

ARMENIAN RELIEF CORPS, INC.

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

MFD-1749

Distribution of this message by  
reading only by Special Services  
arrangement.

RECEIVED Bern  
Dated April 20, 1945

Rec'd 5:58 p.m.

1945 APR 21 PM 1 09

Secretary of State,

Washington. DC/L  
LIAISON

*our Ref. Bd.  
G. Sawyer*

2315, April 20, 8 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

**CONTROL COPY**

Regarding possible relief to Armenians in Germany

ICRC has now informed us that (Department's 1350  
WRB's 484 April 5) committee possesses no utilizable  
information whatever concerning Armenian refugees  
of POWs in Germany.

There are apparently Armenians among Russian  
POWs but their number and location are unknown since  
Germans have never as general rule supplied ICRC with  
data on Soviet POWs. There are similarly doubtless  
Armenian forced laborers deported from Soviet Union  
to German occupied regions but any information concerning  
their number or whereabouts are also lacking. ICRC  
has never, as you know, undertaken relief programs for  
forced workers in Germany.

Any needy Armenian civil detainee who happens to be  
in a concentration camp accessible to our WRB deliveries  
will benefit from them exactly as do inmates of others  
nationalities.

HARRISON

JMS

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-77  
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 1 1974**  
**SEP 1 1972**

WARNING  
For security reasons the  
text of this message must  
be closely guarded.

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

RECEIVED  
DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
**INCOMING  
TELEGRAM**

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

1945 APR 13 AM 11 31

MJW-970  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. ( [REDACTED] )

DC/L

LIAISON

Born

Dated April 12, 1945

Rec'd 6:46 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

2144, April 12, 1 p.m.

X

WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

Department's 1350 WRBS 484, April 5

ICRC informs me that it is unfortunately no longer physically possible ship relief goods from Switzerland to region of Yugoslavia where Camps of Masenovac and Starogradiska are located. Along with camp of Jablanac they are on Sava River about 100 kilometers due south east of Zagreb in territory either a fighting zone or already taken over by Tito. Only possible relief channel would therefore seem to be via Italy.

Katzki is taking up question of Armenians in Germany and possible relief to them with Burekhardt of ICRC this week in Geneva.

HARRISON

VMB

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78  
By E. H. Parks Date **SEP 1 1972**

April 5, 1945

4 p.m.

AMLEGATION

BERN

1350  
X

The following for McClelland is WRB 484.

The Association of Yugoslav Jews in the United States has called to the attention of the Board the plight of 1,000 to 1,200 Yugoslav nationals who are held under appalling conditions in concentration camps near Jasenovac and Stara Gradiska in Croatia. They represent this group to be the remnants of an original population of 20,000. Kindly call this matter to the attention of Invercross with a view (a) to making WRB food parcels available to this group, and (b) ultimate evacuation if such is possible.

Likewise, the Armenian Relief Corps, Inc. here has called our attention to the suffering of Armenian refugees and prisoners of war within Germany. Their informant, one Armik Djamalian, an Armenian and resident of Geneva and Berlin, indicates that there are more than 40,000 who are in need of aid. Mr. Djamalian advises that Burckhard has promised to help with transportation of anything that can be sent to this group. Their needs are clothing, food and medicine. It is suggested that if this group can be reached, they too, share in the distribution of WRB food parcels.

ACHESON  
(ACTING)  
(GHV)

WRB:MMG:KG  
4/5/45

WE

SE

NE

SWP

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Cohn, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel,  
Hutchison, McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files.

*Control and "concentration"  
of Yugoslav Jews in U.S.*

*Armenian Relief Corps, Inc.*  
*(new file)*

APR 3 - 1945

Mr. S. Beadegule, Secretary  
Central Committee of the  
Armenian Relief Corps, Inc.  
212 Stuart Street  
Boston 16, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Beadegule:

I am pleased to acknowledge your letter of March 22 regarding the plight of Armenian refugees and prisoners of war in Germany.

We have directed a communication to our representative in Bern advising him of the information passed on to you by Mr. Arak Djamalian. Our representative has been instructed to do everything possible to assist these refugees.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director

*EBT* FH:PJM:1np 4/3/45 *JCA*



ARMENIAN RELIEF CORPS, INC.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF AMERICA

212 Stuart Street Boston 16, Mass.

March 22, 1945

Mr. Paul McCormack  
War Refugee Board, Treasury Depart.  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. McCormack:

We have received a letter through the International Red Cross from an Armenian gentleman, Armik Djamalian of Geneva and Berlin, who is asking our immediate assistance for Armenian refugees and prisoners of war in Germany.

Mr. Djamalian is informing us that immediate assistance is needed to alleviate the suffering of Armenian refugees and prisoners of war in Germany. He writes that there are more than forty thousand who should receive aid.

Our agency is anxious to send help to this group as soon as possible. Mr. Djamalian advises us that Prof. Burckhard, the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Geneva, has promised to help with the transportation of anything we can send.

The request is mostly for clothing, nourishing food, medicine and cigarettes for prisoners. We have written to the International and the American Red Cross for their suggestions and advice on how we could send aid to these unfortunates in Germany. The American Red Cross advised us to write to you. We would like very much to get your help in this matter.

Very truly yours,  
Central Committee of the  
Armenian Relief Corps, Inc.

*S. Desdegule* Secretary

S. Desdegule