The United Yugoslav
Relief Fund of America

... a member agency of the National
War Fund, presents this account of its
activities, including a list of relief proj­
ects financed by it during 1943 and 1944

WAR REFUGEE BOARD RECORDS
THE UNITED YUGOSLAV RELIEF FUND OF AMERICA came into being in the summer of 1942. It is a non-denominational and non-political organization whose purpose is to help all suffering Yugoslavs, through authorized channels, wherever and wherever they can be reached, without regard to their religious, racial or political background. Registered with and licensed by the President's War Relief Control Board, the Fund immediately sought the support of War Chests throughout the country.

Early in 1943, the UYRF became a member agency of the National War Fund, established channels for the distribution of relief, and began extending its organization nationally. Thirty-five UYRF committees and chapters were formed. Among these were the following groups which agreed to surrender or suspend their independent licenses and continue as chapters of the Fund: the Yugoslav War Relief Association of Southern California, Los Angeles; the Committee for Yugoslav War Relief, San Francisco; the American Yugoslav Defense League, Cupertino, California; the Yugoslav War Relief Association of the State of Washington, Seattle, and the Yugoslav Relief Fund Association of Chicago.

During 1943 and up to October 1944, because of conditions abroad, the major part of the UYRF's program was devoted to aiding Yugoslav prisoners of war, as will be noted in the list of "Relief Projects Financed By The UYRF." The responsibility for assisting prisoners of war was then assumed by governmental agencies, a step which was welcomed by the UYRF because the Yugoslav prisoners were thus in a position to enjoy far greater help than could possibly be provided by a private relief agency. The Fund's other relief projects were immediately expanded.

In the fall of 1943, the UYRF broadened its relief scope still further and launched a project to meet, at least in part, the desperate need of the Yugoslav people for clothing. This project includes the collection of serviceable used clothing, and the making of layettes and new garments for children five years of age and under. In February 1944, the Fund opened a warehouse in New York City for the purpose of assembling and processing garments for shipment overseas. Approximately 135,000 pounds of clothing, including 13,000 new garments for children, have already been shipped abroad for distribution to Yugoslavs.

In 1945 the UYRF expended for relief $11,935.12 and in 1944 $1,050,555.88.

The United Yugoslav Relief Fund of America is now planning even greater activity in the collection of clothing. Also, as it has been fortunate in securing the wholehearted cooperation of organized labor and the enthusiastic support of church groups and sewing circles, as well as of its own committees throughout the country, in making layettes and children's garments, the Fund is arranging for a considerable extension of this project.

In addition to helping supply the basic needs of the people of Yugoslavia, other relief plans for them include the continuation of sending medical supplies, the providing of food of high nutritive content for children and, in cooperation with the proper authorities, the sponsoring of a public health program for Yugoslavia.

Now that Yugoslavia has been completely liberated, it is the hope and intention of the United Yugoslav Relief Fund of America to meet, to the limit of its ability and in even greater measure than in the past, the many and urgent needs of the Yugoslav people.

The United Yugoslav Relief Fund of America does not undertake any relief projects without the consent of the President's War Relief Control Board and of the National War Fund. As proposals for new projects are received by the Fund's Board of Directors from various authentic sources, they are referred to the President's War Relief Control Board for consideration, and if approved are submitted to the National War Fund for financing. National Headquarters then proceeds to arrange for procurement, shipment and distribution of the materials involved.

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From January 1, 1943 to December 31, 1944, the United Yugoslav Relief Fund of America spent $1,948,638.10 for the following relief projects:

**Aid to Yugoslav Prisoners of War**

Invalid Food Parcels:
(Dried whole milk, Velveeta cheese, Army spread or butter, chopped ham and egg, corned pork loaf, liver pate, orange concentrate, prunes, bouillon powder, soluble coffee, sugar, ascorbic acid tablets, flour and cigarettes.)

Medical Kits:
(Absorbent cotton, U. S. P.; Phenoral Topical, gauze sponge, adhesive plaster, Readi-bandages, sodium bicarbonate, pill compound cathartic, yellow oxide of mercury ointment, boric acid, blue ointment, sulphur ointment, Tanexin (tannic acid burn ointment), ammoniated mercury ointment, boric acid ointment and aspirin.)

Comfort and Sanitary Items:
(Belts, razor blades, tooth brushes, shaving brushes, buttons, cigarettes, clothes brushes, combs, insecticides, needles, safety pins, pipe tobacco, tooth powder, safety razors, shoe brushes, shoe polish, shoe repair kits, laundry soap, shaving soap, thread, towels, washcloths.)

Parcels for Hospitalized Prisoners of War:
(1 sleeping garment, 1 pair of bedroom slippers, 3 hand towels, 1 bath towel, 2 bars laundry soap, 1 package of vitamins, 1 sewing kit, 1 game, 1 indelible pencil, 1 pad of writing paper, 2 handkerchiefs, 1 tooth brush, 1 package of tooth powder.)

Clothing and Food Parcels for Identified Prisoners of War

Books and Recreational Materials

**Other Relief Projects**

Medical Supplies, including 2,500,000 Antimalaria Tablets, for Civilians inside Yugoslavia

Artificial Limbs for Yugoslavs Injured in Combat

Food Parcels for Civilian Internees in Italy

Aid to Yugoslav Internees and Escaped Prisoners of War in Switzerland

Aid to Yugoslav Refugees in the United States

The Financing of the Work of a Doctor, Two Nurses, and a Nutritionist in the Yugoslav Refugee Camp at El Shatt, Egypt

Recreational, Vocational and Educational Supplies to Refugee Camps in Egypt and North Africa

Clothing Project:
A. Collecting, mending, cleaning, storing, and shipping of used clothing
B. Purchasing of material to be made into layettes and children's garments
UNITED YUGOSLAV RELIEF FUND OF AMERICA

Sponsored by AMERICAN FRIENDS OF YUGOSLAVIA, INC.

National Headquarters
677 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 22, N. Y.
Telephone: Plaza 3-7291

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WALTER H. MALLORY . . . . . . . . . . Vice-Chairman
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Publicity Director
Dear Mr. Pehle:

On September 11 the Board was informed that there were 100 Yugoslav refugees in Sweden who were in need of assistance. We shall appreciate any information which you may have regarding the situation of this group, the extent of their need, and suggestions regarding channels which could be used for the transmission of funds to be used in their behalf.

We shall appreciate, also, any information you have about the Central Sanitaire Suisse at Zurich. We understand that this group has sent one or two missions to Yugoslavia and that funds from the United States to support this effort would be welcomed.

Sincerely yours,

James Brunot,
Executive Director

Mr. John Pehle,
War Refugee Board,
Treasury Department,
Washington 25, D.C.
Dear Mr. Brunot:

Reference is made to the United Yugoslav Relief Fund and the indication given some months ago that it was willing to contribute financially to the relief of Yugoslav refugees.

The following is the substance of a message received from the Board's representative at Bern:

"Central Sanitaire Suisses, Zurich, an excellent organization which recently sent a mission including surgical material to free Yugoslavia for work with the liberating forces, has appealed to me for funds. A second mission is now planned by Central, to be headed by Dr. Hermann Moser, former League of Nations High Commissioner in China and a well known typhus researcher among civilian refugees in Yugoslavia. Most welcome and well spent would be any contribution to this worthwhile mission from Yugoslav sources in the United States. Central's past work and present plans have my highest recommendation."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

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

Original Copy to

Messrs: 10/23/44
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to any one other than a Government Agency. 

Secretary of State, 
Washington.

6952, October 20, 10 a.m.
X
FOR WRB FROM KCCLELAND

I refer to Department's 1721, May 17 WRB'S No. 19 in which it was indicated that the United Yugoslav Relief Fund might be willing contribute financial relief for Yugoslav refugees.

I have received an appeal for funds from the Central Sanitaire Suisse at Zurich, an excellent organization which recently sent a mission including surgical material to free Yugoslavia for work with liberating forces. The Central now plans send a second mission headed by Dr. Hermann Koosr former League of Nations High Commissioner in China and a well-known typhus researcher among civilian refugees in Yugoslavia. Any contributions for Yugoslav sources in United States to this worthwhile mission would be most welcome and well spent. I highly recommend their past work and present plans.

HARRISON

WFS
October 23, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

Re: Bern 6952, October 20.

Because I had previous contact with the United Yugoslav Relief people in New York with respect to their nationals abroad, I called Mr. Colin Wells, the Director of that organization and gave him the advantage of a paraphrase of the above message. It so happens that at 3:00 p.m. this date there is to be a budget panel of the National War Fund, at which time the United Yugoslav Relief presents requests for specific programs. Mr. Wells intends to present this proposal at the panel and should the National War Fund and the President's War Relief Control Board be favorably disposed, might ask the War Refugee Board's assistance in getting specific information with respect to (a) how much is involved and (b) for how long a period. I explained to Mr. Wells that the W.R.B. had no direct responsibility in this project inasmuch as the intended beneficiaries were located in Free Yugoslavia, but that we would be happy to be of assistance in getting any necessary information that might help them make the program a reality.

[Signature]

Paul J. McCormack
Secretary of State,

Washington.

6952, October 20, 10 a.m.

FOR RB FROM McCLELLAND

I refer to Department's 1721, May 17 WB's No. 19 in which it was indicated that the United Yugoslav Relief Fund might be willing contribute financial relief for Yugoslav refugees.

I have received an appeal for funds from the Central Sanitaire cuisse at Zurich, an excellent organization which recently sent a mission including surgical material to free Yugoslavia for work with liberating forces. The Central now plans send a second mission headed by Dr. Hermann Mhofer former League of Nations High Commissioner in China and a well known typhus researcher among civilian refugees in Yugoslavia. Any contributions for Yugoslav sources in United States to this worthwhile mission would be most welcome and well spent. I highly recommend their past work and present plans.

HARRISON
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

BJR - 89

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

Secretary of State,
Washington.

4298, July 6, 6 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

Department's 1721, March 17.

There are at the present about 1,250 civilian Yugoslav refugees in Switzerland composed roughly of 640 men, 460 women, 35 children under 6 years and 115 children between 6 and 16 years. Of 1,250 about (*) men are in work camps, 400 men, women, and children under 6 in internee homes, 115 children between 6 and 16 placed in children's homes or private families, 20 men in agriculture, 25 women in household service, 30 students liberated, the balance living outside of camps or internee homes.

There are approximately 1,900 military internees of whom 540 are officers. Such internees are supported principally by the Swiss Federal Commissariat for Internment and Hospitalization partly by the Yugoslav Legation.
Legation particularly certain officers.

The "Verband Schweizerischer Juedischer Fluchtling Shilfen" in Zurich has about 370 men, 360 women and 130 children registered with it Jewish. "Verband" supplies pocket money to such refugees in reception camps (6 francs per person per month) clothing when possible and pays for camp leaves (about 20 francs for 3 days). In addition to this "Verband" spends about 9000 francs monthly support a number of worthy liberated cases young people in Zionist Youth Home and about 10 students.

The "Schweitzerhilfe Werkfuer Emigranten Kinder" in Zurich cares for about 105 children of whom 60 are placed in children's home 40 with foster families and 5 with their parents. Those placed in homes cost this committee about 100 francs per child per month.

The Swiss Red Cross contributes about a third of these costs.

Among the military internees there are about 100 university students roughly 60 of whom have been liberated and supported by Yugoslav Legation. Legation could not liberate balance for lack of funds.
Among Yugoslav civilian refugees there are also about 100 university students of whom 10 have been liberated and are supported by "Verband" 10 by European student relief fund in Geneva 10 from independent sources. There are further about 80 high school students for whom nothing is being done. 75% of all such students are Jewish. It costs about 250 francs per month for a student's living and study expenses.

If United Yugoslav Relief Fund can send funds they would be most welcome by the three organizations mentioned and could be used to good advantage particularly by student funds for liberation of additional students and by children's committee. Swiss Government would have no objection to the sending of such funds.

HARRISON

EDA:BB

(*) apparent omission
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: June 16, 1944
NUMBER: 3854

Following is for WRB from McClelland.

Reference is made herewith to Department's telegram of May 17, 1944 No. 1721.

In about ten days we hope to send you a report regarding various categories of Yugoslav refugees in Switzerland as data is being assembled but has not been completed as yet.

HARRISON
NEW YORK NY MAY 19 1944

PAUL J. MCCORMACK

WAR REFUGEE BOARD TREASURY BLDG

SPENDING NEXT MONDAY TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY IN WASHINGTON AND WOULD LIKE TO CALL AT YOUR OFFICE SOMETIME BETWEEN ELEVEN AND TWELVE MONDAY MORNING IF THIS IS CONVENIENT AND WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH IF IT IS POSSIBLE TO HAVE SUCH A BRIEF SESSION AS WE HAD BEFORE INCLUDING MR. ABRAHAMSON AND MR. PEHLE IN ADDITION TO YOURSELF

REGARDS

DART ANDRESS.

644A
Dear Mr. Andress:

We are now in receipt of information from the International Committee of the Red Cross concerning certain Yugoslav refugees in Croatian camps. You will remember that during recent conversations, you indicated that your organization might be interested in financing relief to these groups, providing that the National War Fund approved and providing appropriate clearances were obtained from other interested government agencies.

We have been advised that these refugees number twelve hundred and are located in three camps in Croatia, namely, Gredjan Isalas, Staragradiska and Jasenovac.

The International Red Cross proposes to supply each of these refugees with two food parcels per month. The food will be purchased in Portugal and packaged in Lisbon. It is proposed that each package will contain one can 500 gram tuna fish, one can 500 gram sweet potato paste, one can 500 gram chinchard sardines and two packages 20 cigarettes. Such a package can be purchased in Portugal for ten Swiss francs, but the International Red Cross tells us that the purchases doubtless can be arranged more satisfactorily as to price and types of products if purchases are negotiated by the International Red Cross representative on the spot. This roughly calls for a monthly expenditure of $6,000. The distribution of these supplies is to be made through the Jewish Community of Zagreb which has aided these particular refugees to date and has access to the camps under supervision of the Delegate of the International Red Cross in Zagreb. This Delegate will report back to his Geneva headquarters regarding the effectiveness of the scheme when the program gets under way.
We would appreciate hearing your decision as promptly as possible in order that steps may be taken to obtain the other necessary clearances.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pohle
J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Mr. Bart Andress,
National Director,
United Yugoslav Relief Fund,
11 West 57th Street,
New York 19, New York.
From War Refugee Board to Harrison for McClelland

United Yugoslav Relief Fund being requested supply assistance

Yugoslav nationals in Switzerland following categories (a) Jewish refugees (b) students (c) interned escaped civilians (d) escaped prisoners of war. These groups under care of Swiss Government and Swisscross.

Accounts here vary as to seriousness unmet needs.

United Yugoslav Relief Fund willing to supplement current program if necessary. Please cable report covering nature and extent of needs of these groups and if Swiss Government and Swisscross welcome assistance.

This is with Bern Cable No. 19

HULL
CABLE TO BERN

From War Refugee Board to Harrison for McClelland

United Yugoslav Relief Fund being requested supply assistance Yugoslav nationals Switzerland following categories:
(a) Jewish refugees (b) students (c) interned escaped civilians (d) escaped prisoners of war. These groups under care of Swiss Government and Swisscross. Accounts here vary as to seriousness unmet needs.

United Yugoslav Relief Fund willing to supplement current program if necessary. Please cable report covering nature and extent of needs of these groups and if Swiss Government and Swisscross welcome assistance.

THIS IS W?B BERN CABLE NO. 19

May 16, 1944
11:25 a.m.

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Hauglin, Lesser, Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files

PMcCormack:Philab 5/15/44
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMBASSADOR, Bern
DATED: Cable to Bern

FROM WAR REFUGE BOARD TO HARRISON FOR McCLELLAND

United Yugoslav Relief Fund being requested supply assistance Yugoslav nationals Switzerland following categories (a) Jewish refugees (b) students (c) interned escaped civilians (d) escaped POW. These groups under care of Swiss government and Swisscross. Accounts here vary as to seriousness unmet needs.

United Yugoslav Fund willing to supplement current program if necessary. Please cable report covering needs of these groups and if Swiss government and Swiss cross welcomes assistance, and amount required.

Drafted by P.J. McCormack 5/19/44
UNITED YUGOSLAV RELIEF FUND
Sponsored by
THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF YUGOSLAVIA, Inc.
REGISTERED WITH THE PRESIDENT'S WAR RELIEF CONTROL BOARD NO. 070
Honorary Patron
MRS. FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT HER MAJESTY QUEEN MARIE OF YUGOSLAVIA

ELEVEN WEST FIFTY-SEVENTH STREET, NEW YORK 19, N. Y. Plaza 3-7291

May 8th, 1944

J. W. Pehle, Esquire
War Refugee Board,
Treasury Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

As I told you during our talk in your office last week, together with Mr. Abrahamson and Mr. McCormack, I should very much appreciate the assistance of your Board in setting certain urgently needed information concerning Yugoslav refugees in Switzerland.

Our Fund has received repeated requests, with considerable pressure behind them, in behalf of four groups of refugees in Switzerland: (a) Jewish refugees; (b) Yugoslav students; (c) interned escaped civilians; (d) escaped prisoners of war. Representations in behalf of these groups are so frequently made that we must find a way either to comply or to show some good reason why we cannot. I am advised that the answer hinges on the attitude of the Swiss Government, as well as the Swiss Red Cross, is sensitive on the question of accepting aid for such work from sources outside their own country. I should like to find out is whether there has been any change in this attitude.

Requests on behalf of Jewish refugees have come to us by way of the Yugoslav Jewish Representative Committee, affiliated with the World Jewish Congress. I have been advised in Washington that there may be some question as to whether the World Jewish Congress would be the channel for any relief which may be distributed, and that the Joint Distribution Committee should be consulted before any decision on this point is made. I am planning to consult the Joint Distribution Committee this week. Meanwhile, I should have more definite information than has come to us yet as to the nature and extent of the needs of these people, as well as the attitude of the Swiss Red Cross as to accepting aid from the United States.

Aid to students seems to present no problem so far as your inquiry to Geneva is concerned. I am including it here merely to give you the complete Swiss picture as it comes to us. Apparently with the consent of the Swiss authorities, World Student Relief is carrying on a program in behalf of student refugees from various nations, and we are simply requested to contribute to this work. Our answer in this instance will depend entirely on whether the National War Fund will allow us to include such an item in our budget.
As to the last two items, interned civilians and escaped prisoners, we are told that the best that the Swiss are able to do is not enough to provide adequate care for these people. There is universal praise for the efforts being made by the Swiss, but, according to our informants, they are so burdened by refugees of various nationalities entering their country that they cannot be expected to do a complete relief job. We are told that these war prisoners and civilians are living on a mere subsistence diet, that they are inadequately clothed, and that they are entirely without pocket money for sanitary items and other necessities which any human being should have.

Accounts vary as to what the Swiss are able to do and as to the seriousness of the unmet needs among these refugees. As the recognized private agency for the Yugoslavs, we want to do whatever we can for the Yugoslavs in Switzerland but before we can estimate the cost of such a project, or even define it for presentation to the National War Fund, we must have authoritative information through some channel on just what the situation is, and, most important of all, as to whether the Swiss would welcome our assistance.

Keeping in mind that we are presenting a new budget to the National War Fund early in June, I should appreciate it very much if your Board, through its representative in Geneva, could at the earliest possible date throw some light on this problem for our guidance.

Cordially yours,

Bart Andress

P-2
J. W. Pehle, Esquire
May 8, 1944
Following is a GB from McClelland.

We refer herewith to the Department's telegram of April 8, 1944. No. 1198.

The following report is made by IRC:

(1) In the three cases of Grevian Isaac, Starigradiska, and Jasenovac, there are twelve hundred Creation Jews interned.

(2) and (3) Two packages containing one can 592 grams brown fish, one package 590 grams yeast extract paste, two packages 20 cigarettes and one can 990 grams canned sardines can be purchased for ten Swiss francs, according to previous estimates submitted to IRC from Portugal. It is planned to distribute two parcels per intern per month. With reference to Legation's telegram of April 29, 1944, No. 3486, the purchases doubtless can be arranged more satisfactorily as to price and types of products if negotiated by IRC representative on the spot.

(4) The distribution could be made through the Jewish community of Zagreb which has aided these people to date and which apparently has access to camps under the supervision of the delegate of IRC in Zagreb, the latter to report back regarding effectiveness of scheme to IRC Geneva.

HARRISON

DECORATED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 1 2 1972

000405
WU39 JL

CP NEW YORK NY MAR 27 1944 147P

J W PEHLE, WAR REFUGEE BOARD
TREASURY BLDG

WITH REGARD TO RECENT CORRESPONDENCE I SHALL BE IN WASHINGTON
THURSDAY OF THIS WEEK IF YOU CAN SPARE ME A FEW MINUTES STOP
YOU CAN LET ME KNOW BY WIRE COLLECT OR I SHALL TELEPHONE YOU
UPON ARRIVAL.

BART ANDRESS NATIONAL DIRECTOR UNITED YUGOSLAV RELIEF FUND

11 WEST 57 ST NEW YORK.

1944 MAR 27 PM 3 14

315PM

Did not come. Talked with Putterman
Phone arrangements for Y.R.F. participation
in London.

288/2
In reply please refer to: 331

MAR 22 1944

Dear Mr. Andreea:

I have your letter of March 14, 1944, in response to my recent request for advice and suggestions to aid the War Refugee Board in planning its rescue programs.

As indicated in my letter of February 8, 1944, the Board is always available for discussions with representatives of your organization. We shall be pleased to have you discuss your views and proposals with a member of our staff on your next trip to Washington.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Bart Andreea,
National Director,
United Yugoslav Relief Fund,
11 West 57th Street,
New York 19, New York.
March 14, 1944

J. W. Pehle, Esquire
Acting Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Executive Office of the President,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

My tardiness in acknowledging your letter of February 8th does not indicate a lack of interest in the subject matter. I had, of course, seen the announcement in the newspapers and was very glad to receive the supplementary material which you sent me — especially your inquiries concerning our interest in refugees. I am not preparing any such statement as you suggest at the moment because I shall be due soon for another trip to Washington, and would very much like to have a talk with you or a member of your staff. I understand that my friend, Paul McCormack, has joined you. I should like to see him, too.

I shall let you know when I am coming with the hope that you can spare me a few minutes.

Cordially yours,

Bart Andress
National Director
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington.

TO: AMBASSADOR, Bern.

DATE: April 8, 1944, 7 p.m.

NUMBER: 1194

War Refugee Board sends the following for the Minister:

With respect to the proposed purchase of food by Inter-
cross in Portugal to aid three refugee camps in Croatia,
your telegram of March 26, 1944, no. 1526, you are requested
to deliver to Intercross the following urgent message
from the War Refugee Board:

In order that licensing of necessary remittances may
be expedited, it is requested that you inform the Board
immediately regarding the following: (1) the number and
nationality of the persons in the three camps who are to be
helped, (2) the estimate of the cost involved, (3) the
kind of food to be bought for packaging in Portugal and
(4) assurance that such food supplies will be received
by the intended beneficiaries.

SOLL

Miss Calumney (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn,
Dudaia, Friedman, Gaskin, Godai, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann,
Mannen, Marks, McDonald, Paul, Pehle, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith,
Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, E. B. White, Viels

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

000409
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State
DATE: March 24, 1944
NO. 1828

Reference is made herewith to the Department’s telegram of March 20, 1944, no 916 and previous.

The following is a summary of inquiry for War Refugee Board from International Committee of Red Cross:

If funds can be made available by Jewish organizations, Intercross desires to purchase certain food products in Portugal for relief of groups of Jewish refugees not included in the plan transmitted in the Legation’s telegram of March 4, 1944, no 1334. Intercross desires to take such action in view of the increasing difficulties of purchasing food in central Europe which is further complicated by recent events in Hungary. In particular, Intercross wishes to aid three refugee camps in Croatia, where the delegate reports that food conditions are precarious. Intercross proposes to ship from Lisbon to Marseilles via Intercross ships as transportation from Portugal is expensive and slow. It would be necessary to obtain advances and Intercross asks whether approval of blockade authorities could be obtained by War Refugee Board.

HARRISON

Miss Chauncey (for the Secretary), Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DeBois, Friedman, Gutman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesner, Laxford, Mann, McCormack, Paul, Pollak, Bains, Sargo, Standish, Stewart, H.D. White, Pahle, Filer.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 12, 1972