

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

200109

American Friends Service Committee Operations,
Mediterranean Area.

1. General. A.F.S.C. has offices in Lisbon, Madrid, Casablanca, Algiers, Cairo and a delegation in Italy working under the auspices of the Inter Governmental Committee on Refugees, and is affiliated with Secours Quaker in France.
2. The work in Lisbon and Madrid is concerned almost exclusively with refugee evacuation, and maintenance pending arrangements for departure from these countries.
3. North African and French operations will be reported upon separately by Kendall Kimberland, Director of the North African Delegation, A.F.S.C.
4. Middle East: Barclay Jones has recently arrived in Cairo as Commissioner for the American Friends Service Committee. The scope of his work is not yet clear, although he will be working closely with U.N.R.R.A. on their refugee assistance program, and will represent A.F.S.C. in coordination of whatever A.F.S.C. program may be developed with U.N.R.R.A. He will also be responsible for the A.F.S.C. personnel temporarily on loan to U.N.R.R.A. for the Balkan Mission (12 people).
5. Current Italian Operations: Operating under the auspices of the I.G.C.R., and in collaboration with I. & D.P.S.C., Red Cross, J.D.C. and F.A.U. personnel, A.F.S.C. Delegates are developing a program on the following general lines:
 - (a) Representation of Unrepresented: On behalf of I.G.C.R. and in consultation with I. & D.P.S.C., U.N.R.R.A., etc., A.F.S.C. personnel are negotiating more direct representation of and responsibility for stateless and unrepresented displaced persons in Rome, Bari and other areas of liberated Italy.
 - (b) Individual Counseling: In Bari and in Rome, preparation of individual emigration documentation, contacting families abroad, limited assistance to those not receiving assistance elsewhere, and wide variety of individual problems requiring attention.
 - (c) Supplementary Welfare Services in Refugee Camps and elsewhere: Augmenting occupational activity in refugee camps (e.g. handicraft and shop work producing goods for use in the refugee community and nearby hospital at Sta. Maria Camp; supplying two sewing machines - J.D.C. supplying two - to Cinccitta Red Cross workers for repairing salvage clothing much needed by displaced persons for the coming winter, etc.)
Supplying small quantities of books, paints, etc. to Fiugi and Camps in the South, etc.
6. Future Plans: Since A.F.S.C. generally conceives of its role as being largely supplementary, what operations it takes up frequently depend on what other agencies are able or unable to do. However, it is generally contemplated that the work for the next six months will be largely along the above lines, although it is expected that certain quantities of used clothing and occupational supplies will shortly be available.
7. Financial: As long as the A.F.S.C. program remains so largely a service program, the budget will remain very modest. It is not at present expected that expenditure will be more than 2 to 3,000 dollars per month, unless considerable augmentation of operations seem advis-

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

8. Present Personnel: At present the A.F.S.C. has as its Delegation in Italy two persons, David Hartley stationed in Bari and Howard Wiggins stationed in Rome. Both delegates are neither exclusively administrative nor executive. Also working under the auspices of the I.G.C.R. two members of the Friends Ambulance Unit are being of great assistance to A.F.S.C. Sam Marriage is at Sta. Maria de Bagni, and Dennis Mann is in Rome (the latter, in addition to his aid to Sir Clifford Heathcote-Smith, is helping Howard Wiggins with the Rome activities).

/s/ Howard Wiggins
/t/ HOWARD WRIGGINS,
Delegate,
A.F.S.C.

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3. Historical: The A.F.S.C. has had a Delegation in North Africa since the 10th September, 1942. The first Delegate came as a result of reports received of conditions in concentration camps in North Africa. The aim was to endeavour to alleviate conditions in the Camps and, where possible, to work towards the liberation of the internees.
4. Joint Commission: After the landings of the Allied Forces the process of liberation of the "pre-8th November, 1942" internees might have been expected to proceed much more rapidly; but such was not the case. So great was the pressure of public opinion, however, that the "Joint Commission for Political Prisoners and Refugees in French North Africa" was created under General Eisenhower's order, with instructions to clear up the concentration camp situation.
5. Negotiations: To implement the work of the above mentioned "Joint Commission", several of the Refugee Section were made members, and carried negotiations with the appropriate authorities for the liquidation of the "pre-8th November" internees.
6. O.F.R.R.O.: Meantime the Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations (O.F.R.R.O.) sent a mission to North Africa, under Fred K. Hochler. He found the A.F.S.C. Delegation on the ground (other Delegates had by then arrived) and invited them to form the "Refugee Section, Division of Public Welfare and Relief, North African Economic Board". The Section continued with the same general program as before;
 - (a) Aiding internees in concentration camps;
 - (b) pressing for their liberation (where consonant with military security), and assisting with their documentation;
 - (c) aiding the families of internees when their resources become exhausted;
 - (d) helping ex-internees to find employment (mostly with the Allied Forces);
 - (e) assisting financially and materially ex-internees as well as other refugees, without regard to race, creed or nationality;
7. Financial Aid: The financial help referred to was at first either from A.F.S.C. funds (from private donations) or by means of cable transfers from relatives or friends in the United States, remitting to individual refugees in North Africa through A.F.S.C., Philadelphia under U.S. Treasury license. Later the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee was permitted to remit U.S. Dollars 5,000 per month, also under license, to the undersigned for the aid of refugees from the Spanish Civil War.
8. Material Aid: The material help was mainly in the form of clothing distribution, and also involved the establishment of refugee centres around Casablanca and Algiers.
9. Amicales: The largest part of the work for Spanish War refugees (including ex-International Brigaders) has been carried on through "Amicales", or mutual aid societies, formed by the refugees themselves under the auspices of the Joint Commission in Algiers, Oran, Casablanca and Tunis. Those in the first three cities are still functioning, and receive their respective shares of the above mentioned J.A.F.R.C. remittances. Approximate Spanish refugee population served:

Algiers	1500
Casablanca and other cities in Morocco	2200
Oran	3500
Tunis	1000
	<hr/> 8200

10. ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ F.E.A.: Subsequently, until the 29th February 1944, the ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ continued its work of assisting ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Africa under the auspices of O.F.R.R.O. The latter being absorbed in the Foreign Economic Administration (F.E.A.), our A.F.S.C. Delegation has continued to work unofficially under F.E.A. Not only have the above mentioned financial and material aids for refugees been continued, but we have acted as intermediary for Mr. Robert M. Ferguson, Chief of the F.E.A. North African Mission, with various French organisations in general relief supply questions.

11. Children's Services: In addition to the foregoing our Delegation has aided three local French organisations to undertake "garderies" in Algiers for children of mothers who must work because their husbands are mobilized, or for some other reason are unable to maintain their families. Also, partly in cooperation with the American Red Cross, clothing and layettes were distributed to needy mothers and children (mostly, although not exclusively, refugees) in both Algiers and Casablanca.

12. U.N.R.R.A.: Our Delegation has maintained a point of liaison for U.N.R.R.A. in Algiers, particularly with respect to the North African Refugee Centre at Fedala, and the presently organising Yugoslav Refugee Camp at Philippeville.

13. I.G.C.R.: Our Delegation has maintained close contact with the Representative for France and the French Empire of the I.G.C.R., Monsieur le Gouverneur des Colonies Victor Valentin-Smith, and has been of service to him from time to time, but up until the time of writing no cooperative arrangement has been worked out such as that with the I.G.C.R. in Italy.

14. Financial: Our Delegation is in the process of preparing a budget for our Philadelphia head office, a copy of which will be submitted to you upon completion. Without these figures and past expense accounts at hand it is possible only to say roughly that our balances in North Africa have diminished in recent months at about 7-8,000 dollars per month, including the 5,000 dollars per month of J.A.F.R.C. funds mentioned above distributed through Amicales for the relief of Spanish Civil War refugees. These balances are replenished periodically from the U.S. under Treasury license.

15. Personnel: Our Delegation consists at present of:-

Algiers:

- i) Director (General administration)
- ii) A.F.S.C. Delegate in Algiers, (in charge of clothing distribution and children's services),
- iii) A Representative (an English Quaker) of the Friends Ambulance Unit and of the Friends Relief Service (maintaining liaison between A.F.S.C., F.A.U. and F.R.S., carrying on the major part of the individual refugee case work of the Algiers Office, as well as handling miscellaneous supply and transport problems),
- iv) Secretary,
- v) Bookkeeper and assistant secretary.

Casablanca:

- i) Delegate in Charge,
- ii) Secretary and bookkeeper,
- iii) part-time employment specialist (in conjunction with the N.A.R.C. at Fedala),
- iv) part-time employee for relief and clothing distribution (in conjunction with the local Amicale, which for legal reasons operates as a Division of our Delegation's Office).

16. Projected Program: The A.F.S.C. North African Delegation proposes to continue for the present its offices in Algiers and Casablanca, and to continue to render the services described above. In general, our work and our policy with refugees has been similar to

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000613

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

was already described by Howard Wiggins as being carried on by the A.F.S.C. Delegation in Italy under the auspices of the Inter Governmental Committee on Refugees, namely:

- (a) Representing the unrepresented, such as stateless and other refugees without consular representation;
- (b) Individual counseling and assistance, such as aid in finding employment, in documentation, in emigration, as well as financial and material assistance as described above;
- (c) Supplementary Welfare Services, especially to refugees, to families of internees, and to children;
- (d) Shipments of relief supplies requested by Secours Quaker in France (relief organization of French Quakers which has continued to operate in France during the total occupation).

17. France: It should be mentioned that the A.F.S.C. has kept in touch with both the French authorities in Algiers and representatives in Washington in connection with planning for relief. However, it is A.F.S.C.'s intention only to work in close cooperation with Secours Quaker, which is already on the ground. It is hoped that Secours Quaker will invite European and other Friends to assist in carrying on the program of child feeding and care, as well as refugee relief work, which Secours Quaker has continued ever since the internment around the end of 1942 of the American Friends who were working in France. The A.F.S.C. does not plan to send more than a few Delegates to join Secours Quaker in the earlier stages of resuming their work together. On the other hand, before any shipments of supplies are made, (which have been requested through G-5, A.F.H.Q., and which may be made in cooperation with the French overall relief organization "Entr'Aide Francaise pour la Liberation" [E.F.L.]) our experience in Italy indicates the practical necessity of having an A.F.S.C. Delegate with Secours Quaker on the receiving end.

/s/ K.G. Kimberland
/t/ KENDALL C. KIMBERLAND

Amer Friends Ser Comm.

Chairman
HENRY J. CADBURY

Honorary Chairman
RUFUS M. JONES

Executive Secretary
CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

Telephone, RITTENHOUSE 9372

August 29, 1945

*Answered by
Clarence E. Pickett
9/11/45*

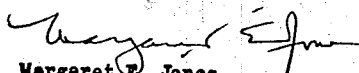
Miss Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Miss Hodel:

Clarence Pickett is out of the office for a few weeks and the most interesting report from Ross McClelland has not yet been seen by him.

I found it very vivid and very moving and am writing at once to ask if we may have additional copies. We should like to share it with the families of both Mr. and Mrs. McClelland if that is permitted, and we should also like to give some publicity, through Friends papers, to this particular work of the government.

Sincerely,


Margaret E. Jones
Foreign Service Section

mej/est

000115

American Friends Service Committee

AUG 25 1945

Dear Mr. Pickett:

We have just received the enclosed report from
Mr. McClelland concerning his work in Switzerland as
Special Representative of the War Refugee Board. I
thought you would be interested in having a copy.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Clarence Pickett,
American Friends Service Committee,
20 South 12th Street,
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Enclosure.

FH:hd 8/25/45

000616

Letter 7, 1000 Ser Comm -

AUG 25 1945

Dear Mr. Pickett:

We have just received the enclosed report from
Mr. McClelland concerning his work in Switzerland as
Special Representative of the War Refugee Board. I
thought you would be interested in having a copy.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Clarence Pickett,
American Friends Service Committee,
20 South 12th Street,
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Enclosure.

FH:hd 8/25/45

000617

Chairman
HENRY J. CADBURY

Honorary Chairman
RUFUS M. JONES

Executive Secretary
CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

Telephone, RITTENHOUSE 9372

July 31, 1945

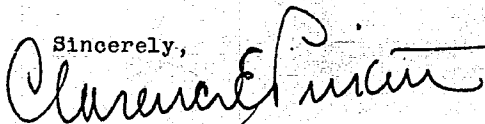
Brig. General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. O'Dwyer:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of the letter which your Board has received from Mr. Max Huber, Acting President of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

We were happy to have the information contained and to know of the assistance which Roswell McClelland has been able to give.

Sincerely,



Clarence E. Pickett
Executive Secretary

000118

Amer. Friends Service Comm.

JUL 28 1945

Dear Mr. Pickett:

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a letter which the War Refugee Board recently received from Mr. Max Huber, Acting President of the International Committee of the Red Cross. I believe the reference made to Mr. McClelland will be of particular interest to you.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Mr. Clarence Pickett
American Friends Service Committee
20 South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Enclosure.

EBT

EBT:inp 7/28/45

JW

*Enclosure
sent to Mr. Pickett
by mail 7/28/45
W. O'Dwyer*

000119

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

7/25 **WESTERN UNION**

1201

A. M. WILLIAMS
PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

PA 127 NL PD PHILADELPHIA PENN 22

MISS FLORENCE HODEL

WAR REFUGEE BOARD TREASURY BLDG WASH DC

1945 JUL 22 PM 3 47

R 4417

HAPPILY REPORT TELEPHONE CALL LISBON COMPLETED. APPRECIATE
YOUR READINESS TO HELP.

JAMES ANDREWS AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

100620

JUN 26 1945

Dear Sirs:

For your information and that of other interested persons, this is to advise you that, in view of the early termination of the War Refugee Board, over-all responsibility for the Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, has been transferred from the War Refugee Board to the Department of the Interior.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Model

Florence Model
Assistant Executive Director

American Friends Service Committee,
20 South 12th Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

EBT:inp 6/26/45

000121

Amer. Friends Service Comm.

June 22, 1945

JUN 22 1945

Dear Mr. Pickett:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of June 12th, which has just reached me upon my return from New York. Your views concerning the work of the War Refugee Board as well as working with the Board are a source of deep gratification to me, but you have been too generous in your estimation of my part in the Board's success. It is very easy to serve and work for a right cause.

I feel that I must take this opportunity to express to you the great debt of gratitude which we owe to the American Friends Service Committee. It is clear that the Board could not have accomplished what it did had it not been for the constant support and service given unremittingly by the private American relief agencies. The advice and assistance we received from you and your colleagues in the American Friends Service Committee were not only outstanding, but a real inspiration to all of us. In addition, we shall never forget that Roswell McClelland who performed so brilliantly for the Board was made available by your Committee.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive
Director

Mr. Clarence E. Pickett,
Executive Secretary,
American Friends Service Committee,
Twenty South Twelfth Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

FH:ve 6/22/45

MA


000122

Chairman
HENRY J. CADBURY

Honorary Chairman
RUFUS M. JONES

Executive Secretary
CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

Telephone, RITTENHOUSE 9372

June 12, 1945

Miss Florence Hodel
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

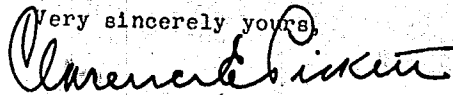
Dear Miss Hodel:

I notice that the War Refugee Board is destined to early liquidation. While I suppose this is inevitable due to changed circumstances, I find that it brings a certain twinge of regret to me and to many in our organization.

The Board has shown vigor, concern and vitality in its efforts to get something done in a tragic human situation. It has been a matter of immense satisfaction to us to have the opportunity of working as we have with the Board. To no small extent your own devotion, intelligence and concern is responsible for the Board's success and for our pleasure in working with it. Will you please accept our gratitude and our hope that fortune may continue you some place in officialdom where we may have the opportunity of dealing with you.

On behalf of the American Friends Service Committee, I am

Very sincerely yours,



Clarence E. Pickett
Executive Secretary

CEP:mf
cc: Jim Andrews

200623

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE June 15, 1944

TO : Mr. Lawrence S. Lesser

FROM : Robert L. Smith

1361 in New file

About May 1st, the enclosed telegram was turned over to me for action with the suggestion that I work on it with Standish. He advised me that the matter should be referred directly to State Department so I took it up with Mann, who informed me that he had been approached directly by American Friends and was pressing State for a reply. After about two weeks Mann informed me that the particular cases mentioned in the telegram had reached a crisis inasmuch as the two Schmidts would either be free or in jail by the following day and apparently State was awaiting the determination of these cases before taking action. It is unknown what action has been taken on this since.

not to be used

200124

MAR 1- 1945

Dear Mr. Brunot:

I have been informed that the American Friends Service Committee is endeavoring to arrange for one of its representatives, Mr. Elmore Jackson, to go to Switzerland in connection with the work of that organization.


It is my understanding that your Board will be called upon to take up with the Department of State certain aspects of the trip. This is to advise you that Mr. Jackson's proposed travel to Switzerland has the approval of the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer


William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Mr. James Brunot,
Executive Director,
President's War Relief Control Board,
Washington Building,
Washington 25, D. C.

 EBT:hd 3/1/45

200625

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

February 23, 1945.

Miss Florence Hodel,
Assistant Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Hodel:

We are anxious that Elmore Jackson, who is now stationed in London, England, as Liaison Officer between our Committee and British Quakers, go to Switzerland in order to discuss the future of our work there with the McClellands.

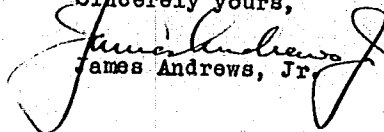
With our responsibilities in France opening up, we need to determine not only the question of Mr. McClelland's future service with us but also the extent to which our work in Switzerland should continue. We recognize that you are not in position to release Mr. McClelland from his duties with the War Refugee Board, but we wish to be prepared when that time does arrive.

Since Mr. Jackson is an American citizen, the passport now in his possession in London would have to be validated by the Department of State for his travel to Switzerland via France. We have not yet received an answer from the Department of State to our letter supporting validation, and if the Embassy in London refers the matter here we are anxious that the Department should take favorable action. Would you be willing to write a note of endorsement to the President's War Relief Control Board, leaving to that Board to take it up with the State Department?

In a cable which left London February 8th, Mr. Jackson states that the Embassy has cabled to Washington, that the Embassy will arrange French transit, and that the travel to Switzerland is supported by James Mann, representative of your Board in London. Mr. Jackson anticipates his Swiss visa in early March.

Our Committee would greatly appreciate any efforts which you may make in Mr. Jackson's behalf.

Sincerely yours,


James Andrews, Jr.

JA/n

200626

JAN 8 1945

Dear Mr. Vail:

I am enclosing herewith a letter dated November 9, 1944,
and its enclosures which were received for you from Mrs. Marjorie
McClelland through the United States Legation in Bern.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. James Vail,
American Friends Service Committee,
20 South 12th Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.

EST RPH RBHutchison:inp 1/4/45

000627



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AIR MAIL

Bern, December 20, 1944.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am taking the liberty of forwarding to the Board with the request that they be kindly transmitted to the American Friends Service Committee (James Vail), 20 South 12th. Street, Philadelphia, Pa. a report of a preliminary investigation into the question of "long-term" refugees in Switzerland and a letter of appeal to Hungarian groups in the United States from the Hungarian Relief Committee here, plus a covering letter. The A.F.S.C. office in Geneva has wanted to get these off for some weeks now but has been unable to due to the continued lack of regular postal service.

Very sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland

✓ Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

Enclosures for American
Friends - Philadelphia.

John W. Pehle, Esquire
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 1 1972

100128



REPORT OF A PRELIMINARY ENQUIRY UNDERTAKEN
AMONG REFUGEES IN SWITZERLAND FOR THE PREPARATION
OF THEIR POST-WAR MIGRATION AND REPATRIATION.

Sponsored by

"Schweizerische Zentralstelle für Flüchtlingshilfe"

(Zurich)

Geneva,
June, 1944

Under the Direction of the
"Aide aux Emigres" - Frl.
B. Hohermuth.

700629

Introductory Remarks.

Considering the fact that refugees who live in Switzerland will have to leave after the war, several competent organizations are preparing for this new emigration movement in one way or another. In order to get the opinion of refugees concerning their own futures and concerning also emigration problems in general, the Geneva Circle of Studies which deals with refugee questions has undertaken a direct research project. A questionnaire was drafted and submitted to the "Schweizerischen Zentralstelle für Flüchtlingshilfe". This organization submitted the plan to the competent section of the Federal Police which gave its consent to the carrying out of the enquiry. It was decided to undertake first an experimental enquiry with a limited number of refugees, so as to see the outcome of such an enquiry before deciding whether it be extended later on to all refugees.

The material here presented gives the result of the first enquiry, undertaken with 366 emigrants and refugees, partly in camps, partly living at liberty. No general conclusions can be drawn from this small cross-section of refugees; but it can nevertheless give a few valuable hints on various problems connected with post-war migration or repatriation. Besides this the data gathered in this project are indicative of the questions which interest the refugees now in Switzerland.

The reporter refrains from expressing her own opinion on the particular points of the enquiry. She also expresses views which frankly contradict each other, as the goal of the present work is not to represent a certain tendency but rather to give a cross-section of the refugees' opinions, and to record and clarify the problems arising therefrom.

The enquiry offered an invaluable opportunity to enter into direct contact with the individual refugee, who has the possibility of discussing problems of the most diverse nature; we tried to frame questions both of an objective and a subjective character; individual encouragement was given in many instances and often bitterness could be tempered by a quiet talk. So, beyond the technical preparation of post-war migration, the enquiry has served to create, in many instances, an atmosphere of understanding and confidence.

To refugee organizations and their collaborators who displayed the utmost readiness to carry out the present enquiry, we express our heartfelt thanks for their kind and invaluable help.

200130

Statistical Data:

Number of those questioned, according to camps.

Egetswil	66 (and at liberty in Zurich)
Davesco	43
Bienenberg)	
at liberty in Bâle(.....	50
St-Cergue	39
Bonstetten)	
Birmensdorf (.....	70
Bourrignon)	
Training course, Zurich	20
Moudon	52
at liberty in Bern	26
Total	<u>366</u>

Present place of residence :

In camps	279
At liberty	<u>87</u>
Total	<u>366</u>

Age of those questioned :

From 16 to 20	62
20 to 30	62
30 to 40	92
40 to 50	97
50 to 60	39
60 to 70	12
70 to 80	<u>2</u>
Total	366

Sex :

Men	281
Women	<u>85</u>
Total	366

Marital status :

Unmarried	161
married	172
widowed	17
divorced	<u>16</u>
Total	366

000631

Religion :

Jewish 247
Protestant 32
Roman Catholic 46
Greek Catholic 4
Without specific religious
connections 37
366

Citizenship or former nationality:

German 105)
Austrian 65)
Polish 95)
Czechoslovak 13)
Yugoslav 9)
French 37)
Italian 10)
Luxemburg 3) 16 nationalities
Hungarian 4)
Russian 5)
Belgian 7)
Dutch -)
Rumanian 5)
U.S.A. 1)
Turkish 3)
Greek 2)
Stateless 2)
366

Present nationality:

194 have kept their nationality.
172 have reported as "stateless",

The reasons which have led to the loss of citizenship are the following:

- a. Cession of territory of country of origin;
failure to avail themselves of the right of option.
- b. Individual de-nationalization.
- c. - Racial legislation in Germany and Austria.
- d. Refusal of consulate to issue passport. - Non-prolongation of passport. - Withdrawal of passport.
- e. Applied for naturalization, (for example in France, loss of former nationality and failure to acquire nationality applied for as well.
- f. White Russian refugees

Identification papers.

25 refugees declare they have none whatsoever.

200132

Members of family missing :

Couples separated through deportation : 20 cases.

Missing members of family : 209 cases.

Date of first emigration :

Before 1919	24	of those questioned.
1919-1932	99	" " "
1933-1939	179	" " "
1940-1943	64	" " "

Total 366

Number of individuals involved :

From Germany	99
" Austria	54
" Poland	77
" Other countries	136

366

Country of immigration (following the first emigration from country of origin) :

France received the greatest number, Belgium was next in order, and then Holland, in third place.

Arrival in Switzerland :

Before August 1942 - legal entry	:	50	- illegal entry	:	23
after " " " "	:	56	- " "	:	237

State of Health :

243	of persons questioned declared themselves to be
123	" " " " in good health
	" " " " in poor health.

Professional Training :

Unskilled	94	(including 33 young men
Handicraft, skilled		who have begun training
women's work	87	but have not completed it.)
Technical work	25	
Traders, merchants and		
business men	105	
University Graduates	55	

366`

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Scientific Activities :

11 of those questioned said they had been engaged in scientific work.

Agricultural Activities :

75 of the persons questioned stated that they were acquainted with agriculture and gardening. It is to be noted that in most of the cases the knowledge is limited to simple gardening and that only a few have a real knowledge of agriculture and animal husbandry.

Re-Training and Further Training.

Re-training (learning a new trade) was asked for in 24 cases. Further training in the former job was asked for in 146 cases.

Languages spoken :

- a. 300 of the persons questioned spoke German,
 252 " " " " " French,
 155 " " " " " English,
 o) 64 " " " " " Polish.

b. Beside the mother tongue :

1 foreign language is spoken in 73 cases,
 2 " " " " " 75 "
 3 " " " " " 48 "
 4 " " " " " 26 "

- o) A particularly interesting figure, as there were 95 Poles among those questioned.

Repatriation : (Return to the Country of Origin)

Wish to return to Germany ; 46 of those questioned^{o)} (out of a total of 105)
 " " " 600) Austria : 29 " " " 00) (out of a total of 65)
 " " " to Poland : 6 " " " (out of a total of 95)
 " " " " Italy : 10 " " " " " " 10)
 " " " " France : 34 " " " " " " 37)
 " " " " Belgium : 7 " " " " " " 7)
 " " " Czechoslovakia : 5 " " " " " " 13)
 " " " Yugoslavia : 4 " " " " " " 9)
 " " " to U. S. A. : 1 " " " " " " 1)
 " " " " Luxemburg : 1 " " " " " " 1)
 " " " " Russia : 2 " " " " " " 5)
 " " " " Hungary : 1 " " " " " " 3)

Repatriation to their
 respective countries of
 origin is wished in 146 cases

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o) These 46 Germans include 7 Jews who also wish to return to Germany. They fall into the following categories : 2 merchants, 3 students, 1 physician, 1 without profession.

oo) The 29 Austrians include 16 Jews who wish to return to Austria. They fall into following categories :

1 leather-worker, 1 electro-technician, 3 merchants
1 decorator, 1 cabinet-maker, 1 artist, 1 language
teacher, 1 diamond-cutter, 1 weaver, 1 white-collar
worker, 1 baker, 1 locksmith, 1 glass-worker, 1
without profession.

ooo) The two figures of prospective repatriates to Germany and Austria include a considerable number of political refugees.

Further migration to another European country (which, in most cases, has already been the country of residence) :

75	of those questioned wished to go to	France
41	" " " " " "	Belgium
13	" " " " " "	Holland
3	" " " " " "	Italy
2	" " " " " "	Spain
9	" " " " " "	Britain
1	" " " " " "	Czechoslovakia.

144 cases.

Emigration to Palestine

was desired in 43 cases.

Emigration to the United States

after the war was desired in 27 cases.

6 of those questioned were interested in emigration to countries overseas other than United States.

Summary : Repatriation or further migration :

Return to respective countries of origin	146
Further migration to other European countries	144
Emigration to Palestine	43
" " U. S. A.	27
" " Overseas other than U.S.A.	6

366

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Number of those in possession of a valid visa or permit :

U.S.A.	14	of those questioned
Palestine	6	" " "
Bolivia	3	" " "
Cuba	3	" " "
New-Zealand	1	" " "
British India	1	" " "
Mexico	1	" " "
Panama	1	" " "
Curacao	2	" " "
Brazil	1	" " "
Canada	1	" " "
	<u>34</u>	<u>cases.</u>

Reception given to the Questionnaire.

In general, the reaction to the questionnaire was a positive one; in many instances it was received with great interest, especially when the social worker entrusted with the enquiry, thoroughly explained its purpose. Naturally, dissonant voices were raised as well : "Yet another questionnaire; we have filled in some, you know, and nothing ever came out of it"; or "I shall return to my country, that much is clear, and in that case no questionnaire is necessary", or again "What's the sense of it all ? Once the war is over, we all leave Switzerland and then we'll be on our own".

Nevertheless, the overwhelming majority of the refugees took the enquiry most seriously, not only from the point of view of their own future but also because they have the whole refugee problem very much at heart and because they realized that our enquiry is part of the general issue.

The enquiry has shown how acutely every single refugee is preoccupied by the future, how his entire mental life is dominated by thoughts such as "Where can I go ? Who will admit me ? Where shall I find my family ? Where and how can I earn my living ?" etc. The refugees' viewpoint towards repatriation and future emigration is of course greatly influenced by the development of external circumstances. As the end of the war now seems in sight, the positive and favorable reception of the questionnaire might be attributed to this circumstance as well.

Remarks concerning Repatriation and Further Migration.

Before entering upon details, let us note once more that : 146 of those questioned intended to return to their respective countries of origin.

144	"	"	"	"	"	immigrate into other European countries.
43	"	"	"	"	"	emigrate to Palestine.
27	"	"	"	"	"	U.S.A.
6	"	"	"	"	"	overseas other than U.S.A.
<u>366</u>						<u>Total</u>

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The Belgian, the French, the Italians, the Czechs, the Yougoslavs intend almost without exception, to return to their respective countries of origin after the war. This applied to the Jews among them as well. Even if part of the residents of the above countries do not have consular protection at present, as in the case of the French and the Italians, yet all of them are firmly convinced that their country of origin will admit them after the war without any delay or difficulty.

It is to be stated, however, that the ideas entertained about the return itself and about resuming ordinary daily life in the home country differ greatly. Many of the Frenchmen are of the firm opinion that they will return home directly. Many of them expect to be able to take up where they left off, i.e. to resume their jobs with the Town Council (or at least to get their pension there), to recommence within the shortest possible delay. "la douce vie de la France" or to acquire, with the help of money and connections and without much delay and effort, a secure and remunerative position. Alsacians wish urgently to return to Alsace, but only if it becomes French; otherwise they would prefer to settle in France proper. The Yougoslavs and Czechs do not entertain illusions about their return and, especially about the fact that a good many of their acquaintances will have disappeared in the meantime; - and yet they can imagine but one way: that of the return. The number of Poles who wish to return to Poland is amazingly small (6 out of 95). The reason for this lies probably in the fact that many of them have left Poland at a young age and have spent the largest part of their lives in another country. They wish to return to the country of residence which has become their second homeland. Another decisive factor furthering such a desire is probably the circumstance that many of these Poles do not speak Polish at all (only 62 out of 95 speak Polish ...) and that they are aware of the possibility of finding, in other countries, a higher standard of living than in Poland. On the other hand, one German holds the view that "repatriation will be the best; the old country won't be worse than a strange one". Others again are of the opinion that it would be important to explain now to internees in Switzerland, how urgently their help in reconstructing their respective countries will be required.

As the statistical data show, the number of Jews willing to return to Germany and Austria is very small. Out of 46 Germans who want to be repatriated, only 7 are Jews; the corresponding proportion is 29-19 for Austrians. In the case of German Jews, the desire to return is motivated by considerations of an economic nature; by the hope, in spite of everything, to find relatives in Germany; by the readiness to work on the social reconstruction of the country; and by the wish to continue studies in the mother tongue. The situation is somewhat different for the Jews who want to return to Austria. Most of these emigrants left Austria in 1938, directly for German Switzerland where they have stayed ever since. Languages other than German, western

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countries and civilizations have remained unknown to them. They see therefore no possibility - nor do they possess the courage - to re-build their lives in an unknown country. That is why only one way seems to remain open : the way back to the country of origin.

Many people have suggested that even now those refugees who are to be repatriated should be gathered into groups, so that they could begin preparations for their future tasks.

Political refugees would like to return to their respective countries of origin, because they are spurred by the overpowering desire to help to reconstruct the home country along liberal lines. They are looking forward with a great deal of impatience to the day when they can leave Switzerland and can join the ranks of those who struggle for new ideals.

Exactly one-third of those questioned, mainly Poles and stateless (i.e. one-time Germans and Austrians) wish to return to their respective countries of previous residence (France, Belgium, Holland); most of them to France. Personal and economic considerations and family reasons are the main factors in influencing the decision to settle again in these countries. The refugees hope to find again their household goods which were left behind or to re-open their shops in these countries; diamond cutters, glove makers and fur dealers believe that they will be sure to find work in Brussels or Antwerp. In many cases, part of the family still lives there, the children were born in the country and are its citizens; a real second homeland has been found there, and those who found it want to return to the country in question. Most of the interviews have revealed that staying in Europe is by far preferred to emigration overseas. Most of the refugees do not wish to leave Europe, if there is any possibility to settle and earn a living on this continent. The secret fear that sooner or later anti-Semitism might get the upper hand in the U.S.A. - while it is hoped that it has lost ground in Europe - has certainly something to do with this tendency.

Part of those questioned declared, however, that they wished first to go to the former country of residence in order to recover property, fortune and goods, and then to go overseas or to Palestine.

Only 43 of the 366 persons questioned expressed the intention to emigrate to Palestine. They are either young Zionists who have been ideologically prepared for future work in Palestine, or people who wish to join their families already in Palestine. These people do not anticipate any difficulties in obtaining visas.

The U.S.A., ardently desired goal of many a refugee only a few years ago, has lost much of its attractive force. From the total of 366 questioned, only 27 wish to emigrate to the U.S.A. What are the reasons for this considerable shift of interest ?

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chosen. Hence the wish was unanimously expressed that nobody should be compelled to go to one place or another, and that free choice and personal decision concerning his future should be left to each and every refugee. This was felt to be the only way to make responsible citizens out of those who wish to re-integrate themselves into society as its equal members. The small number of Jews who wish to return to Germany and Austria, clearly shows that the solution of the Jewish problem and of statelessness is certainly not to be found in a forced repatriation. Many refugees are afraid that anti-Semitism is too deeply inculcated into the people and, that, for the time being, there can be no question of repatriating Jews to the countries concerned; later on such a resettlement has to take place only after careful preparation, if at all, - they point out. The setting up of a Jewish State is rejected by Jews who are in favor of assimilation, but is supported by Zionists and Orthodox Jews. Some refugees thought that a Jewish State, whether in Palestine or elsewhere, is necessary, above all for the young generation, as homelessness and statelessness is the ruin of the Jews.

Numerous refugees are concerned over the question of recovering their identity papers or passports; they would like to be in possession of passports which would not only grant (sic) leave from Switzerland but would be valid for entering another country and would be internationally recognized. These refugees have in mind not only an identity card such as the Nansen passport, but a document which would, on principle, guarantee the same rights as any national passport, as for example the right to work. It is pointed out, by the way, that international arrangements should be made so that no statelessness could occur in the future.

A German expressed the wish that refugees should receive a paper which would make a clear distinction between them and the belligerent population, subject to the conditions of armistice. Many wish that the Swiss authorities would give a certificate stating the period spent in Switzerland as a refugee. Others again urge that, in order to make possible immediate and speedy repatriation or emigration after the war, the papers deposited in Bern should be returned to their respective owners now so that no time will be lost once the possibility to leave arises.

Concerning the recovery of nationality, the following observations must be noted: a general solution would scarcely correspond to the wishes of the refugees. The opinion is unanimously held that by no means should refugees be forced into a decision, and that they should have the possibility to take a personal stand on the question. Over and above this, many refugees think it necessary that a representative body be set up which would advise refugees and defend their interests against authorities and organizations.

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It seems self-evident to one group of refugees that their respective countries of origin should be compelled to restore nationalities to those de-nationalized, including Jews. Another group is of the opinion that the only solution for stateless Jews is to receive Palestinian nationality, no matter where they can or want to reside, whether they are able or desire to live in Palestine, in Europe or elsewhere. A considerable group of stateless refugees maintain that under all circumstances they wish to receive the citizenship of their last country of residence, i.e. France, Belgium, etc.

Preparation for Emigration.

The question of preparation is of course closely related to that of emigration and repatriation. Most refugees are greatly preoccupied with such preparation and would be most grateful if it could be already begun in different fields. It is particularly desirable that refugees in the camps be constantly informed about the development of those post-war problems which directly concern them, such as : possibilities and difficulties of emigration, conditions of immigration into other countries, situations refugees will have to face in the country where they wish to go after the war, the nature of the reconstruction work to be done. Many erroneous impressions could be corrected by giving them factual information. The preparation of refugees for re-integration into a national community, whether of the mother country or the country of prospective emigration, must extend to the spiritual field, as well. A great deal of attention should also be given to the question of reconciliation and the overcoming of hatred.

It is proposed that an information center be set up to deal with all questions concerning the repatriation, emigration and resettlement of refugees. Many refugees, however, doubt very much whether the competent authorities and organizations are already really doing everything within their power, in collaboration with refugee organizations in foreign countries, to acquire information concerning possibilities of immigration.

Many refugees are understandably anxious about the question of their post-war economic and social reintegration and accordingly urge that relief funds, homes, and the like be set up in the countries of immigration in order to assist them over the difficulties of the first months, by providing work, shelter and encouragement. Many are perfectly aware, particularly elderly people in poor health, that the transition from the camp life which they have been living for years, to the activities of daily breadearning in a new country will be very difficult and will involve many unforeseen problems, both material and psychological, which it will not be easy to solve.

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Regarding Camp Life.

It is pointed out time and again that the great efforts exerted by Switzerland in behalf of the refugees are impaired by the fact that the camp directors are unable to win the refugees' confidence. The impression these people get of Switzerland is not only influenced but sometimes entirely formed by incidents in which the "Lagerleiter" is the central figure. "Where are the camp directors generous and broadminded enough to really lead a camp community?" This important question is raised again and again in different tones. The lack of external discipline is often explained by the fact that these refugees have been through so many internal crises inflicted upon them by their hard lot that they have lost that sense for the often exacting and troublesome accomplishment of the everyday duties of community life. Nevertheless, even the dissatisfied ones are grateful for what Switzerland has done for them. They repeat this quite often.

Refugees are constantly taken aback by the fact that at any time and without the consent or even the knowledge of the person involved, one can be transferred from one camp to another. Invaluable contacts - born of common need - are thus broken, and people who have been able to mutually understand and assist each other, are separated. Such a procedure emphasizes the refugee's lack of rights.

Thoughtless remarks by civilians like this are particularly wounding: "Who asked you to come here? Why don't they go back where they came from, If you come to Switzerland as a refugee, you're not entitled to ask for anything; be glad you're here!" Such comments hurt and humiliate. Many suffer also from the difference in treatment granted to those, on the one hand, who enjoy consular protection with often considerable financial aid and to those, on the other hand, who are stateless, and receive neither protection nor money.

No complaints at all are voiced about the food or camp pay. However, the usefulness of the work done is often questioned and dissatisfaction expressed on this point.

Some of the refugees asked: "Could not certain alleviations be granted those who have been in camp for a long time - in contradistinction to those who have just entered one?"

Many feel it a great burden to be constantly together with so many, on the whole, totally strange people and thus not to be able to retire in one way or another. "If only I had a little room to myself, a little privacy:" - this is the main wish of numerous refugees. Involuntary collectivism makes for inner solitude. For "not-being-able-to retire" does not create comradeship, on the contrary, it forces people into a greater reserve than ever.

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It is hard to state whether mental capacities or memory have been seriously effected by camp life. There is little time or leisure so that the habit of intellectual concentration is usually lost. Often the necessary books for self-instruction are lacking.

Life in camp is particularly hard for women. At least, more complaints are registered by them than by men who seem to accustom themselves more easily to this way of life. They often say, though: "You lose your nerve if this camp life lasts too long because it gradually forces you to give up your personality."

Many think that children and young people should be removed from camps, otherwise it is likely that their character will be spoiled, as life in camps is in itself unnatural, especially if it lasts too long. Other statements, however, point to the excellent spirit of comradeship which often develops in camp. The common goal - later emigration to Palestine - seems to enable the Zionists in particular to maintain good morale. It is generally recognized that life in camp demands great capacity of adaptation. It would be possible to increase this if more were done to raise the morale and equilibrium of the camp community. The backbone of each and every refugee could thus be stiffened and the common attacks of nervous depressions decreased or eliminated.

The hardest to bear is, however the separation of families. "Much more difficult than unaccustomed manual labour is the fact that you can only see your child once every three months, that you cannot live with your husband." "Everything is fine in Switzerland, except this separation which is terrible. Is this necessary? Family camps would be the necest gift we could receive." "Do not separate a mother from her children. God created mothers before nurses! If the Lord has left people together in the turmoil of war and deportation, Man ought not to separate them. Do not separate husband and wife, particularly if a child is expected."

"The cost of family camps would certainly not be higher than that of separate camps, but how much courage and joy would be reborn there, how many hardships mitigated!"

The refugees often point to problems of an educational nature which will arise, not only now, but even more, later on, as an outcome of the present separation of families. The children are often completely reeved from the influence of their parents. The parents admit that when they see their child only at 3 month intervals, they spoil him thoroughly.

It was not only difficulties which were mentioned, however; thanks and heart-felt gratitude were also expressed. "It is good to be here, in spite of all the administrative mistakes; the sentiment of deepest gratitude towards the country which shelters me gets the upper hand against petty

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personal inconveniences entailed by life in the camp"...or
"I was to be deported; Switzerland saved me, that's why I
bore even the quarantine gladly"...

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Many admit not regretting the time spent in the camp as they have here tackled problems which otherwise they would never have come across.

Others again say: "Retrospectively we shall admit that the period spent in Switzerland was not the worst and we shall gratefully acknowledge what this country has done for us, even if at present some things are difficult to bear or to understand."

Conclusion.

The foregoing remarks are the outcome of many a talk between social workers and refugees. From the mass of the statements given we perceive the many-sidedness of the problems which confront each and every refugee. Many of the remarks are evidence of the heavy blows dealt to the refugee before he sought our protection. The remarks show the problems which will confront the refugees once the possibility of emigration is opened to them. The statements give also a vivid picture of everything the refugees feel about life here in Switzerland - and it is clear from the answers that sometimes it is none too easy to live the life.

These utterances made in talks which aimed at preparing post-war emigration, are by no means to be considered as critical of all that has been done for the refugees. Nobody entertains any doubt about the good will of those who are taking part in this great work of human solidarity. But the foregoing remarks can serve to suggest in what ways the work done for the refugees must be extended and developed. There are first of all the questions connected with the preparation of post-war emigration to which authorities and competent organizations should give the greatest attention.

There are, however, also the questions concerning life in the camps, the life of the refugees in general. These questions, too, are closely related to the question of post-war migration. For one day the refugees will leave us; events are moving with incredible rapidity; what today seems impossible, tomorrow becomes reality. This fact confronts us with the concrete question: will refugees leave our country with bitter feelings in their hearts, with indifference, will they feel free and as if liberated from a pressure, - or will they depart as our friends, and report with gratitude in their hearts about days spent in Switzerland? What a joy it would be for us if refugees we once sheltered would say in the future that all they have experienced in Switzerland has done good to their bodies and souls and that they have recovered there the confidence and courage to struggle on ---

May this paper encourage us not to abandon our efforts to try to win friends among the refugees. It is a benefit to them and to ourselves as well.

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Chairman, Rufus M. Jones

Telephone
RITTENHOUSE 9372

Executive Secretary, CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7, ★ Pennsylvania

November 7th, 1944

Mr. Leonard Ackerman,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ackerman:

I think you will be interested to know that Mr. Vail felt it would be entirely possible to ask Dr. Schwartz to discuss with Sir Herbert Emerson the text of the recent letter from Howard Wiggins since there is such an intimate administrative relationship between our two Committees and the IGC.

We hope that this use of the information from Howard Wiggins will serve the end that we all desire and want you to know of the action taken.

Very sincerely,

Marjorie Page Schauffler
(Mrs.) Marjorie Page Schauffler
Associate Secretary - Refugee Division

MPS/DER
Enc.

100644

November 3, 1944

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz,
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Schwartz:

James Vail asks whether you will discuss confidentially with Sir Herbert Emerson, while you are in England, the letter from Howard Wriggins which we received some weeks ago, copy of which is attached.

We mentioned this subject briefly to Mr. Malin while he was in this country but we welcome the opportunity for further consideration of it which your visit to London presents, and James Vail asks that you discuss that problem fully with Sir Herbert on behalf of our Committee as well as of your own. We feel sure that he will understand, as we do, the extremely difficult administrative position in which Howard Wriggins found himself in writing this letter and will share our conviction that he would never have done so were he not fully persuaded that the situation fully justified such action.

Sir Herbert understands, we are confident, through his and Mr. Malin's conferences with our staff here in this country, our Committee's earnest hopes for a program of great usefulness for the Intergovernmental Committee. We are the more concerned for that reason lest that usefulness be jeopardized. It can only be fully realized through representation of the Committee by persons who combine with the prestige and political persuasiveness that are essential, deep insight and the broadest social understanding. We well know that Sir Herbert is even more concerned than we that his Committee shall be so represented.

We shall greatly appreciate your presentation of our view in this matter.


With cordial good wishes for your journey,

Sincerely yours,

(Mrs.) Marjorie Page Schauffler,
Associate Secretary - Refugee Division

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American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

October 18, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:


I am of course very much interested in the statement which you made as executive director of the War Refugee Board on the occasion of the Jewish Appeal in Boston. Thanks immensely for sending it to me.

Although the number of people in view of the size of the problem is small, I confess it seems to me that the Board has done more than any of us had any right to expect. It is a magnificent achievement, and I wanted you to know that we appreciate it.

We are very glad to know that Ross McClelland has been giving satisfactory service in Switzerland. I would have expected that he would, but it is of course a satisfaction that you are able to reassure us about it.

I am just off for a little trip to London. Perhaps I can see you when I get back. I would like to know something more about what you see as the future of the Board.

Very sincerely yours,


Clarence E. Pickett
Executive Secretary

cep pc

100646

October 16, 1944

Dear Mr. Pickett:

You may be interested in the attached copy of an address which I delivered on Sunday, October 15 in Boston, Massachusetts.


I would also like to take this opportunity to tell you of the very excellent work which Roswell McClelland has been doing for us in Switzerland. He has shown great initiative, sympathy, and imagination and has made a very outstanding contribution to the cause in which we are all so interested.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Penick

Mr. Clarence Pickett,
American Friends Service Committee,
20 South Twelfth Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Attachment.

 JWP:dg 10/16/44

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WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Executive Office of the President

Washington

RELEASE NO. 15

(The following address by John W. Fehle, Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, before a dinner meeting of the Combined Jewish Appeal, at the Statler Hotel, Boston, is scheduled for delivery at 8 p. m., Eastern War Time, Sunday, October 15, 1944, and is for release at that time.)

Tonight I want to tell you something about the rescue program which the War Refugee Board has been carrying on for the past eight months with the help of the voluntary philanthropic agencies of America, the governments of the neutral countries, the underground of Europe, and men of good will everywhere. I cannot blueprint all the details of that program, but I can give you some examples taken from the files of the War Refugee Board of the work that has gone ahead. And these illustrations bear witness to the practical and ingenious humanitarianism of the American people during the grimmest war in all history.

In Gothenburg, Sweden, 15,000 food parcels from America were recently unloaded -- destined for helpless inmates of internment camps . . . 285,000 more parcels are now on their way.

In a Balkan country a humanitarian volunteer arrives equipped with sufficient status, prestige and funds to aid the victims of enemy persecution. . . His first act is to furnish a shelter for Jewish refugees. . . He is currently using private funds that originated in America to provide food -- especially for children.

Of many couriers who have entered the Baltic countries to rescue refugees, some have been reported missing immediately after their arrival and others have even lost their lives in the effort.

Over the Pyrenees groups of children tortuously made their escape from France, prior to its liberation, to Spain, with the blessing of the Maquis, and with the aid of guides paid by funds from America. . . A few weeks later some are on their way to Palestine.

Along the Black Sea coast of Rumania small ships gather groups of refugees for a hazardous trip to Turkey. . . In Turkey, two Americans persuade local authorities to cut red tape and to permit refugees arriving on foot and in small boats to cross the country on their way from the Balkans to Palestine.

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In a neutral country a prominent personage writes a personal letter in longhand for delivery to Horthy, asking that there be a stop to the deportation and extermination of Jews from Hungary. . . . As a result of this and other protests, the British and American governments accepted the offer of the Hungarian government to release Jews and agreed to care for those reaching United Nations or neutral territories.

All over Europe listeners to secret radios hear statements of protest and warning against persecution of Jews issued by President Roosevelt, Secretary of State Hull, and two Congressional committees of the United States. . . Pamphlets drop over Hungary warning of retribution for her inhuman conduct.

In Southern Italy an American helps arrange for the escape in fragile ships of the downtrodden from Yugoslavia across the Adriatic to Italy. . . . Some of those escaping later appear in African refugee camps and in an American Refugee Shelter.

In a camp at Casablanca several hundred wandering Sephardics at last find a temporary haven. . .

In upper New York State an American soldier visits his parents who, with almost 1,000 others have been brought to Oswego.

In Lisbon a committee meets to facilitate the departure of refugees who have come from France. . . . Some arrive in Palestine. . . . Some in Canada.

In London high government officials, American and British, join officers of an international organization to expedite the rescue of refugees.

In Poland, as in other occupied countries in Europe, underground groups protect exposed refugees by hiding them, by disguising them, by moving them from place to place.

These items constitute part of the story of the current war effort. America has been using every imaginable device to contest the enemy's barbaric determination to wipe out complete sections of the world's non-combatant population.

This is not idle rhetoric. There can be no doubt that Hitler and his partners in barbarism have a deliberate plan to exterminate entire segments of the population of Europe, including particularly the Jews.

This effort, as we know from the evidence at Lublin and Kharkov and from much unpublished material, has not been confined to the Jews. In obvious preparation for another war, the Germans have killed large numbers of non-Jewish intellectual and cultural leaders of Poland. Huge segments of the Russian civilian population have been slaughtered. Entire groups in all the other occupied countries have fallen under the crushing heel of Hitler and his followers.

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And there have been tens of thousands of individuals who have been selected for death simply because they kept on being themselves -- which meant being an anti-Nazi preacher, a true democrat, a courageous patriot, an honest journalist, or a humane citizen.

We have been shocked to the extreme by this war of extermination. The barbarity of the enemy has aroused the conscience of America. It has mobilized our sympathies, and it has inspired the Government of the United States to do all that can be done to rescue the intended victims of enemy slaughter.

Specifically, this revulsion in America has expressed itself in the creation of the War Refugee Board by President Roosevelt. It has been my privilege to serve as Executive Director of this Board, the members of which are Secretary Hull, Secretary Morgenthau, and Secretary Stimson.

In creating the War Refugee Board the President declared: "It is the policy of this Government to take all measures within its power to rescue the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death and otherwise to afford such victims all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war."

The creation of the Board and the statement of this goal are landmarks in the humanitarian history of America. The Government of the United States issued a solemn statement of policy in behalf of refugees, and it asked three members of the Cabinet to take all feasible steps to implement that policy.

As a result of my service with the Board, I have come to appreciate more than ever some typically American qualities in their true magnificence. I have learned that Americans are capable of heartfelt indignation when barbarities are committed during the course of a war. And I have learned that our American way permits indignation to be translated into action -- in time of war no less than in times of peace.

Without the widespread and insistent public interest in the perilous condition of European refugees, it would have been most difficult to establish the Board and to carry on its operations. Many of those who have been saved from Europe's deathtraps owe their lives to American sympathy and American effort.

There is evidence that the oppressed and endangered peoples of Europe are keenly aware of America's interest and America's activities. Ira A. Hirschman, War Refugee Board representative in Ankara, has told us of a recent incident that illustrates this awareness.

Following the recent break in relations between Turkey and Germany, a number of individual Germans, Austrians and Czechs, known to be anti-Nazi, found themselves under a threat of expulsion from Turkey because they were technically Germans in the eyes of the Turkish authorities. Some approached the War Refugee Board representative for aid. They

000650

received it and I am happy to say that the Turkish Government has dealt sympathetically with these cases. One of them was a woman who had lived in Turkey for 12 years and who was accompanied by a one-year old child. When asked why she had come to the United States officials, she replied: "Where else should I go? It seemed only natural to come here. Who else really cares?"

Another typically American institution whose importance has emerged clearer than ever is the voluntary philanthropic agency. A quick and effective program of the War Refugee Board was made possible by generous contributions of suggestions, personnel, and funds by private agencies that had already existed in the field of international rescue and relief work.

I want to pay my unqualified respects to these agencies for their generous support. As matters have developed, the War Refugee Board has served as a central enabling and expediting body for all agencies -- Jewish and non-Jewish, new and old, reform and orthodox, soft-spoken and outspoken.

To catalog these agencies would be impossible. But I want to mention a few. The constituent agencies of the United Jewish Appeal -- the United Palestine Appeal, the National Refugee Service, and particularly the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee -- have contributed most of the funds that have carried on rescue and relief programs. Funds, ideas and unstinted cooperation have also come in varying amounts from other agencies, such as the World Jewish Congress and HIAS.

It is the purpose of the War Refugee Board to strengthen agencies like these by giving them the support of a clear-cut statement of sympathetic policy by this government and by using the diplomatic, licensing and communication facilities of the government to help them achieve their welfare ends.

I also want to pay tribute to many non-Jewish groups and individuals who have shown a true Christian spirit in their quick and friendly reaction in support of the helpless of Europe. This help has come from both Protestant and Catholic organizations. The American Friends Service Committee and the Unitarian Service Committee have made important contributions, as have other Protestant groups.

The record of the Catholic Church in this regard has been inspiring. All over Europe, Catholic priests have furnished hiding places and protection to the persecuted. His Holiness, Pope Pius XII, has interceded on many occasions in behalf of refugees in danger.

In this country, too, we have received help from Catholic leaders. At a most critical point in the Hungarian situation, Archbishop Spellman wrote a truly impressive supplication to the Catholics of that country to protect and help the Jews. This moving statement was broadcast in Hungarian, and reprints of it were dropped over Hungary.

000651

Of great assistance, too, was a statement of protest against Hungarian atrocities prepared by the late Alfred E. Smith in conjunction with over 100 other non-Jewish leaders.

The net result of all the efforts I have mentioned has been a significant contribution in the rescue of helpless human beings. It is difficult to measure the results of the Board's efforts in figures. Actually thousands of persons were rescued from enemy territory. There is reason to believe that several hundreds of thousands escaped death in the occupied countries as the result of the psychological and diplomatic efforts of the Board.

Thus, in the American tradition, as the result of a partnership between private groups and a government agency, there has been affirmed -- in word and in action -- the principle of human fellowship.

In the matter of philanthropic effort, there is danger in confining ourselves to the recent past or to the present. The instruments of humanitarianism must be plastic. They must be fashioned for use in the challenging new days that lie ahead -- days of liberation, days of peace, days of reconstruction.

We know from recent experience in Italy, in France, and in Belgium that there is a prodigious task ahead in the field of post-liberation relief and rehabilitation. We know, also, that UNRRA and the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees have staked out certain areas of activity, and are hard at work. But we also know that important functions are even today being performed by voluntary agencies. And we have reason to believe that private groups will continue to play an important role. It is most important that voluntary agencies be supported fully during the period that lies before us.

This war has brought untold suffering and sorrow to the people of the world. It has been particularly severe on the Jewish population, which has been reduced nearly one-third by the atrocities of Hitler. Jews and Christians alike have shed dry, bitter tears at the unspeakable atrocities committed on the body and mind of man. The time for tears is almost over. The time for constructive action is near. Determined men and women must soon pick up the pieces of our civilization, reassemble them, and move forward into a world of peace, where human dignity and the brotherhood of man may once more prevail.

000152

CONFIDENTIAL

NYC 304,271-C

K KELLER HIAS
92084

RCAC

9/25/44 9/26/44

HBELG 928014 GENEVE VIARCA 358 25 1128 NLT

TO CLARENCE PICKETT
TWENTY SOUTH TWELFTH

FROM MARJORIE MCCLELLAND

PHILADELPHIA

B 7000

NSL

*10/2/45
no objection
to release*

SEE NOTES

SG THIRTYNINE ACKNOWLEDGE TGS FIFTYFIVE FIFTYSIXSEVEN STOP
DEVOUTLY WISH WE COULD UNTANGLE TRANSFER SITUATION AS WE
EXPERIENCING AS GREAT DIFFICULTIES HERE AS YOU UNDOUBTEDLY
THERE STOP SWISS AUTHORITIES GRANTED US TWENTYFIVE HUNDRED
DOLLARS TOTAL MONTHLY QUOTA CONVERSION INTO SWISS FRANCS FOR
REFUGEE TRANSFERS THIS LIMIT NATURALLY INCLUDES ANY FRANCS WHICH
THEY MAY LATER BLOCK BECAUSE RECIPIENT INTERNED STOP ACCEPTING
TRANSFERS FOR INTERNEES THEREFORE AUTOMATICALLY REDUCES AMOUNT

(CONT/)

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NYC 304,271-C

92084

RCAC

9/25/44 9/26/44

-2-

HBELG 828014 GENEVE VIARCA 358 25 1128 NLT

TO CLARENCE PICKETT

FROM MARJORIE MCCLELLAND

AVAILABLE FOR PERSONS OUTSIDE STOP MANY INTERNED BENEFICIARIES
HAVE SPECIFICALLY REQUESTED CESSATION TRANSFERS UNDER THESE
CONDITIONS STOP SINCE RECEIVING TGS FIFTYTHREEFOUR HAVE
VAINLY SOUGHT CLEAR STATEMENT SWISS AUTHORITIES THAT THIS
AMOUNT BE CONSIDERED OUT OF QUOTA NATIONAL BANK REFUSES
DECIDE AND MATTER NOW SUBMITTED DEPARTMENT POLITIQUE AWAITING
DECISION STOP MEANWHILE HAVE PAID REMAINDER AUGUST QUOTA AND
ALL SEPTEMBER QUOTA THESE TRANSFERS CHOOSING BENEFICIARIES NOT
INTERNED STOP REMAIN UNPAID FOLLOWING BENEFICIARIES MOSTLY
(CONT.)

000154

92084

RCAC

9/25/44 9/26/44

-3-

HBLG SZ8014 GENEVE VIARCA 358 25 1128 NLT

TO CLARENCE PICKETT

FROM MARJORIE MCCLELLAND

INTERED TG FIFTYTHREE KURT ACKERMANN COMMA HANS AUERBACH
COMMA SERGE BERNICKER COMMA ERNEST ELIZABETH FISCHER COMMA
ALBERTO HAIMANN COMMA ERNEST HURWITZ COMMA MAURICE KOHN
COMMA LILLY AMEGG KRAMARZ COMMA BERT SCHAUN COMMA RUDI
SMUTEK COMMA MARKUS SOJFER COMMA GRETA STEINSCHNEIDER STOP
TG FIFTYFOUR UMBERTO NELLY BASSAN COMMA ERICH BODENHEIMER
COMMA FANNY ANNA GLASER COMMA FREIDRICH JOSEF GROSS COMMA
OTHON GUMBEL COMMA IRMA HOENIGSBERG COMMA ERICH ELSE KAHN
COMMA RUDOLF LEDER COMMA ELSA MOHR COMMA GRETA MARX SANDERS
(CONT.)

000655

NYC 304,271-C

WELLER HIAS
92084

RCAC

9/25/44 9/26/44

-4-

HBELG SZ8014 GENEVE VIARCA 358 25 1128 NLT

TO CLARENCE PICKETT

FROM MARJORIE MCCLELLAND

COMMA KAETHE SCHAPIRA COMMA GEORGETTE SCHULER COMMA ALEX
SCHWARZ COMMA SELMA STEINBERG COMMA JOHANNA RUDOLF STRAUSS
STOP IF NOT PERMITTED CONSIDER THESE TWO TGS OUT OF QUOTA
AND IF WE PAY ABOVEMENTIONED BENEFICIARIES IN OCTOBER WE WILL
HAVE APPROXIMATELY FIFTEENHUNDRED DOLLARS REMAINING OCTOBER
QUOTA TGS FIFTYFIVE FIFTYSIXSEVEN WILL THEN BE COMPLETELY
LIQUIDATED IN DECEMBER IF WE OBLIGED CONTINUE THIS ARRANGE-
MENT STOP IMPOSSIBLE LOCATE GERTRUDE ALTMANN TG FORTYFIVE
REFUND DONOR STOP FULL ADDRESS ERNA ABRAHAM WOHLFARTH IS
(CONT.)

000656

K KELLER HIAS
92084

RCAC

9/25/44 9/26/44

-5-

HBELG SZ8014 GENEVE VIARCA 358 25 1128 NLT

TO CLARENCE PICKETT

FROM MARJORIE MCCLELLAND

VILLA WALDRUH BOCKTEN BEI SIBBACH BASELLAND STOP INFORM ER-
HARD BRASSLOFF ONESIXTEEN WEST HUNDREDTHIRD NEWYORK GEORGE
BRASSLOFF REFUGEECAMP OLSBERG ARGOVIE ANXIOUS FOR NEWS HIS
MOTHER IN LONDON STOP WILHELMINA CABELLA SCHMOLKOVA CARE
PROFESSOR REICHSTEIN UNIVERSITY BASEL ASKS TINI POLLAK TWO-
TWENTYONE WEST FIFTYSEVENTH NEWYORK DEPOSIT FURTHER REMIT-
TANCES SWISS BANK CORPORATION NEWYORK WHICH SHOULD INFORM ADLER
BANK ZURICH VERY GRATEFUL HER HELP.

(CONT.)

700657

NYC 304,271-C

K KELLER HIAS
92084

RCAC

9/25/44 9/26/44

-6-

HBELG 828014 GENEVE VIARCA 358 25 1128 NLT

TO CLARENCE PICKETT

FROM MARJORIE MCCLELLAND

TEXT: SWISS BANK CORP. (SOCIETE DE BANQUE SUISSE) (SCHWEIZERISCHER
BANKVEREIN) (SOCIETA DI BANCA SVIZZERA) SWITZ. & NYC SWI/132 YT
4601, 8335

ADLER & CO A G ZURICH, SWITZ Y 4832, 3239.

000158

Chairman, RUFUS M. JONES

Telephone
RITTENHOUSE 9372

Executive Secretary, CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7, ★ Pennsylvania

September 9, 1944

Miss Florence Hodel
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Hodel:

This is to let you know that we have requested air priorities to England for both Rodolfo Olgiati and Margaret Frawley.

Leslie Heath has asked me to keep you up to date on this, and I think there is no doubt that Mr. Olgiati will move shortly, on the basis of support from the Swiss Legation. We may want to see you some time in the near future with regard to Miss Frawley.

Sincerely yours,

James Andrews, Jr.
James Andrews, Jr.
Administrative Assistant
Foreign Service Section

Jde

9/12/44
War Refugee Board
Philadelphia
9/12/44

000159

Telephone
PHILADELPHIA 1112

2618

Executive Secretary, CLARENCE E. POULTY

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

June 20, 1944

19 H. E.
117th Authority
70-100
Ans. 2/1/44
No Ans. Req.
Initial
Date

In reply please
refer to: 2648

JUL 4 1944

Dear Mrs. Schauffler:

Thank you for your letter of June 20, 1944, concerning persons seeking assistance in problems involving individual refugees.

We will hereafter suggest to persons appealing to the Board in cases of this kind that they refer their problem to any one of the organizations which we list as in a position to be of possible help to them. I appreciate your bringing this matter to our attention.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Mrs. Marjorie Page Schauffler,
Associate Secretary,
Refugee Division,
American Friends Service Committee,
20 South 12th Street,
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania.

EBT EB Towler:agr 6-30-44 Jca -

000160

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

June 20, 1944

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. 74/44 _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

Miss Florence Model
War Refugee Board
Room 233, U.S. Treas. Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Model:

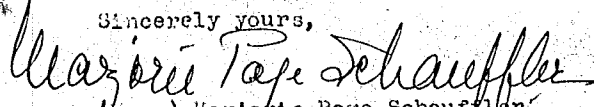
We wonder if it is to your attention that we should bring one matter which it occurs to us may tend to cause confusion in future operations:

We have recently received a request from Mrs. Jerry Savakis, 204 E. Main St., Alliance, Ohio, asking us to assist her in bringing to this country her husband's father, George Savakis, who is now in the Moses Wells camp in Egypt. She states that she is writing to us on account of the suggestion of Mr. Pehle that she consult our agency.

On clearing this case with the Central Index for Refugee Cases in New York, we have discovered that as a result of Mr. Pehle's suggestion, Mrs. Savakis also wrote for advice to the Joint Distribution Committee and to the American Committee for Christian Refugees. It may well be that she wrote to other agencies as well.

We recognize very clearly the fact that a Government office cannot suggest the use of any one particular agency when there are several available to give the required service, but we would suggest that either in conversation with persons who consult the Board, or in letters to persons in the United States asking for migration assistance, it might be emphasized that they should consult only one of the agencies mentioned which could give assistance to them. If the particular one which they write to is not appropriate, they will be referred to another, but a good deal of unnecessary confusion may result if any number of them write to several at the same time.

Sincerely yours,


(Mrs.) Marjorie Page Schauffler
Associate Secretary, Refugee Division

MPB:acb


100661

Chairman, RUFUS M. JONES

Telephone: RITTENHOUSE 9372

Executive Secretary, CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7  Pennsylvania

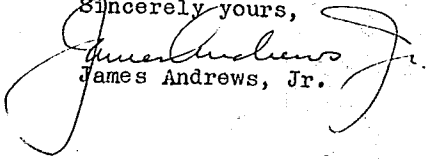
July 3, 1944

Miss Florence Hodel
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Hodel:

We wish to thank you for your
support of the travel of Russell W. Richie. Mr.
Richie left for Lisbon last week.


Sincerely yours,


James Andrews, Jr.

JA bd

200662

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

June 2, 1944

Mr. Lesser
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

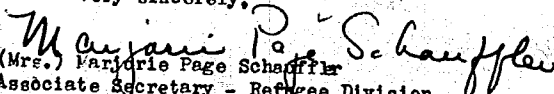
Dear Mr. Lesser:

We wonder if you would be willing to raise with Ross McClelland on our behalf two points which I am indicating in very brief form suitable for inclusion in a cable if that, as we suppose, is the only current method you have of communicating with Mr. McClelland:

Is there possibility developing plan for hospital internment Switzerland of selected civilian prisoners now held Germany or occupied countries which could balance similar treatment afforded German prisoners Great Britain or U.S., comma Precedent last war stop Can you handle requests regarding individual problems of hospitalized and/or ill refugees in occupied territory and refer to proper sources for help? If so, should we inform you direct or through Geneva office comma if in occasional instances you can recommend plans we glad secure necessary cooperation relatives here for funds or other help.

If these questions are already answered to your satisfaction and you can advise us about them or if you feel that they cannot properly be raised, please have no hesitation in letting us know. In any case, the wording suggested above is, of course, subject to any changes you see fit.

Very sincerely,


(Mrs.) Marjorie Page Schaffler
Associate Secretary - Refugee Division

WPS/DER

000663


Chairman, RUFUS M. JONES

Telephone: RITTENHOUSE 9372

Executive Secretary, CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia 7  Pennsylvania

May 19, 1944

*file
JWB*

Mr. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Pehle:

Mr. Pickett appreciates your willingness to see him and Mr. Noble on Tuesday, May 23. As suggested, he will telephone you upon arrival in order to make a definite appointment.

Sincerely yours,

Blanche C. Zache
Secretary to Mr. Pickett

BCT

000664

May 16, 1944.

Dear Mr. Pickett:

Reference is made to your letter of
May 15, 1944.

I shall be glad to see you and Mr. Noble
on Tuesday, May 23, and suggest that you call my
office upon your arrival in order to make a definite
appointment. The telephone number is Executive 6400,
Extension 5371.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director.

Clarence E. Pickett, Executive Secretary,
American Friends Service Committee,
20 South Twelfth Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

JWP
h
JWPehle:lh 5/16/44

000165

C
O
P
Y

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

May 16, 1944

Hon. Adolf A. Berle, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of State
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Re: Gerard and Hans Schmidt, Algiers

Dear Mr. Berle:

Following my conversation with you by telephone on May 12, we have considered at length the State Department's administrative problem in regard to granting a visa for these men which might be viewed as a precedent for other somewhat similar cases.

There are several special circumstances about the Schmidts which in all likelihood would not apply to the others and which would seem to present good ground for an exception on their behalf:

1. These two men were actually employed by the American Government in the Civil Affairs Branch of the Allied Force Headquarters.

2. In order to qualify for such employment, they were investigated and passed by the U.S. Army Intelligence Division (G-2), Atlantic Base Section, under Colonel Randolph. (Mr. Culbert, now in the Fairchild Aircraft Engine Corporation, New York City, who was Civil Affairs officer in Casablanca at the time, can be consulted on this point.

3. A letter dated April 23 from our representative in Algiers, Kendall Kimberland, shows what appears to be the approval of the American military authorities in North Africa for the Schmidt brothers' immigration to the United States. This letter quotes the branch of the American Army which deals with the French Department des Services Militaires, of which the American military had made a formal inquiry as to whether the French internment could be avoided. The reply was in the negative, but a delay until May 15 was granted. Mr. Kimberland quotes the Army letter as follows: "We hope that this delay (the agreement of the DEM to postpone internment until May 15) will allow you to obtain a favorable answer from the State Department."

These circumstances are of course additional to the fact that these men are sons of a German professor who, with his family, was exiled because of his anti-Nazi position; that, as refugee residents of France, they enlisted in the French Foreign Legion to fight against Nazi Germany; and that after their demobilization they suffered internment in North Africa in the period before the Allied Occupation, when its government was clearly under German influence.

100166

While the alternative of enlistment in the British Pioneer Corps is, as far as we know, still available to the Schmidt brothers as a recourse from the threatened internment by French authorities, it is unquestionably damaging to American prestige in North Africa for the United States not to be able itself to offer protection from such internment to men who have been in U.S. Government employ as well as in the employ of a well-known American organization closely associated with Government activities in North Africa, in which position they gave aid to refugees without regard to race, creed, or politics. The resort to British protection seems inadvisable.

The viewpoint of French officials in regard to the American position in this matter was expressed to our representative, Mr. Heath, in November, 1943, by M. Dugardier, at that time Chef du Cabinet des Affaires Politiques at Rabat. He stated that, after all, America had a real responsibility in the refugee problem, since, although Americans complained of the treatment refugees received in North Africa, they were unwilling to do anything themselves for these refugees.

You raised questions in our talk as to whether these young men, if allowed to enter the United States, would not immediately be interned, and, if not interned, whether they could, as they desire to do, enter the U.S. Armed Services. We have made inquiries on these points of the Alien Enemy Control Unit and have been informed that there is no reason whatever to expect that the Schmidt brothers would be interned if they were accepted into the United States. The fact that they are former German nationals of military age does not constitute a ground for internment. The only such ground would be suspicion or proof of subversive attitudes or activities, and since they have already been investigated and cleared by Army Intelligence in North Africa, there is no reason to expect that they would not satisfactorily pass all inquiries in the United States.

There is precedent, according to the Alien Enemy Control Unit, for the acceptance into the American Armed Services of former German nationals who have been admitted to the United States since its entry into the war. One such young man was admitted from North Africa and two German nationals brought by the Justice Department from Latin American countries as internees have been found to be acceptable for release and have been accepted into the U.S. Armed Services.

Very sincerely,

Clarence E. Pickett

Copy to Howard K. Travers

100167

Chairman, RUFUS M. JONES

Telephone
RITTENHOUSE 9372

Executive Secretary, CLARENCE E. PICKETT

729

American Friends Service Committee W. R. B.

20 South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia  Pennsylvania

May 15, 1944

Filing Authority

In: Files

Ans.

No. Ans. Req.

Final

Date

5/16/44

Mr. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Mr. Lindsley Noble, who was a member of our staff in Vichy France before November, 1942 and who recently returned from Baden-Baden on the Gripsholm, has brought a considerable body of information of an accounting nature, which he would like to discuss with you.

We plan to be in Washington on Tuesday, May 23. Would it be possible for us to see you on that day?

I hope at that time we may have an opportunity to discuss war refugee matters a bit also.

Very sincerely yours,



Clarence E. Pickett
Executive Secretary

CEP pc

100168

Dear Mr. Noble:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 3,
1944, enclosing the photograph of Mr. McClelland. Mr. Pehle
was very interested in seeing this and appreciates your
courtesy in sending it on to me.

Sincerely yours,

Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant to the Director

Mr. Lindsley H. Noble,
American Friends Service
Committee,
20 South 12th Street,
Philadelphia, 7, Pennsylvania.

Enclosure.

*Original signed by
Eric Hodel*

FH:lab 5/8/44


000669

Chairman, RUFUS M. JONES

Telephone: RITTENHOUSE 9372

Executive Secretary, CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7  Pennsylvania

May 3, 1944

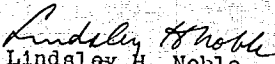
Miss Florence Hodel
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Hodel:

Since you expressed an interest in the appearance of Roswell McClelland, who is now working with your organization, I am sending a photograph taken in 1942 which may interest you. Mr. McClelland is the man on the extreme left. Beside him is his wife.

I should be glad to have this photograph returned when it has served its purpose, as it is my only copy.

Sincerely yours,


Lindsley H. Noble

LHN:EW

000170

CONTROL COPY

4 - War Refugee
Bd (Mr. Behl)
File

CM-220

This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency. (BR)

Algiers

Dated April 25, 1944

Rec'd 3:18 a.m., 26th

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1361, April 25, 3 p.m.

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD FROM ACKERMAN WAR REFUGEE
REPRESENTATIVE NO. 15.

Can you advise on present policy with respect to immigration to United States of stateless persons especially those of military age and those who have been of assistance to Allied forces over here. Representative of American Friends Service Committee has just called to my attention cases of Gerard and Hans Schmidt who are threatened with internment by French. Immigration applications have been on file since 1943 and are apparently well supported by American officials over here. Suggest you inquire into these cases and advise promptly. There are several similar cases which may arise in near future and knowledge of United States policy will help in solving them.

CHAPIN

RR

000671

April 6, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

James Andrews of the American Friends inquired today concerning a message which Roswell McClelland gave the American Legation in Bern on March 6 with respect to future arrangements for his office. The American Friends have received a cable from McClelland calling their attention to the aforementioned message.

I advised Mr. Andrews that we had not yet received this message but that we would check with the State Department and let him know when it is received.

Mr. Andrews also stated that any press release we issue on McClelland's appointment should be cleared with John Rich, Head of the American Friends' publicity department in Philadelphia.

F. Hodel

*4/20/44 Cleared press release with
Miss Foley - asst. to Mr. Rich.*

000672

April 6, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

James Andrews of the American Friends inquired today concerning a message which Roswell McClelland gave the American Legation in Bern on March 6 with respect to future arrangements for his office. The American Friends have received a cable from McClelland calling their attention to the aforementioned message.

I advised Mr. Andrews that we had not yet received this message but that we would check with the State Department and let him know when it is received.


Mr. Andrews also stated that any press release we issue on McClelland's appointment should be cleared with John Rich, Head of the American Friends' publicity department in Philadelphia.

F. Hodel

FH:lab 4/7/44

000673

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7,  Pennsylvania

March 14, 1944

Mr. John Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

We telegraphed you today as follows:

COMMITTEE PREFERENCES OMISSION OUR NAME PUBLICITY RE
McCLELLAND STOP WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION
WASHINGTON THURSDAY STOP LETTER FOLLOWS

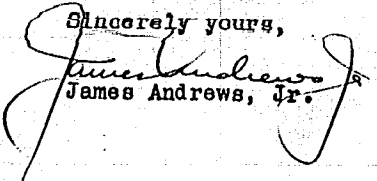
When I talked with you a couple of weeks ago I think I brought out the fact that the Committee might feel apprehensive about our men carrying the Quaker name into their new work, should they accept your invitation. Therefore the above telegram expresses our desires in this connection.

Naturally we are very complimented that Roswell McClelland is sufficiently well qualified in your opinion to fill the position as Special Attache to the Embassy. Our feeling is based upon our long experience in dealing in work abroad and is not intended as a reflection on those phases of your work which may be very necessary but which we are not in a position to endorse as our own. Whether Mr. McClelland can ultimately return to our work is a question in our minds dependent upon the circumstances at the time.

With regard to Mr. McClelland's draft status, this now ceases to be our responsibility, but the question is probably academic, since Mr. McClelland was abroad at the time the draft act was adopted, and as far as we know has registered with the American authorities in Switzerland. For your information, such persons as have been classified for our work here by individual draft boards have usually carried the classification of II-A.

I am looking forward to seeing you on Thursday, if that proves to be convenient, and will call Miss Hodel as soon as I reach Washington.

Sincerely yours,


James Andrews, Jr.

JA bd

200674

TO:

Miss Hodel Room 1

From Virginia Mannon

Mr. Shaeffer

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JOHN PEHLE

WAR REFUGEE BOARD TREAS BLDG WASHDC

COMMITTEE PREFERS OMISSION OUR NAME PUBLICITY RE MCCLELLAND

STOP WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR CONSULTATION WASHINGTON THURSDAY

STOP LETTER FOLLOWS

JAMES ANDREWS.

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WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Executive Office of the President
Washington

FOR RELEASE

RELEASE NO. 5

John W. Pehle, Acting Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, today announced the appointment of Roswell McClelland as the Board's special representative in Bern, Switzerland, assigned as special attache to the Legation on war refugee matters.

The new appointee is the second representative named by the Board to develop programs and implement measures for the rescue, maintenance and relief of Jews and other persecuted minorities in Europe. Ira Hirschmann was recently designated as the Board's representative in Ankara, Turkey.

Mr. McClelland has been identified with the American Friends Service Committee's refugee work for the last four years. In 1940 he was in charge of the Committee's office in Rome, working with Jewish and Catholic groups who were aiding refugees in leaving the country. In 1941 he worked with the Quaker Center in Marseille, France. In 1942 he was placed in charge of the Committee's work in Geneva, Switzerland.

A native of California, he received his early education in Switzerland. He is a graduate of Duke University and received a Master of Arts degree from Columbia University. He is the son of Ross St. John McClelland of Los Angeles, investment banker and pioneer in long distance electric power transmission.

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March 23, 1944

Foreign Economic Administration

CONTROL COPY

AMEMBRY,

LONDON.

2217, Twenty-third
FRANK KELLEY AND SON, LTD.

Our A-363, March 8.

In addition to the application by the American Friends Service Committee for clothing to Sweden, the Save the Children Foundation has now filed application to export three tons of clothing of value \$10,000 to its corresponding association "Sparckia Hamnen" in Stockholm, for distribution to refugee children in Sweden. According to the applicant space is being reserved for this shipment onboard Swedish vessel sailing from New Orleans around MAY April first.

We have no objection to this shipment but we propose to ascertain what the attitude of the Swedish Government is as explained in our reference telegram.

Please present to Relief Subcommittee for immediate action.

HULL
(C.H.)

DO NOT REPLY

WTSono
Liaison:
BA-813-HEKiser
3/20/44
cc: Powell

200478

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

TO Mr. Friedman

FROM Mr. Akzin

✓
File
DATE 8837

March 17, 1944.

Subject: Comments on the Second Part of the Friends' Memorandum

Ad I. Since we authorize JDC and others to send money to Switzerland and since we ourselves send money to the International Red Cross for the same purpose, there should be no objection to the proposal. To avoid complications, it is better to envisage that the actual work in enemy territory be accomplished by Friends from neutral countries and not by American Friends.

Ad II. There are precedents for it, and I don't see any objection to accepting this proposal.

Ad III. It might be useful to consult the Red Cross first. If the Red Cross does not present any varied arguments against the Friends' proposal, it might be given serious consideration. Offhand, however, I don't see why the Friends would enjoy greater latitude in this respect than the Red Cross, except perhaps in connection with the Friends' participation in Projects I and IV.

Ad IV. I like the idea very much. It is also in line with the Standish memorandum on Spain. The Friends' proposal might also be made use of in order to bring in United States civilian personnel into North African camps. I know that the British have proposed to staff these camps with British personnel exclusively, but there is no reason why American civilians should not participate in this work, and there are many reasons why their participation is desirable.

One should consider, however, whether any camps should be put exclusively under the management of the Friends or whether it would not be better to staff them with personnel from various welfare organizations and free them from the exclusive jurisdiction of a single welfare group.

Representation
Ad Reception of Stateless Refugees

This is a complicated question involving the passport issue raised by Standish and several other issues. How about a conference between a few people in this Office to consider its various angles?

100479

1.

MEMORANDA SENT FROM THE AFSC TO THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD
APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT BY EXECUTIVE ORDER
ON JANUARY 22, 1944

The Board is composed of Secretaries Hull, Stimson and Morgenthau. John Pehle of the Treasury Department is Acting Executive Director. Mr. Pehle requested suggestions from our Committee (and a number of others) as to: 1) what immediate action the Board might usefully take to aid and rescue racial, religious and political refugees from Europe, and 2) what cooperation our Committee could give.

The Memoranda were sent under cover of the following letter:

Mr. John Pehle
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

February 25, 1944

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am sending you herewith memoranda covering suggestions for the War Refugee Board in response to your letter of February 8.

As you will note, there are two memoranda, one listing certain suggestions as to action which our Committee believes might be taken by the United States Government in aid to refugees at this time, either through the War Refugee Board itself or upon its impetus. The other memorandum deals with action which our Committee is willing to consider taking in cooperation with the War Refugee Board or other agencies, should conditions and available personnel permit.

As you will see, both memoranda contain suggestions which undoubtedly are "visionary". It is the feeling of our Committee that at times, there is value in expressing and discussing visions; and in taking whatever action may be practically possible in the light of the action which we all know should be taken.

Concerning the proposals as to action by our own Committee, we would not wish to be considered as committed to all of them as, obviously, several are only in the stage of preliminary proposal and require grave consideration as to the possibilities of realization and the availability of suitable personnel.

These memoranda have been prepared in consultation with our entire Foreign Service Staff and Section and with our advisor, Professor Hertha Kraus of Bryn Mawr College. Both she and our staff member, Mrs. Marjorie Page Schauffler, will be glad to discuss the various suggestions with you or your staff in greater detail when this may be feasible.

It need hardly be said that our Committee warmly welcomes the appointment of the War Refugee Board, and your own earnest concern in the refugee problem. /s/Clarence E. Pickett.

100180

Outline of Memorandum I to Mr. John Pehle

Re Program of War Refugee Board

From A.F.S.C.

General Statement re U.S. - Responsibility for Refugee Aid

A. Appeals to Germany and Other Axis Belligerents for Release of Racial and Religious Minorities.

I. Appeals to Germany.

- a. Release of entire Jewish minority resident in Axis territory, support to be guaranteed by U.S. (and Britain?) until national governments and UNRRA assume.
- b. Release of successive groups of 1000 children under 12 and elderly over 60, financing same as (a.) (Possibly include 10% Germans for health care and relief from war conditions.)
- c. Permission for trains under safe conduct from Switzerland to Spain and Portugal.
- d. Exchange of German civilian internees for Jewish minority groups.
- e. Package service enlarged or food draft plan instituted for Poland and elsewhere.

II. Appeals to Hungary, Bulgaria and Roumania, encouraging aid, clemency, and relaxation of border controls, as policies acceptable to Allied Nations.

B. Efforts to Extend Refugee Aid in Occupied Countries.

- I. Permission and encouragement for transmittal of funds to agencies in neutral countries for re-transmittal to Occupied countries.
- II. Money transmittals for food purchases in neutral countries for shipment to Occupied countries.
- III. Increase of package reserve of International Red Cross to permit more for Civilian internees.
- IV. Encouragement of agencies with contacts in Occupied countries to assist movement of refugees.
- V. When effective measures set up, short wave to encourage such movement.

100181

C. Strengthening Russian Aid to Refugee.

- I. Offers of financing, supplies, transportation out of war areas or out of Russia if best. Shelter offered in sanctuary areas.

D. Efforts to Strengthen Neutral Countries.

- I. Financing support of refugees in homes or group care.
- II. Increasing food allotments permitted through blockade for nationals and refugees, paid for by country. Contribution of additional food.
- III. Permission for American personnel to augment staffs of refugee agencies.
- IV. Duration shelter care of maximum number of refugees in addition to those now being given temporary care.
- V. Prompt movement of excess refugees to other shelter areas.

E. Provision of Shelter Communities for "Duration" care by UNRRA and Other Forms of Shelter Care.

Discussion of function, criteria for selection of such areas, and what areas might be suitable in:

- I. Europe
- II. Africa and Asia
- III. Western Hemisphere

a. U. S. Visa Policy

- (1) Quiet liberalization to greatest extent possible.
- (2) Abandonment of "relatives clause".
- (3) Simplification of procedure.
- (4) Issuance of U.S. transits for Mexico, etc., without elaborate procedure.

b. Canada

- (1) Financial assistance to encourage liberal immigration.
- (2) Shelter care for those destined for later permanent settlement in Western Hemisphere.

c. Mexico

- (1) Immediate visas for 1600 Spaniards in North Africa.

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4.
February 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM I. TO: Mr. John Pehle

FROM: American Friends Service Committee

RE: Suggestions for Action by the War Refugee Board or to be
Effected through its Impetus:

General Statement re U. S. Responsibility for Refugee Aid

The Government of the United States has, in recent years, taken leadership in inter-governmental planning on behalf of refugees. In comparison with its resources and power, the United States has, however, extended little practical assistance or hospitality to refugees.

The official concern expressed in the formation of the War Refugee Board should, in our judgment, be implemented by as extensive and varied benefits to refugees as are practicable under present conditions. Otherwise it may be viewed as another well-meaning but futile gesture. For the same reason great care should be taken not to publicize plans in advance of their accomplishment or of demonstrated assurance that they can be accomplished. We feel there is a great weight upon the people of the United States to use their power and position effectively as an expression of deep humanitarian concern.

It is recognized that refugees in Japanese held territory - some 21,000 in Shanghai alone - are in danger as critical as that in Europe. It is probably impossible to effect their rescue now. The attached suggestions, therefore, deal only with minorities in European countries.

Whatever program can be undertaken by the War Refugee Board should be free from any discrimination whatever as to race, nationality, class, politics or religion. Such a policy is the essence of the humanitarian effort which has been publicly announced. All agencies and individuals cooperating with the Board should accept it without reservation.

The War Refugee Board has a responsibility, in addition to its service functions, to stimulate appropriate agencies to educate the American public as to the basic significance of refugee aid. Our public should recognize that in the threat to persecuted minorities in Europe and Asia the freedom and welfare of all individuals, in the United States as well as elsewhere, is threatened and that the obvious risks entailed in a program of practical refugee aid must be accepted in the long-term public interest. Such education will prepare the country to withstand later pressures toward selfish and short-sighted isolationism.

A. - APPEALS TO GERMANY AND OTHER AXIS BELLIGERENTS FOR RELEASE OF
RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES:

An emergency program under existing conditions will obviously focus chiefly upon neutral countries and contact through them with persons in occupied territory. However, an appeal to the German Government and its satellite belligerents for cooperation in evacuation of the racial and religious minorities seems justified as a statement of humanitarian concern and as an encouragement to the morale of refugees in Europe,

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even if it should prove futile in practice. Therefore the following requests might be made:

I. - APPEALS TO GERMANY:

(a) Release of entire Jewish minority resident in Axis territory.

That the entire Jewish minority still resident in Axis and Occupied countries be released, their support in neutral and sheltered areas for the "duration" to be guaranteed by the United States (and Great Britain?), with the expectation that the other Allied Governments will assume financial responsibility for their own nationals, and that UNRRA will later assume responsibility for administering and financing such a program. Because of labor shortage, it is entirely unlikely that Germany would accede to such a proposal, but unless the United States is ready to make it, our indignant protests against German extermination policy are vulnerable.

(b) Release of successive groups of 1,000 children under 12 and elderly over 60.

That successive groups of 1000 Jewish children under 12 and elderly people over 60 be permitted to enter Switzerland, Sweden, Portugal and Turkey for temporary residence and to enter Spain for transit to North Africa. Financing of their care in these countries to be guaranteed by United States Government or private agencies until assumed by other governments and UNRRA. Additional supplies and food to be permitted to go into those countries for their support.

(An added inducement to German agreement might be to permit 10% of the total released to be German children and aged persons admitted to Switzerland and/or other neutral countries for health care and removal from pressure of war conditions.)

(c) Permission for trains under safe conduct.

That trains under safe conduct carry refugees now in Switzerland to Spain and Portugal for transfer to shelter camps in North Africa or elsewhere, thus relieving pressure in Switzerland and encouraging further movement from occupied countries into Switzerland.

(In any of the three above proposals adequate health controls would be assumed. It might be possible for neutral delegates to meet the parties within the German border to guard against the inclusion of undue proportions of the mentally and physically incapacitated, and to prevent last minute blocking of plans. Precautions should also be taken to exclude from the ranks of refugees any enemy agents who could be identified.)

(d) Exchange of German civilian internees for Jewish minority groups.

That United States offer further exchanges of German civilian internees for Jewish minority groups (too dangerous to name or list specific individuals among latter).

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(e) Package service enlarged or food draft plan.

That package service to individuals be enlarged; or a food draft plan established (as in Poland during last war) to permit bulk food shipments into occupied areas for distribution to individuals under auspices of international organizations. This proposal appears particularly vital for Poland at present.

II. - APPEALS TO HUNGARY, BULGARIA AND ROUMANIA.

Since these countries are obviously shaken in their Axis allegiance, it might be useful to make formal representations to them through diplomatic channels as to the urgent desire of the United States that all possible aid and clemency be extended to refugees - particularly racial and religious minorities - with the implication that improvement in their internal policy in this matter and all possible relaxation of border controls would benefit their later standing with the United States and other Allied Nations.

B. - EFFORTS TO EXTEND REFUGEE AID IN OCCUPIED COUNTRIES:

I. - Permission and encouragement for transmittal of funds to such agencies in neutral countries as can in turn transfer them to occupied areas for refugee support and travel.

II. - Money Transmittals for Food Purchases

Transmittal of funds to Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey and Portugal for immediate food purchases of such articles as can be exported from those countries and distribution to refugees through agencies in occupied areas.

III. - Increase of Package Reserve

Increase of the package reserve of the International Red Cross for prisoners of war and civilian internees to permit greater proportions to be sent to civilian internees through the Red Cross package distributing centers in Switzerland. (Stateless refugees are particularly unfortunate since they at present have no government to cover them with a government allocation as is done for many nationals.)

IV. - Short-wave to Encourage Such Movement.

Providing effective measures are actually set up and not until then: encouragement, through short-wave and all other possible contacts with occupied territories, to those who have thus far been afraid to risk escape, by assurance that there is support and help waiting them in neutral and sheltered areas and practical financial and morale backing available from the United States.

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6.

V. - Movement of Refugees.

Encouragement of such agencies as have existing contacts in occupied areas to strengthen the effort of such contact groups in any way possible to assist the movement of refugees.

C. - STRENGTHENING RUSSIAN AID TO REFUGEES:

Financing, Supplies, Transportation out of War Areas or Out of Russia If Best. Shelter in Sanctuary Areas.

Soviet Russia's national policy toward minorities will incline her to aid Jews and other minorities found in Poland, Roumania, and other territories as the Eastern Front advances, to the greatest extent that war conditions may permit. It is obvious, however, that the strains of war conditions will make aid to civilians difficult and the United States and interested American agencies should extend the maximum aid to Russia that she would find acceptable in financing, in supplies and in provision of transportation and other assistance to these refugees to leave the belligerent areas and to leave Russia completely if this seems best. Refugees released by Russian war efforts should be included among those to be received in sheltered communities. (See Section E.)

D. - EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN NEUTRAL COUNTRIES; Switzerland, Sweden, Portugal, Turkey, Spain - to accept more refugees and for longer periods:

The chief practical outlet for emergency aid to refugees lies in the neutral countries and must utilize the agencies and individuals in those countries qualified to help. Forms of assistance which can be given to them immediately are the following:

I. - Financing Support

Financial contributions from American Government and American agencies for support of refugees in private families and under group care.

II. - Increasing Food Allotments. Contribution of Additional Food.

Increase of the food allotments which these neutrals have been permitted to buy outside the blockade area and transport through the blockade for their own use. Additional food supplies should be contributed from Government and private agency funds for similar shipment for the use of the nationals and foreign refugees in those countries.

(Could Argentina be encouraged to supply or increase food shipments to Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey, and Portugal as well as Spain?)

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III. - American Personnel to Augment Staffs of Refugee Agencies

Permission for American private agency personnel to be supplied as needed to refugee agencies in such neutral countries as can be reached, to supplement local staff.

IV. - Duration Shelter Care of Maximum Number of Refugees

Encouragement to neutral European countries to accept for "duration" care such substantial numbers of refugees as may be practicable in addition to those which they have already received. Offers of financing and personnel should be part of such encouragement, should these countries desire outside aid. Such offers might come from UNRRA and from appropriate private agencies. "Duration" sanctuary care has already been highly organized in Switzerland on a wise and humanitarian basis. Doubtless a similar development is under way in Sweden. Similar patterns might be developed in cooperation with UNRRA in the following countries: Turkey, Portugal, and possibly her colonies, and possibly in Ireland, should the governments of these countries be favorable. Should military movements around the British Isles make it possible, it might be very feasible to consider Eire, as an agricultural and predominantly Catholic country, as a desirable area for the development of temporary colonies for Catholic refugees. In the tiny neutral country of Lichtenstein care might possibly be arranged for a small number, perhaps in a special category, such as convalescents.

V. - Movement of Excess Refugees to other Shelter Areas

Prompt movement of refugees beyond the number that neutral countries can shelter for the "duration" to other nearby areas where shelter care could be advantageously arranged by UNRRA and sanctuary communities developed for that purpose. (See Section E.)

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E. PROVISION OF SHELTER COMMUNITIES FOR "DURATION" CARE BY UNRRA,
AND OTHER FORMS OF SHELTER CARE

The announcement and development of specific plans for such communities will be an immediate encouragement to refugees wherever they may be and a stimulus to them to move from overcrowded neutral countries to more satisfactory and constructive living conditions.

The provision of such shelter communities is undoubtedly a function of UNRRA. Private agencies may be able to give valuable supplementary aid in offering specialized services for which they are equipped in experience and personnel.

Shelter communities for European refugees should be located as close to Europe as possible. Criteria for the selection of such areas should include: Climate, space, population pressure, food and other necessary minimal supplies, materials for temporary housing, regional health conditions, facilities for adequate sanitation, the possibility of developing gardening for project subsistence, political climate and the psychological "feeling" of the refugees themselves-- (certain locations promote and are associated with violent prejudices and fears. From this point of view North Africa is questionable, because of its association with penal colonies, Foreign Legion and recent labor camp exploitation.)

There should be available employment or the feasibility of creating employment in the form of a) essential industries with transferrable equipment, or b) projects that will contribute to the development of the areas, such as irrigation.

Possible areas:

I. Europe:

neutral countries mentioned in Section B.

II. Africa and Asia:

North Africa

Egypt

Palestine

Turkey - See Section B

Iran and Iraq

III. Western Hemisphere:

It is evident that the United States and other Western countries cannot continue to urge upon other countries extended hospitality and direct aid to refugees and refrain from accepting some share in the total load. Toward this end various developments might be possible and effective:

a. U. S. Visa Policy

(1) Quiet liberalization of U. S. visa policy, within existing quota regulations, for persons in Europe and nearby areas who, now or later, could arrange transportation to the United States and who are acceptable under war conditions. Such a liberalization affecting people in the Iberian Peninsula early in 1943 did not have unfavorable political repercussions.

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(2) Abandonment of the policy of refusing visas to persons with relatives in occupied territory. This now seems to be unrealistic and has worked great hardship.

(3) Simplification of the now highly complicated visa application procedure as far as is consistent with public safety.

(4) Issuance of U. S. transit visas to immigrants to Mexico and other Western Hemisphere countries without elaborate procedure. Wives and children of Spanish refugees already settled in Mexico are experiencing months of delay in arranging travel from Spain to Mexico via United States.

b. Canada

(1) Financial assistance might be given to Canada to encourage her in liberalizing her immigration policy. Canada is psychologically acceptable to Europeans, whereas even temporary shelter in Latin American countries appears to them more hazardous.

(2) Canada might be encouraged to provide group shelter care for the "duration" for those who have plans to settle in other parts of the Western Hemisphere after the war, but who do not have time to complete those plans immediately. Financial assistance might be extended from the United States for such a project.

c. Mexico

Encouragement to the Mexican Government to grant visas immediately to 1600 Spanish refugees who have applied from North Africa for Mexican immigration. This matter has been pending for a year.

Outline of Memorandum II to Mr. John Pehle Re Proposals for Refugee Aid which the A.F.S.C. is Equipped to Take or Willing to Explore in Cooperation with the War Refugee Board

February 25, 1944

- I. Might it be possible for Quakers to request permission of German Government to undertake relief to Jews in Poland, either through Americans in safe conduct as relief workers, or through Swedish or Swiss Friends, if latter are willing.
- II.. Transmittal of funds to Friends in Switzerland.
- III. Location of refugees in Occupied areas.
- IV. Provision of personnel for shelter centers.
- V. Services in shelter centers appropriate for Friends.

Official Representation for Stateless Refugees

Proposal that Friends participate in official representation of interests of stateless refugees as well as in services for them, somewhat on pattern now carried on in Spain.

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MEMORANDUM II TO MR. JOHN PEHLE FROM A.F.S.C. RE PROPOSALS FOR REFUGEE AID WHICH THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE IS EQUIPPED TO TAKE OR WILLING TO EXPLORE IN COOPERATION WITH THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD

I. Relief to Jews in Poland - Since the plight of refugees in Poland is considered to be the worst of any area in Europe and since Quakers have a history of relief operations in Poland under war conditions, we wonder whether it might be possible to request the German Government to permit Quakers to undertake relief to Jews in Poland, either through Americans under special provision for safe conduct as relief workers, or through Swedish or Swiss Friends if latter are willing. We recognize that this is a bold and probably an impractical proposal, but Friends would be willing to make it should there seem a possibility of practical value to be obtained, either through the program or through the request for it.

It would be willing to approach the Russian Government with a similar request to cover such areas of Poland as they have occupied or will occupy in the next developments of the war.

II. Transmittal of Funds to Friends in Switzerland - To transmit funds to Friends in Switzerland and elsewhere for increased refugee aid,

III. Location of Jewish Refugees in Occupied Areas - To transmit to Quaker offices in neutral countries the names and last known addresses of refugees who have friends and relatives who could aid them through package service or otherwise if their present location and situation were verified. Such communication would require U.S. censorship approval now denied on the ground that the Red Cross can give such service. The demands and strictures upon the International Red Cross are currently so great, however, that they are not able to handle welfare inquiries concerning Jewish persons in occupied countries who are not nationals of those countries.

Whether the individuals could safely be searched for and information transmitted about their present whereabouts would have to be left to the discretion of local workers, but valuable aid might be rendered in numerous instances.

Lists for Switzerland would have to be transmitted by diplomatic pouch since letters and cables into Switzerland are subject to German censorship.

IV. Provision of Personnel for Shelter Centers - Quick development of shelter centers by UNRRA will demand A-1 priorities on materials and personnel. Even so there will be difficulty in supplying suitable personnel quickly.

100 to 200 able and technically equipped young men from Civilian Public Service Camps, under guidance of staff members experienced in work with refugees, might be provided at once if the former could be released from the restrictions now prohibiting them from work outside the United States. Additional men of Civilian Public Service could probably be freed and prepared for such service later. We believe that such service, which many persons interested in foreign service would not welcome, would be acceptable to these young men.

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Many services needed in shelter centers are ones for which women are either equally acceptable or more desirable than men, because the great majority of refugees in such centers are children, women, and elderly people, needing personal care.

V. Services in Shelter Centers Considered Particularly Appropriate for Friends - Personnel available through the American Friends Service Committee would seem best qualified for morale building services which are vitally important in removing from the shelter community the stigma of restricted "camp" life which has become associated in the minds of refugees with all the horrors of concentration and persecution. Such services are:

Friendly counselling, providing of information and guiding refugees to channels for locating friends and relatives in other countries.

- Work projects for young people.
- Organizing clubs and project activities for elderly people.
- Day and evening recreation.
- Informal youth and adult education, etc.

Providing from Civilian Public Service personnel, if they can be released, trained and expert technicians in agriculture and other fields.

Supplementary feeding for convalescents and such other selected groups as need special treatment.

OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION FOR STATELESS REFUGEES:

Problems of the Stateless:

Stateless refugees have no official government spokesman and therefore lack all governmental protection. They are the most helpless category in any group. (For example, according to a recent description of refugees in Shanghai, non-belligerents are best off, British and American next, then Central Europeans, and stateless at the bottom, relegated to a restricted area or ghetto.)

Stateless persons because of lack of official identification:

1. Cannot obtain legal residence permits; hence always open to police interference, arrest, imprisonment and/or deportation.
2. Cannot secure ration cards. Last and least fed in any shortage area.
3. Cannot travel, even locally.
4. Cannot obtain work permits even where work possible for foreigners.

Perhaps the most serious factor is their utter hopelessness regarding the future, arising from a sense that there is not only no home country to which one can return, but no responsible group upon which one has a claim or which will concern itself with one's welfare and future.

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Scope and Urgency of the Problem:

The enormous numbers of persons who have become stateless during recent years for political, racial or religious reasons create a vast problem which will take years to solve. Could an emergency measure be taken by a respected and responsible government or group as the first step toward organized assumption of responsibility for the stateless, the effect on morale can scarcely be exaggerated. Hundreds of thousands who cannot immediately be reached or benefited would be strengthened and encouraged to survive and to make efforts to help themselves and others. The practical benefits obtainable in a neutral area have already been demonstrated in Spain.

Suggestions for Emergency Action:

Official inter-governmental coverage of stateless persons should, and must, be arranged, but will require manifold national and international discussions and agreements. It is assumed that the Intergovernmental Committee, which now seems to be the appropriate body ultimately to assume the responsibility of representing and documenting stateless persons, is already exploring these national agreements. If its explorations could be brought to immediate fruition through American backing implemented by the War Refugee Board and world wide announcement made to that effect, that would be the best solution to be hoped. Failing such immediate inter-governmental coverage, the following interim measures might be taken, listed according to our judgment of their preferability:

1. Assumption of diplomatic responsibility for stateless persons, with provision of temporary identification papers as quickly as may be feasible, by the United States Government--acting where necessary through representatives of Switzerland as Protecting Power for the United States interests. (It is recognized that the assumption of this responsibility by a belligerent power would have certain disadvantages, but these would be counter-balanced by the value attached by most refugees to the United States as a country of traditional asylum and by the protection practically afforded by the powerful sponsorship of the United States to its Nationals and "wards"--as in Shanghai.)
2. Similar assumption of diplomatic responsibility by Switzerland. As a neutral, this would present some marked advantages over "1".
3. Failing Swiss ability, similar assumption by the Swedish Government.
4. Failing the possibility of any government either being able to assume the responsibility involved, or to act quickly to do so, could an association of private groups do so; at least rendering the service of representation to official bodies on behalf of stateless persons as has been done by the office in Madrid: "Representation in Spain of American Relief Agencies." (See attached AFSC bulletin on Spain of October 1943.) Some at least of the agencies represented

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in the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service would undoubtedly be interested in combining to give such service.

5. The Society of Friends, acting either through the American Friends Service Committee or jointly through the American Friends Service Committee and the Friends Service Council on behalf of British Friends, could probably participate:
 - a. with the Intergovernmental Committee or other appropriate intergovernmental agencies,
 - b. and/or with a group of private agencies

in offering official representation to stateless refugees, as well as providing services for them. Quaker delegates have directed such official representation and services in Spain under the sponsorship of the American Embassy and the Spanish Red Cross, and in North Africa as representatives of OFRRO. American Quakers would be willing to consider the extension of such responsibility to other areas on behalf of the stateless, and we believe that the British Friends might favorably consider cooperation in such a program.

000693

MAR 14 1944

Dear Mr. Andrews:

I have received your letter of March 8, 1944, concerning the transfer of money by relatives in this country to particular individuals in enemy or enemy-occupied territory.

The War Refugee Board is not prepared at this time to recommend to the Treasury Department that licenses be issued permitting such transfers.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. James A. Andrews,
American Friends Service Committee,
20 South Twelfth Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

*Copy to Mr. Schmidt with
copy of incoming letter.
EST*

*OK. Agnes
to Mr. Pehle*

FH:hd 3/11/44

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American Friends Service Committee
20 South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia ★ Pennsylvania

W. R. B. 299*
Filing Authority
To: Files 7/15/44
Ans. ✓ CNA
No. Ans. Req.
Initial JN
Date 3/14/44

March 8, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle,
War Refugee Board,
Room 2882
Treasury Building,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Pehle:

We should like to call some individual cases to your attention, so that you will understand a particular area of relief for refugees in occupied countries which we are anxious to see developed.

Under our license for transfers - with which service you are familiar - we send money from individuals here to refugees in Switzerland. Frequently, we are asked by relatives in this country if we can transfer money for them to an individual in Switzerland, who in turn will send money to a particular refugee in France. We are, of course, not able to make these transfers, but we believe that this service will be most beneficial and we should like to suggest that you explore these, both with the Treasury authorities, and with the Censors.

A case in point is that of Carl and Minna Bruchsaler, an elderly couple known to our staff in Marseille, during the days of the French transfers, when we sent regular maintenance transfers from the son, Dr. Fred Bruchsaler, in Dallas, Texas. Now Dr. Bruchsaler has heard that his parents are still in France, although word had reached him that they had been deported. His father is in a hospital near Marseille and his mother is in one of the refugee camps in that same area. They are being supported by a close relative, Mrs. Marie Squader, who lives in Zurich, Switzerland. Dr. Bruchsaler is very anxious to transfer money to Mrs. Squader so that she can continue this support of his parents. We believe this should be a legitimate transfer, but under the terms of our license, we are not permitted to make such a transfer.

We should now like to be able to assure many persons here that they can make transfers in this way. There may be some danger to the refugees in France if the last known addresses are included in our cable of instructions to our Geneva delegate. We would suggest to the censors, therefore, that in the case of those particular transfers we would give the name only of the ultimate beneficiary, putting that person in care of the intermediary in Switzerland, using the latter's Swiss address.

Thanking you very much indeed for your interest, and cooperation,

Sincerely yours,

James A. Andrews
James A. Andrews

mej:rjp

000695

AIRGRAM

NO. A 363

TIME 12:00 noon

AIRGRAM

Mar. 8, 1944

AMEMBASSY,

LONDON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

MAR 10 1944

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

FROM DEPARTMENT AND FEA, FOR ECONOMIC WARFARE DIVISION.

1. The American Friends Service Committee has submitted export license applications for the following two shipments:

- (1) Ten tons of men's, women's and children's new and used clothing shoes of total value \$20,000 to be consigned to Vamnernas Samfund (Society of Friends) Stockholm, Sweden for distribution to refugees who have come to Sweden from other parts of Europe. The applicant states in support of this request that it is already operating a transfer service of funds from this country for refugees located in Sweden, and that it is reported by the Society of Friends in Sweden that clothing for said refugees is urgently needed.
- (2) Ten tons of new and used men's, women's and children's clothing and shoes of value \$20,000., 6.5 tons condensed milk of value \$18,000., 31.5 tons of soup mix of value \$12,000, 31.5 tons whole wheat or oat bran cereal of value \$6000. These goods to be consigned to the International Red Cross at Geneva, Switzerland, and/or Secours Quaker, Marseilles, France for distribution to approximately 2,000 foreign refugees in French internment camps. In support of this application reference is made to the distribution of thirty-four tons of clothing sent from the U. S. by the Quakers to France in 1942, and more particularly to the report on such distribution, as prepared by the International Red Cross on August 25, 1943, and submitted to the British and American Governments. It is stated that ten tons of clothing will not meet the needs of all the internees but will provide for the most needy cases. With regard to above food supplies, it is estimated that they will provide sufficient supplementary rations for 2,000 internees during sixty days. A cable from Secours Quaker dated December 11, 1943, is quoted stating that they are prepared to carry on work in France without interference of any kind, and that they can maintain absolute control over all such distributions.

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363 to London

2. With regard to the clothing shipment to Sweden, we have no particular objection, as there probably is a definite need for such clothing in Sweden. If this view coincides with that of the sub-committee on relief in London, we propose to ascertain, before taking any other action, whether the Swedish Government would be agreeable to the shipment of this clothing to an individual relief organization in Sweden. In this connection, we have in mind the general assurances made to the Swedes concerning replacements through the blockade, in case of need, of food and clothing consumed by refugees in Sweden.

Regarding the proposed shipment to France, we feel that it would not be advisable to approve, although we realize that the particular refugees in question were granted a blockade concession in the past. However, said refugees would no longer appear to be more qualified for such blockade privileges than many others in similar circumstances in enemy territory.

Please present the above proposals to the sub-committee on relief for consideration.

Stettinius, acting

asb

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MAR 1 1944

In reply please
refer to: 230

Dear Mr. Pickett:

Thank you for your letter of February 25, 1944,
and the enclosed memoranda of suggestions to aid the Board
in formulating its programs.

I am glad to have your views on the problems with
which the Board is faced and I assure you that the proposals
which you have submitted will receive prompt and careful
consideration.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Clarence E. Pickett,
Executive Secretary,
American Friends Service Committee,
20 South Twelfth Street,
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania.

EBT JWP ✓
EBTowler:agr 2-29-44

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Chairman, Rufus M. Jones

Telephone
RITTENHOUSE 9372

Executive Secretary, Clarence E. Pickett

230 ✓
FILING AUTHORITY
60-1116-1116
ANS.
NO ANS. REQ.
INITIAL
DATE

American Friends Service Committee

Twenty South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia 7, ★ Pennsylvania

February 25, 1944

Mr. John Pehle
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am sending you herewith memoranda covering suggestions for the War Refugee Board in response to your letter of February 8.

As you will note, there are two memoranda, one listing certain suggestions as to action which our Committee believes might be taken by the United States Government in aid of refugees at this time, either through the War Refugee Board itself or upon its impetus. The other memorandum deals with action which our Committee is willing to consider taking in cooperation with the War Refugee Board or other agencies, should conditions and available personnel permit.

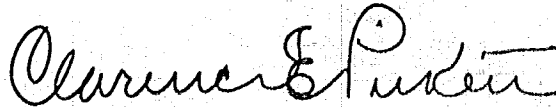
As you will see, both memoranda contain suggestions which undoubtedly are "visionary". It is the feeling of our Committee that at times, there is value in expressing and discussing visions; and in taking whatever action may be practically possible in the light of the action which we all know should be taken.

Concerning the proposals as to action by our own Committee, we would not wish to be considered as committed to all of them as, obviously, several are only in the stage of preliminary proposal and require grave consideration as to the possibilities of realization and the availability of suitable personnel.

These memoranda have been prepared in consultation with our entire Foreign Service Staff and Section and with our advisor, Professor Hertha Kraus of Bryn Mawr College. Both she and our staff member, Mrs. Marjorie Page Schauffler, will be glad to discuss the various suggestions with you or your staff in greater detail when this may be feasible.

It need hardly be said that our Committee warmly welcomes the appointment of the War Refugee Board, and your own earnest concern in the refugee problem.

Sincerely yours,



Clarence E. Pickett
Executive Secretary

100199

American Friends Service Committee

20 South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia  Pennsylvania

February 25, 1944

Outline of Memorandum to Mr. John Pehle

Re Program of War Refugee Board

From A.F.S.C.

General Statement

A. Appeals to Germany and Other Axis Belligerents for Release of Racial and Religious Minorities.

I. Appeals to Germany.

- a. Release of entire Jewish minority resident in Axis territory, support to be guaranteed by U. S. (and British?) until national governments and UNRRA assume.
- b. Release of successive groups of 1000 children under 12 and elderly over 60, financing same as (a.) (Possibly include 10% Germans for health care and relief from war conditions.)
- c. Permission for trains under safe conduct from Switzerland to Spain and Portugal.
- d. Exchange of German civilian internees for Jewish minority groups.
- e. Package service enlarged or food draft plan instituted for Poland and elsewhere.

II. Appeals to Hungary, Bulgaria and Roumania, encouraging aid, clemency, and relaxation of border controls, as policies acceptable to Allied Nations.

B. Efforts to Extend Aid in Occupied Countries.

I. Permission and encouragement for transmittal of funds to agencies in neutral countries for re-transmittal to Occupied countries.

II. Money transmittals for food purchases in neutral countries for shipment to Occupied countries.

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- III. Increase of package reserve of International Red Cross to permit more for civilian internees.
- IV. Encouragement of agencies with contacts in Occupied countries to assist movement of refugees.
- V. When effective measures set up, short wave to encourage such movement.

C. Strengthening Russian Aid.

- I. Offers of financing, supplies, transportation out of war areas or out of Russia if best. Shelter offered in sanctuary areas.

D. Efforts to Strengthen Neutral Countries.

- I. Financing support of refugees in homes or group care.
- II. Increasing food allotments permitted through blockade for nationals and refugees, paid for by country. Contribution of additional food.
- III. Permission to American personnel to augment staffs of refugee agencies.
- IV. Duration shelter care of maximum number of refugees in addition to those now being given temporary care.
- V. Prompt movement of excess refugees to other shelter areas.

E. Provision of Shelter Communities for "Duration" care by UNHRA and other Forms of Shelter Care.

- I. Discussion of function, criteria for selection of such areas, and what areas might be suitable in:
 - a. Europe
 - b. Africa and Asia
 - c. Western Hemisphere
 - 1. U. S. Visa Policy
 - (a) Quiet liberalization to greatest extent possible.
 - (b) Abandonment of "relatives clause".

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- (c) Simplification of procedure.
- (d) Issuance of U.S. transits for Mexico, etc., without elaborate procedure.

2. Canada


- (a) Financial assistance to encourage liberal immigration.
- (b) Shelter care for those destined for later permanent settlement in Western Hemisphere.

3. Mexico

- (a) Immediate visas for 1600 Spaniards in North Africa.

000702

American Friends Service Committee

20 South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia  Pennsylvania

February 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM I. TO: Mr. John Pehle

FROM: American Friends Service Committee

RE: Suggestions for action by the War Refugee Board or to be effected thru its impetus:

The Government of the United States has, in recent years, taken leadership in inter-governmental planning on behalf of refugees. In comparison with its resources and power, the United States has, however, extended little practical assistance or hospitality to refugees.

The official concern expressed in the formation of the War Refugee Board should, in our judgment, be implemented by as extensive and varied benefits to refugees as is practicable under present conditions. Otherwise it may be viewed as another well-meaning but futile gesture. For the same reason great care should be taken not to publicize plans in advance of their accomplishment or of demonstrated assurance that they can be accomplished. We feel there is a great weight upon the people of the United States to use their power and position effectively as an expression of deep humanitarian concern.

It is recognized that refugees in Japanese held territory - some 21,000 in Shanghai alone - are in danger as critical as that in Europe. It is probably impossible to effect their rescue now. The attached suggestions, therefore, deal only with minorities in European countries.

Whatever program can be undertaken by the War Refugee Board should be free from any discrimination whatever as to race, nationality, class, politics or religion. Such a policy is the essence of the humanitarian effort which has been publicly announced, all agencies and individuals cooperating with the Board should accept it without reservation.

The War Refugee Board has a responsibility, in addition to its service functions, to stimulate appropriate agencies to educate the American public as to the basic significance of refugee aid. Our public must recognize that in the threat to persecuted minorities in Europe and Asia the freedom and welfare of all individuals, in the United States as well as elsewhere, is threatened and that the obvious risks entailed in a program of practical refugee aid must be accepted in the long-term public interest. Such education will prepare the country to withstand later pressures toward selfish and short-sighted isolationism.

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A. - APPEALS TO GERMANY AND OTHER AXIS BELLIGERENTS FOR RELEASE OF RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES:

An emergency program under existing conditions will obviously focus chiefly upon neutral countries and contact through them with persons in occupied territory. However, an appeal to the German Government and its satellite belligerents for cooperation in evacuation of the racial and religious minorities seems justified as a statement of humanitarian concern and as an encouragement to the morale of refugees in Europe, even if it should prove futile in practice. Therefore the following requests might be made:

I. - APPEALS TO GERMANY:

- (a) Release of entire Jewish minority resident in Axis territory, support to be guaranteed by U.S. (and British?) until national governments and UNRRA assume.

That the entire Jewish minority still resident in Axis and occupied countries be released, their support in neutral and sheltered areas for the duration to be guaranteed by the United States (and Great Britain?), with the expectation that the other Allied Governments will assume financial responsibility for their own nationals, and that UNRRA later assumes responsibility for administering and financing such a program. Because of labor shortage, it is entirely unlikely that Germany would accede to such a proposal, but unless the United States is ready to make it, our indignant protests against German extermination policy are vulnerable.

- (b) Release of successive groups of 1000 children under 12 and elderly over 60, financing same as (a) (Possibly include 10% Germans for health care and relief from war conditions.)

That successive groups of 1000 Jewish children under 12 and elderly people over 60 be permitted to enter Switzerland, Sweden, Portugal and Turkey for temporary residence and to enter Spain for transit to North Africa. Financing of their care in these countries to be guaranteed by United States Government or private agencies until assumed by other governments and UNRRA. Additional supplies and food to be permitted to go into those countries for their support. (An added inducement to German agreement might be to permit 10% of the total released to be of German children and aged persons admitted to Switzerland and/or other neutral countries for health care and removal from pressure of war conditions.)

- (c) Permission for trains under safe conduct from Switzerland to Spain and Portugal.

That trains under safe conduct carry refugees now in Switzerland to Spain and Portugal for transfer to shelter camps in North Africa or elsewhere, thus relieving pressure in Switzerland

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and encouraging further movement from occupied countries into Switzerland.

(In any of the three above proposals adequate health controls would be assumed. It might be possible for neutral delegates to meet the parties within the German border to guard against the inclusion of undue proportions of the mentally and physically incapacitated, and to prevent last minute blocking of plans. Precautions should also be taken to exclude from the ranks of refugees any enemy agents who could be identified.)

(d) Exchange of German civilian internees for Jewish minority groups.

That United States offer further exchanges of German civilian internees for Jewish minority groups (too dangerous to name or list specific individuals among latter).

(e) Package service enlarged or food draft plan instituted for Poland and elsewhere.

That package service to individuals be enlarged; or a food draft plan established (as in Poland during last war) to permit bulk food shipments into occupied areas for distribution to individuals under auspices of international organizations. This proposal appears particularly vital for Poland at present.

II. - APPEALS TO HUNGARY, BULGARIA AND ROUMANIA, encouraging aid, clemency, and relaxation of border controls, as policies acceptable to Allied Nations.

Since these countries are obviously shaken in their Axis allegiance, it might be useful to make formal representations to them through diplomatic channels as to the urgent desire of the United States that all possible aid and clemency be extended to refugees - particularly racial and religious minorities - with the implication that improvement in their internal policy in this matter and all possible relaxation of border controls would benefit their later standing with the United States and other Allied Nations.

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B. - EFFORTS TO EXTEND AID IN OCCUPIED COUNTRIES:

- I. - Permission and encouragement for transmittal of funds to agencies in neutral countries for re-transmittal to Occupied countries.

Permission and encouragement for transmittal of funds to such agencies in neutral countries as can in turn transfer them to occupied areas for refugee support and travel.

- II. - Money transmittals for food purchases in neutral countries for shipment to Occupied countries.

Transmittal of funds to Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey and Portugal for immediate food purchases of such articles as can be exported from those countries and distribution to refugees through agencies in occupied areas.

- III. - Increase of package reserve of International Red Cross to permit more for civilian internees.

Increase of the package reserve of the International Red Cross for prisoners of war and civilian internees to permit greater proportions to be sent to civilian internees through the Red Cross package distributing centers in Switzerland. (Stateless refugees are particularly unfortunate since they at present have no government to cover them with a government allocation as is done for many nationals.)

- IV. - Encouragement of agencies with contacts in Occupied countries to assist movement of refugees.

Encouragement of such agencies as have existing contacts in occupied areas to strengthen the effort of such contact groups in any way possible to assist the movement of refugees.

- V. - When effective measures set up, short-wave to encourage such movement.

Providing effective measures are actually set up and not until then: encouragement, through short-wave and all other possible contacts with occupied territories, to those who have thus far been afraid to risk escape, by assurance that there is support and help waiting them in neutral and sheltered areas, practical financial and morale backing available from the United States.

C. - STRENGTHENING RUSSIAN AID:

- I. - Offers of financing, supplied, transportation out of war areas or out of Russia if best. Shelter offered in sanctuary areas.

Soviet Russia's national policy toward minorities will incline her to aid Jews and other minorities found in Poland, Roumania and other territories as the Eastern Front advances, to the greatest extent that war conditions may permit. It is obvious that the strains of war conditions will make aid to civilians difficult and the United States and interested American agencies should extend the maximum aid to Russia that can be given in financing, in supplies and in provision of transportation and other assistance to these refugees to leave the belligerent areas and to leave Russia completely if this seems best. Refugees released by Russian war efforts must be included among those to be received in sheltered communities. (see Section E.)

D. - EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN NEUTRAL COUNTRIES: Switzerland, Sweden, Portugal, Turkey, Spain - to accept more refugees and for longer periods:

The chief practical outlet for emergency aid to refugees lies in the neutral countries and must utilize the agencies and individuals in those countries qualified to help. Forms of assistance which can be given to them immediately are the following:

I. - Financing support of refugees in homes or group care.

Financial contributions from American Government and American agencies for support of refugees in private families and under group care.

II. - Increasing food allotments permitted through blockade for nationals and refugees, paid for by country. Contribution of additional food.

Increase of the food allotments which these neutrals have been permitted to buy outside the blockade area and transport through the blockade for their own use. Additional food supplies should be contributed from Government and private agency funds for similar shipment for the use of the nationals and foreign refugees in those countries.

(Could Argentina be encouraged to supply or increase food shipments to Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey and Portugal as well as Spain?).

III. - Permission to American personnel to augment staffs of refugee agencies.

Permission for American private agency personnel to be supplied as needed to refugee agencies in such neutral countries as can be reached, to supplement local staff.

IV. - Duration shelter care of maximum number of refugees in addition to those now being given temporary care.

Encouragement to neutral European countries to accept for "duration" care such substantial numbers of refugees as may be practicable in addition to those which they have already received. Offers of financing and personnel should be part of such encouragement, should these countries desire outside aid. Such offers might come from UNRRA and from appropriate private agencies. "Duration" sanctuary care has already been highly organized in Switzerland on a wise and humanitarian basis. Doubtless a similar development is under way in Sweden. Similar patterns might be developed in cooperation with UNRRA in the following countries: Turkey, Portugal and possibly her colonies, and possibly in Ireland should the governments of these countries be favorable. (Should military movements around the British Isles make it possible, it might be very feasible to consider Eire, as an agricultural and predominately Catholic country, as a desirable area for the development of temporary colonies for Catholic refugees.)

V. - Prompt movement of excess refugees to other shelter areas.

Prompt movement of refugees beyond the number that neutral countries can shelter for the "duration" to other nearby areas where shelter care can be advantageously arranged to UNRRA and sanctuary communities developed for that purpose. (see Section E).

E. PROVISION OF SHELTER COMMUNITIES FOR "DURATION" CARE BY UNRRA;
AND OTHER FORMS OF SHELTER CARE

I. The announcement and development of specific plans for such communities will be an immediate encouragement to refugees wherever they may be and a stimulus to them to move from overcrowded neutral countries to more satisfactory and constructive living conditions.

The provision of such shelter communities is a function of UNRRA in which private agencies may give valuable supplementary aid in offering specialized services for which they are equipped in experience and personnel.

Shelter communities for European refugees should be located as close to Europe as possible. Criteria for the selection of such areas should include: Climate, space, population pressure, political climate, food and other necessary minimal supplies, materials for temporary housing, regional health conditions, facilities for adequate sanitation, the possibility of developing gardening for project subsistence, and the psychological "feeling" of the refugees themselves - (certain locations promote and are associated with violent prejudices and fears. From this point of view North Africa is questionable, because of its association with penal colonies, Foreign Legion and recent labor camp exploitation.)

There should be available employment or the feasibility of creating employment in the form of a) essential industries with transferrable equipment, or b) projects that will contribute to the development of the areas, such as irrigation.

Possible areas:

- a. Europe, neutral countries mentioned in Section B.
- b. Africa and Asia:
 - North Africa
 - Egypt
 - Palestine
 - Turkey - See Section B
 - Iran and Iraq

c. Western Hemisphere

It is evident that the United States and other Western countries cannot continue to urge upon other countries extended hospitality and direct aid to refugees and refrain from accepting some share in the total load. Toward this end various developments might be possible and effective:

1. U.S. Visa Policy

(a) Quiet liberalization of U.S. visa policy, within existing quota regulations, for persons in Europe and nearby areas who, now or later, could arrange transportation to the United States and

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who are acceptable under war conditions. Such a liberalization affecting people in the Iberian Peninsula early in 1943 did not have unfavorable political repercussions.

(b) Abandonment of the policy of refusing visas to persons with relatives in occupied territory. This seems now to be unrealistic and has worked great hardship.

(c) Simplification of the now highly complicated visa application procedure as far as is consistent with public safety.

(d) Issuance of U.S. transit visas to immigrants to Mexico and other Western Hemisphere countries without elaborate procedure. Wives and children of Spanish refugees already settled in Mexico are experiencing months of delay in arranging travel from Spain to Mexico via United States.

2. Canada

(a) Financial assistance might be given to Canada to encourage her in liberalizing her immigration policy. Canada is psychologically acceptable to Europeans whereas even temporary shelter in Latin American countries appears to them more hazardous.

(b) Canada might be encouraged to provide group shelter care for the duration for those who have plans to settle in other parts of the Western Hemisphere after the war, but who do not have time to complete those plans immediately. Financial assistance might be extended from the United States for such a project.

3. Mexico

(a) Encouragement to the Mexican Government to grant visas immediately to 1600 Spanish refugees who have applied from North Africa for Mexican immigration. This matter has been pending for a year.

100709

Outline of Memorandum II to Mr. John Pehle re Proposals for
Refugee Aid Which the A.F.S.C. is Equipped to Take or Willing
to Explore in Cooperation with the War Refugee Board.

- I. Might it be possible for Quakers to request permission of German Government to undertake relief to Jews in Poland, either through Americans in safe conduct as relief workers, or through Swedish or Swiss Friends, if latter are willing.
- II. Transmittal of funds to Friends in Switzerland.
- III. Location of refugees in Occupied areas.
- IV. Provision of personnel for shelter centers.
- V. Services in shelter centers appropriate for Friends.

Official Representation for Stateless Refugees.

Proposal that Friends participate in official representation of interests of stateless refugees as well as in services for them, somewhat on pattern now carried on in Spain.

000710

American Friends Service Committee

20 South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia  Pennsylvania

February 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM II TO MR. JOHN PEHLE FROM A.F.S.C. RE PROPOSALS FOR REFUGEE AID WHICH THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE IS EQUIPPED TO TAKE OR WILLING TO EXPLORE IN COOPERATION WITH THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

I. Relief to Jews in Poland - Since the plight of refugees in Poland is considered to be the worst of any area in Europe and since Quakers have a history of relief operations in Poland under war conditions, we wonder whether it might be possible to request the German Government to permit Quakers to undertake relief to Jews in Poland either through Americans under special provision for safe conduct as relief workers, or through Swedish or Swiss Friends if latter are willing. We recognize that this is a bold and probably an impractical proposal, but Friends would be willing to make it should there seem a possibility of practical value to be obtained, either through the program or through the request for it.

It would be willing to approach the Russian Government with a similar request to cover such areas of Poland as they have occupied or will occupy in the next developments of the war.

II. Transmittal of Funds to Friends in Switzerland. - To transmit funds to Friends in Switzerland and elsewhere for increased refugee aid.

III. Location of Refugees in Occupied Areas - To transmit to Quaker offices in neutral countries the names and last known addresses of refugees who have friends and relatives who could aid them thru package service or otherwise. Such communication would require U.S. censorship approval now denied on the ground that the Red Cross can give such service. The demands upon the International Red Cross is currently so great, however, that they are not able to handle inquiries concerning persons in occupied countries who are not nationals of those countries.

Whether the individuals could safely be searched for and information transmitted about their present whereabouts would have to be left to the discretion of local workers but valuable aid might be rendered in numerous instances.

Lists for Switzerland would have to be transmitted by diplomatic pouch since letters and cables into Switzerland are subject to German censorship.

IV. Provision of Personnel for Shelter Centers - Quick development of shelter centers by UNRRA will demand A-1 priorities on materials and personnel. Even so there will be difficulty in supplying suitable personnel quickly.

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100 to 200 able and technically equipped young men from Civilian Public Service Camps, under guidance of staff members experienced in work with refugees might be provided at once if the former could be released from the restrictions now prohibiting them from work outside the United States. Additional members of Civilian Public Service men could probably be freed and prepared for such service later. We believe that such service, which many persons interested in foreign service would not welcome, would be acceptable to these young men.

Civilian public service men, and other young and older persons available to the American Friends Service Committee would have the understanding attitude and friendly concern for people essential for service. They would work under the supervision of highly trained persons who would guide the program and prevent mistakes, and who could point out the implications of the service.

Services appropriate for shelter centers are ones in which women are either equally acceptable or more desirable than men because the great majority of refugees in such centers are children, women, and elderly people, needing personal care.

V. Services in Shelter Centers Considered Particularly Appropriate for Friends - Personnel available through the American Friends Service Committee would seem best qualified for morale building services which are vitally important in removing from the shelter community the stigma of restricted "camp" life which has become associated in the minds of refugees with all the horrors of concentration and persecution. Such services are:

Friendly counselling and providing of information and guiding refugees to channels for locating friends and relatives in other countries.

Work projects for young people.

Organizing clubs and project activities for elderly people.

Day and evening recreation.

Informal youth and adult education, etc.

Providing from Civilian Public Service personnel, if they can be released, trained and expert technicians in agriculture and other fields.

Supplementary feeding for convalescents and such other selected groups as need special treatment.

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OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION FOR STATELESS REFUGEES:

Problems of the Stateless:

Stateless refugees have no official government spokesman and therefore lack all governmental protection. They are the most helpless category in any group. (For example, recent description of refugees in Shanghai: non-belligerents best off, British and American next, then Central Europeans, and stateless at the bottom relegated to a restricted area or ghetto.)

Because of lack of official identification:

1. Cannot obtain legal residence permits; hence always open to police interference, arrest, imprisonment and/or deportation.
2. Cannot secure ration cards. Last and least fed in any shortage area.
3. Cannot travel, even locally.
4. Cannot obtain work permits even where work possible for foreigners.
5. Perhaps the most serious factor is their utter hopelessness regarding the future, arising from a sense that there is not only no home country to which one can return, but no responsible group upon which one has a claim or which will concern itself with one's welfare and future.

Scope and Urgency of the Problem:

The enormous numbers of persons who have become stateless during recent years for political, racial or religious reasons create a vast problem which will take years to solve. Could an emergency measure be taken by a respected and responsible government or group as the first step toward organized assumption of responsibility for the Stateless? The effect on morale can scarcely be exaggerated. Hundreds of thousands who cannot be immediately reached or benefited would be strengthened and encouraged to survive and to make efforts to help themselves and others. The practical benefits obtainable in a neutral area have already been demonstrated in Spain.

Suggestions for Emergency Action:

Official inter-governmental coverage of stateless persons should, and must, be arranged, but will require manifold national and international discussions and agreements. It is assumed that the Intergovernmental Committee which now seems to be the appropriate body ultimately to assume the responsibility of representing and documenting stateless persons is already exploring these national agreements. If their explorations could be brought to immediate fruition thru American backing implemented by the War Refugee Board and world wide announcement made to that effect, that would be the best solution to be hoped. Failing such immediate inter-governmental

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coverage, the following interim measures might be taken, listed according to our judgment of their preferability:

1. Assumption of diplomatic responsibility for stateless persons, with provision of temporary identification papers as quickly as may be feasible, by the United States Government - acting where necessary thru representatives of Switzerland as Protecting Power for the United States interests. (It is recognized that the assumption of this responsibility by a belligerent power would have certain disadvantages but these would be counter-balanced by the value attached by most refugees to the United States as a country of traditional asylum and by the protection practically afforded by the powerful sponsorship of the United States to its Nationals and "wards" - as in Shanghai.)
2. Similar assumption of diplomatic responsibility by Switzerland. As a neutral this would present some marked advantages over "1".
3. Failing Swiss ability, similar assumption by the Swedish Government.
4. Failing the possibility of any government either being able to assume the responsibility involved, or to act quickly to do so, could an association of private groups do so; at least rendering the service of representation to official bodies on behalf of stateless persons as has been done by the office in Madrid: "Representation in Spain of American Relief Agencies." (See attached AFSC bulletin.) Some at least of the agencies represented in the American Council of Volunteer Agencies for Foreign Relief would undoubtedly be interested in combining to give such service.
5. The Society of Friends, acting either thru the American Friends Service Committee or jointly thru the American Friends Service Committee and the Friends Service Council on behalf of British Friends, could probably participate:
 - a. with the Intergovernmental Committee or other appropriate intergovernmental agencies,
 - b. and/or with a group of private agenciesin offering official representation to stateless refugees, as well as providing services for them. Quaker delegates have directed such official representation and services in Spain under the sponsorship of the American Embassy and the Spanish Red Cross, and in North Africa as representatives of OFRRO. American Quakers would be willing to consider the extension of such responsibility to other areas on behalf of the Stateless, and we believe that the British Friends might favorably consider cooperation in such a program.

000714

February 25, 1944

Outline of Memorandum to Mr. John Pehle

Re Program of War Refugee Board

From A.F.S.C.

General Statement

A. Appeals to Germany and Other Axis Belligerents for Release of Racial and Religious Minorities.

I. Appeals to Germany.

- a. Release of entire Jewish minority resident in Axis territory, support to be guaranteed by U. S. (and British?) until national governments and UNRRA assume.
- b. Release of successive groups of 1000 children under 12 and elderly over 80, financing same as (a.) (Possibly include 10% Germans for health care and relief from war conditions.)
- c. Permission for trains under safe conduct from Switzerland to Spain and Portugal.
- d. Exchange of German civilian internees for Jewish minority groups.
- e. Package service enlarged or food draft plan instituted for Poland and elsewhere.

II. Appeals to Hungary, Bulgaria and Roumania, encouraging aid, clemency, and relaxation of border controls, as policies acceptable to Allied Nations.

B. Efforts to Extend Aid in Occupied Countries.

- I. Permission and encouragement for transmittal of funds to agencies in neutral countries for re-transmittal to Occupied countries.
- II. Money transmittals for food purchases in neutral countries for shipment to Occupied countries.

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- III. Increase of package reserve of International Red Cross to permit more for civilian internees.
 - IV. Encouragement of agencies with contacts in Occupied countries to assist movement of refugees.
 - V. When effective measures set up, short wave to encourage such movement.
- C. Strengthening Russian Aid.
- I. Offers of financing, supplies, transportation out of war areas or out of Russia if best. Shelter offered in sanctuary areas.
- D. Efforts to Strengthen Neutral Countries.
- I. Financing support of refugees in homes or group care.
 - II. Increasing food allotments permitted through blockade for nationals and refugees, paid for by country. Contribution of additional food.
 - III. Permission to American personnel to augment staffs of refugee agencies.
 - IV. Duration shelter care of maximum number of refugees in addition to those now being given temporary care.
 - V. Prompt movement of excess refugees to other shelter areas.
- E. Provision of Shelter Communities for "Duration" care by UNRRA and other Forms of Shelter Care.
- I. Discussion of function, criteria for selection of such areas, and what areas might be suitable in:
 - a. Europe
 - b. Africa and Asia
 - c. Western Hemisphere
- 1. U. S. Visa Policy
 - (a) Quiet liberalization to greatest extent possible.
 - (b) Abandonment of "relatives clause".

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- (c) Simplification of procedure.
- (d) Issuance of U.S. transits for Mexico, etc., without elaborate procedure.

2. Canada

- (a) Financial assistance to encourage liberal immigration.
- (b) Shelter care for those destined for later permanent settlement in Western Hemisphere.

3. Mexico

- (a) Immediate visas for 1600 Spaniards in North Africa.

100717

February 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM I. TO: Mr. John Pehle

FROM: American Friends Service Committee

RE: Suggestions for action by the War Refugee Board or to be effected thru its impetus:

The Government of the United States has, in recent years, taken leadership in inter-governmental planning on behalf of refugees. In comparison with its resources and power, the United States has, however, extended little practical assistance or hospitality to refugees.

The official concern expressed in the formation of the War Refugee Board should, in our judgment, be implemented by as extensive and varied benefits to refugees as is practicable under present conditions. Otherwise it may be viewed as another well-meaning but futile gesture. For the same reason great care should be taken not to publicize plans in advance of their accomplishment or of demonstrated assurance that they can be accomplished. We feel there is a great weight upon the people of the United States to use their power and position effectively as an expression of deep humanitarian concern.

It is recognized that refugees in Japanese held territory - some 21,000 in Shanghai alone - are in danger as critical as that in Europe. It is probably impossible to effect their rescue now. The attached suggestions, therefore, deal only with minorities in European countries.

Whatever program can be undertaken by the War Refugee Board should be free from any discrimination whatever as to race, nationality, class, politics or religion. Such a policy is the essence of the humanitarian effort which has been publicly announced, all agencies and individuals cooperating with the Board should accept it without reservation.

The War Refugee Board has a responsibility, in addition to its service functions, to stimulate appropriate agencies to educate the American public as to the basic significance of refugee aid. Our public must recognize that in the threat to persecuted minorities in Europe and Asia the freedom and welfare of all individuals, in the United States as well as elsewhere, is threatened and that the obvious risks entailed in a program of practical refugee aid must be accepted in the long-term public interest. Such education will prepare the country to withstand later pressures toward selfish and short-sighted isolationism.

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A. - APPEALS TO GERMANY AND OTHER AXIS BELLIGERENTS FOR RELEASE OF RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS MINORITIES:

An emergency program under existing conditions will obviously focus chiefly upon neutral countries and contact through them with persons in occupied territory. However, an appeal to the German Government and its satellite belligerents for cooperation in evacuation of the racial and religious minorities seems justified as a statement of humanitarian concern and as an encouragement to the morale of refugees in Europe, even if it should prove futile in practice. Therefore the following requests might be made:

I. - APPEALS TO GERMANY:

- (a) Release of entire Jewish minority resident in Axis territory, support to be guaranteed by U.S. (and British?) until national governments and UNRRA assume.

That the entire Jewish minority still resident in Axis and Occupied countries be released, their support in neutral and sheltered areas for the duration to be guaranteed by the United States (and Great Britain?), with the expectation that the other Allied Governments will assume financial responsibility for their own nationals, and that UNRRA later assumes responsibility for administering and financing such a program. Because of labor shortage, it is entirely unlikely that Germany would accede to such a proposal, but unless the United States is ready to make it, our indignant protests against German extermination policy are vulnerable.

- (b) Release of successive groups of 1000 children under 12 and elderly over 60, financing same as (a) (Possibly include 10% Germans for health care and relief from war conditions.)

That successive groups of 1000 Jewish children under 12 and elderly people over 60 be permitted to enter Switzerland, Sweden, Portugal and Turkey for temporary residence and to enter Spain for transit to North Africa. Financing of their care in these countries to be guaranteed by United States Government or private agencies until assumed by other governments and UNRRA. Additional supplies and food to be permitted to go into those countries for their support. (An added inducement to German agreement might be to permit 10% of the total released to be of German children and aged persons admitted to Switzerland and/or other neutral countries for health care and removal from pressure of war conditions.)

- (c) Permission for trains under safe conduct from Switzerland to Spain and Portugal.

That trains under safe conduct carry refugees now in Switzerland to Spain and Portugal for transfer to shelter camps in North Africa or elsewhere, thus relieving pressure in Switzerland

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and encouraging further movement from occupied countries into Switzerland.

(In any of the three above proposals adequate health controls would be assumed. It might be possible for neutral delegates to meet the parties within the German border to guard against the inclusion of undue proportions of the mentally and physically incapacitated, and to prevent last minute blocking of plans. Precautions should also be taken to exclude from the ranks of refugees any enemy agents who could be identified.)

(d) Exchange of German civilian internees for Jewish minority groups.

That United States offer further exchanges of German civilian interneed for Jewish minority groups (too dangerous to name or list specific individuals among latter).

(e) Package service enlarged or food draft plan instituted for Poland and elsewhere.

That package service to individuals be enlarged; or a food draft plan established (as in Poland during last war) to permit bulk food shipments into occupied areas for distribution to individuals under auspices of international organizations. This proposal appears particularly vital for Poland at present.

II. - APPEALS TO HUNGARY, BULGARIA AND ROUMANIA, encouraging aid, clemency, and relaxation of border controls, as policies acceptable to Allied Nations.

Since these countries are obviously shaken in their Axis allegiance, it might be useful to make formal representations to them through diplomatic channels as to the urgent desire of the United States that all possible aid and clemency be extended to refugees - particularly racial and religious minorities - with the implication that improvement in their internal policy in this matter and all possible relaxation of border controls would benefit their later standing with the United States and other Allied Nations.

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- 4 -

B. - EFFORTS TO EXTEND AID IN OCCUPIED COUNTRIES:

- I. - Permission and encouragement for transmittal of funds to agencies in neutral countries for re-transmittal to Occupied countries.

Permission and encouragement for transmittal of funds to such agencies in neutral countries as can in turn transfer them to occupied areas for refugee support and travel.

- II. - Money transmittals for food purchases in neutral countries for shipment to Occupied countries.

Transmittal of funds to Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey and Portugal for immediate food purchases of such articles as can be exported from those countries and distribution to refugees through agencies in occupied areas.

- III. - Increase of package reserve of International Red Cross to permit more for civilian internees.

Increase of the package reserve of the International Red Cross for prisoners of war and civilian internees to permit greater proportions to be sent to civilian internees through the Red Cross package distributing centers in Switzerland. (Stateless refugees are particularly unfortunate since they at present have no government to cover them with a government allocation as is done for many nationals.)

- IV. - Encouragement of agencies with contacts in Occupied countries to assist movement of refugees.

Encouragement of such agencies as have existing contacts in occupied areas to strengthen the effort of such contact groups in any way possible to assist the movement of refugees.

- V. - When effective measures set up, short-wave to encourage such movement.

Providing effective measures are actually set up and not until then: encouragement, through short-wave and all other possible contacts with occupied territories, to those who have thus far been afraid to risk escape, by assurance that there is support and help waiting them in neutral and sheltered areas, practical financial and morale backing available from the United States.

C. - STRENGTHENING RUSSIAN AID:

- L. - Offers of financing, supplied, transportation out of war areas or out of Russia if best. Shelter offered in sanctuary areas.

Soviet Russia's national policy toward minorities will incline her to aid Jews and other minorities found in Poland, Roumania and other territories as the Eastern Front advances, to the greatest extent that war conditions may permit. It is obvious that the strains of war conditions will make aid to civilians difficult and the United States and interested American agencies should extend the maximum aid to Russia that can be given in financing, in supplies and in provision of transportation and other assistance to these refugees to leave the belligerent areas and to leave Russia completely if this seems best. Refugees released by Russian war efforts must be included among those to be received in sheltered communities. (see Section E.)

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- D. - EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN NEUTRAL COUNTRIES: Switzerland, Sweden, Portugal, Turkey, Spain - to accept more refugees and for longer periods:

The chief practical outlet for emergency aid to refugees lies in the neutral countries and must utilize the agencies and individuals in those countries qualified to help. Forms of assistance which can be given to them immediately are the following:

- I. - Financing support of refugees in homes or group care.

Financial contributions from American Government and American agencies for support of refugees in private families and under group care.

- II.- Increasing food allotments permitted through blockade for nationals and refugees, paid for by country. Contribution of additional food.

Increase of the food allotments which these neutrals have been permitted to buy outside the blockade area and transport through the blockade for their own use. Additional food supplies should be contributed from Government and private agency funds for similar shipment for the use of the nationals and foreign refugees in those countries.

(Could Argentina be encouraged to supply or increase food shipments to Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey and Portugal as well as Spain?).

- III.-Permission to American personnel to augment staffs of refugee agencies.

Permission for American private agency personnel to be supplied as needed to refugee agencies in such neutral countries as can be reached, to supplement local staff.

- IV.- Duration shelter care of maximum number of refugees in addition to those now being given temporary care.

Encouragement to neutral European countries to accept for "duration" care such substantial numbers of refugees as may be practicable in addition to those which they have already received. Offers of financing and personnel should be part of such encouragement, should these countries desire outside aid. Such offers might come from UNRRA and from appropriate private agencies. "Duration" sanctuary care has already been highly organized in Switzerland on a wise and humanitarian basis. Doubtless a similar development is under way in Sweden. Similar patterns might be developed in cooperation with UNRRA in the following countries: Turkey, Portugal and possibly her colonies, and possibly in Ireland should the governments of these countries be favorable. (Should military movements around the British Isles make it possible, it might be very feasible to consider Eire, as an agricultural and predominately Catholic country, as a desirable area for the development of temporary colonies for Catholic refugees.)

- V. - Prompt movement of excess refugees to other shelter areas.

Prompt movement of refugees beyond the number that neutral countries can shelter for the "duration" to other nearby areas where shelter care can be advantageously arranged to UNRRA and sanctuary communities developed for that purpose. (see Section E).

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E. PROVISION OF SHELTER COMMUNITIES FOR "DURATION" CARE BY UNRRA;
AND OTHER FORMS OF SHELTER CARE

I. The announcement and development of specific plans for such communities will be an immediate encouragement to refugees wherever they may be and a stimulus to them to move from overcrowded neutral countries to more satisfactory and constructive living conditions.

The provision of such shelter communities is a function of UNRRA in which private agencies may give valuable supplementary aid in offering specialized services for which they are equipped in experience and personnel.

Shelter communities for European refugees should be located as close to Europe as possible. Criteria for the selection of such areas should include: Climate, space, population pressure, political climate, food and other necessary minimal supplies, materials for temporary housing, regional health conditions, facilities for adequate sanitation, the possibility of developing gardening for project subsistence, and the psychological "feeling" of the refugees themselves - (certain locations promote and are associated with violent prejudices and fears. From this point of view North Africa is questionable, because of its association with penal colonies, Foreign Legion and recent labor camp exploitation.)

There should be available employment or the feasibility of creating employment in the form of a) essential industries with transferrable equipment, or b) projects that will contribute to the development of the areas, such as irrigation.

Possible areas:

a. Europe, neutral countries mentioned in Section B.

b. Africa and Asia:

North Africa

Egypt

Palestine

Turkey - See Section B

Iran and Iraq

c. Western Hemisphere

It is evident that the United States and other Western countries cannot continue to urge upon other countries extended hospitality and direct aid to refugees and refrain from accepting some share in the total load. Toward this end various developments might be possible and effective:

1. U.S. Visa Policy

(a) Quiet liberalization of U.S. visa policy, within existing quota regulations, for persons in Europe and nearby areas who, now or later, could arrange transportation to the United States and

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RE BY UNRRA:
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who are acceptable under war conditions. Such a liberalization affecting people in the Iberian Peninsula early in 1943 did not have unfavorable political repercussions.

(b) Abandonment of the policy of refusing visas to persons with relatives in occupied territory. This seems now to be unrealistic and has worked great hardship.

(c) Simplification of the now highly complicated visa application procedure as far as is consistent with public safety.

(d) Issuance of U.S. transit visas to immigrants to Mexico and other Western Hemisphere countries without elaborate procedure. Wives and children of Spanish refugees already settled in Mexico are experiencing months of delay in arranging travel from Spain to Mexico via United States.

2. Canada

(a) Financial assistance might be given to Canada to encourage her in liberalizing her immigration policy. Canada is psychologically acceptable to Europeans whereas even temporary shelter in Latin American countries appears to them more hazardous.

(b) Canada might be encouraged to provide group shelter care for the duration for those who have plans to settle in other parts of the Western Hemisphere after the war, but who do not have time to complete those plans immediately. Financial assistance might be extended from the United States for such a project.

3. Mexico

(a) Encouragement to the Mexican Government to grant visas immediately to 1600 Spanish refugees who have applied from North Africa for Mexican immigration. This matter has been pending for a year.

100724

Outline of Memorandum II to Mr. John Pehle re Proposals for
Refugee Aid Which the A.F.S.C. is Equipped to Take or Willing
to Explore in Cooperation with the War Refugee Board.

- I. Might it be possible for Quakers to request permission of German Government to undertake relief to Jews in Poland, either through Americans in safe conduct as relief workers, or through Swedish or Swiss Friends, if latter are willing.
- II. Transmittal of funds to Friends in Switzerland.
- III. Location of refugees in Occupied areas.
- IV. Provision of personnel for shelter centers.
- V. Services in shelter centers appropriate for Friends.

Official Representation for Stateless Refugees.

Proposal that Friends participate in official representation of interests of stateless refugees as well as in services for them, somewhat on pattern now carried on in Spain.

000725

February 25, 1944

MEMORANDUM II TO MR. JOHN PEHLE FROM A.F.S.C. RE PROPOSALS FOR
REFUGEE AID WHICH THE AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE IS EQUIPPED
TO TAKE OR WILLING TO EXPLORE IN COOPERATION WITH THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

I. Relief to Jews in Poland - Since the plight of refugees in Poland is considered to be the worst of any area in Europe and since Quakers have a history of relief operations in Poland under war conditions, we wonder whether it might be possible to request the German Government to permit Quakers to undertake relief to Jews in Poland either through Americans under special provision for safe conduct as relief workers, or through Swedish or Swiss Friends if latter are willing. We recognize that this is a bold and probably an impractical proposal, but Friends would be willing to make it should there seem a possibility of practical value to be obtained, either through the program or through the request for it.

It would be willing to approach the Russian Government with a similar request to cover such areas of Poland as they have occupied or will occupy in the next developments of the war.

II. Transmittal of Funds to Friends in Switzerland. - To transmit funds to Friends in Switzerland and elsewhere for increased refugee aid.

III. Location of Refugees in Occupied Areas - To transmit to Quaker offices in neutral countries the names and last known addresses of refugees who have friends and relatives who could aid them thru package service or otherwise. Such communication would require U.S. censorship approval now denied on the ground that the Red Cross can give such service. The demands upon the International Red Cross is currently so great, however, that they are not able to handle inquiries concerning persons in occupied countries who are not nationals of those countries.

Whether the individuals could safely be searched for and information transmitted about their present whereabouts would have to be left to the discretion of local workers but valuable aid might be rendered in numerous instances.

Lists for Switzerland would have to be transmitted by diplomatic pouch since letters and cables into Switzerland are subject to German censorship.

IV. Provision of Personnel for Shelter Centers - Quick development of shelter centers by UNRRA will demand A-1 priorities on materials and personnel. Even so there will be difficulty in supplying suitable personnel quickly.

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100 to 200 able and technically equipped young men from Civilian Public Service Camps, under guidance of staff members experienced in work with refugees might be provided at once if the former could be released from the restrictions now prohibiting them from work outside the United States. Additional members of Civilian Public Service men could probably be freed and prepared for such service later. We believe that such service, which many persons interested in foreign service would not welcome, would be acceptable to these young men.

Civilian public service men, and other young and older persons available to the American Friends Service Committee would have the understanding attitude and friendly concern for people essential for service. They would work under the supervision of highly trained persons who would guide the program and prevent mistakes, and who could point out the implications of the service.

Services appropriate for shelter centers are ones in which women are either equally acceptable or more desirable than men because the great majority of refugees in such centers are children, women, and elderly people, needing personal care.

V. Services in Shelter Centers Considered Particularly Appropriate for Friends - Personnel available through the American Friends Service Committee would seem best qualified for morale building services which are vitally important in removing from the shelter community the stigma of restricted "camp" life which has become associated in the minds of refugees with all the horrors of concentration and persecution. Such services are:

Friendly counselling and providing of information and guiding refugees to channels for locating friends and relatives in other countries.

Work projects for young people.

Organizing clubs and project activities for elderly people.

Day and evening recreation.

Informal youth and adult education, etc.

Providing from Civilian Public Service personnel, if they can be released, trained and expert technicians in agriculture and other fields.

Supplementary feeding for convalescents and such other selected groups as need special treatment.

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OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION FOR STATELESS REFUGEES:

Problems of the Stateless:

Stateless refugees have no official government spokesman and therefore lack all governmental protection. They are the most helpless category in any group. (For example, recent description of refugees in Shanghai: non-belligerents best off, British and American next, then Central Europeans, and stateless at the bottom relegated to a restricted area or ghetto.)

Because of lack of official identification:

1. Cannot obtain legal residence permits; hence always open to police interference, arrest, imprisonment and/or deportation.
2. Cannot secure ration cards. Last and least fed in any shortage area.
3. Cannot travel, even locally.
4. Cannot obtain work permits even where work possible for foreigners.
5. Perhaps the most serious factor is their utter hopelessness regarding the future, arising from a sense that there is not only no home country to which one can return, but no responsible group upon which one has a claim or which will concern itself with one's welfare and future.

Scope and Urgency of the Problem:

The enormous numbers of persons who have become stateless during recent years for political, racial or religious reasons create a vast problem which will take years to solve. Could an emergency measure be taken by a respected and responsible government or group as the first step toward organized assumption of responsibility for the Stateless? The effect on morale can scarcely be exaggerated. Hundreds of thousands who cannot be immediately reached or benefited would be strengthened and encouraged to survive and to make efforts to help themselves and others. The practical benefits obtainable in a neutral area have already been demonstrated in Spain.

Suggestions for Emergency Action:

Official inter-governmental coverage of stateless persons should, and must, be arranged, but will require manifold national and international discussions and agreements. It is assumed that the Intergovernmental Committee which now seems to be the appropriate body ultimately to assume the responsibility of representing and documenting stateless persons is already exploring these national agreements. If their explorations could be brought to immediate fruition thru American backing implemented by the War Refugee Board and world wide announcement made to that effect, that would be the best solution to be hoped. Failing such immediate inter-governmental

coverage, the following interim measures might be taken, listed according to our judgment of their preferability:

1. Assumption of diplomatic responsibility for stateless persons, with provision of temporary identification papers as quickly as may be feasible, by the United States Government - acting where necessary thru representatives of Switzerland as Protecting Power for the United States interests. (It is recognized that the assumption of this responsibility by a belligerent power would have certain disadvantages but these would be counter-balanced by the value attached by most refugees to the United States as a country of traditional asylum and by the protection practically afforded by the powerful sponsorship of the United States to its Nationals and "wards" - as in Shanghai.)
2. Similar assumption of diplomatic responsibility by Switzerland. As a neutral this would present some marked advantages over "1".
3. Failing Swiss ability, similar assumption by the Swedish Government.
4. Failing the possibility of any government either being able to assume the responsibility involved, or to act quickly to do so, could an association of private groups do so; at least rendering the service of representation to official bodies on behalf of stateless persons as has been done by the office in Madrid: "Representation in Spain of American Relief Agencies." (See attached AFSC bulletin.) Some at least of the agencies represented in the American Council of Volunteer Agencies for Foreign Relief would undoubtedly be interested in combining to give such service.
5. The Society of Friends, acting either thru the American Friends Service Committee or jointly thru the American Friends Service Committee and the Friends Service Council on behalf of British Friends, could probably participate:
 - a. with the Intergovernmental Committee or other appropriate intergovernmental agencies,
 - b. and/or with a group of private agenciesin offering official representation to stateless refugees, as well as providing services for them. Quaker delegates have directed such official representation and services in Spain under the sponsorship of the American Embassy and the Spanish Red Cross, and in North Africa as representatives of CRRRO. American Quakers would be willing to consider the extension of such responsibility to other areas on behalf of the Stateless, and we believe that the British Friends might favorably consider cooperation in such a program.

100729

Chairman, RUFUS M. JONES

Telephone
RITTENHOUSE 9372

Executive Secretary, CLARENCE E. PICKETT

American Friends Service Committee

20 South Twelfth Street

Philadelphia 7  Pennsylvania

March 1, 1944

W. H. A. 1327
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Initial *EP*
Date *3/15/44*

*Enclosure sent
to Mrs. Hodel
Public Relations
3/15/44 JH*

War Refugee Board
Room 190
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

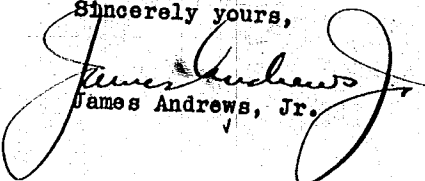
Attention: Miss Frances Hodel

Dear Miss Hodel:

I enclose statements concerning McClelland and Blickenstaff with the understanding that the publicity will not be released before our Committee is informed concerning its timing and contents.

Mrs. Schauffler of our organization is anxious to fit our time to yours in discussing the memorandum which she submitted last week over Clarence Pickett's signature. I expect to be in the office this Friday and on Monday morning between ten and lunch time, if you feel you are in a position to fix a date for some time next week, and would care to give me a call. Tuesday or Wednesday would seem to be good days for us.

Sincerely yours,


James Andrews, Jr.

JA bd

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ROSWELL G. MCCLELLAND was born on January 25, 1914, in Palo Alto, California. (His father, Ross St. John McClelland, can be found in Who's Who.) He received his early schooling in Switzerland and came to the United States where he attended the University of California. He received a B.A. degree from Duke University in 1936 as an "A" student. In February 1940 he obtained his M.A. degree from Columbia.

In 1936 and 1937 he visited Germany and Italy to study their languages. He speaks French, German, and Italian.

He was working toward his PhD in 1940 when the American Friends Service Committee awarded him the Mary Campbell Fellowship for study in Geneva. Before he left, however, the AFSC asked him to postpone his year of study and he and his wife went to Rome, where they were in charge of the American Friends Service Committee office opened for the refugees, which had been established by permit from the Italian Government. Here he worked in close cooperation with Jewish and Catholic groups aiding refugees who were making plans for emigration.

This office closed the end of June 1941 and Roswell and Marjorie McClelland moved to Marseille to work with the Quaker Center in France. They arrived in Marseille in August 1941.

In September 1942 the McClellands were transferred to the Geneva headquarters of the American Friends Service Committee where they are in charge of the refugee work. (See General Relief Bulletins #2 and #12 (attached) for a discussion of the work in Switzerland.)

Roswell McClelland married Marjorie Miles, the daughter of Dr. Walter Miles, psychologist of Yale University, in 1938. They have one son, Barre, born in January 1943.

100731

DAVID BLICKENSTAFF was born in 1915 in a town near Pasadena, California. He is the son of Lyn and Mary Blickenstaff of India, where Mr. Blickenstaff, Sr., is in charge of finances for the United Board of Missions. David received his early academic training at the Woodstock School in India and came to America for his college training. He is a graduate of Manchester College in Indiana and took up graduate work at Northwestern and Chicago Universities in the field of International Relations. He is a member of the Church of the Brethren.

In November 1937 he was sent by the American Friends Service Committee as a delegate from the Brethren Service Committee to work in the Quaker Relief program in Spain. His headquarters were in Bilbao back of the Nationalist lines where he worked until the end of the Spanish Civil War, returning to the United States in July 1939.

In 1940-41 David Blickenstaff was a delegate of the American Friends Service Committee in unoccupied France where he was concerned principally with the work for refugees. In France he married Janine Ybargoyen, daughter of the Uruguayan Consul in Marseille.

From June to October 1942 David directed the work of the Brethren Service Committee's Civilian Public Service Camp in Puerto Rico.

In November 1942 he and his wife, Janine, sailed for Europe as delegates of the Brethren Service Committee to the American Friends Service Committee in unoccupied France. Before they reached their destination in Southern France it was taken over by the Germans and in January 1943 the Blickenstaffs arrived in Madrid to organize the office of the Representation in Spain of American Relief Organizations. (See attached General Relief Bulletins #8 and #11 for a discussion of the program in Spain.)

Both David and Janine Blickenstaff speak French and Spanish fluently and some German.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

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In reply refer to
130-Vail, James Garrett

February 29, 1944

My dear Mr. Pehle:

I have received your letter of February 24, 1944 concerning the passport case of Mr. James Garrett Vail of Philadelphia, and am glad to be able to advise you that Mr. Vail has been notified by telegraph that the Department is prepared to validate his passport for travel to India and Egypt as soon as his definite travel plans are known.

Sincerely yours,

R. B. Shipley
R. B. Shipley,
Chief, Passport Division

Mr. J. W. Pehle,
Acting Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D.C.



000733

FEB 24 1944

Dear Mr. Bermingham:

At the request of the American Friends Service Committee, I am forwarding to you herewith a copy of my letter of today to Mrs. Ruth B. Shipley, Chief, Passport Division, Department of State.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Rutledge Bermingham, Jr.,
Division of International
Communications,
Department of State,
1712 G Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure.

*Original signed
by Mr. Pehle*

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FEB 24 1944

Dear Mrs. Shipley:

I have been advised that there is presently pending before you the issuance of a passport to James G. Vail of the American Friends Service Committee.

In view of the urgency of Mr. Vail's proposed trip and the apparent seriousness of the refugee situation in Egypt and the problems which that area faces in the near future, I would appreciate appropriate action being taken to validate Mr. Vail's passport for Egypt.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mrs. Ruth B. Shipley,
Chief, Passport Division,
Department of State,
17th and F Streets,
Washington, D. C.

*Original signed
by Mr. Pehle*

JCA EBS

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CONTROL COPY

2. War Refugee Bd
PLAIN *in Public*

Algiers *expers*

Dated February 21, 1944

Rec'd 2:43 a.m., 22nd. *File*
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Secretary of State,
Washington.

564, twenty-first
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FROM FRYER FOR LEHMAN NO. 9.



*Bureau of
War Rel. Adm.
it is now
the
meeting of*

Reference Lehman 14 and FEA 233 January 24. Dis-
tribution of relief monies transferred here for use of
Friends stymied. Have recommended that Thomas P. Cope,
agent cashier now UNRRA, be authorized to act for FEA.
Better and immediately practical way to utilize this money
for relief of refugees is to authorize disbursing officer
Algiers to reimburse Friends for expenditures made from
their private funds upon presentation of properly certi-
fied subvouchers covering their disbursements for relief.
If such authority can be granted Friends will use nearly
all twenty thousand before June 30 and JDC representative
could use allotment you propose to make. Otherwise
present disbursing procedure too unflexible and cumber-
some to permit use of monies for relief purposes and
Friends will have great difficulty in expending allotment
made in their behalf before end fiscal year,

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COPY
February 17, 1944

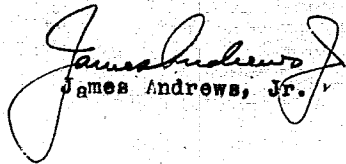
Mrs. Ruth B. Shipley
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mrs. Shipley:

I submit memorandum with regard to reassignment of
Baden-Baden internees which was discussed by you
and myself yesterday. We would be very appreciative
of any speedy attention this may receive from those
concerned with the decision.

Thank you again for the extensive period of time
which you provided for discussion yesterday.

Sincerely yours,


James Andrews, Jr.

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MEMORANDUM CONCERNING REQUEST OF
AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT
FOR REASSIGNMENT ABROAD OF FIVE BADEN BADEN INTERNEES

Purpose of Memorandum

The American Friends Service Committee requests of the State Department that five of the Committee's delegates now concerned in the exchange with the Germans (taking place in Lisbon at the end of this month) be allowed to leave the exchange party at Lisbon for reassignment to foreign relief work in Cairo, Egypt. It is the purpose of this memorandum to show the need and availability of these delegates. It is not our purpose to request any alteration in the exchange agreement or to delay or hamper in any way the technique of exchange. Our Committee is fully conscious of the service which has been rendered to us by the State Department in effecting this exchange and our present request is based upon our concern for those whom our delegates may serve in the Cairo area without in any way embarrassing the completion of the exchange.

The Need

Our Committee has one delegate in Cairo at the present time and among other reports he has made to us we are informed that 20,000 Jugo Slav refugees are expected in the Cairo area in the immediate future. In this connection, our delegate has suggested as one means of aiding these refugees that we ship some clothing to this area. This is indicative of only one of the needs which will have to be met with this large influx of refugees into the Cairo area. For some reference to other types of service which our Committee's delegates have performed with the refugees, we make reference to our work in Algiers and Casablanca in conjunction with the office of Foreign Relief and our work in Geneva which is familiar to the new War Refugee Board.

In addition to the immediate need in Cairo, our Committee has tentatively accepted an invitation extended to a number of private agencies in the United States from the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to supply personnel which would be assembled in Cairo in anticipation of future relief work in the Balkans. With the present shortage of personnel and of travel facilities it seems unreasonable to us that our five delegates from Baden Baden should return to this country if they could be reassigned to Cairo without any hindrance to the exchange negotiations. We would wish them to deal, at Cairo, with the immediate refugee situation, then to join with any efforts which may be made by United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration to operate in the Balkan area.

Availability

We have received through the Special War Problems Division of the State Department a cable from the United States Consul in Berne, Switzerland stating that reassignment abroad is desired by the following of our delegates at Baden Baden :

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Gilbert White
Russell Richie
Roderic Davison
Herbert Lagler
Jane Lagler
Burritt Hiatt

The Committee desires that Burritt Hiatt return to the United States for consultation and that the other five persons be validated for travel to Cairo. Without detailing their qualifications, we wish to call attention to the fact that they have the freshest experience in relief work of any of our personnel available for Cairo, having spent considerable time performing such work in Southern France prior to its occupation by the Germans.

Transportation

We understand that the terms of exchange agreement would require that anyone leaving the party for any reason whatever must leave the exchange point (Lisbon) before the exchange boat sails. There is some chance that transportation would be available and it is our concern that everything be done which is necessary to place our five delegates in a position to travel if facilities are available during the period of their time in Lisbon. We request the State Department to validate these five persons for Cairo subject to transportation being available.

Arrangements for transportation must obviously be made in Lisbon and we have cabled our representative in Lisbon as follows:

LC PHILIP CONARD
RUA DE DOMPEDRO V
LISBON (PORTUGAL) VIA COMMERCIAL

NINETYSEVEN HIATT AND COMPANIONS DUE LISBON SOON STOP
RESERVE SPACE FOR IMMEDIATE TRANSFER DIRECT TO CAIRO
CONDITIONAL ON VALIDATION STOP WE FAVORABLY CONSIDERING
UHRRA INVITATION JUST RECEIVED SUPPLY PERSONNEL BALKANS
STOP FOLLOWING ORDER OF OUR PREFERENCE WHITE RICHIE
DAVISON LAGLERS ADVISE HIATT RETURN HERE FOR CONSULTATION

PICKETT AMERICAN FRIENDS

Under these arrangements we feel sure our delegate will make efforts to obtain space for the five persons in order of our preference. Even if only one of our delegates in the Baden exchange could go to Cairo under the available transit facilities, we would feel that our concern for those in need had been met in some measure.

Conclusion

We understand that with regard to certain specific cases persons have left an exchange party enroute. If it is a question of objection to any one of these individuals, we would be glad to furnish the

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State Department with further personal particulars or to change the order of our preference indicated in the cablegram to Lisbon so that arrangements for release in Lisbon could be confined to those who would measure up to any State Department requirements. This memorandum is submitted with the thought that it would clarify, for those making the decision, the background against which rulings of policy or legal interpretation may be made.

Thursday
February 17, 1944.

AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE

James Andrews Jr.
Administrative Assistant
to the Foreign Service Secretary

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American Friends Service Committee

20 South Twelfth Street



Philadelphia, Penna.

GENERAL RELIEF BULLETIN

Bulletin #B.

May be Used for Editorial Comment and Re-publication October 8, 1943.

SPAIN

All over the world millions of people have been driven from their homes and homelands by war and by political and racial persecution. The care of these people and their restoration to freedom and independence will be one of the pressing tasks of inter-governmental and private relief agencies at the close of the present war.

The approximate 12,000 to 18,000 refugees in Spain present in miniature many of the problems of care which will be met on so colossal a scale at the close of the war. Fleeing from occupied Europe, most of the men and women who have sought haven in Spain are without money, without identifying papers and with only the clothing on their backs. Ignorant of the laws of the country in which they have sought haven, they inevitably become involved in infractions of regulations designed for quite other situations. The first unhappy stopping place of these harried newcomers is the prison or internment camp.

Services for Stateless

The relief office of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee and the American Friends Service Committee in Madrid, established in January 1943, is concerned primarily with arrangements for the release of these refugees from prison and camps and their departure from Spain. This office is under the direction of two American representatives sent abroad under joint sponsorship of the Brethren Service Committee and the American Friends Service Committee. Its services are directed specifically to representation for those individuals who are stateless and who do not have the same opportunities for appealing to their diplomatic representatives which are available to others. These stateless persons include nationals of occupied countries who have no representatives in Spain; persons who reject their legal nationality and do not wish to place themselves at the disposition of the authorities who represent in Spain their country of origin; and those who have been deprived of their nationality because of racial laws. All these stateless persons are technically under the care of the Spanish Red Cross acting for the International Red Cross.

In caring for the interests of these newcomers in their relations with Spanish and foreign authorities, the Madrid relief office provides a variety of services. These include:

Financial assistance.

Payment of money transfers sent from the United States by persons or organizations to specific individuals in Spain.

Counseling on general refugee and immigration questions.

Arrangement for migration of children to the United States under the auspices of the United States Committee for the Care of European Children.

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General Bulletin
The identity of or of
departure even with
officials of Spain
travel

Assistance in arranging for the release of refugees in camps and prisons.

Help in communicating with friends and relatives abroad.

Medical care where possible.

Search for the solution to the general refugee situation in Spain.

Liberation and Release from Prison

One of the first tasks of the Madrid relief office has been to arrange for the release of internees from prisons and internment camps. Technically when an application for freedom is granted the refugee is "liberated". He can be freed only when the conditions of his release have been fulfilled. To effect his release it is necessary for his diplomatic representatives to visit the camp and assume responsibility for his departure from Spain. Representatives of the Madrid relief office act for the stateless in this capacity. It is usually possible to arrange for temporary release to enable the individual to make his personal applications at the consulate and to complete arrangements for leaving the country. Some 456 men have been liberated by the Madrid office since January. Release from camp is granted only to facilitate departure from Spain. This departure is obligatory.

For the men who must wait in camp for liberation and release, some assistance is essential. This may be in the form of financial grants for food supplements, transmittal of requests for funds from friends and relatives abroad, location of personal documents, conference with a consulate regarding a visa which has expired. Frequently the refugee appeals for assistance for a friend in another internment place.

Minimum Needs

During the period between his release from prison or camp and his departure, the individual refugee needs emergency help. He must have money to provide food and lodging. Frequently he is seriously debilitated from his long residence in internment camps in Germany, France, and Spain, and needs medical and dental care. His clothing is usually threadbare. There is little clothing for sale and that little is expensive. The large shipment of clothing which the Committee is sending from the United States to Spain this month will meet an acute need.

The rare refugee who has been able to bring a little money into Spain finds himself in difficulty. Regulations governing the import and export of currency are unusually strict. Because of his illegal entry he has not declared it at the point of entrance. Spanish authorities do recognize, however, that in many cases there is no attempt to deceive the authorities. The breaking of the monetary regulations is an unavoidable consequence of having crossed the frontier illegally. Yet the innocent infraction must be cleared as part of the refugee's preparation for departure.

Diplomat for Refugees

Spanish laws affecting refugees rest on the presumption that he will be supported by his consulate or diplomatic representative. Any application to regularize his status, to obtain a ration card or exit visa or to arrange his journey must be accompanied by a letter from his diplomatic representative. Stateless persons are without such support. As mutual confidence has developed between the Madrid relief office and Spanish authorities, there has been increasing recognition by Spanish officials that the American relief committees shall represent the stateless individual in much the way that diplomatic groups sponsor their own nationals. This has been particularly important in connection with applications for exit permits.

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The fact that so many stateless persons have no papers to prove either their identity or original nationality has been a serious handicap to arrangements for departure even when the individual has the assurance of a destination visa. Consular officials of some countries are, after an examination, willing to stamp the visa on travel papers which they, themselves, prepare. Many governments, however, will not authorize the granting of visas, even after formal approval, unless some other authority will provide identification papers. Formerly Spanish authorities issued a special stateless passport, but discontinued this because they felt they had insufficient evidence of identity to justify such documents. It has now been arranged for the Madrid relief office to prepare certificates of identity together with proof that a destination visa is available. On presentation of this certification, Spanish officials issue the necessary travel documents.

The work in Spain represents grave responsibility and frequently requires direct negotiation and the most careful and full presentation of facts. To the crowded and busy office in Madrid come men and women of every European nationality, with the tragedy of cruel and bitter experiences reflected in faces old beyond their years. It is a service not easily measured in statistics, for it seeks to restore to freedom those who are without a country and who for long years have been deprived of human dignity.

The interest and support of the American Embassy in Madrid, the cordial attitude of the Spanish Red Cross and the increasing understanding by officials of the refugee problems have facilitated this difficult and arduous service.

* * * *

Enclosed with this bulletin is a folder, "Must European Children Starve?" Additional copies are available at the Committee office.

Contributors will be interested in the moving appeal of Therese Bonney's new book, "Europe's Children". This distinguished photographer has recorded with skill and artistry the plight of the children of war. Her pictures describe as no words can the plight of children and appeal for prompt help. "Europe's Children" is available through Account 123, National City Bank of New York, 32nd Street Branch, 1 Park Avenue, New York City. Price \$3.00. A few copies of this limited edition are available through the Service Committee.

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