

Russian Refugees

000761

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

**CONTROL COPY**

Ankara

Dated August 10, 1944

Rec'd 9:17 p.m., 11th.

FBM-836  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (P-W)

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

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

1470, August 10, 11 p.m.

FOR PEHIE WRB FROM HIRSCHMANN

Contents of Department's 683, August 5 will be  
brought to attention of Cretzianu by me at my next  
meeting with him which I expect will be before  
August 15. I shall also discuss the matter at  
the Soviet Embassy.

KELLEY

WMB JJM

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS  
(LANSON)  
1944 AUG 12 PM 12 05

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 12 1972

000762

*2 War Ref Bd  
Rehe*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Embassy, Moscow  
DATED: August 5, 1944  
NUMBER: 1872

**CONTROL COPY**

**The War Refugee Board has received the following cable from its representative in Bern:**

**QUOTE** Recently received urgent appeal from Mixed Relief Commission of ICRC based on reports from de Steiger ICRC delegate Bucharest regarding plight several thousand Soviet refugees who have been forced leave their homes by retreating German Army. 5500 such refugees are in Transylvania 1200 Tatars Province of Dobrudjia and many more thousands in other provinces of Rumania. Their situation is extremely precarious they have no right to work and no relief for them has been organized. ICRC appeals for funds purchase pharmaceutical products clothing Switzerland and to supply their delegates on spot with money to purchase foodstuffs and fuel. ICRC delegates have already approached Rumanian Government in attempt to secure work permits for these people. I forward this appeal to you for any helpful action you feel might be undertaken. **UNQUOTE**

We send you the foregoing report as of interest to the Soviet Government and for its information. In submitting the information

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 12 1972

000763

RECEIVED  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD  
OCT 2 1946

information please advise the Soviet authorities that the War Refugee Board will be pleased to do everything possible to arrange for the relief of the groups referred to if the Soviet authorities so wish, or any other suggestion which they may make will be considered by the Board.

STETTINIUS  
(Acting)

000764

CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN, MOSCOW

The War Refugee Board has received the following cable from its representative in Bern:

QUOTE Recently received urgent appeal from Mixed Relief Commission of ICRG based on reports from de Steiger ICRG delegate Bucharest regarding plight several thousand Soviet refugees who have been forced leave their homes by retreating German Army. 5800 such refugees are in Transylvania 1200 Tatars Province of Dobrudjia and many more thousands in other provinces of Rumania. Their situation is extremely precarious they have no right to work and no relief for them has been organized. ICRG appeals for funds purchase pharmaceutical products clothing Switzerland and to supply their delegates on spot with money to purchase foodstuffs and fuel. ICRG delegates have already approached Rumanian Government in attempt to secure work permits for these people. I forward this appeal to you for any helpful action you feel might be undertaken. UNQUOTE

The War Refugee Board is anxious to do everything possible to arrange for aid for these refugees if they are bona fide Soviet victims of enemy oppression. It is suggested that inquiry be made of the appropriate Russian officials whether the Russian Government has any information concerning the plight of these refugees and also whether the Russian Government has any specific suggestion as to the manner in which the War Refugee Board could assist in ameliorating their condition. Meanwhile the Board is requesting its representative in Angara to investigate and report concerning the situation disclosed by the ICRG cable.

2:30 p.m.  
August 1, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Mannon, McCormack, Cable Control Files

ms  
MSargoy/MJMarks:dh 7/31/44

See 4251 Bern  
7/28

000765

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

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TO BE SENT IN [redacted]

1944 AUG 8 AM 10 26

August 5, 1944

8 p.m.

*War Ref Bd (Mr)*

EMBASSY,

ANKARA.  
693.

COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS  
(LIAISON)

The cable below for Hirschmann is WRB 89.

For security reasons the text of this message is being furnished.

The War Refugee Board is sending the following cable

to Ambassador Harriman in Moscow:

QUOTE The War Refugee Board has received the following

cable from its representative in Bern.

INNERQUOTE Recently received urgent appeal from

Mixed Relief Commission of ICRC based on reports from  
de Steiger ICRC delegate Bucharest regarding plight several  
thousand Soviet refugees who have been forced leave their  
homes by retreating German Army. 5500 such refugees are in  
Transylvania 1200 Tatars Province of Dobrudjia and many more  
thousands in other provinces of Rumania. Their situation  
is extremely precarious they have no right to work and no  
relief for them has been organized. ICRC appeals for funds  
purchase pharmaceutical products clothing Switzerland and to  
supply their delegates on spot with money to purchase food-  
stuffs and fuel. ICRC delegates have already approached  
Rumanian Government in attempt to secure work permits for  
these people. I forward this appeal to you for any helpful  
action you feel might be undertaken END OF INNERQUOTE.

Kindly transmit the above report as of interest and a

matter

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 12 1972

000766

TO BE SENT IN [REDACTED]

-2-#695, August 5, 8 p.m., 69 AMBRO

matter of information to the Soviet Government. Kindly advise the Soviet authorities in submitting this information that the War Refugee Board will be pleased to do everything possible to arrange for the relief of the groups mentioned in the cable from Bern if the Soviet authorities so desire, or to take any other measures on the suggestion of the Soviet authorities.

UNQUOTE

Please investigate and report to the Board any information which you may obtain concerning this situation.

STETTINIUS  
ACTING  
(GLW)

s/CR

WRB:MMV:KG  
8/6/44

NE

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SC

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 12 1972

000767

CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO KELLEY FOR HIRSCHMANN, ANKARA.

The War Refugee Board is sending the following cable to Ambassador Harriman in Moscow:

QUOTE The War Refugee Board has received the following cable from its representative in Bern.

INNERQUOTE Recently received urgent appeal from Mixed Relief Commission of ICRC based on reports from de Steiger ICRC delegate Bucharest regarding plight several thousand Soviet refugees who have been forced leave their homes by retreating German Army. 5500 such refugees are in Transylvania 1200 Tatars Province of Dobrudjia and many more thousands in other provinces of Rumania. Their situation is extremely precarious they have no right to work and no relief for them has been organized. ICRC appeals for funds purchase pharmaceutical products clothing Switzerland and to supply their delegates on spot with money to purchase foodstuffs and fuel. ICRC delegates have already approached Rumanian Government in attempt to secure work permits for these people. I forward this appeal to you for any helpful action you feel might be undertaken. END OF INNERQUOTE

The War Refugee Board is anxious to do everything possible to arrange for aid for these refugees if they are bona fide Soviet victims of enemy oppression. It is suggested that inquiry be made of the appropriate Russian officials whether the Russian Government has any information concerning the plight of these refugees and also whether the Russian Government has any specific suggestion as to the manner in which the War Refugee Board could assist in ameliorating their condition. Meanwhile the Board is requesting its representative in Ankara to investigate and report concerning the situation disclosed by the ICRC cable. UNQUOTE

Please investigate and report to the Board any information which you may obtain concerning this situation.

This is War Refugee Board cable to Ankara No. 89.

2:30 p.m.  
August 1, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Mannon, McCormack, Cable Control Files

ms *Myra Qa*  
MSargoy/MJmarks: dh 7/31/44

SEE 1451 2/2/44

000768



TO: MR. FLEEDMAN.....

Inasmuch as this involves the Soviet Government with which Rumania is at war, I don't think Hirschmann should approach Cretzianu until we receive a reply to our Moscow cable, as the Russian attitude toward communication with the enemy is known. Unfortunately it is too late to stop Hirschmann, as he expected to see Cretzianu before today.

I recommend that a letter be written to Hirschmann clarifying our policy with regard to his approaching representatives of both enemy governments and friendly foreign governments.

*MJM* 8/14/44

Matthew J. Marks TR-6

000769

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

GEM-778

PLAIN

Bern

Dated July 28, 1944

Rec'd 11:01 p.m.

**CONTROL COPY**

Secretary of State,  
Washington,

4851, Twenty-eighth

WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

Recently received urgent appeal from Mixed Relief Commission of ICRC based on reports from de Steiger ICRC delegate Bucharest regarding plight several thousand Soviet refugees who have been forced leave their homes by retreating German Army. 5500 such refugees are in Transylvania 1200 Tatars Province of Dobrudjia and many more thousands in other provinces of Rumania. Their situation is extremely precarious they have no right to work and no relief for them has been organized. ICRC appeals for funds purchase pharmaceutical products clothing Switzerland and to supply their delegates on spot with money to purchase foodstuffs and fuel. ICRC delegates have already approached Rumanian Government in attempt to secure work permits for these people. I forward this appeal to you for any helpful action you feel might be undertaken.

HARRISON

HTM

000770