des États-Unis à sa conférence de presse. La déclaration de Washington est en fait une mise en garde à l'égard des menaces de l'oppression. Elle est également une déclaration de prise de position de l'Amérique dans le conflit mondial.

"Les Nations Unies combattent pour créer un monde où la tyrannie et l'agression ne pourront plus exister; un monde fondé sur la liberté, l'égalité et la justice; un monde où tous les hommes, sans distinction de race, de couleur ou de religion pourront vivre dans la paix, l'honneur et la dignité."

Broadcast by UNR French Service et 19:30 A on 3/24
A WASHINGTON, Monsieur Roosevelt a lancé un avertissement aux gouvernements des pays satellites et promis l'aide des États-Unis aux victimes de l'oppression nazie:

"Les Nations-Unies ont signifié qu'elles étaient décidées à poursuivre et à punir les coupables d'actes d'oppression", a déclaré M. ROOSEVELT. Cet avertissement s'adresse aussi bien aux chefs et fonctionnaires allemands qu'à ceux des pays satellites. De leur côté, les États-Unis entendent faire tout leur possible pour porter secours aux victimes des bourreaux nazis et japonais, quelque soient leur race, leur couleur ou leur religion."

A Londres, le gouvernement britannique a déclaré s'associer sans réserve aux paroles prononcées par le President Roosevelt.

Broadcast by U.N.R. French Service at 19:30 A and 20:15 A on 3/23
WASHINGTON, March 24 (Reuters) -- President Roosevelt in a formal statement made at his press and radio conference today, (Friday) proposed that the free peoples of Europe and Asia open up their doors to victims of oppression and warned anyone participating in those oppressions that "all who share the guilt shall share the punishment".

Warning that none who participate in these acts of savagery shall go unpunished, President Roosevelt said that because of the events of the last few days, hundreds of thousands of Jews who had escaped persecution by finding haven in Balkan countries "are now threatened with annihilation as Hitler forces descend more heavily upon those lands."

The President said: "That these innocent people who have already survived a decade of Hitler's fury should perish on the very eve of triumph over barbarism which their prosecution symbolizes would be a major tragedy".

President Roosevelt continued: "The United Nations have made it clear that they will pursue the guilty and deliver them up in order that justice might be done.

"That warning applies not only to leaders, but also their functionaries and subordinates in Germany and in satellite countries. All who knowingly take part in the deportation of Jews to their death in Poland, or Norwegians and French to their death in Germany, are equally guilty with the executioner.

"All who share the guilt shall share the punishment. Hitler is committing these crimes against humanity in the name of the German people. Jusk every German and every man everywhere under Nazi domination to show the world by his action that in his heart he does not share these insane criminal desires."
ROOSEVELT SAYS

"Let his hide these victims, help them to get over their
borders and do what he can to save them from the Nazi
persecution. I ask him also to keep watch and record evidence that will one
day be used to convict the guilty."

President Roosevelt said that the United States will use
all its means to help "all intended victims of the Nazis and
the Japanese executioner regardless of race, religion and
color" escape. He concluded:

"We call upon the free peoples of Europe and Asia to tem-
porarily to open their havens of refuges for them. We shall
find means for their maintenance and support until the tyrant
is driven from their homelands and they may return."

2050
LE CHÂTIMENT
des criminels de guerre

À A

Un châtiment a été prononcé à

(Continuer de la meilleure façon, en respectant la pratique du nouveau média)

Cependant, il n'est pas possible de déterminer le sort des criminels après la fin de la guerre. Les autorités françaises ont pris des mesures pour empêcher la récidive. Les criminels de guerre sont considérés comme des criminels de guerre. Les mesures prises par les autorités françaises pour empêcher la récidive sont également mentionnées.

(Continuer de la meilleure façon, en respectant la pratique du nouveau média)
Nouvel avertissement
du président ROOSEVELT
à l'Allemagne et à ses satellites

Washington (AFP). - Le président Roosevelt a adressé une nouvelle
teste à l'Allemagne et à ses satellites. Il a exigé que les criminels de
guerre soient punis en vertu de la loi. Les Nations Unies ont
sermenté de faire pression sur l'Allemagne et à ses satellites pour
que les criminels de guerre soient punis en vertu de la loi.

Au micro de Radio-Vichy

Le président Roosevelt menace les criminels de guerre
d'un implacable châtiment

Washington (AFP). - Le président Roosevelt a adressé une nouvelle
teste à l'Allemagne et à ses satellites. Il a exigé que les criminels de
guerre soient punis en vertu de la loi. Les Nations Unies ont
sermenté de faire pression sur l'Allemagne et à ses satellites pour
que les criminels de guerre soient punis en vertu de la loi.

Le gouvernement anglais approuve

Londres (AFP). - Le gouvernement anglais a approuvé l'avis
du président Roosevelt. Les Nations Unies ont sermenté de
faire pression sur l'Allemagne et à ses satellites pour
que les criminels de guerre soient punis en vertu de la loi.

L'évacuation totale

Londres (AFP). - Le gouvernement anglais a approuvé l'avis
du président Roosevelt. Les Nations Unies ont sermenté de
faire pression sur l'Allemagne et à ses satellites pour
que les criminels de guerre soient punis en vertu de la loi.

President Roosevelt in a formal statement made at his press conference today proposed that the free peoples of Europe and Asia open up their doors to victims of oppression. The President warned that none who participate in these acts of savagery shall go unpunished. President Roosevelt added that hundreds of thousands of Jews who had escaped persecution by finding a haven in Balkan countries are now threatened with annihilation as Hitler's forces descend more heavily upon these lands. The President said that it would be a major tragedy if these innocent people, who have already survived a decade of Hitler's fury, perished on the very eve of triumph over barbarism. The President continued: "The United Nations have made it clear that they will pursue the guilty and deliver them in order that justice may be done."

President Roosevelt said applies not only to leaders but also their functionaries and subordinates in Germany in satellite countries. All who share the guilt, he said, shall share the punishment. Hitler is committing these crimes against humanity in the name of the German people, I ask every German," the president said, and every man everywhere under Nazi domination to show the world by his action that in his heart he does not share these insane criminal desires. Let him hide these victims, the president's statement went on, help them get over the borders and do what he can to save them from the Nazi hangman.
Washington:

Im Verlaufe einer gestern abgehaltenen Pressekonferenz erklärte der amerikanische Präsident Roosevelt aus:

"Die Vereinten Nationen erklären nochmals, dass alle Jenseits der Grenzen ihrer Länder den Flüchtlingen von Hitlers Gewaltmenschen Asyl geben. Die wesentlichen Verbrechen der Hitlers und der Nazi-Deutschland müssen durch die zuständige Gerichtsbarkeit nachgeordnet werden."

Aller Jenseits der Grenzen ihrer Länder haben die Flüchtlinge von Hitlers Gewaltmenschen Asyl gehabt, und sie werden von der Bevölkerung gesucht.

Präsident Roosevelt richtete an alle freien Völker den Aufruf, die Grenzen ihrer Länder für Flüchtlinge von Hitlers Gewaltmenschen geöffnet zu halten.


Die britische Regierung hat gestern abend diese Erklärung des Präsidenten Roosevelt vollinhaltlich unterstützt.
Washington:

Präsident Roosevelt hat gestern in einer Pressekonferenz einen Aufruf an alle freien Völker gerichtet, die Grenzen ihrer Länder den Flüchtlingen des Hitler-Terrors zu öffnen.

Hunderttausende, die in den Balkanländern verweilten, hatten sich vor der Vernichtung schützen wollen. Auch diese Situation, die ein Asyl zu bieten, ist eine Ehrenpflicht aller freien Völker. Die Vereinten Nationen erklären feierlich, dass allejenigen, die Hitler die gunstigsten Verhältnisse bieten, sich schuldig machen, sich nicht gegen die Verbrechen der Nazis zu verteidigen.

Die britische Regierung hat gestern abend eine solche Erklärung abgegeben.

In un’intervista concessa alla stampa, il presidente ROOSEVELT ha diramato oggi una dichiarazione ufficiale in cui si propone ai popoli liberi dell’Europa e dell’Asia di aprire provvisoriamente le loro frontiere alle vittime dell’oppressione nazista.

Nella sua dichiarazione, il presidente ROOSEVELT ha riaffermato che gli Stati Uniti intendono facilitare l’evacuazione di rifugiati minacciati di deportazione in Germania. Dopo aver ricordato che le Nazioni Unite combattono per costruire un mondo basatosi su principi di libertà, uguaglianza e giustizia per tutti, il Presidente ha messo in rilievo che in questi ultimi giorni centinaia di migliaia di ebrei viventi in Ungheria e nei Balcani sono minacciati di annientamento a causa dell’invasione tedesca.

"E’ pertanto necessario - ha dichiarato ROOSEVELT - che noi riaffermiamo ancora una volta la nostra determinazione di non lasciare impunito chiunque partecipi a tali atti di barbarie. Questo ammonimento si indirizza non solo ai capi, ma anche ai funzionari e ai subordinati in Germania e nei paesi satelliti. Tutti coloro che partecipano consciamente alla deportazione di ebrei verso i campi di macello della Polonia, o alle deportazioni di norvegesi e francesi verso i mattatoi in Germania, condividono la responsabilità dei carnefici." E ROOSEVELT ha così continuato: "Tutti coloro che condividono la responsabilità, condividono la punizione. Hitler commette questi crimini contro l’umanità a nome del popolo tedesco. Io chiedo a ogni tedesco e ad ogni uomo nei paesi sotto la dominazione nazista, di provare con i suoi atti che egli non approva, nel suo intimo, i criminosi e folli disegni di Hitler.
E' stato annunciato ufficialmente a Londra che il governo britannico si associa completamente all' ammonimento indirizzato ieri dal presidente ROOSEVELT alla Germania ed i suoi satelliti a proposito del castigo che aspetta coloro che partecipano ad atti di barbarie nell'Europa occupata.
Dear John:

Since my letter to you of 21 March, 1944, I have received your two letters. The mission mentioned in one has been accomplished and the information contained in the other proved very helpful.

Since last writing you I have had further discussions with AFHQ on the Yugoslav situation. The contents of the cable from the Combined Chiefs of Staff (Jan 347) regarding the refugees on the Island of Rab were discussed at a conference attended by representatives of the Military Government Section, G-2 and G-3. None of the representatives of these staff sections raised any objection thereto except that it was suggested that an effort be made to land the refugee boats as near as possible to Bari in order that the refugees might be screened at that point by G-2. Of course, landing refugees at that point would make the boat trip from Rab much longer. And it was admitted by the Military Government Section representative that the boatmen might want to land further north in which case G-2 would have to make other arrangements. The proposal made at that time was that a message be sent to Marshal Tito which would transmit the message of the Combined Chiefs of Staff and ask which of the procedures would be more acceptable to Tito. I called the Military Government Section representative this morning and was advised that action had been slightly delayed because of the Vesuvius situation, but that he expected to clear the matter with the Chief of Staff during the next two days. I might add that the AFHQ people were quite cordial and appeared sympathetic to the project and that I did not get the same reaction previously mentioned, to wit, a questioning attitude as to my presence in the picture. The Military Government people also advised me that they thought it improbable that too many refugees would be assisted by this project because of the distances involved and because of the location of Rab. They promised, however, to keep me fully advised not only of this situation but of any similar ones in the future.

To assist in future operations in connection with the Yugoslav refugees, and also for any other financial problems that might arise, Jim Duxon and I called on General Sim.
He explained to him the background and purposes for which the Board had been established and referred to the two recent War Department cables, the one announcing the establishment of the Board and the second concerning the Island of Haiti. He said he would do anything in his power to assist us and mentioned that he had on hand a quantity of gold which he would attempt to make available to us if the need should arise.

Jim has been examining all of my files and making copies of certain portions thereof in the event that he should be sent to Spain. We have had full discussions on the problems and he has also arranged for us to meet some French G-2 people to discuss further plans.

The Zenda project is not moving as rapidly as I had hoped. The principal stumbling block at the moment arises from the fact that the second batch of applications have not as yet arrived from Spain. Approximately twelve days ago a cable was received from Spain asking for instructions on the disposition of this second group of approximately 435 applications received after the French security representative had left Spain. I immediately cabled back that they should be forwarded to Algiers by the fastest possible means. I had hoped that they would arrive within a few days thereafter, but up to the moment they have not put in an appearance. Accordingly, I have sent off a follow-up cable asking for their whereabouts. This cable has not been replied to as yet. I expect to hear today or tomorrow from Habat on the final decision as to the first group of refugees. As I previously advised you, a small group were objected to on security grounds and a second group was tentatively objected to because they had arrived in Spain prior to 1913. The latter question should be settled today and the French representative plans to leave for Madrid a day or two later so that he may check the accepted refugees prior to their boarding ship. With the assistance of the British, who have been extremely helpful, I am now endeavoring to get a separate ship for this first group in view of the delay of the arrival of the applications for the second group. I should have the answer on this question within the next few days.

Within the last two days I have talked to Governor Lehman and to Congressman Vorys of Ohio. In neither case did I receive much in the way of information, but I spent a fair amount of time, especially in the case of the Congressman,
explaining the work of the Board both here and in other areas. The Congressmen raised several questions with respect to the possible conflict of the functions of the Board with the Intergovernmental Committee and UNHRA. I told him that it was my opinion that there should be little or no conflict since the Board was operating in an emergency field and taking action at this time while the other groups would principally be concerned with postwar relief and movement. Governor Lehman leaves today for Cairo where he will continue to make his office from a hospital bed since his knee injury does not permit him to move about freely.

Your recent letter mentioned the fact that I should use the services of Gaby Harekes where possible. In this connection, I might say that Gaby has been extremely helpful in discussing day to day problems that have arisen. However, it is my opinion that he might be more useful elsewhere. By this I mean that he might be of great assistance to Max Hirschmann now in Turkey, not only because of his knowledge of languages but also because of his knowledge of the geography and the political and economic situations of Germany and the Balkans. If it could be arranged, I think that it might be advisable to send him to one of the neutral countries. This proposal has Mike's approval, even though he would be sorry to lose him. I might add that since the recent developments in Hungary and Rumania, it is my opinion that the refugee problem has become interwoven with the Resistance movement which might be up Gaby's alley.

In my letter of March 7th I mentioned the Spanish Refugees in this area. The representatives of the American Friends Service Committee have again brought up a problem which was raised with the Treasury Representatives last summer. I refer to the blocked Spanish funds. In brief, the story is this: In March or April, 1940, the Spanish Republican Government, or at least former members thereof in Mexico, sent 6,000,000 francs through the Mexican Government to the Comite d'Entraide des Refugies Espagnols in Paris for transmission to Tunis for the aid of Republican Spanish refugees. A few weeks after the funds arrived in Tunis, the Spanish representative at this place, a Commandant Sanchez, was instructed to invest the funds in French Republic bonds. In November, 1940, the Secretary to the Mexican Legation in Paris came to Tunis to take charge of the funds. The Vichy authorities evidently got word of this and issued a Court Order to be issued in Vichy which was transmitted to Tunis after which the bonds were seized under a Tunisian Court Order and deposited with the Tunis Treasury. In July, 1943, the former Spanish Ambassador then in London asked the London Embassy for the status of these funds. The London cablegram stated that the Spanish Ambassador was fearful of difficulties if the funds were deblocked immediately. Del Snyder, then in Tunis, looked into the matter.
and Harold Glasser, through the State Department, then sent a cable to London setting forth this information and asking for further instructions. A memorandum had previously been sent to M. Gouze de Murville on this request. The present situation is the following: The Friends' representatives are now receiving funds from the United States which they use for the support of these Spanish refugees. Part of the funds are sent pursuant to Treasury license by the Joint Anti-Fascist Committee. It is the opinion of the Friends' representative that these funds, if we are able to have them unblocked, should be used for the support of Spanish refugees. Sanchez, who is still in Tunis and who now receives a small salary from the Tunisian Government for work in connection with these refugees, is of a different opinion. He states that the funds were sent to him at the instructions of Indalecio Prieto, a former officer of the Spanish Republican Government who is now in Mexico. It is Sanchez' belief that Prieto wanted the funds used to defray the cost of transporting Spanish refugees to Mexico. We have not again approached either the Comité or the Tunisian authorities with reference to unblocking these funds, especially since no reply has been received to the aforementioned cable to London. However, in connection with the Spanish refugee problem which I mentioned in my earlier letter, this question might also be taken into consideration. As a purely legal matter, I believe that it would be impossible to unblock the funds and deliver them to anyone but to Sanchez or a representative of the Mexican Government and, as I told you previously, the Mexicans have no representative here. If the opportunity arises, I believe that both of these matters might be presented to the Mexican representatives in Washington who might, in turn, approach the French Mission. The present feeble French dollar position may be somewhat of a stumbling block, but should not be too difficult to overcome because of the small size of the sum involved.

While I was in the hospital Salton Chapin presented an Aide Memoire to Massigli concerning the circular airgram of 29 February which instructed all American missions to approach the Governments to which they were accredited and request the issuance of a declaration of policy similar to that made by the President. A letter had been sent by the French Foreign Ministry previous to his presenting this Aide Memoire which was not received, however, until after it was presented. This letter in very general terms expressed the policy of the French Government to cooperate in any way possible. Massigli, at the time the Aide Memoire was presented, told Chapin that
he would discuss the matter further with the Comite and submit a reply thereto. I asked Chapin about this yesterday. He advised me that as yet no reply had been received. He promised that he would bring up the matter again on the next occasion when he visited Hassanli.

Jim and I also made a first call today on the French G-2. We were cordially received and arranged to meet again next week after the French have discussed the matter further among themselves. I have also sent out some tentative feelers in the direction of the O.S.S., but thus far have met with a rather cold reception because the local O.S.S. people feel that assisting our program may interfere with their work. If possible it would be helpful if you discussed with General Donovan the possible use of his staff either here or in Spain in connection with the work of the Board. I am sure that we would get a much better reception if he were to instruct his men accordingly.

I am enclosing two recent clippings which should be of interest to you.

Sincerely,

Leonard Z. Ackermann,
Special Representative,
War Refugee Board.

Mr. John W. Pohle,
Acting Director,
War Refugee Board,
Room 2903 Main Treasury Bldg.,
Washington 25, D.C.
Germans Warned Not To Persecute

WASHINGTON -- President Roosevelt at his press conference today warned the Germans not to help Adolf Hitler carry out the Nazi policy of extermination. As a result of court trials, Frankfurter said, the evidence pointed out that millions of Jews who had suffered at the hands of the Nazis were now threatened with annihilation, as Hitler's forces seemed more heavily upon them.

Roosevelt sternly reminded the Germans that the United Nations had agreed to punish all those guilty of persecuting racial groups.

"And nothing," he said, "must be done not only to halt the Nazi but also their henchmen and collaborators in Germany and its satellite countries. All who knowingly take part in the deportations of Jews to their death in Poland, or in Treblinka and Buchenwald, or in their death in Germany, are equally guilty with the leaders. All who share the guilt shall share the punishment."

The President urged every German "to join those nations, lend what he can to save them from the Nazi henchman, and to keep watch and record evidence of the guilty."

He considered the President's appeal to the United Nations, aimed at bringing the war to an end as drawn by a United Nations leader in Berlin, and urged nations, who wished for the sake of the Nazi and the Japan, to keep the door open to China.

The President urged the free people of Europe and Asia to open their doors to refugees and victims.
Selon la légation hongroise de Stockholm

BERLIN "ne pouvait tolérer" la présence derrière son front d'éléments anti-allemands

C'est ce qui motive la main-mise d'Hitler sur la Hongrie

Stockholm. — Après avoir annoncé pour avoir rétabli la gestion de la légation hongroise, en decide de se renoncer à cette promesse. Le secrétaire d'affaires, la légation hongroise à Stockholm, a procédé à l'égalité de temps dans deux jours. Deux jours avant que la délégation hongroise ne soit arrivée en Norvège, un certain nombre de résidents hongrois ont été autorisés à entrer en Norvège. On est d'accord sur le fait que la Norvège est maintenant en état de guerre avec l'Allemagne.

Depuis plusieurs semaines, les Allemands ont commencé à interroger les Hongrois sur la situation en Hongrie. Les Hongrois ont répondu que la situation était précaire. Les Allemands ont alors commencé à prendre des mesures pour assurer la sécurité des Hongrois en Norvège. Les Hongrois ont été autorisés à entrer en Norvège et à y rester en sécurité. Les Hongrois ont été invités à participer à des rôles importants dans les Forces Armées norvégiennes.

C'est ainsi que l'on est arrivé à la situation actuelle. Les Hongrois sont maintenant en Norvège et y resteront en sécurité. Les Hongrois ont été autorisés à participer à des rôles importants dans les Forces Armées norvégiennes. Ils ont été invités à participer à des rôles importants dans les Forces Armées norvégiennes.
March 21, 1944

Dear John:

I have not written you since March 7 since I was waiting the further development of several matters, and then was unfortunate enough to contract a bad cough accompanied by fever which put me into the hospital for a few days. Since then, however, there have been a number of interesting happenings which I will try to expand upon below.

First, as to Fedhala. Action was delayed on our clearance of the admission of refugees from Spain until the French security representative returned from Spain. He arrived in Algiers on March 12 and a meeting to discuss the admission of the refugee groups was held on March 17. I have already briefly advised you by cable of the results of that meeting. At that time we discussed a group of 484 applicants for admission to the refugee center. Approximately 30 were objected to on security grounds. This was the joint action of both French and AMHQ security officers and, of course, we could and did make no objection thereto. The second question involved 118 refugees who had arrived in Spain prior to 1933. A small portion of this group came from South American countries and had not had much luck in getting their own diplomatic representatives to aid in their repatriation. However, by far the largest portion of this group of 118 were stateless refugees. Most of them were Jews who had been displaced as a result of the population exchange between Turkey and Greece in 1921. As they were of Spanish origin (dating back to 1492 when Jews were expelled from Spain) and still spoke an old-fashioned Spanish, they gravitated to Spain where they were apparently well treated first by Alphonso, and later by the Republic. Since Franco's accession to power they have not been too fortunate. In some cases work permits have been refused. In all cases they have been forbidden religious communal activity, and in many cases they have had to be supported by organizations; principally the JDC. We urged at the meeting that this group be admitted upon the ground that they were stateless, and further that their removal from Spain would ease the Spanish refugee problem and thus make Spain more receptive to the admission of more refugee groups. The French representatives promised to take these matters into consideration and advise us of...
their decision shortly. We have not as yet received their reply. Later, Beckelman, the UNRRA representative who is to be in charge at Fedhala, spoke to Governor Lehnian about this pre-1933 group. The Governor expressed some doubt as to whether we should urge the admission of this group too strongly since he felt that we might be setting a precedent which later might involve a much larger group of persons. I have not had an opportunity to discuss this further with the Governor since he had an accident and has been in the hospital for several days.

There is another question concerning the Fedhala center which is still unsettled. After Bayonne, the French security representative, left Spain an additional 415 applications were received, the overwhelming part of which came from Sephardic Jews. Only a small percentage of these Sephardic Jews entered Spain prior to 1933. The major portion moved to various other European countries, and then gravitated to Spain after the beginning of the Hitler regime, or stayed in France or Central Europe until Hitler occupied the countries in which they were located. Some of them, even though not born in Spain, had received Spanish passports because of the insistence in the early 20s on the part of the Turkish Government that these people, formerly known as Spanish protégés, either receive Spanish passports or accept Turkish nationality. Many of the present group accepted Spanish passports. The best information that I can obtain about their eventual removal to Spain is that when they were apprehended by the Germans, they exhibited their Spanish passports and that the Germans then made representations to the Spanish and insisted that the Spanish receive them in Spain. The Spanish version of the story is that they intimated the representations and insisted that the Germans release these people from concentration camps and permit their emigration to Spain. Whatever the correct story may be, they are now given few, if any, of the privileges of Spanish citizens, and accordingly, should also probably be classed as stateless. In our discussions with the French, no question has yet been raised as to the admission of these persons and we hope that no objection will be raised. I cannot give you the final answer upon these people since the applications have not as yet arrived from Spain. They should be here within one or two days, and will immediately be submitted to our own security people as well as to the French for screening.

The question which now arises is whether we should bring the refugees from Spain to Africa in one or two groups. At the time of the meeting most of the Allied representatives
were of the opinion that it would be more feasible to delay the admission of the cleared group until the second group had been cleared. I was of a different opinion as I felt that the early movement of approximately 350 people from Spain would be of immediate aid to the Spanish situation. After the meeting I discussed the matter with the British who are supplying the ships and learned that it might be possible to get two ships instead of one - at least I have not yet received a definite response in the negative. If two ships can be secured, the cleared group should move from Spain as soon as we get French visas which should not take more than a few days and as soon as the necessary arrangements in Spain can be made. If, on the other hand, the British are only able to supply one ship, the first group will have to wait until the second group is cleared, which will delay the whole project until the middle of April.

On Sunday morning, March 19th, I received a call from Robert Murphy's office. When I reached there I found one of Murphy's assistants discussing a cable from the Combined Chiefs of Staff, with an aide from Gen. Caffey's office. Caffey is head of G-3, AFHQ. The cable, which no doubt was inspired by the War Refugee Board, related to the methods of financing movement of refugees from the Island of Rab in Yugoslavia to Italy. I discussed the matter quite fully and urged upon Gen. Caffey's representative that only military exigencies should interfere with the operation of this program. I told him about the underlying reasons for the establishment of the WRB and explained that unless this action were taken, these people might be killed. I also expressed the opinion that difficulties of handling the groups once they arrived in Italy should only be a minor consideration since every effort would be made to ease this problem as quickly as possible. This morning I received a phone call advising that this cable had been referred to the Military Government Section for action. I called Frank Southard but discovered that he was again in the hospital. I spoke to Col. McFadzean, his British opposite number who advised that he would only handle the financial end providing the project were approved in other quarters. I offered my assistance in this connection but have not heard anything of it since.

As I advised you by cable, I believe it is important, if feasible, to have a representative in Italy in order to follow up this program. Up to the present at least the Army's attitude appears to have been one of avoidance due to the difficulty in caring for the refugees already in Southern Italy.
and that therefore a further influx should be restricted, if possible. An Italian representative might be in position to keep you advised of the facts in this area, aid in changing the Army's attitude, and assist in making the financial arrangements necessary in order to bring these people into Italy. I also asked that I be given certain directives with respect to Italy so that I can make representations at AFRQ. I believe this to be essential since the Army sometimes looks with disfavor upon a civilian who attempts to step into a field not clearly within his province. I can cite the following example with reference thereto. After the receipt of the cable from Marshall addressed to Eisenhower, Devers, Stillwell and Mac Arthur, dated March 2, 1944, containing the message sent at the direction of the Secretary of War with reference to the formation of the WRR, I went to see some of the people working on refugee problems in the Military Government Section. I discussed the matter with them fully and received the information on the Yugoslavian situation contained in my letter of March 7th. The officer to whom I talked pointed out that the cable appointing me the representative of the Board stated that I was to work in North Africa. Thereafter a cable was sent to various places in Italy in which it was stated that there was no information of the appointment of an attache for Italy but that one had been appointed for North Africa, and that the matter would be discussed further with Malin of the Intergovernmental Committee on his return to Algiers. I had further discussions with the secretary of the Chief of Staff yesterday who also indicated that I would get more cooperation from the Army if my directives specifically referred to Italy. I believe, however, that the best solution would be that a representative be appointed for Italy and that while I should be given certain powers with respect thereto, I should remain in North Africa. It would be very difficult because of questions of transportation and communications for me to handle both places adequately should I be the sole representative.

I have not as yet seen Malin of the Intergovernmental Committee, but expect to have discussions with him when he returns from Cairo on or about March 30th.

I have been making an effort to collect as much information as possible about the movement of refugees from France into Spain. I have approached both G-2 and OSS but have not been too successful in getting a great deal of information. They both state that they have little information on refugees or they both are reluctant to furnish information concerning escape routes since they feel that it may prejudice the
movement of their own men across the border and because of their program of using these routes to rescue airmen. I will continue along these lines, however, and get as much information as I can. I am also attempting to interview recently-arrived refugees and enclose a summary of a statement made to me by one of them. As is stated on the bottom thereof, some of the information in this statement may not be too accurate. In any event, it appears that the movement across the Pyrenees is extremely difficult.

The cable about Jim Saxon arrived on Sunday. I have discussed the matter with him and have made available to him all information in my possession. After he has finished reading my files I intend to have further discussions. I also enclose a translation of a speech made by Frenay, French Commissioner for Prisoners, Deportees and Refugees, before the Consultative Assembly on March 6, 1944. I believe you will find this of interest.

I would appreciate any further information that you may be able to send me from time to time about the work of the Board. As I stated in an earlier letter, I received a good deal of information in my talks with Harold Glasser and further elucidation from Orvis' letter to Mike. Further information along these lines and your suggestions will be extremely helpful. Will you also let me know whether you wish me to continue to report in detail as I have done in this and previous letters.

Sincerely,

Leonard E. Ackermann
L. E. Ackermann
Special Representative
War Refugee Board

Mr. John Eble,
Acting Director,
War Refugee Board,
288½ Main Treasury Building,
Washington, D.C.
SUMMARY OF STATEMENT MADE BY GILLES GOUDCHAUX

M. Goudchaux, whose present address is O/o Saporita, 4 Rue Pelissier, Algiers, recently arrived from France with his wife, Sylvie Oppenheim Goudchaux. He furnished the following information in connection with his background, conditions in France concerning refugees, and his escape from France:

M. Goudchaux is the brother of Serge Will Goudchaux who acted as counsel for Grynspan, the man who shot the German Attaché in France. Prior to the war Goudchaux lived in New York and Paris acting as a buyer's representative for several American department stores. He stated that he is related to Pierre David Will of Lazard Frères.

When war broke out Goudchaux returned to France to join the French Army. At the time of the armistice in June, 1940, he moved to southern France and spent 4 years working with the Resistance. He stated that the following events occurred in connection with the Jews of which there were approximately 400,000 in France before the war, half of whom were French Jews and the other half Jews who had fled from central Europe. In the occupied zone a law was passed in September, 1940, requiring Jews of any nationality to declare themselves to the Police. They received identity cards which were stamped to show that they were Jewish. In December, 1940, they were prohibited from holding any public office and in January, 1941, the Germans commenced the confiscation of Jewish goods. Similar laws followed in the then unoccupied zone with some delay in time. Goudchaux also stated that at the time of the first German occupation the Germans commenced arrests of Jews on a small scale. At or about the time the Germans started the war against Russia, the arrests became extremely numerous. Deportations of Jews started during the winter of 1941 and reached extensive proportions after the landing of the Allies in North Africa. Goudchaux estimated, but this is only a guess on his part, that there are only a little more than 20,000 Jews hidden in all of France. However, Goudchaux admits that as of recent date he is only fairly well acquainted with the southern coast of France between Menton and Toulon as this is the territory in which he has been located for over three years. His wife, who was in Vichy for a longer time, stated that when she left in October, 1943, there were very few Jews left at all in that area.
In December, 1943, Goudchaux was living in or near Cannes while his wife was in the vicinity of Monte Carlo. He says that it was necessary for them to move frequently, sometimes every night, in order to keep out of the hands of Germans who arrested Jews as soon as they found them, shipped them to a concentration camp near Paris from whence it is said they were sent to Germany, Poland, or German-occupied Russia. Monte Carlo at that time had, he believed, as many as 1,000 Jews living in cellars, under false names, or in other hiding places. He thought the Prince of Monaco was sympathetic to the Jewish people and made no effort to assist the Germans in finding them. However, in December, 1943, the Germans were locating and arresting anywhere from 5 to 20 Jews each day.

Goudchaux and his wife procured false identification cards and also false travel cards after it was learned that the Germans, if they asked for papers, would ask for more than one type of identification. During the first week in December Goudchaux took the train from Cannes to Marseilles, from Marseilles to Toulouse, and then to Lourdes. He said that he did not require any special conduct papers in order to travel. He only had to procure a railroad ticket. At Lourdes, under previous arrangements made through members of the Resistance, he was provided with shelter. Three or four days later his wife made the same trip. While soldiers or members of the Gestapo were on the trains at various times, they were fortunate enough not to be asked any questions. On one occasion his wife hid in a lavatory. After staying at Lourdes for a few days they moved to Pau where they remained until December 16 when a group of Jews who were in hiding at that place, Goudchaux said that there were possibly as many as 1,000 Jews hiding in the vicinity of Pau. From Pau they travelled to Bayonne as friends of members of a rugby team which was travelling to play a game. That night they crossed into what is known as the "red zone", which is a border area varying from 10 to 20 miles in width in which no one except a resident is permitted to travel without special papers. They made this crossing in a furniture van which had a proper permit to move furniture back and forth from the free zone into the red zone hidden under some cool bags. At a small town in the red zone called Ixanos they were met by some Basque guides who conducted them from that point on foot. They travelled during the next two nights remaining hidden by day. There were four guides who were paid a total of 80,000 francs for conducting Goudchaux and his wife into Spain. The first town in Spain reached was Elorondo where they were arrested by the Spanish Police and put in jail. They were then moved to Pamplona where they declared themselves as British subjects and then moved to a camp at Loiza where they remained for 25 days. Through arrangements with the Resistance, the British then arranged for their release and they eventually were taken to Gibraltar and delivered to the French authorities.
Goudchaux said that he had heard of a number of different routes over the Pyrenees into Spain, one of which is from Foix into Andorra. This route is more difficult, not so much because of border guards, but because of the mountainous territory that must be traversed. He said that in order to make a border crossing, it is necessary to have a number of friends who are available to provide shelter along the way and substantial sums of money in order to pay the guides. A goodly portion of luck is also helpful. A further route about which he has heard is via the sea from Nice to Corailon on small fishing boats. This route is extremely difficult since the Germans have the coast extremely well guarded with heavy shore defense installations, guards and a number of patrol boats. Boats are also difficult to find since all of those except such as have been hidden were sequestered by the Germans.

Note: I have discussed H. Goudchaux with several U.S. Intelligence Officers. I am told that while there is no suspicion of his being untrustworthy, he tends to exaggerate a great deal. They are of the opinion, for example, that his statement to the effect that 1,000 Jews are hidden near Pau is difficult to believe as the place is far too small for that number of persons to be effectively hidden.

Leonard E. Ackermann,
Special Representative,
War Refugee Board.
EXTRACT FROM THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC

Meeting of the Provisional Consultative Assembly
of Monday, 6th March, 1944

DEBATE ON THE EXPATRIATION IN FRANCE OF PRISONERS
AND DEPORTED PEOPLE

Speech of Mr. Premy, Commissioner for Prisoners, Deported People and Refugees.

I first wish to thank the Assembly for asking to hear me on the sad problem of deported people and prisoners.

Like all my colleagues, I think that it is in the frequency and intensity of the contacts of the French Committee for National Liberation with the Assembly that can be found the guarantee that all problems will be solved and solved for the very best.

I think that this debate is necessary. Its importance is not perhaps clearly seen in the eyes of the public. But you, all of you, realize its importance, and rightly so. I am going to speak now very seriously of a problem which will have a determining influence upon the moral and physical health of our country and, of course, on its political wellbeing.

The Commissariat for Prisoners and Deported People was created on the 9th November, 1943. Its duties have been determined by a decree of the 18th December, 1943. The main functions of my Commissariat are to centralize and handle all questions relative to prisoners, to workers deported out of France by the Germans and by the Government, so called the French State, and to look after all Frenchmen who are refugees within the Metropole, in the Empire or in foreign lands. A projected decree is being prepared to extend these functions to include members of Allied countries, also neutral or enemy countries and to the people without a country who have abandoned their homes and wish to return to them.

General de Gaulle, in creating this comissariat, first wanted to show the interest that France takes in the prisoners and deported people, while our Allies have only created an Office; the French Committee of National Liberation has instituted an independent Ministry. General de Gaulle also wanted to demonstrate in a tangible way the unity of Frenchmen who are in the hands of the enemy.

In settling his choice on me, one of the men of the Resistance, to be head of this Ministry, General de Gaulle wanted to show the unity of France in the time of war, France who fights everywhere — on the outside front, on the interior front or in Germany.

The Commissariat whose objects I am going to outline is only a four-month-old child. You will, without any doubt, sense my blind fatherly love for it mixed with a little exaggerated pride. I submit its work to your criticism. I ask you to be kind, but fair nevertheless.

We had from the very beginning to face three kinds of problems. In the first place we had to think of extremely urgent problems. We have created for these an Office of Assistance, we also had to consider resources to rehabilitate millions of Frenchmen who are in Germany or away from their homes; so we had to create an Office of Repatriation. All these problems that concern large human masses are dominated by considerations either moral or psychological, I attached to my staff a certain number of under-secretaries in order to carry out my task more easily. All these secretaries have their opposite numbers in London, as the questions that fall to my Commissariat have not only a national character, but also international repercussions.

As all these problems, which, as you all see, are extremely important, interest all the Commissariat, a Commission that will

/ co-ordinate
co-ordinate all the various Commissariats, a Commission over which I present, has been created.

I will first tell you what we have done, then I will try to tell you what we are going to do.

First, the help to French prisoners of war. There are now 650,000 Frenchmen who are considered as prisoners of war. This figure was higher a few months ago, but following the Naval-Germany Agreement, a certain number of prisoners of war have been turned into civil labour. According to all the information that we have, there is no doubt that the position of these men becomes more and more critical.

It is not in vain that every day Germany is pillaging the French soil. As a consequence of this the help that prisoners were formerly able to receive in food and clothing from their families is getting smaller and smaller. The number of parcels sent by the families is being cut down every day and their food value is also decreasing.

The French Committee of National Liberation is aware of the problem and in the middle of 1943 created a Central Committee to help prisoners of war, presided over by Count Macrassoli, under the vice-presidency of Dr. Mignard. I wish to acknowledge publicly the great devotion of these men and to outline the remarkable achievements that they have already accomplished (Applause)

Mr. Macrassoli, during his journeys in the United States, in Canada and in Great Britain, where he was most cordially received and so well understood, arranged that the Red Cross would send 650,000 parcels a month.

I would like to show you the progress made in the number of parcels sent since I arrived in this Commissariat. In the month of October, 1943, we sent 689,000 parcels; in November, 535,000; in December, 573,000; in January, 534,000; and in February, 206,000. (Applause) That is to say we have been able to send twice as many as were being sent at the end of last winter. On this subject we must stress the contribution of the Empire. Algeria and Morocco have made a remarkable effort. The number of parcels they prepared, made from 20,000 in November to 190,000 in February. (Applause). I wish to extend my thanks to Miss Long (Manageress of the organisation in Algeria for sending parcels to war prisoners) and to Mr. Fux (Manager of the War Fraternity in Morocco), to whom we owe these remarkable results. (Applause)

Whilst we have been able to send more than a parcel a month for each prisoner in the hands of the Germans, it is our desire to see that soon our prisoners should receive two of them.

The maximum effort must first be asked from the Empire and it is only then that we have reached the limit of this effort that we should ask again for more help from our allies. (Very good).

Two factories have been installed to make parcels, one in Casablanca and the other in Algiers. The Casablanca factory uses hand labour methods. It can make 8,000 parcels a day. The industrial equipment will make it possible to manufacture daily 22,500 wrappings. The Empire will furnish the food that these wrappings will contain.

It is possible that this might be too much for the Empire. I have asked Mr. Macrassoli to take his pilgrimage's case and go, this time, to South America. (Applause). I am sure that the ties of friendship which unite us with the countries of Latin America have not been severed in our misfortunes, but that, on the contrary, they have been reinforced. If we cannot reach our goal, we will ask some extra help from the United States, Canada and Great Britain.

But I hope that in three or four months we will have reached our goal. We will then be able to express our gratitude to all those whose generous assistance has helped us to succeed.
I will touch briefly upon the question of clothing. The call for help that we sent to our Allies has not been in vain. We have succeeded in buying in the United States $300,000 worth of clothing for our prisoners. Unfortunately, 300,000 suits were wanted, and only $50,000 still remain for our goal. We have asked our foreign representatives to negotiate actively as we would like to send to each one of our prisoners a suit and new underwear every year.

In the medical field we have been able to do what was asked by the International Red Cross. We have been able to send to prisoners over 60,000 medical poultices in a very short time, and 20,000 anti-typhus vaccines.

For the escaped and refugees, we asked at the beginning of this year a credit of $2,000 million which would allow us to give some help. At the present time two-thirds of these credits have already been used. In a few months I think that I will be obliged to return to the Finance Commissioner and tell him that we have worked very well, very well indeed as we have spent all that we gave us. (Very good! Very good!)

The situation of people who escaped from France was not very good until lately. These men who have been active in the Resistance met a double obscenity when they arrive here. First they would notice a great difference, and I do not dare to dwell on this point now, between the political climate in France and the political climate here. They were receiving at the very best only kind words. We have first tried to unite the two organizations that were taking care of them: The Union for the Escaped (UK) and the French Aid (UFA). The Union’s duty was to concentrate its efforts in North Africa, and the French Aid took care of people who escaped to Spain, Tunis, Oran and Casablanca. A fourth one will open soon in Algiers. In two and a half months these receiving centers have sheltered a total of 10,000 of our friends and some of their needs. I wish to thank the management of this group for all it has done.

I have learned that there was in Morocco an Association of Escaped People. I got into touch with the Association and I think that it will very soon be able to unite with the other two organizations in order to pull together.

Escaped refugees who are still in Spain are few, with the help of the Commandant of Foreign Affairs we send them some help and their situation is greatly improved.

We are also equally concerned with refugees, the case of course, only take care of the refugees who are in North Africa. We do not know exactly how many there are. There may be 200,000 of them. Most of those who settled in Algeria before 1936 are not in need of material help. But they all need moral help and we have done our best to put them in touch with their families who remain in France. With the help of the International Red Cross and the Vatican we have been able to intensify the sending of messages.

We have been able to obtain the transfer of family papers, such as Birth Certificate, Marriage Certificate, Death Certificate, which are necessary for certain formalities. We have done what we could to enable individuals to help the families from whom they have been separated. At the present time the head of a family, who is living in North Africa, can send to France 2,000 francs a month for his wife and 1,000 francs for each child.

Such measures have eased many sorrows and many heartaches.

There are other projects under consideration. We are trying to pay family allowances to people who have sheltered children from France.

We will also try to wipe out a certain amount of injustice. For instance, the military allowances paid to families of prisoners is inferior to that which families of other soldiers are receiving. This must change.

I turn now to the question of deported people.

There are two million of them in Germany. It is difficult to send them help because we would have to do it through international organizations, such as the Geneva Red Cross, which is not accredited for that.

It is in vain for us to do anything without the German authorities.
Two kinds of problems. One has been done fairly well, the other one is sometimes difficult.

I will now speak of the co-ordination of charity organisations. In each territory, submitted to the authority of the French Committee of National Liberation, there are organisations which are all dependent upon the Red Cross, but which have no contact one with another. It seemed necessary to create a Co-ordinating Committee, at the same time, leaving to each organisation its own initiative. All that remains to be done is to find the men, but we know only too well that in North Africa it is sometimes difficult.

The National Aid, whose name brings back so many and reminds us to be replaced by the French Brotherhood of Aid for Liberation.

If one considers the broad task that has fallen on our shoulders, one understands all the difficulties that we will have to overcome and all the responsibilities which will be ours. I believe that I am surrounded by willing and devoted friends and I feel positive that I will soon be able to say to you: "This is what we wanted to do, and this is what we have done."

I will now touch on the gigantic problem of repatriation. It has many facets and involves questions whose eventual solution will have a great influence on the fate of our nation.

There are now in Germany or in occupied territory almost 30 million people transplanted on account of the war, we must gather these people wherever they are and bring them back to their homes — perhaps destroyed.

Among these 30 million people, how many are French?

I divide them into three categories: people who will have to return to France; people who will have to be sent out of France; people who will have to be exchanged from one part of France to another.

In the first category one finds about:

- 360,000 French prisoners of war;
- 280,000 French prisoners of war who became civilian labourers;
- 900,000 workers who left France in exchange for war prisoners;
- 100,000 people deported for political or racial reasons;
- 300,000 Alsaceans and Lorrainers sent away from their homes;
- 110,000 Alsaceans and Lorrainers incorporated in the German Army;
- 250,000 refugees in the Empire.

The second category comprises, in the first place, the civilians who will have to leave France.
As soon as the cause ceases to be guarded, a certain number of people will try to reach France. I assess them at 50,000.

Add 20,000 people from France who will return to the Empire and one reaches a total of 1,070,000.

In the third category one finds the 50,000 people forcibly evacuated in 1939 from the frontier zone, the 150,000 refugees of 1940 who have not yet reached their homes, the 60,000 Alsaceans and Lorrainers expelled from the Reich and who took refuge in France, a million people evacuated by the Germans and the 100,000 French workers of the loaf organization settled along the coast.

With those who left their homes for the country, one finds in this category 1,600,000 people. If one adds the three categories of people one reaches a total figure of 3,730,000, among whom more than five million are Frenchmen.

The more quotation of these figures shows you how serious our problem is.

Let us now study this problem from an international point of view and consider what risks surround us.

It is quite certain that all the men who have been kept away from their fatherland for a long time, will feel from the first a strong temptation to return home. As a result there will be a migration of millions of people, a migration unprecedented in history, a migration that will take place with the greatest disorder and the greatest confusion and which will have the most serious consequences. It could bring famine, famine could bring banditry, it could bring epidemics and we don't know how far this could go.

We must also expect the anger of these men who are expecting much and to whom we shall not be able to give all that they expect.

It is the material, physical and psychological future of a whole continent that will be in the balance. The Government has made a deep study of all the principles that will govern the solution of these difficulties.

First of all we cannot allow that the problem of deported people and the problem of prisoners be separated. The question of repatriation is one. I stress this point because the Allied Governments have not a perfect understanding of this side of the problem.

We also wish that the efforts should be proportionate to the numeric importance of the people to be repatriated in each country. We also wish that repatriation should not be slowed by the demobilisation of the German army and changed among enemy populations. We shall commence with ourselves and as will think of these, but afterwards. (Very good).

These operations must be carried out quickly, with order and in a sympathetic manner.

Speed first: these operations must start as soon as possible after the end of hostilities. That is why we think that they must take place with the help of the General Staffs. We will try to choose gifted men to execute the plans that will be drawn up. These men will have very wide powers. We will avoid too great a centralisation which would slow up everything. There must be decentralisation from a technical and geographical angle.

Services of supply will be away from the main travelling lines of repatriation in order to avoid disorder. Supplies will have to
take place with local means in order to avoid the delays that would bring delivery of special but distantly situated material.

Let us consider now how order can be kept. This order will depend on the interior state of Germany. It will be necessary to enforce martial law and act with a very strong hand. So as to keep order propaganda and instructions will let everyone know that they will reach their homes more quickly if they follow the instructions that will be given them and if they wait where they are for the Allied Missions.

All this calls for organization. We can advance and close liaison between the various missions.

These missions will have to deliver prisoners of war and also representatives of trade union organizations. They will also have to establish priority based on justice and on the needs of national economy. First those who have been away from France for the longest time, then, by order, the war prisoners — those from Alman and Lorraine first. People deported for political reasons, workers sent to Germany. After order, it is sympathy which will guide the work. All these operations must be carried out with tact and kindness. We must avoid slowness and red tape. We will use former prisoners and feminine helpers. Our women, our sisters will be better understood and better heard by our prisoners.

After telling you on what principles our actions will be based, I want to mention my trip to London. I was in contact over there with our leader in order to study the immense work that we have to do. I have been able to notice, and this is not a figure of speech, what perfect unity we have in considering our problem. I have also noticed how truly happy they were to see a representative of France take part in the discussions.

How will the problem be solved? U.A.N.U.A. has been put in charge of settling it through a sub-committee: the sub-committee for displaced people, whose leaders I got into contact with in London.

The British and American representatives have noted the desire to take quick measures and to do well. I am afraid that such an important organization with so many tasks may not act as quickly and as efficiently as necessary.

We will need, we Frenchmen, to fulfill our task, not only the organizations foreseen in London and in Algiers, but also people who will recruit in France.

We must foresee sending missions, regional or local, to issue from 10,000 people. It won't be necessary to outline a division for that but it will be necessary to recruit those people in France

Let us now consider the practical aspect of the problem.

Let us suppose that we have gathered the millions of men who are now spread throughout Germany and occupied countries. To mention only the French, our compatriots are spread in 80,000 commandos. After gathering them we will have to feed them, to clothe them, to put them through medical inspection in order to fight contagious diseases. We will have to bring them back on to their national territory. We must foresee that in France we will need receiving transitary centres.

It has only been necessary to bring the main features of this problem to your attention for you to appreciate its great importance from an international point of view.

On a national plan
On a national plan the technical aspect of the problem is the same. The sanitary condition of the country could be seriously threatened. The number of people who have tuberculosis and the number of people having contracted syphilis has greatly increased.

What is the duty of the Government then? Must we put the repatriated men in contact with their wives? Wouldn't that have terrible consequences for the future generations? The problem as it is is extremely serious and painful. Those who have been separated for a long time are in great haste to meet each other. This desire is legitimate and comprehensible, but is it not the duty of the Government to put national interests above personal desires?

There are other difficulties.

We must take in hand people who are now under the authority of the Vichy Government: Commissariat of Work in Germany, Commissariat for Prisoners of War Repatriated, Office for Refugees. We will make a distinction between the technical organizations which must be kept going and the political organizations which, on the contrary, must be broken up. We will put in the place of the Vichy organizations men who have been prepared for their task here.

It is at the time when we take the succession of a poor and complicated organization that repatriation will start. We cannot expect to reach perfection in view of all these difficulties.

Here are the problems that the Government will have to face. Groups are working, groups that understand their responsibilities. They work with all the devotion, all the initiative, all the courage that France expects from its servants.

So far I have only mentioned technical problems. We know very well that the problem is dominated by a psychological and moral aspect, in other words by its political aspect.

The boshen have tried to divide France. To do so they have used several means: demarcation lines, propaganda, sending people to Germany. To all these attempts at division, France has answered by a will to be entirely united in the war. (Applause).

All Frenchmen are fighting wherever they are: on the outside front or on the front of Metropolitan Resistance or on the front of Resistance in Germany.

To the Vichy slogan of being resigned, to the slogan that tried to divide France, France answered by anger and by affirmation of the virtues of the war. Instructions given to Frenchmen in Germany can be put into two words: sabotage, denazification.

We also wish to prepare tomorrow's unity. All Frenchmen who had to leave their country went through a moral and psychological evolution different from Metropolitan France. We might be afraid that they might not understand France and that France might not understand them.

Prisoners and deported people must be told what France is, what their fight is. France must know also what is the life, the right, of those prisoners and deported people. Thus will all men understand that they are the sons of the same country and they have the same cause.

/ Radio broadcast
It is necessary to make known our prisoners to the men of North Africa. It is for this purpose that an exhibition will be opened soon, an exhibition which will have three parts: how they left us; how they live and fight; how they will come back. We also want to tell the prisoners what measures we expect to take to allow them to regain their homes and meet their families.

All these men who have been away from home for so long expect a lot from us. I am afraid that the results might not reach the height of their impatience but we expect that their spirit of discipline will excuse our unwilling imperfections.

Their anger might be all the worse that it will take place a few weeks before their vote. The result would be a very serious political instability at a time when international conferences will be taking place. If the discouragement and the anger of our prisoners and deported people should turn against our Allies, wouldn't that create bitterness in their heart?

All these reasons lead me to think that the problem is of such a political importance that it reaches beyond our own frontiers.

It is necessary, in my opinion, that we should inform our prisoners and deported people so that they will be with our comrades of the Resistance, the builders of the IV Republic, so that they participate in the revolution that France will offer to the world in a renewed ideal of justice, of generosity and of greatness. (Loud Applause).

I have explained to you what the Government has done and expects to do for these millions of Frenchmen whom war or treason has driven from their homes. The Government is trying to solve the problems that I have outlined in all their complexity, in all their intensity. We will do all we can and not spare any effort in order to succeed in our work.

In spite of our forefathers, in spite of our efforts, I don't think that we can find perfect solutions so as a reward we only ask from our conscience the very gratifying feeling that we have done our duty, all our duty towards our country. (Applause).
Dear Leonard,

Please refer to your #685 of February 29. We have forwarded by pouch detailed information with respect to the matters raised in the inquiry previous to your #685. For your current information, however, the following is relation of the War Refugee Board to the Inter-governmental Committee:

1. The NRB is an American organization set up to carry out the policies of the American Government, while the IGC is an international organization. The IGC represents over 50 nations and therefore is in no position effectively and promptly to carry out the policy of any one individual nation.

2. The NRB is prepared to lend every assistance to any and all projects which the IGC has undertaken or undertakes in the future and which are designed to bring about a speedy rescue of victims of enemy oppression. Insofar as financing such projects is concerned, the NRB has already paid out $200,000 toward operating expenses of the committee.

3. The NRB is determined to carry out the policy of this Government as announced by the President. In so doing it is not anxious to take on any job which can be done just as quickly and effectively by any other organization, regardless of whether such organization is domestic, foreign, or international. Accordingly, if the IGC is in a better position than the Board to carry out with speed any particular project designed to save the lives of refugees, the Board will look to and support the Committee in the execution of such project.

4. On the other hand, the NRB has no intention of referring to or clearing with the IGC any project which it is necessary to carry out this Government's policy, unless such action would facilitate the speedy execution of such project. In the less than two months that it has
been in existence, the Board has already taken many steps designed to save people from death. Examination of these steps will reveal that, as far as many matters are concerned, the WH is in a better position to take more expeditious action than is the IIC.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Pahl
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Leonard B. Ackermans,
Special Representative,
War Refugee Board,
c/o America Consulate,
Algiers, Algeria.

[Signature]

Original signed by
Mr. Friedman,
then by facsimile.

cc to: Rubaiv
Friedman
Model
Dear Laszlo:

Thank you very much for your letter of February 9th, 1946. I am going to try to answer some of the questions which you have asked. Some of them will have to remain incompletely answered for the time being.

I am enclosing copies of periodical reports on the status of the War Refugee Board since its inception. I think that they will do much to acquaint you with the general background and purposes of the Board, the scope of its functions and the nature of its operations. I am also enclosing a copy of the Executive Order of January 22, 1946, creating the Board and the press release describing the Order. This material may indicate what the functions of the Board will be as far as it is possible to do so at the present time.

The following represent my ideas with respect to the specific questions raised by you:

1. It is currently contemplated that you will cover the North African area. Of particular interest at the present time will be your work in connection with the establishment of the Refugees Center near Oran. I am, however, of the opinion that the speedy evacuation to such Center of stateless and enemy national refugees now in Spain. In this connection I am enclosing an extremely confidential report on this project which will give you some idea of the background. There have been developments since I wrote the report and it should not be regarded as currently authoritative.

2. You will probably be our only representative in North Africa, at least for the present time. We also have a representative in Egypt, Mr. Isidore Hirschmann, and we may designate him as our representative in Spain. As in your case, Mr. Hirschmann's first job will be work from the Spanish side, in connection with the Refugees Center. I suggest that you make the material I am transmitting to you, as well as any other information which you may have, available to him and discuss the matter between yourselves prior to his departure to Spain, if and when his designation is approved.
3.) The Secretary of War does not presently have a representative in your area to act as liaison. If any such arrangement becomes desirable, I am sure that you will be able to take whatever steps are necessary to arrange for such an appointment.

4.) I think the enclosed Executive Order will probably indicate the position of the War Refugee Board via S.E.E.O. and other organizations which may be operating in the same field. Our primary task is to do everything possible to facilitate the reunification of refugees from occupied areas. In this connection, of course, it is part of our duties to ensure the movement of refugees from neutral areas, such as Spain, in order primarily to clear the way for the admission of more refugees from occupied territories. Accordingly we have certain interests in common with the Red Cross, U.N.R.R.A. and C.R.A. (O.N.R.O.), and cooperate with them to the fullest extent, bearing in mind our primary objectives.

Our relations with the Inter-Governmental Committee are not at present too clearly defined. We have endeavored and are continually endeavoring to do whatever we can to facilitate its work, which of course is quite close to ours in certain respects. We are making funds available to the I.G.C. What the future holds in this regard it is presently somewhat difficult to say.

5.) The War Refugee program definitely involves the development of a strong and aggressive organization both in Washington and in the field. We are proceeding with the appointment of representatives in these areas in which they are needed. As indicated above, some representatives have already been appointed.

I am awaiting with interest your survey of the situation in the North African area. In this connection, after you have completed your discussions with the available people in Algiers, I suggest you might go to the Refugee Center and look it over in order to get an idea of what its facilities are, the number of refugees it can accommodate, etc.

I should also appreciate your reporting to us at all times the action and attitudes of the French with respect to the Refugee Center and with respect to the general refugee picture. We have had many disturbing stories, along the lines indicated in your W.W. No. 2 of March 2, 1944, that they are attempting to impede the progress of our program for the evacuation of stateless and enemy national refugees from Spain to the Center. I wish you would check into this matter and let us have your reaction. You might ask Gaby Kerckes to assist you in this respect, provided Mike is agreeable.
I think that about covers your letter. We shall of course be glad to give you whatever further information you wish.

Sincerely,

J. W. Fohle

Mr. Leonard E. Ackermann
Special Representative
War Refugee Board;
C/o Finance and Control Division,
North African Economic Board
Civil Affairs Office
Allied Force Headquarters
Algiers, Algeria

Enclosures.
7 March, 1944

Dear John:

There are two principal matters which I wish to call to your attention. They involve the present status of discussions with the French and some information which I learned about the Italian situation. There are also some other matters which may be of interest which are referred to later.

When I took up the matter of approaching Massigli, Seldon Chapin asked me to prepare a memorandum which he could leave with him. After some discussion Chapin finally agreed that I should be included in the conversations. After this had been agreed to, all of the files and the proposed memorandum were turned over to Lawton, the First Secretary of the Embassy in order to get the latter's opinion on the form of the memorandum. Lawton discussed the matter with me and finally reached the opinion that it would be better merely to talk to Massigli and not present a memorandum. I agreed to this since I had not contemplated a memorandum in the first instance and only wanted to get to see Massigli in order to urge his cooperation in the new program. Chapin agreed to this and arranged an appointment with Massigli for 6 o'clock Monday night.

We met Massigli at the appointed time. Chapin introduced me as the War Refugee Board representative and outlined some of the features of the Board's work which had not been covered in previous meetings. He also asked whether we could be referred to other persons in the Foreign Affairs Ministry who would be more directly connected with the admission into North Africa of applicants for Fedhala. We stated that it was our hope that no red tape would cause delay of this program since progress along these lines would assist the program of bringing additional refugees into Spain. Massigli was extremely cordial. He referred, however, to the fact that the French facilities were limited and that they had tremendous problems of their own. We pointed out that post war considerations should not interfere with a program of saving lives now, and that to some extent a United Nations victory would remove part of the refugee problem since many refugees would want to return to their own lands.
Massigli asked us the number of people intended to be brought to Fedhala. When we told him that the present group numbered only 750, he said that he felt there should be little trouble. Very fortunately, at this time Meyrier, a Directeur des Affaires Politiques, and the man whom Massigli said would be more directly concerned with Fedhala came into the room. We were introduced and talked along the same lines for a few minutes. Meyrier also said that a group of 750 persons should cause no great problem.

Monday morning Mike and I saw Mendes-France. We explained to him that this matter was already under discussion with Massigli but in view of our past relations we felt we could talk to him on an informal basis. The general purpose of the new program was outlined to him and he expressed complete agreement therewith. He stated that he understood that this was an emergency program which required immediate action and agreed that no postwar problems should be permitted to delay action at this time. We talked briefly about the Fedhala situation and our fears that lower-rank functionaries of the French Security might in their usual fashion interfere a lot of restrictions and red tape which might delay the program until it was too late. He again agreed with our position and volunteered to talk to Massigli about it. Both Mike and I came away from the meeting feeling quite pleased with the attitude which Mendes-France had taken. It appears that he may be very helpful in future problems and that he might even propose the formation of a French committee. A French group might work through two channels: first, in assisting refugees in crossing the border into Spain, and second, in bringing refugees out of Northern Italy into Corsica. The use of the second channel is an idea which only occurred to me as Mike and I discussed the program on the way back from the meeting with Mendes-France. I have no idea as to its possibilities or probabilities, but it is something that I think is worth exploring. What is your opinion thereon?

On Saturday afternoon I had a meeting with a British officer who is working on the refugee program for MGS. He told me of the present movement of refugees from Yugoslavia to Allied occupied Italy. Refugees reach the Italian peninsula by almost any sort of boat and certain selected groups are brought over in Allied war craft. Other refugees have reached Allied territory by coming through the German lines. Insofar as non-Italian refugees are concerned a large number have already been evacuated to the Middle East. I will not go into this portion of the program in any detail as you no doubt are well acquainted with it. The most interesting statement that was made to me in the course of this conference relates to a recent order issued by the Allied Forces restricting the
movement of refugees into Italy. The British Major who gave me this information stated that if the Partisans were in control of the whole Yugoslav coast, it would be possible to regulate refugee movements completely, but since the coast was partly German-controlled and partly uncontrolled, it had been impossible to prevent the movement from that area. One of the expressed reasons for this order was the fact that the Allied authorities in Italy are finding it difficult to cope with the refugee problem. There also may be other good reasons for this order. It may well be that once refugees reach territory controlled by the Partisans they will be in a position of safety. It may also be that the Yugoslavs want to keep most of these people in Yugoslavia in order to aid in Partisan activity. In any event, it is a matter which will require further investigation. I saw Harold just before he left for Italy and he will look into it from that angle. I expect to follow it up as much as possible in this area, and if you are able to learn any information in the States, I should like to learn about it.

As I understand it, the Pednaha project will aid our present problem since it will remove refugees from Spain and thereby possibly make the Spanish more receptive to further groups. The same reasoning might be applied to the North African area, that is, if we are successful in removing refugees from North Africa, the French will in turn be more willing to permit the entrance of other refugee groups. In this connection your attention is called to the Spanish refugee group. The representative of the American Friends Service Committee has advised me that there are approximately 5,000 Spanish refugees who came to North Africa at the close of the Spanish Civil War. At one time most of these people were interned but they have since been liberated. Many of them have found jobs with the American and British armies, while others have found French employment. However, the incorporation of these people into the French economy is a slow and difficult one and they may again become a serious problem when the Allied armies leave. In the spring of 1943 a program was inaugurated under the auspices of the Joint Commission for Political Prisoners and Refugees in North Africa to remove part of this group to Mexico. Approximately 1,800 Spanish refugees indicated their interest in such a movement. Since that time, however, no perceptible progress has been made. The two principal problems appear to be the granting of Mexican visas and transportation. The acquisition of visas seems impossible at the moment since, as I understand it, there is no Mexican representative in North Africa. If you consider it advisable, someone might investigate this matter to see what can be done.
Gabby Kerekes has also made one of his typical suggestions which might be looked into. It sounds a little bizarre but so have many of Gabby's earlier suggestions which eventually turned out to be worthwhile. He advised that, under the treaties of peace entered into in 1920 and 1921, certain agreements were made as to the Danube. An International Danube Commission was created to control various phases of the Danube problem, one of which established certain islands in the Danube as international territory under the jurisdiction of all the countries touched by the Danube and possibly England and France. Gabby believes that England and France may have withdrawn from the commission after the commencement of the war but understands that Russia asked to be included in its membership. Certainly Turkey is a member and possibly Switzerland. We do not know the present status of these islands. If Turkey has a strong position in this commission and the commission is still functioning, some of these islands may be places of refuge or may lend themselves to underground use. Gabby only remembers the name of one of these islands—Ada-Kaleh, which is on the Danube above Orsova and on the border between Yugoslavia and Rumania. He believes it is the northernmost island of the group. Some of the islands further south may prove more useful.

I am enclosing a copy of cable No. 2 which I sent to you and also copies of State Department telegrams with reference to Fedhala which should give you a little more background in the event you haven't seen them before.

Sincerely,

L. E. Ackermann
Special Representative,
War Refugee Board.

Mr. John W. Fehle,
Acting Director,
War Refugee Board,
Room 266B Main Treasury Building,
Washington, D. C.

* I have reviewed the cables since I am informed that it is contrary to State Dept. regulations to furnish copies of files to other departments without State Dept. clearance. You can priorly these copies. Washington.
Dear John:

Here is a report on War Refugee Board activities since I last wrote you on 29 February. You will note that I have started to number my letters and will consider the prior communication as No. 1. Will you please have your copy marked accordingly.

Much has taken place since Monday afternoon when I received a copy of the cable announcing my appointment as Special Representative. I must admit, however, that neither Mike nor I realized the full significance or direction of the program until we had a full discussion about it with Harold Glasser. The information and advice which he gave to us should prove invaluable and will be of great assistance in the future operations of the board in this area.

I think it would be best, in order to bring you up to date on the North African situation, to review briefly the entire situation from the time of the receipt by Mike of State Department cable No. 320, dated 29 January. This cable, which requested Mike to cooperate with Ambassador Wilson in the program, was the first knowledge that anyone of the Treasury group had concerning the new program. Immediately after its receipt Mike asked for a copy of the circular Airgram of the State Department dated 26 January which, however, did not arrive for several days. Shortly after its receipt Mike sent a memorandum to Selden Chapin who is temporarily in charge of the Embassy, in which he called attention to the instructions he had received and offered the assistance of the Treasury representatives in connection with the program. He also suggested that Chapin discuss the matter with him more fully. At the same time he despatched a State Department cable dated 9 February for the Secretary of the Treasury acknowledging the earlier cable and stating what he had done. Chapin asked Paul Warburg to keep in touch with Mike on the matter. For several weeks thereafter nothing much took place insofar as the Treasury representatives were concerned. The State Department people did not advise us of any further developments nor were we consulted in connection with the preparation of an answer to the Circular Airgram of 26 January. Mike discussed the matter with several people but so far as the State Department was concerned we were not actively in the picture until the receipt of State Department cable No. 612 dated February 26.
A copy of this cable did not reach me until the afternoon of 28 February. Shortly prior thereto I received a message that Capt. Paul Warburg had a cable announcing my appointment as Special Representative of the Board and desired to see me. I saw him late in the afternoon of 28 February. At that time he made available to me a copy of the reply to the Circular Airgram which consisted of Chapin's despatch No. 122, dated 22 February, and a memorandum which Warburg had prepared dated 19 February. Warburg remarked that he had feared this matter would be dropped into his lap and was very happy that the Treasury was now taking over. I spent the remaining part of the afternoon in reading what files were available in the State Department on the subject, the principal file related to the Camp Marechal Lyautey project at Fedhala.

On Tuesday 29 February, I had a long discussion with Beckelmann, the UNHRA representative who will be in charge of the Fedhala camp, and who had just returned from Spain. I also saw Perlman, the representative of the J.D.C. Later in the afternoon I was advised that there would be a meeting in Chapin's office on Wednesday morning to hear Beckelmann's report on his trip to Spain. I attended this meeting and from the information learned there and other reports, which Beckelmann made available to me, got enough of the picture to realize that we might have a difficult time with the French in getting final clearance for the admission of the refugees from Spain. As I have already advised you by cable dated 2 March (State Department No. 698, WMB No. 2), it appears that the French, while originally agreeing to a mere preliminary security screening in Spain, have now taken the attitude that in addition all applicants must be checked at Algiers and that they may use such further screening as a pretext for eliminating part of the group. This, of course, would be an extremely unfortunate result since part of the group that might be eliminated, the Sephardic Jewish group, is probably the most important segment thereof. I will discuss this phase of the matter in a later portion of the letter.

The meeting at Chapin's office, which was attended by Chapin and Lorton of the State Department, Beckelmann and Pyor of UNHRA, Capt. Paul Warburg of the U.S. Army, Lord Duncannon representing the British Foreign Office, and me, discussed the various problems that might arise when the French representative returns to Algiers from Spain. He is not expected to arrive here until some time during the week beginning 6 March. Beckelmann stated that the questions raised by the French may fall into two categories, (1) the future movement of the refugees out of North Africa, and (2) whether certain of the persons who had applied for admission to the camp could be considered as refugees, since some of
them, although not born in Spain, had had Spanish passports or had been considered as Spanish proteges. It was decided by the meeting that every effort would be made to avoid such questions if possible and to convince the French to adhere to their original agreement of merely screening the refugees for security reasons.

As the meeting broke up Chapin called me over. This was the first time at which I had an opportunity to discuss the matter with him since the arrival of the cable announcing my appointment. The discussion was quite brief. He said that he had not had a chance to talk to me since my appointment and then said "God pity you." He suggested that I work closely with Capt. Warburg. Later I spoke to Warburg about the matter and I tried to explore with him the work that the committee would do. He related to me the rumor that he had heard to the effect that this was a purely political move on the part of the President for purposes of getting votes.

Later in the day Harold Glasser arrived and for the first time Mike and I received a first-hand picture of what has been taking place in Washington. We did not have a full discussion because of limitations on Harold's time, but arranged to meet the next evening. The next afternoon I also spent some time with the representative of the American Friends Service Committee and learned something about their refugee activities. In the evening Mike and I talked for about three hours with Harold, Beckelman and another UNRRA representative. Harold in his usual fashion has sold us completely on the necessity of prompt action and we intend to take various steps which we believe may be of assistance.

The first of these steps has been my effort to sell Chapin on the program. I spent an hour with him this morning and pointed out to him that the answer of the French to the President's message did not indicate any great degree of cooperation on their part and that we should make an effort to change their position from one of acquiescence (or possible opposition) to one of active cooperation. I told him that the fear of the French that these people would become a postwar burden for them would be groundless since a successful culmination of the war in favor of the United Nations would, except for repatriation and temporary relief, remove for the most part all refugee problems. I also tried to impress on him that this was a program of saving lives which had to proceed quickly. I then discussed with him the Fedhala project and went over with him the various objections which might be raised by the French security officials next week when they propose to give their final agreement to the admission of the 750 persons from Spain. I told him that not only should we attempt to
take steps to forestall these objections which, according to Beekelman, do not involve security questions, but rather the more fundamental question of admission of certain groups. I suggested that Frenay, Commissioner of Prisoners and Deportees, might be the man to contact. He said that he had no authority to meet with any French official except the diplomatic group and suggested that a note be sent to Massigli requesting that he be permitted to see Frenay. My reply was that no answer to such a note might be delayed interminably. He then said that a note should be sent to Massigli requesting a reply from the office which I dissuaded to for the same reasons. I urged upon him an immediate talk with Massigli since he felt that he could not approach any other official. He agreed to do this provided that I would prepare a memorandum for him which he could leave with Massigli. I will prepare this memorandum and submit it to him as soon as possible. I have no great hopes that Chapin will succeed in aiding the program very much. While he orally agrees to adopt some of my suggestions, I do not think that he feels strongly enough on the subject to take any action except the most routine. I have hopes that when Ambassador Wilson returns the greater prestige of the Ambassador's title and his interest will be of more assistance.

I have gone into the various matters that have taken place in some detail because I would like you to get the feel of the local situation as accurately as possible. Before closing, however, I have a few more items of information and one suggestion which should be of interest.

The J.D.C. and the Quaker representatives are doing a good job here caring for refugees once they arrive in this area. They do not take any steps, however, to assist in their admission. When the main part of the job of getting the refugees out of Axis territory is well under way, the War Refugee Board may be of some assistance to these groups in a number of minor matters, but I do not think that they will be of great assistance to us at the present time.

Our program for future work at the moment will include assistance in working out the Fedhala problem, the effort to change the French attitude and an attempt to gain assistance from French underground. In connection with the French attitude, Mike and I intend to visit Hendes-France "informally." We believe that he should be much more sympathetic to our problems than some of the other French officials have been.

You are also no doubt aware of the fact that approximately 300 of the group proposed to be removed to Fedhala are Sephardic Jews, some of whom had Spanish passports or at one time were considered Spanish proteges, but who were not born in Spain.
only reached there after Hitler came to power. While the present Spanish government does not appear to desire to harbor these groups permanently, they have at one time at least made representations to the German government and secured the removal of some of these persons to Spain. If we succeed in moving the present group from Spain to Fedhala, the Spaniards may be induced to make further representations to the German authorities and secure the release of other similar groups also holding Spanish passports. Our Spanish representative can no doubt furnish more information on this matter.

Beckelman also advises that there is a well organized traffic in Spain which will practically guarantee the smuggling of refugees over the Spanish border and their safe delivery to the Spanish police. The charge for these services is somewhat in the neighborhood of 10,000 pesetas per person. He said that Dr. Samuel Segueria, representative of the J.D.C. in Barcelona and Forsyth, of the American Consulate in that city (who used these sources in order to get American flyers out of France) are acquainted with the persons carrying on this trade.

I am enclosing a copy of three letters written by Beckelman to various persons in connection with the Fedhala project which should furnish you with more information on the problems involved therein. As soon as typing facilities are available, I will also forward to you copies of cables that I have written so far and copies of cables on Fedhala. I would also suggest that you examine despatch 1967 from Madrid to the State Department dated 31 January, 1944, which refers to the evacuation of refugees from Spain during 1943.

I will appreciate your keeping me advised as to all new developments and ideas and for any assistance that you may be able to give me in strengthening my position via the State Department representatives and the Committee. If Ambassador Wilson has not left for Africa at the time this arrives, I would suggest that the matter be discussed with him.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Address]

Mr. John W. Peible
Acting Director
War Refugee Board
Room 2882, Main Treasury Bldg.,
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.
Mr. K. Reasman Fryer
Chief of Mission – UNGA
Civil Affairs Office – Dept. of Public Welfare and Relief
American Consulate;
Algeria, Algeria.

Dear Sir,

First report from Spain. The process of actually getting under way here has been
delayed because I arrived in the midst of the final stages of preparation of a transport
for Palestine which is sailing from Cadiz for Haifa early next week. It is a
Portuguese boat and she will be carrying about 120 refugees from Portugal bound for
Palestine and will pick up about 350 more at Cadiz. The 350 come from Madrid,
Barcelona and a number of camps and prisons scattered throughout the country from which
refugee prisoners were released for the purpose of going to Palestine. (They were in
fact accompanied by police from prison to port of embarkation.)

The deduction of these 550 leaves a still indeterminate number of stateless refugees
in Spain. Bisknursaff, who, as you know, represents the Quakers and the JDC in Madrid,
says it cannot possibly exceed a thousand, including a scattered few who may still be
living on means of their own. One could in addition include an estimated (very roughly)
four to five hundred Poles, Czechoslovaks, Belgians, Dutch, etc. who though not stateless
are in a more or less exposed position here depending on the extent to which the
Spanish government accords the representatives of these governments Ignited diplomatic
recognition. My present intention is to have our announcements of the North African
project sent to these people also and I believe the American legation occurs in the
position that we ought to accept for the camp any of them who might want to go.

Until the Palestine movement was completely out of the way I made no effort to get
any formal announcement of the North African project into the hands of the refugees here.
Encouraging any going to Palestine involved both the right of permanent stay and the right
to work I regarded it as inadvisable to introduce in any official way the complications
of the North African scheme which, objectively less desirable, might nevertheless seem
more attractive because of its closer proximity to Europe. (I did in fact have a
couple of visits, nevertheless, who wanted my advice on whether they should go to
North Africa or Palestine.) Consequently I employed the ten days or so following my
arrival for such informal interviewing as was possible, in order to let word about the
North African project get around informally and to have an opportunity to see what kinds
of people were involved, what the reactions were, and what questions were most on
people’s minds.

Thus far I have had about sixty-five interviews involving some hundred odd people.
This is roughly a 30% sample though it is not necessarily representative, first because
these are all from Madrid and Barcelona may well, in refugees as in everything else, be
a story for itself. Also my first interviews were with people who had previously
solicited information about the North African project and may therefore be viewed as
having a more than average interest in it, either positive or negative. Nevertheless
the much interest as it may possess” I give you here my observations of the group I
have seen.
There are a number of freak cases involving holders of Cuban, Mexican, Venezuelan, etc. passports. These people are at a loose end in Spain because they cannot get work permits and their consular representatives have no funds with which to repatriate them. They are prepared to come to North Africa because it is a step nearer home and on the assumption (purposely mistaken) that the French will not treat them as stateless refugees. In my sample of 106 people, these cases total eleven, though I don't expect this percentage to be maintained for the refugee group as a whole. There is another group who are not likewise not refugees in the sense that their permanent situation arises either out of Nazi policies or the military operations of the present war. They are persons stranded in Spain whose difficulties are aggravated by the fact that there is a war going on. They are of three categories essentially. 1) Adventurers who happened to be in Spain rather than somewhere else when frontlines froze; 2) Foreigners who have been in Spain for many years in business or professions but because they were located in Republican territory during the Civil War can't get business licenses renewed; 3) Foreigners who actively assisted the Loyalist government during the Civil war. My sample 106 contains 39 such persons. Again I think this is a higher percentage than will be true for the total number. (Incidentally I think the adventurers among this group, if they come to North Africa, are hardly likely to remain long in the camp. My guess is they will make their own way out somehow and seek to shift for themselves.)

Of the rest (61 cases) 62 express an active interest in going to North Africa, either because they have relatives there with whom they hope to be able to live, obtaining their release from the camp on this ground, or because they are fed up with Spain and feel that any change would be a change for the better, or because they hope to establish some contact with the British and Americans. Another 15 are more or less indifferent or uncertain as to whether they should stay here (or try to) or go to North Africa. They wanted very much to be guided by my advice and when I had explained why this was not a subject on which I could properly advise them, their attitude was that they would do whatever the majority of refugees would seem to do. My own guess is that this group will go. Forty-one expressed active opposition to the idea of going to North Africa, this opposition varying from the statement that they would prefer not to go if they had any choice to the assertion that they would rather return to Madrid than go to a camp on French territory. Opposition seems to rest on the following bases: 1) Other immigration opportunities. There are apparently a number of valid Spanish visas in existence. I have seen three thus far. The holders have Colombian transit visas also and tell me that they have been assured that the necessary Venetian transit will be forthcoming in time for them to sail by Spanish boat in March. Some also have negotiations in process for Italian visas. A number are expecting replies to applications for American and British visas and hesitate to either terminate their applications to another consulate for fear that this may involve them in long delays. 2) Belief that a more or less legalized residence in Spain can be arranged. 3) Opposition to further contact with the French based either on experience in French camps or on dislike behavior toward the French army during the war and having now been reduced recognition or assistance by French representatives on arrival here. Category 3 has 16 persons of the 61 above mentioned.

The chief question put to me dealt naturally with the right to work and the amount of freedom which residents of the camp might expect to have. About these two items, unfortunately, my present feeling is much less optimistic than it was when I left North Africa. My first conversations with Moroccan French authorities in Rabat had led me to believe that they were prepared to interpret the terms of the French-American agreement fairly liberally. Yesterday these arrived in Madrid the two representatives of the French Moroccan authorities who are to participate with the British and the Americans in the security screening of applicants here. (One of them was a chap I had previously talked with in Rabat.) I showed them the draft of the announcement and application form which it
was proposed to circulate to the refugees in Spain (Enclosure A). They objected
ersouently to the second paragraph on the grounds that it promised more than it would be
possible to grant. They implied that employment would only be possible in exceptional
cases and that the right of temporary absence from the camp would be severely restricted.

I pointed out that this was at variance with the intent of the French-American agreement
and their reply was that the French Committee of National Liberation in Algiers was not
familiar with conditions in Morocco. I said that that was not a proper concern of the
American government and did not seem relevant to the question. I reminded one of the
two representatives that it was he himself who had indicated to me in Rabat the fairly
liberal position which the French authorities in Morocco were prepared to take in applying
the terms of the French-American agreement. He acknowledged this but said that conditions
in Morocco had changed since the conclusion of the negotiations between the American and
British governments and the French Committee of National Liberation. The French
authorities, he said, were very much disturbed over current native unrest in Morocco and
were fearful that apparent concessions to refugees might aggravate that unrest. Both
representatives assured me that as soon as the current difficulties had subsided they were
confident that it would be possible to give the refugees a larger measure of liberty and
employment possibility but reiterated that it was unwise to promise in our preliminary
announcement to the refugees more than it might be possible to give them upon their arrival
in North Africa. I expressed my agreement with this point of view but contended that any
announcement to the refugees ought to assure them of that which the French authorities and
the British and American governments were in agreement that they should have. I suggested
that if conditions in Morocco had changed since the conclusion of that agreement it might
be well to advise the State Department of that fact and proposed taking the question up
with the American Embassy. The French representatives then suggested that they might
prepare a text of an announcement to the refugees and we could then compare the two to
see whether we could agree on some joint statement. To this I agreed.

The draft which they proposed (Enclosure B) was a step forward from the position
which they had expressed to me orally but I still felt it to be unsatisfactory on the two
points of employment possibility and local liberty of movement. I told them that I would
original text to the American Embassy, which I did, discussing it with Miles
Bond, Embassy Secretary who has been acting for the Embassy on refugees matters. He and I
agreed that under the circumstances, probably the best course was to suggest the
substitution, for the paragraph in dispute, of the relevant portion of the text of
McNaughton's final note. Subsequently, this was put in writing and sent to the French
representatives, after some discussion to the effect that their proposed text was less restrictive than
the text of the official note, accepted. Consequently Enclosure C is the text of the final
announcement which will be readied in a few days to all refugees in Madrid and
Barcelona and, if the consent of the Spanish authorities can be obtained, to those in
prisons, (estimated to number about 50). It will appear in English, French, Spanish and German.

I have recited in detail this discussion with the French representatives because the
tone of it seems to me more important than the text we finally agreed upon. The tone
seemed to me to be definitely bad. If the French representatives who have come here from
Morocco accurately reflect the feeling of the Moroccan French authorities and if this
feeling continues unchanged, I think we are in for a nasty series of quibbles on every
request we shall have to make of the French authorities once the camp gets going and for
haunting restrictions on every effort to give the residents of the camp any sense of
being elsewhere than in an internment camp. If you think it advisable it might be as
well to put the State Department in Washington and our representatives in Algiers on notice.

/one
One point in the final announcement (Enclosure C) which the French representatives pressed for but did not insist upon was that it should be stated that the center would be administered by American, British, and French representatives. This apparently goes back to a conversation I had in Rabat in which I was asked whether I did not think it would be useful to have a French member of the staff of the camp for the purpose, as it was put to me then; "of facilitating relations with the French authorities, issuing permits for temporary ten-day or two-week leaves from the camp, etc." At that time I said that I was in favor of the idea and would be ready to discuss it more concretely when I would have returned from Spain and would be getting Camp Marshall Lytton ready for refugee occupancy. Here in Madrid I was very loath to include any reference to French participation in the administration of the camp in an announcement to be distributed to the refugees because my preliminary interviews have clearly shown that any such indication will have an adverse effect upon them. Not feeling free to say this to the French representatives I fell back upon the statement that I had not yet been authorized to include French representation on the staff of the camp and consequently could make no reference to it in the announcement. It is clear, however, that the question will come up again on my return to North Africa. I believe it would be useful to have a Frenchman, if possible a refugee from France rather than a colonial resident, attached to the camp staff for such liaison purposes as have been suggested above. Unless I hear from you to the contrary I shall assume that there is no objection to my proceeding along these lines when I return to Morocco.

Returning now to the refugees in Spain and the likelihood of their going to North Africa, my present belief is that about half will indicate an initial willingness to go and that a substantial portion of the remainder will then follow suit. (There has thus far been no indication of any reaction on the part of the Spanish authorities which might influence this estimate.) All told, I imagine we may have up to about 800 people, including those who may want to go along the non-stateless but not fully protected national groups I have mentioned above.

On my way here I stopped in Lisbon for a few days. In the course of my conversation there at the American Legation, the question came up as to whether stateless refugees in Portugal could be included in this North African project. I have taken the matter up with the Embassy here and it seems to us that there should be no objection in principle though the mechanics of transportation may be more difficult to work out. However, unless I hear from you to the contrary, I shall continue to keep this possibility in mind and if the opportunity for more concrete consideration presents itself I shall go into it. Though no official indication has come from the Spanish Foreign Office there have been some reports that the Spanish authorities will request further refugee consigns to embark from a Portuguese rather than a Spanish port. If this should materialize, the question of taking those refugees now in Portugal who might want to come to North Africa could perhaps be resolved simultaneously with the current undertaking.

In any case it now appears clear that the North African project, when it finally materializes, will be a much smaller-scale venture than has hereafter been anticipated. I think every possible effort should be made to liquidate it at the earliest possible date both because of the interminably unsatisfactory situation which it seems unavoidable that the camp shall represent and because the large capital investment and large per capita outlay necessary for the kind of center we have been contemplating cannot long be justified for such a relatively small number. Such liquidation will require collective rather than individual action because the group now in Spain seems to me to have been fairly well meshed through this time from the standpoint of persons with highly specialized skills, with professional contacts or with relatives in other countries. My present impression is that the bulk of the persons who will be going
M.W. Beekelman to E. Reeseman - cyer - contd.

...to North Africa will have been former shopkeepers or small business-men whose employment outlook in North Africa will be slim, even under a liberal interpretation of the agreement. Likewise they will be by and large persons who do not have relatives in countries of immigration so that the initiative for moving onward from North Africa cannot logically be undertaken by them.

In this connection I had the opportunity of talking with Kuhlmann of the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees when he passed through Madrid recently. He told me that Patrick McAn is now making a survey of the refugee problem in the Mediterranean area and will pass through Algiers on his way back to England. At Kuhlmann's suggestion, I have telegraphed Algiers to get the date of McAn's probable arrival there to see whether we can arrange to meet, there or elsewhere as his schedule permits. Specifically what Kuhlmann proposes and what I should very much like to work out with McAn is to have some member of the camp staff designated to represent and maintain contact with the Intergovernmental Committee in London so as to keep as closely in touch with immigration possibilities as possible.

Finally, there is now in the wind a project to offer some refugees "duration visas" to Canada and the arrival in Madrid of a Canadian representative is expected next week. So far as I could tell from the brief conversation I had with him in Lisbon perhaps a hundred people may be able to go to Canada from here, since the Canadian government is interested only in family units.

That is the picture to date. To save time I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter and its enclosures directly to Washington. If you think it advisable will you see that Tom Cope and Ray Baxter get a copy in Casablanca. For your sake, I don't know whether to hope that I still find you in Algiers when I return or to look forward to hearing that you've gone on to Cairo. It would, however, be good to see you again. My best regards to the gang. The food is better here than at Tan's but I miss the company.

Sincerely,

M.W. BEKKELMAN.
ANNOUNCEMENT

(Draft of proposed announcement to refugees as prepared by M.W. Beckman and approved by American Embassy)

In agreement with the governments of the United Kingdom and the United States, the French Committee of National Liberation has arranged to receive in Morocco refugees now living in Spain who are at present without nationality status and whose interests cannot consequently be represented by any of the United Nations Governments. Such persons upon their arrival in Morocco, will be housed in a Reception Center about ten miles from Casablanca. The Center in a modern army barracks, built in 1943 and until recently occupied by American troops. The Center will be administered by representatives of the American and British governments who will use every effort within the limits imposed by the physical conditions, to facilitate normal domestic life on the part of the residents of the Center. The Administration will provide food, necessary medical care and necessary clothing as far as the latter is available. All able-bodied residents of the Center will be expected to contribute toward the cost of their maintenance by performing such duties connected with the operation of the Center as may be suited to their abilities.

Residents of the Center will be permitted to seek regular employment and in cases where such employment is regarded as favorable to Moroccan economy, appropriate work permits will be issued by the local authorities including residence permits in the district of employment. Those persons who do not obtain work permits will make their residence in the Center. Permits will be available for temporary visits to Casablanca or other cities for varying periods of time, subject to such restrictions as security requirements and limitation of transportation facilities make necessary.

The Reception Center in North Africa is intended to provide a safe and friendly center for refugees from which efforts may be continued toward further emigration or toward return to the country of permanent residence. In cooperation with the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees, the Administration of the Center will do everything possible to assist with such emigration or return. Inasmuch, however, as those depend essentially upon factors which are beyond the control of the Administration of the Center - such as the progress of military operations, the availability of transportation, and the immigration laws of various countries - it is impossible to give any indication of the length of time during which residents will remain at the Center.

Persons interested in being considered for admission to the Reception Center should fill out the application on the reverse side and bring it to the office of the Administration in behalf of American Relief Organizations, Calle Eduardo Dato 20, Madrid.

APPLICATION

I, the undersigned, having read the preceding Announcement, hereby make application for transportation to and admission into the Refugee Reception Center in Morocco. I accept the conditions stated in that Announcement. I further certify that the information given below is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

(There follows identifying data and personal history and information. See Enclosure B)

Enclosure A
PHOTOGRAPH B

(Draft presented by French representatives as substitute for enclosure A)

Le Comité Francohis de la Libération Nationale, d'accord avec les gouvernements britannique et américain, a donné son accord pour que des réfugiés vivant actuellement en Espagne et qui n'ont pas de représentant dans ce pays soient hébergés au Maroc en attendant de pouvoir être dirigés sur une autre destination.

Ces personnes seront logées dans un centre d'accueil qui se trouve à environ 15 km de Casablanca. Il s'agit de baraques militaires modernes, construites en 1945 et occupées récemment encore par des troupes américaines. Ce centre sera administré par des représentants officiels anglais et américains qui feront leur possible, dans les limites permises par les circonstances, pour faciliter aux réfugiés une vie normale et agréable.

Les autorités américaines et anglaises pourront à la nourriture et ils s'occupèrent des soins médicaux nécessaires comme de la question de l'habillement, autant qu'il sera possible.

Les réfugiés en bonne santé devront contribuer aux frais de leur entretien et se charger de certains travaux en rapport avec leurs aptitudes pour aider au bon fonctionnement du centre.

Les réfugiés pourront éventuellement être autorisés à chercher un emploi et, au cas où ils pourraient être considérés comme utiles à l'économie marocaine, les autorités locales leur délivreront des permis de travail. Ils pourront également obtenir des permis de séjour pour les villes où ils auront trouve une occupation.

Les personnes qui n'auront pas trouvé de travail seront autorisées à rester dans le camp. Ils pourront également obtenir, pour des motifs d'auto-établissement, les autorisations pour sortir du camp. Ces autorisations seront d'une durée variant selon les restrictions dictées par la sécurité et les moyens de transport disponibles.

Le Centre nord africain voudrait offrir aux réfugiés un endroit sûr et accueillant, d'où ils pourront continuer leurs démarches pour une autre émigration ou pour un retour au pays de leur ancienne résidence, pourvu que les circonstances le permettent.

L'Administration du Centre, en collaboration avec le Comité International pour les Réfugiés, fera son possible pour aider cette émigration ou retour. Autant que des plans dépendent de conditions hors de l'influence de l'administration, comme par exemple le développement des opérations militaires, les moyens de transport disponibles ou les différentes lois d'émigration des différents pays—il est impossible d'évaluer pour combien de temps certaines émissions seront éligibles de retour au Centre.

Les personnes qui voudraient être admises au Centre doivent remplir la demande ci-dessous et la présenter au Bureau de la "Representation in Spain of American Relief Organization", calle Eduardo Dato 20, a Madrid.
ANNOUNCEMENT

In agreement with the governments of the United Kingdom and the United States, the French Committee of National Liberation has given its consent that refugees at present living in Spain who are without diplomatic representation be received in Morocco until such time as their further migration can be arranged. Such persons will be housed in a Reception Center about 15 km. from Casablanca. The center is a modern army barracks built in 1943 and until recently occupied by American troops. The Center will be administered by representatives of the American and British governments who will use every effort within the limits imposed by the physical conditions, to facilitate normal communal life on the part of the residents of the center. The American and British authorities will provide food, necessary medical care and essential clothing, so far as the latter is available. All able-bodied residents of the center will be expected to contribute towards the cost of their maintenance by performing such duties connected with the operation of the center as may be suited to their abilities.

The French authorities are prepared after an examination of each particular case to grant permission to work in Morocco to refugees who can continue their occupation without disadvantage to the economy of the Protectorate. Such refugees will enjoy the right to remain in the area where it will have been possible to obtain employment for them, with the sole reservation of conforming to such controls as may be deemed necessary.

With respect to refugees who will not have been authorized to work and who as a result will have to be cared for at the Reception Camp, the French administration, if the occasion arises, will grant them facilities to remain only temporarily from the housing center, on the condition that they maintain their regular residence at the camp and observe scrupulously all laws and regulations of the country, in particular those regarding immigration. Such facilities will also be subject to restrictions imposed by the necessity of maintaining order and security in the territory of the
protektorate and by limitation of available transportation.

The Reception Center in North Africa is intended to provide a safe and friendly center for refugees from which efforts may be continued toward further emigration or, when circumstances permit, toward return to the country of permanent residence. In cooperation with the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees, the Administration of the Center will do everything possible to assist with such emigration or return. Inasmuch, however, as these depend essentially upon factors which are beyond the control of the Administration of the center - such as the progress of military operations, the availability of transportations, and the immigration laws of the various countries involved - it is impossible to give any indication of the length of time during which residents will remain at the center.

Persons interested in being considered for admission to the Reception Center should fill out the enclosed application and bring it to the office of the "Representation in Spain of American Relief Organizations, calle Eduardo Reato 20, Madrid."
APPLICATION

I, the undersigned, having read the preceding announcement, hereby make application for transportation to and admission into the Refugee Reception Center in Morocco. I undertake to observe all the conditions set forth in that text. I further certify that the information given below is true and complete to the best of my knowledge.

DEMAND

Je soussigné, déclare avoir pris connaissance des explications précédentes; je demande à être admis dans un convoi pour l'Afrique du Nord et à être hébergé au "Centre d'Accueil Marocain pour Refugiés." Je m'engage à respecter toutes les conditions contenues dans ce texte.

Je certifie en outre que les indications données ci-dessous sont vraies, sincères et données de bonne foi.
**FICHE INDIVIDUELLE - PERSONAL RECORD**

**A. Identité - Identification**

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**B. Renseignements Particuliers - Specific information**

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<td>(activité exercée)</td>
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<th>Pays ou l'intéressé d'esire se rendre à titre définitif</th>
<th>Country in which applicant desires permanent residence.</th>
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Activité qu’il compte exercer  
Occupation which he plans to follow there

Observations spéciales que l’intéressé croit utile de porter à la connaissance des autorités chargées de son rapatriement ou immigration.

Additional comments which the applicant believes it useful to bring to the attention of the authorities concerned with his repatriation or immigration.
J. W. Beckelman
American Consulate
Barcelona, Spain

February 12, 1944

Mr. Dewey Anderson
UNRRA
Washington, D.C.

Dear Dewey:

It was good to get your letter of January 21 and to know that you are continuing with the UNRRA. Congratulations (or condolences, depending on how you feel about it) on your heading up the Bureau of Areas - for myself I'm glad to hear it and to learn that I shall probably be reporting to you. So here goes my first. I have read the various and sundry communications which I've sent through to Tom Burland thus far, on the assumption that he was still heading up Field Operations, so I shall begin in media res.

I've been in Barcelona about a week (interrupted by a two-day trip to the French frontier to witness the arrival of some 400 "Spanish" refugees — this is a separate chapter which I shall come back to later) and I expect to return to Madrid tomorrow. I shall be taking with me the applications of about 170 people for admission to the North African Refugee Reception Center which have thus far been turned in here; it seems probable that the final number of applicants from Barcelona will be somewhat over 200, or between 1/4 and 1/8 of the estimated number of refugees here. Resistance to the idea of going to North Africa under the conditions indicated in our announcement of the Refugee Reception Center (which you have undoubtedly received by now) has been even greater here than in Madrid. The reasons for this depend in part on the differentiated character of the refugee group here from that in Madrid, and in part on a number of problems which have arisen here in the course of the interviewing which the French representative and I have been conducting here in order to obtain an impression of the nature and composition of the refugee group.

Barcelona apparently has a larger number of refugees than Madrid who have family and property in France with which they still maintain contact. The possibility of doing so is one of the reasons why they remain in Barcelona as opposed to going to Madrid, which is one of the reasons why there are more refugees here than in the capital. Exchange of news with their families, negotiations to get them across the frontier into Spain, the ability to despatch occasional food packages from here to relatives in France, hope that within another two or three months the latter will be able to join them, these are all considerations which have tended to reduce the number of applicants for admission to North Africa. Most important of course has been the fear that admission to the Reception Center, under the conditions stated, amounts to internment. On this point my feeling remains that given in my January 23 letter to Pryor of which I sent a copy directly to Burland.

Here as in Madrid the two questions most frequently put to us were: "Can I get a job?" and "How can I arrange to live outside the camp?" Levasseur, the French delegate from Morocco, who had worked with me in Madrid, having returned to Rabat, I was accompanied here by Payonne, who was sent to Spain from Algiers to represent the French in the security screening process. I referred those questions to his both because I wanted him to see the urgency with which these points were regarded by the
-2-

refugee group and to have the applicants feel that they answers they were getting on these points were authoritative. Hayyoma stuck very faithfully to the text of our announcement in answering these questions but it was clear that according to his view, the provisions regarding work possibilities would be interpreted restrictively, and that failing employment, camp residents would not be able to leave the camp grounds without good cause, for any period whatever. It was also indicated that the French will mount guard on the camp and control exit from it.

With respect to non of military age, it came out during our interviews, that employment would be out of the question on the logical ground that the local population would resent seeing foreigners of the same age as the mobilized members of their families free to work and earn civilian wages. Consequently, unless such men had a previous military record in the French army which would entitle them to join the French forces in Africa, the alternative to permanent residence in the camp was enlistment in the Foreign Legion. Against this there is apparently strong feeling which I have encountered uniformly in all my talks with refugees both in Spain and in North Africa.

This morning I had an interesting visit from a representative of the French Red Cross in Barcelona (which is, I believe, the official title of the French Mission here). He came, he said, in a private capacity as one who was familiar with the refugees situation here to put to me the proposition that the Refugee Reception Center project no longer served any useful purpose. Six or eight months ago, he said, the proposal would have been jumped at by practically all the refugees in Spain. Now that almost all of them are at liberty in Madrid and Barcelona, the proposal that they should voluntarily apply to enter an internment camp does not make much sense to them. Nor, added the Red Cross delegate, did it seem logical to him, since it was his belief, based on his experience, that the number of people who might expect to receive work permits would be "I will not say zero, but not much more". Hence the proposal to go to North Africa represented a choice between idleness in a metropolitan city like Madrid or Barcelona and idleness within the limits of a military encampment. He wondered, he said, whether it was impossible to avoid going through with the proposal.

I told him that I saw no point in our discussing the matter from that standpoint since the decision of policy did not rest with either of us. I said that while I recognized and had of course known from the outset the force of many of the objections he had raised, his presentation seemed to me to call for two important factors. The first was that the present fairly satisfactory position of the refugees in Spain was not one which the British, French or American authorities were in a position to guarantee for the future and that if it should change for the worse, there was not much that these governments could do in the matter. Secondly, I pointed out that the official assumption of responsibility for the maintenance of these people on the part of the British and American governments and for their reception in North Africa on the part of the French implied that they would presumably not be abandoned without further ado, once hostilities had terminated. While no one was in a position to give guarantees at the present time, it was logical to assume that the governments involved would feel a greater measure of responsibility for the repatriation or permanent settlement in some country of immigration of those people when it would be maintaining in North Africa at the end of the war than for those who might voluntarily elect to remain in Spain.
Those two considerations are the ones which I have informally been calling to the attention of refugees in my interviews with them. Nevertheless, the fear of the camp concept on the part of those who have previously experienced camp residence, seems to be overpowering. They point out that no matter what amenities are provided, the inability to walk off the ground when one chooses creates a sense of confinement which, in the light of their previous experience, they regard as completely deterrent. They concede that the authorities here may at any moment return them to camp or prison, but, they say, if the Spanish authorities do so, neither the authorities nor the refugees regard the measure as a favor bestowed upon the refugees. To apply for admission to North Africa under the restrictions indicated, is in effect to ask for the favor of being interned and to feel obligated to the authority which provides the internment. As compared with their present situation, they prefer not to do so.

So much for the objections voiced by the refugees who have not applied. I have tried to give a composite picture of the reactions I have encountered both because it forms part of the situation here and because I think it useful in planning our approach to future situations. With respect to the 170 applications thus far received in Barcelona, the following summarizes the age, sex, and family distribution:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Males</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Females</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 to 10 yrs. of age</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 to 20 yrs. of age</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 to 30 yrs. of age</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 to 40 yrs. of age</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41 to 50 yrs. of age</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51 to 60 yrs. of age</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61 to 70 yrs. of age</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Over 70 yrs. of age</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In terms of the period of their arrival in Spain (which has bearing on the question of who shall be considered a refugee) the group divides itself into the following categories:

1. Arrived after the outbreak of the present war -- 92
2. Between the coming to power of Hitler and Sept. 1, 1939
   (including remnants of the International Brigade and other foreigners deprived of status as a result of the Spanish civil war) -- 19
3. Between the end of the first World War and 1933. -- 38
4. Before 1919. -- 4
5. Children and wives of stateless persons, born in Spain. -- 18

The refugee status of categories 1 and 2 seems clear. With respect to 3 and 4, the question is somewhat confused but we have assumed up to now that in view of the fact that the maximum possible number of applicants will be well below the agreed upper limit of 2,000, no distinction would be made between applications on the basis of the date of their arrival in Spain. (See Summary of Minutes of Meeting of January 31, transmitted to you).

Inasmuch as it now appears that the French may question this procedure, it seems desirable to indicate the origins of categories 3 and 4.
Category 3 is essentially a remnant of the refugee problem of the last war. It consists of Jews of Greek and Turkish origin who were involved territorially in the 1921 (?) transfer of populations between Greece and Turkey but who were not regarded by either government at the time as being racially Greek or Turkish and who, therefore, did not benefit fully from the assistance which the two governments gave to their expatriated nationals. Inasmuch as this group, whose ancestors were expelled from Spain in 1492, has always retained a kind of Spanish as a mother-tongue, many of them gravitated toward Spain, where for the most part they settled in Barcelona rather than Madrid since the former is more important as a center of commerce and industry. Their knowledge of Spanish (their language, Ladino, stands in somewhat the same relationship to Spanish as Cuman or Cajun French does to French, or Yiddish to German) facilitated their adjustment. Though they were technically stateless, the Spanish government of Alfonso and the Republic apparently felt some sentimental interest in these descendants of the original 1492 expulsion and permitted them to establish themselves on a permanent basis. (If I am not mistaken, the Republic officially repealed the 1492 expulsion decree and invited the descendants of the Sephardic Jews to return to Spain.) Category 4 is essentially the same except that the persons involved came to Spain before the last war.

Under the present government, all communal organization other than Catholic, is forbidden. The Barcelona Jewish community which until 1939 numbered some 700 has been liquidated and its leaders have either emigrated or been imprisoned as Fascists or for participation in the Civil War. The persons formerly assisted by that community because of age or poverty are now being assisted by the Joint Distribution Committee office in Barcelona. It is from that group that categories 3 and 4 are drawn. Their status is indefinite and varies. All of them are stateless, though some still claim Turkish or Greek nationality and have expired passports as documentation. From them have work permits, others do not. Their principal motive for seeking to leave Spain at the present time is the uncertainty of their position and the fact that they cannot, under present circumstances, earn a living. For most of them, the logical definitive settlement would be Palestine. Some of the group did in fact depart with the Ussrus for Palestine but not many were able to do so because the number of Palestine certificates available for persons over 35 was exceedingly limited.

Somewhat akin to this group is the group called the "Sephardic Spaniards" to which I referred in my first paragraph. The Embassy in Madrid is fully in touch with the problem and I shall summarize it briefly. By royal decree issued sometime in the twenties, Sephardic Jews, living for the most part in the Balkans and the Levant, who, as descendants of the 1492 expulsion had for some decades or perhaps even longer, had an amorphous standing as "Spanish protégés", were entitled, under certain circumstances to become Spanish citizens and obtain Spanish passports. An indeterminate number of them did so. As the Germans occupied various countries, Sephardic Jews who held Spanish passports were in some cases able to negotiate their entry into Spain as Spanish citizens, where they were received at the outset apparently without much difficulty, though it is not clear whether they obtained work permits or not. More recently the entry of these "Sephardic Spaniards" into Spain has been possible only in groups or convoys arranged between the Spanish and German governments. This entry has been accorded, as I understand it, on the basis of an assurance given the Spanish government by the joint distribution committee that they would maintain those people during their stay in Spain and arrange for their departure from the country at
the earliest possible moment. With respect to the latter question, the
American Embassy in Madrid has indicated an interest, and the Ambassador
has indicated his belief that it would be desirable to include as many
of those Sephardic refugees (at least those of them who entered Spain
on the basis of an understanding that they would depart as soon as
possible) in the Refugees Reception Center project as possible. I have
indicated my general agreement with the proposition and my belief that
the persons involved came within the scope of the intent of the project.
up to the arrival of the convoys mentioned at the beginning of this
letter, the total number involved seems to have been about 100 people;
the train which I went up to Fort Bou to see arrive brought 185 and a
like number are expected within a day or two. Unlike the first arrivals
of Sephardic refugees whose most recent permanent residence had been
Paris, the two last convoys mentioned, consist of people resident in
Salonica who have been in German internment for the past six months approximately, pending completion of the negotiations for their entry into Spain.

In general terms I have suggested to Mr. Bayonne, the French representa-
tive, our intention of including in the applicants for the North African
project such of those Sephardic refugees as wish to apply, along the lines
indicated in our January 31 meeting in Madrid. (See summary of minutes re-
ferred to above). Mr. Bayonne who did not attend that meeting tells me that
the inclusion of "Spanish nationals" in the Refugees Reception Center is not
contemplated in the instructions which he has brought with him from Algiers and
that he will have to take that question up on his return there. He also
questions the validity of including persons whom I have listed in refugee
categories 3 and 4 above.

In general, his procedure suggests that the instructions he has brought
with him from Algiers involve a screening from other points of view than that
of military or political security exclusively. When I pointed out to him that
the intent of the meeting at Algiers, which had decided that I should go to
Spain to assist in the preliminary screening and that a French representative
should do likewise, had been that the screening in Spain should be of a pre-
liminary character and should be limited to security considerations only, he
indicated that in his understanding there was also involved the question of
the ultimate disposition of each person accepted for the Refugees Reception Center.
He tells me that he will take with him to Algiers a complete list of all appli-
cants for admission and that each case will be scrutinized there. I get the
impression that in those cases in which the applicant does not have an employable
skill or reasonably good prospects of early integration, the French Committee
intends to seek firm assurances from the Spanish and American governments
regarding the ultimate disposition of each individual involved. It may be of course
that I misunderstand what Mr. Bayonne has in mind or that his ideas are not in
consonance with those of the French authorities in Algiers, but in any case I
believe it useful to pass these observations along to you so that our representatives
in Algiers may be on notice, if those matters should come up.

As the result of the joint interviewing which Mr. Lavassour and I did in
Madrid and Mr. Bayonne and I have done in Barcelona, a number of questions have
arisen which Mr. Bayonne indicates will have to be resolved in Algiers. Of
those too I should like you to have advance notice in order that we may be
prepared to urge as liberal a solution of them as is possible within the intent of
the project. Following are the questions which have thus far arisen in our
discussions:
1. Custom clearance for refugees — tools of trade, personal valuables, household effects (in some cases where people have family in North Africa), etc.

2. Financial clearance — transfer of funds from Spain to North Africa; bringing into North Africa on one's person of small amounts of various currencies.

3. Special status (i.e., right to live outside of center) for people in such categories as: (a) Men who have served in the French Army, been honorably discharged, and are now too old or incapacitated for further service; (b) Persons who have sons or husbands in the French Army at present (you will recall that in the first French reply to the British American proposal for the Center it was pointed out that people in those categories might expect special consideration); (c) Persons with relatives regularly domiciled in North Africa; (d) Persons of established nationality whose consulates vouch for them and who are able to finance their own maintenance; (e) Persons who are old or chronically ill for whom living in the camp would constitute an undue hardship; (f) After checking on political security has been carried out in North Africa, possibility of release for people able to finance their own maintenance.

That is the picture to date. As I have indicated I'm on my way to Madrid tomorrow morning. Mrs. Savone comes with me and I hope to finish up in Madrid in a few days. Bayonne wants to do some sample interviewing in Madrid similar to that which he has done in Barcelona. From there he goes to Portugal for a few days and then returns to Algiers via Casablanca, where to discuss with the French authorities the list of applicants for admission to North Africa. Applications (such as those of the Sephardic group and those from persons now in camps and prisons) which will come in after our departure from Spain are to be forwarded to Algiers after having been cleared by the British and American passport controls in Madrid. I myself, I hope to be able to leave Madrid by the end of the coming week and return to Casablanca either via Lisbon or Tangier. If all goes well with the business of clearing our application lists in Algiers (which at the moment I'm inclined to doubt) we ought to be able to envisage embarkation the first week in March. I shall, of course, advise you about this as soon as I have more definite information.

My present estimate of the number of applicants for the camp are as follows: From Barcelona — 50; From Madrid — 170; From camps and prisons — 50; Sephardic group (tentatively 200, I expect a complete list of names, family groups and ages in two or three days); Miscellaneous recognized nationals, Foles, Dunkin, etc. — 50. Tentative total — 700.

In the light of this background I find it difficult to comment on the information included with your letter of January 21. I am glad to note the official designation of personnel for the camp and to see that Ned Campbell is included as administrative officer. E. Fryer recommends him very highly and my own recollection of the brief contact I had with him in Washington is a good one. E. Fryer had told me prior to my departure from North Africa that Campbell was not available, but I assume the situation has changed. My main concern about personnel at present is first: what appears to be an excessive British and American staffing for a project of the size which now appears likely for the Center. We have five British personnel now in Casablanca and six American personnel (including myself) now in North Africa tentatively scheduled for assignment to the Center. The nine listed in Romman's January 8 letter to Hannigan brings the total up to twenty — a figure which seems to me excessive. Nevertheless, except
for a reduction in the number of stenographers and the release of some of
the American personnel now in North Africa who are tentatively assigned to
the project but who have no specific skills I see no likelihood for an
immediate reduction in personnel, at least not till after the project has been
in operation for a month or two and we can see our way clear. (In view of
the fact that the British have sent two nurses, we might reduce the American
personnel in this category too). In terms of official responsibility the
heads of each department, it seems to me, must be American or British.
Consequently, my only suggestion at present is to go ahead with our plans,
regarding the project as an experience opportunity for some of the personnel and
intending to release as many as possible as soon as operations opportunities de-
velop in other theaters.

Please give my best regards to all and sundry in the office. I hope to
have a chance to write everyone again as soon as I get back to North Africa --
days have been pretty crowded here these past two weeks. Once again, let me
say how much I appreciate your keeping me posted on UNRRA developments and that
I hope you will find it possible to repeat the performance from time to time
and meanwhile send along any UNRRA announcements or publications which will help
me keep up to date.

Sincerely,

R. E. Hoekelman
February 28, 1946

Mr. Dewey Anderson
Chief, Field Operations
WHDCA 4/6 State Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dewey:

I am about ready to wind up matters here and return to North Africa as soon as I can get plane reservations (probably Feb. 23) to Tangier. I should like to summarize the status of our camp negotiations briefly as I see them at this point.

The center of activity in preparing for the refugee convey from Spain to North Africa now shifts from Madrid to Algiers. This was not contemplated in the discussions between the British, Americans and French which took place in Algiers before I left there; at that time it was understood that British French and American representatives in Madrid would make the selection of refugees on the basis of a preliminary screening here, that the convey would then be arranged, and that the full security check would then be instituted upon arrival of the convey in North Africa. (Presumably undesirables were to have been weeded out at Casablanca and dealt with separately from the rest of the convey.) However, at the meeting held in Madrid to establish screening procedures, the French representatives reported that their instructions were to bring back to North Africa a list of applications, and that the applications would be studied there and decision reached as to which persons were to be admitted. Though I make it clear that I was not in Madrid as a member of the screening committee, I attended the meeting I am referring to and at this point I said that this was not my understanding of the arrangement that had been reached in Algiers. However, the British and American representatives here agreed that the major security responsibility in this venture rested, in the nature of the case, upon the French and that consequently the procedure recommended by them would be approved. (After the meeting I sent you a copy of the minutes which I had taken, the original proposals which I had prepared as a suggestion for the American representative, and Telegram No. 3 to the governor summarizing the security procedures agreed upon.)

Subsequently, as I wrote you in my letter of February 19 from Barcelona, the French representative indicated to me that he believed that the French authorities in Algiers, in preparing the list of applications, would involve substantive as well as security considerations in accepting or objecting to individual applicants. Upon our return from Barcelona, the French representative found instructions from his superiors in Algiers, asking for six copies of each application, six photographs and thumbprints of all applicants. This means essentially the whole application process in Barcelona and delayed the process of preparing the applications in Madrid. When I brought this to the attention of the American Embassy here they sent a telegram to Algiers, reported to Washington, pointing out that their understanding had been that security screening was to be limited to a minimum, that the request which the French representative had received implied a longer process of screening in Algiers prior to departure of the refugees from Spain and asking for clarification of the situation. Meanwhile we have gone ahead with the collection of the photographs and thumbprints requested.
Most recently, the French representative has indicated to me that he expects that after the questions of principle posed by the applications thus far received have been resolved in Algiers (these questions are indicated in my Telegram No. 3 to the Governor and in my letter of February 13) he, and presumably I, would return to Spain to make the final selection of refugees for North Africa and preparations for the convey. At that time he would issue a travel document on behalf of the French authorities to those persons whose applications have been accepted. (This travel document, originally envisaged as issued by the RIVIERA French and Americans is now, in accordance with the understanding reached at the Madrid meeting of January 31—see minutes which I have sent you—to be issued by the French exclusively.) He would also examine and pass upon those applications received here after our departure for North Africa next week. He believes that once the questions of principle have been decided in Algiers, it will be possible for the convey to leave Spain about the last week of March. (This assumption however seems to me inconsistent with the request received from Algiers for six copies of each application and unless we arrive at some simplification of the procedure in Algiers, the actual departure of the refugees from Spain may be much longer delayed.)

In any case, the question of when the camp opens, and perhaps even whether it opens, now depends, it seems to me, on the position which our representatives in North Africa will take in the discussions which lie ahead. For my guidance it will be most useful to have your comments on my telegram No. 6 to the Governor giving the composition of the four hundred odd persons from whom we have thus far received applications. These are not a typical refugee group as we commonly employ the term but I have thus far been proceeding on the assumptions already communicated to you that in view of the small numbers involved we are interpreting the term refugee rather broadly. (I enclose a more detailed analysis than was possible in my telegram No. 6 of the bulk of the applications thus far received.) To some extent the feasibility of proceeding on this basis depends on our ability to foresee ultimate disposition for these people. On this point I hope to get some ideas from a conference with Patrick Malan who is scheduled to return to North Africa March 6. Meanwhile any suggestions you may have as to ultimate disposition particularly of older people who may come to the camp will be helpful.

Furthermore, if the French objections to certain categories of applicants (e.g. Sephardic, older persons without immigration prospects, people who were not married when they came to Spain, etc.) are maintained, the number of eligible applicants will be reduced to the point where it becomes impractical to operate on a camp basis. Tentatively I have been using the minimum figure of 500 for this purpose but before any action is taken with respect to the inclusion or elimination of certain categories, I believe some minimum figure should be set by RIVIERA.

Assuming that there are no exclusions of applicants by categories but that all rejections are on an individual basis and for security reasons primarily (with a few exceptions in the cases of Jews or aged persons who might be ruled out on those grounds), the estimate given in my letter of February 13 of 700 as the opening camp population will stand. (including the Sephardic group.) It may be somewhat exceeded, depending on the term of political events in Spain. On the other hand, if actual departure is long delayed, military and political developments in Europe generally may not substantially reduce the size of the actual embarkation group when we are finally ready.
Once the camp is operating, if it turns out that we are able to arrange a fair amount of personal freedom for the residents of the camp, we may have additional applicants from the refugee group proper now in Spain who have thus far withheld from applying for the variety of reasons I have indicated in my previous letters, principally from fear of restrictive French control. I have attempted to provide, on principle, for such later application, if they emphasize, by suggesting that they be added to subsequent French convoys, but the feasibility of this proposal cannot be determined until the occasion arises.

That is the situation thus far. The French representative will go to Lisbon at the same time as I go to Tangier. He has some business there on behalf of the French Committee and I have suggested to him that he take the opportunity to discuss with Ambassador Morred, American Minister to Portugal, the possibility of including stateless refugees now in Portugal in the Fedhala project. This he has said he will do. I shall spend a few days in Casablanca meeting the staff people who have arrived, and making such preparatory arrangements and staff assignments as are possible. The French representative should arrive in Casablanca about the end of February and I then expect to go up to Algiers with him to take up there the various questions which, as I have indicated in this and my previous letters and telegrams, will constitute the next order of business.

My next communications should be from Algiers as soon as there is something to report on the further development of arrangements for selection of refugees for the camp.

Sincerely,

N.W. Beekman
Dear John:

I first want to extend my congratulations on your appointment as Acting Director of the new War Refugees Board and then discuss my own part in its program as disclosed in yesterday's State Department cables Nos. 612 and 613 which announced my appointment as Special Representative. I want you to know that I deeply appreciate your confidence in me in making this appointment and assure you that I will do my best to justify it.

I haven't had a great deal of opportunity in the hours that have elapsed since receiving the news to investigate my new job. I have managed, however, to read several State Department files bearing on the subject and have also glanced rather quickly through the transcript of the hearing held on 26 November, 1943, before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, with reference to H.Res 350 and H.Res 352. As a result of such cursory study of the subject, a number of questions have arisen in my mind which I pass on to you quickly. It may well be that I will learn some of the answers thereto in the course of the conversations that I intend to have in the next few days, but I want to get the questions to you as quickly as possible since I am certain that part of the information is not available here.

The immediate questions that have come to mind are the following:

1. What area is to be covered by me?

2. Are other representatives of the War Refugees Board being appointed for this or adjacent areas?

3. Does the Secretary of War have a representative in this area who will be able to act as liaison between the Armed Forces and me?

4. What is the relationship and division of functions between the War Refugees Board and other organizations, including UNRRA, the Red Cross, and particularly the Inter-governmental Committee.
5. Does the program envisage the development of an organization, or will the Board merely act in an advisory and liaison capacity

I have made arrangements to meet this afternoon with Fryer, who leaves tomorrow for Cairo, and with Beckelman, who is in charge of the Pedhra Camp. Tomorrow I will attend a meeting in the office of Selden Chapin at which Beckelman will report on the present situation regarding the removal of refugees from Spain to the camp. I also intend to talk with representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee and the American Friends Service Committee as soon as possible.

I would appreciate your keeping me advised as to all new developments and programs and to furnish me with material on the background of the subject, including estimates of the number of refugees in the various countries of Europe, plans now under way or proposed for their removal, any plans for postwar disposition, the status of legislation in the United States and elsewhere with reference to admission of refugees, and the methods of financing these programs.

I will communicate with you further as soon as I have completed a preliminary survey of the situation in this area. Again please accept my thanks and extend my regards to Joe, Larry, and Florence, who, I understand, are assisting you in the work of the new Board.

Sincerely,

Leonard E. Ackerman
U.S. Treasury Representative

Mr. John W. Peble
Acting Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D.C.

CC: Paul, White, Luxford, DuBois, Hodel, Lesser, Friedman, Stewart, Bernstein, Gaston, Pollak