Licenses: American Friends Service Committee
(Phila., 1929-4)
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency. (UNCLASSIFIED)

Secretary of State,

Washington,

6160, September 28, 7 p.m.
FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND.
FOR R.

Embassy 5718, September 1, 2 p.m.

American Friends Service Committee, Geneva, would greatly appreciate advice whether authorization purchase foodstuffs for refugees France outlined in our 5718 can be granted. Joint Relief Commission is pressing for an answer stating option on foodstuffs cannot be maintained much longer. Friends office at Geneva has already received Swiss franc equivalent $15,000 from Philadelphia and would like to proceed purchase at least of foodstuffs of Swiss origin.

HARRISON

3MB
On September 4, I telephoned Mr. Kaier of FEA with respect to the attached cable from Bern (No. 5713 of September 1). I was advised that Mr. Kaier was on vacation and would not return for about a week. On September 12, Mr. Kaier called me and I called his attention to the report from the American Friends concerning the proposed purchase of foodstuffs of non-Swiss origin. I asked him to let me know, as soon as possible, whether FEA would clear the Friends' request. After discussing the matter with FEA, Mr. Kaier called back and advised me that France is no longer regarded as an area within the blockade and that the problem raised is one for clearance with the Army. He suggested that the American Friends obtain such clearance from General Milldring's office.

On September 14, I telephoned Mr. Andrews of the American Friends and advised him of the foregoing, as well as the contents of the message of September 1, giving the details of the proposed purchases. Mr. Andrews will discuss the matter with his people in Philadelphia and let us know if there is anything further we can do. In my discussion with him, I explained that if the people to be helped are in liberated areas in France the problem is no longer within the jurisdiction of the War Refugee Board.

F. Hodel

9-14-44
WASHINGTON, September 1, 2 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

For FEK from American Friends Service Committee

Genova: “Following purchases through Joint Relief Commission
IRC planned: 10,000 kilograms macaroni from Hungary, 3000
kilograms sugar from Slovakia for combining with Swiss
fruit to can 6000 kilograms jam in Switzerland, 250 cases
(48 boxes of 340 grams each) unsweetened condensed milk
and 3200 250 gram boxes cheese, last two items of Swiss
origin. Total value approximately 60,000 Swiss francs”.

HARRISON

WSB
American Friends Service Committee  
Twenty South Twelfth Street  
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania  

September 6, 1944  

J. W. Pehle, Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Treasury Building  
Washington 25, D. C.  

Attention: Miss Florence Hodel  

Dear Mr. Pehle:  

As you know we recently received a treasury license amending license #PH14294 to permit the purchase of $10,000 of French francs as requested in our letter of July 26. The $10,000 were immediately transmitted to Switzerland and we have today received a cable from our delegate there acknowledging their receipt. The cable includes the following messages:  

REGARDING $25,000 FOR REFUGEES FRANCS UNDER SPECIAL U S TREASURY LICENSE WITH OUR LEGATION'S APPROVAL RECENTLY REMITTED TO SECURE QUAKER FRENCH FRANC EQUIVALENT $10,000 AT VERY ADVANTAGEOUS RATE STOP  

CONCERNING $15,000 BALANCE WE SUBMITTING THROUGH LEGATION THIS WEEK FOR FEA'S APPROVAL PROJECTED PURCHASE FOLLOWING ITEMS:  

TWO TONS BOXED CHEESE AND  
250 CASES UNSWEETENED CONDENSED MILK  
BOTH OF SWISS ORIGIN,  
TEN TONS OF MACARONI FROM HUNGARY,  
THREE TONS SUGAR FROM SLOVAKIA FOR COMBINING WITH SWISS FRUIT TO CAN,  
SIX TONS JAM HERE STOP  

Since the restrictions limiting the purchase of foodstuffs to those of Swiss origin are not in the license itself or the amended license, we understand that it will not be necessary for a new license to be issued if and when permission to buy food of non-Swiss origin is granted. We are, therefore, today remitting $15,000 to Mrs. McClelland in Geneva under the amended license #PH14532E. In this way there will be no delay when the purchase of non-Swiss food is authorized. If by any chance such purchases should not be authorized, we are now quite optimistic as to the relatively early possibility of purchases of Swiss foodstuffs.
The same cable, quoted above, from Mrs. McClelland advises of the completion of purchases under the $100,000 transmitted for French child feeding in April. We would not want this fact, however, to interfere with the possible broadening of the purchase authorizations which we have requested, as the more flexible arrangements can be the better are the possibilities of getting into France at an early date. We understand that we will hear either from you, Mr. O'Flaherty, or the FEA in the event that the purchase of non-Swiss foodstuffs is authorized.

You will be interested to know that early in August Mrs. McClelland was able to ship to Secours Quaker in Paris another portion of the child feeding purchases under a special arrangement with the Joint Commission of the International Red Cross. She is expecting to ship the balance to Marseille as soon as possible.

We very much appreciate your assistance in these transactions.

Sincerely yours,

Lindsley Noble

LHN:1wd
This is to advise you that the Legation's September 1
telegram No. 5718 is in reference to the August 14 cable
No. 2762 from the Department.

HARRISON
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington

TO: American Legation, Bern

DATED: August 14, 1944

NUMBER: 2785

FOR McCLELLAND:

Please promptly inform Mrs. Marjorie McClelland, 7 Rue des Chaudronniers, Geneva, that Treasury Department has licensed American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, to authorize her, as its representative in Switzerland, to utilize from funds being remitted under such license, the Swiss franc equivalent of $10,000 for the purchase of French francs for the relief of displaced persons in France provided such French francs are purchased in the manner which shall be prescribed by the War Refugee Board representative at Bern. For the guidance of the War Refugee Board representative, he may authorize the purchase of such French francs by any of the three methods provided in the basic licenses being issued to relief organizations with respect to operations in enemy territory.

The foregoing license has the approval of the Department, Treasury and the War Refugee Board.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 121.

HULL
CABLE TO HARRISON AND MCCLELLAND, BERN.

Please promptly inform Mrs. Marjorie McClelland, 7 Rue des Chaudronniers, Geneva, that Treasury Department has licensed American Friends Service Committee, Philadelphia, to authorize her, as its representative in Switzerland, to utilize from funds being remitted under such license, the Swiss franc equivalent of $10,000 for the purchase of French francs for the relief of displaced persons in France provided such French francs are purchased in the manner which shall be prescribed by the War Refugee Board representative at Bern. For the guidance of the War Refugee Board representative, he may authorize the purchase of such French francs by any of the three methods provided in the basic licenses being issued to relief organizations with respect to operations in enemy territory.

The foregoing license has the approval of the Department, Treasury and the War Refugee Board.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 121

2:25 p.m.
August 12, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Scofy) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Model, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Mannon, McCormack, Cable Control Files

RBPark:FMmodel:jth 8/12/44
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Paraphrased and sent August 14, 11 a.m.

Foreign Economic Administration

ALLEGATION:

NAME
2783

FROM: GROVLEY AND STONE, FEA

Your 4433, July 11

You will be informed separately concerning proposal for use of $10,000 for purchase of French francs.

Regarding proposed purchase of foodstuffs of non-Swiss origin, please supply particulars concerning amounts, kinds and origin of foodstuffs thus contemplated.

HULL
(RLH)

DOR: RLH: ATM
MEMORANDUM

For attachment to:

FFC Letter No:

Date:

TO: Liaison Officer, Foreign Funds Control

FROM: War Refugee Board

Subject: Amendment to Philadelphia 14224

There is transmitted herewith a copy of a letter dated July 28, 1944, from the American Friends Service Committee dealing with a request for an amendment to license No. PH. 14224 so as to permit the American Friends Service Committee to authorize its representative in Switzerland to purchase from funds on hand French francs for relief of displaced persons in France.

The War Refugee Board recommends that appropriate Treasury licenses and other necessary documents be issued permitting the execution of the project contemplated in the letter described above.

Remarks: Stipulate French francs to be acquired in manner prescribed in Section 1 of basic licenses being issued with respect to relief and evacuation operations in enemy territory.

For the War Refugee Board

Action:

Basic license No. W- issued
Remittance license No. PHILA.14224 issued August 12, 1944
Other:

Liaison Officer
Foreign Funds Control

Date: AUG 12 1944
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF PHILADELPHIA
FOREIGN FUNDS CONTROL DEPARTMENT

Philadelphia 14294. Please send license dated July 10, 1944, so as also to
permit payment designated therein to utilize out of the total remitted there-
under the Swiss franc equivalent of $10,000 for the purchase of French francs
for relief of displaced persons in France provided such French francs are
purchased in the manner which shall be prescribed by the War Refugees Board
representative at Bern, Switzerland. Other terms and conditions unchanged.

(Initialed) O.A.S.

Orvin A. Schmidt
Acting Director

402

RSParke 8-11-44
AMERICAN FRIENDS SERVICE COMMITTEE
Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

July 26, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle
Office of the Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

We would like to apply through your good offices for an amendment to Treasury Department License #PL-14294, dated July 10, 1944, under which we were authorized to remit $25,000 to Switzerland for the purchase of foodstuffs for distribution in France to needy displaced persons.

A message from our representative in Geneva, which your office forwarded to us on July 17, requested that authority be granted to use $10,000 of the amount for the purchase of French francs and to use the balance for the purchase of foodstuffs of non-Swiss origin. The French francs and food would still be used in France for the relief of displaced persons in accordance with the terms of the original license.

As it might be possible to secure approval for the purchase of French francs more rapidly than to obtain permission to purchase foodstuffs of non-Swiss origin, we would like to make application for these two changes independently of each other. We feel that the most urgent need is probably for the French francs and would like, if possible, to have that authorization granted without the delay which will probably ensue in connection with the other request. Miss Hodel is thoroughly familiar with this proposed project.

In the same message from our Geneva representative, the suggestion was made that the Swiss francs remaining from a sum of $100,000 recently transmitted to Switzerland for the benefit of the child feeding program in France be used for the expenditures contemplated under the license provided for displaced persons. I have discussed this matter with Mr. Park of Foreign Funds Control and explained that the funds now in Switzerland have been restricted by the donors to use for children in France and must be held for that purpose.
We would, therefore, require the additional Swiss francs which we were authorized to purchase, under license #PH-14294, from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York as fiscal agent of the United States. Mr. Park indicated that we would probably have no difficulty in securing additional Swiss francs for this purpose.

Thanking you for any assistance you may be able to give us in securing modifications of this license, I am

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Lindsley H. Noble

Lindsley H. Noble
American Friends Service Committee
Twenty South Twelfth Street
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania

July 26, 1944

Mr. J. W. Fehle
Office of the Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.

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Thanking you for any assistance you may be able to give us in securing modifications of this license, I am

Sincerely yours,

Lindsay Noble

[Signature]
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: July 11, 1944
NUMBER: 4423

McClelland transmits the following for the War Refugee Board and American Friends Service Committee.

Reference is made herewith to Department's cable of June 15, no. 2062.

It is recommended after consultation with the Legation, in view of the difficulty, if not impossibility, of obtaining suitable foodstuffs of Swiss origin to be sent to Secours Quaker in France for distribution by them under ICRC supervision to refugees and needy displaced persons, both in and out of camps, that you ask the Treasury Department if license for $25,000 can be amended to permit (1) purchase of French francs equivalent $10,000 of which Secours Quaker has signified their need and (2) purchase of foodstuffs of non-Swiss origin.

It is suggested, in order to avoid transferring additional funds (and placing a new demand on Federal Reserve quota of Swiss francs), that you authorize us to use for this purpose 100,000 Swiss francs of unexpendable balance of $100,000 still in the hands of Croix Mixte, there being little possibility of finding more foodstuffs of Swiss origin especially milk products, suitable for children to be purchased with this balance. Too, unfortunately, it is most doubtful now if 50 tons already purchased can be shipped into France at all due to the
to the chaotic transportation conditions in that country which are likely to grow worse. At the end of this month I will report on shipping possibilities again.

You might also consider the feasibility of allotting 50,000 Swiss francs from same unspent balance for our office budget remainder 1944, in view of this state of affairs.

HARRISON

7/14/44