Policy Matters: Board's Position Concerning Relief to Refugees in Liberated Areas
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

REF:
Distribution of items reading only by special arrangement. (1945 MAY 11 PM 156)

DC/L

ADDRESSED

RECIPIENT

McCall
1793

The following for McClelland from War Refugee Board is 10B 601.

Reference your no. 2050 of May 1, 1945.

The Executive Order establishing the War Refugee Board strictly limits Board’s activities to rescue and relief of victims of enemy oppression in enemy-occupied territory. Accordingly, relief and assistance of refugees liberated from the Germans are not (repeat not) within Board’s jurisdiction.

In view of foregoing, all shipments of WNB parcels should cease. You are requested to take stock of all WNB parcels still in Switzerland and report figures and location to Board. Instructions concerning disposition of these parcels and other WNB property in Switzerland will follow.

Requests received by you concerning relief and assistance of refugees liberated from the Germans should be referred to U.N.R.R.A., the appropriate military authorities, the Interovernmental Committee on Refugees, private refugee organizations or other national or international groups which are authorized to deal with matters of this nature.

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter 1793
By E. W. Parks Date SEP 13 1972
2-1703, May 10, 4 p.m. to Bern

You should begin now to wind up all Board activities in Switzerland and prepare final reports. Board would appreciate knowing how long this will take.

CREJ
(Acting)
(CEJ)

UNحماًًVING 5/10/46
WE 286A 1-3 0
M 21
War Refugee Board

Caserta

Cable

139

The following is for Office from War Refugee Board as its 47.

Reference your 272 of September 3, 1944.

Relief to refugees in areas liberated from the

Germans not within jurisdiction of War Refugee Board.

American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is arran-
ging for assistance through Switzerland to Polish-Hungarian

refugees in Bucharest referred to in your cable.

Hull

(GHD)

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

Department

of

State

OUTGOING

TELEGRAM

September 13, 1944

6 p.m.

DIVISION OF

COMMUNICATIONS

AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

129

x

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Department

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OUTGOING

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September 13, 1944

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DIVISION OF

COMMUNICATIONS

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129

x
CABLE TO OFFICE, CASSERTA, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Reference your Z78 of September 3, 1944.

Relief to refugees in areas liberated from the Germans not within jurisdiction of War Refugee Board, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee is arranging for assistance through Switzerland to Polish-Bulgarian refugees in Bucharest referred to in your cable. Suggest OSS representative Bucharest consult with William Milgram Bucharest concerning aid to these refugees.

THIS IS WAR CABLE NO. 47
Several requests have already been received by the
War Refugee Board for financial assistance in the relief
of refugees in areas liberated by the Allied military
forces.

For your information and guidance War Refugee Board
activities are to be strictly limited to the rescue and
relief of the victims of enemy oppression who are in
imminent danger of death, that is, who are still in enemy-
occupied territory. Refugee problems in liberated areas
are not (repeat not) regarded as being within the Board's
functions. Accordingly, if you receive requests limited
to the relief and assistance of refugees in areas liberated
from the Germans, you should refer such problems to UNRRA,
the appropriate military authorities, the Intergovernmental
Committee on Refugees, private refugee organizations, or
other national or international groups which are authorized
to deal with matters of this nature.

The foregoing shall not be construed to limit the
activities of the Board dealing with arrangements for the
removal of refugees in liberated areas whose presence serves
Circular, September 7, 6 pm - to Ankara.

to discourage and prevent the rescue of additional refugees
from enemy-occupied areas.

This message has been repeated to the other NRB
Special Representative abroad.

HULL
(QLW)

CODE ROOM: Please repeat, using following opening sentences,
to the missions below.
Stockholm - The following NRB cable is for Olssen.
Lisbon - The following NRB cable is for Dexter.
Caserta - The following NRB cable is for Ackermann.

WRB:MM:KG
0/7/44
CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEES BOARD TO AMBASSADOR STENHARDT FOR HERZBERG,
ANKARA, TURKEY

Several requests have already been received by the War Refugees Board for financial assistance in the relief of refugees in areas liberated by the Allied military forces.

For your information and guidance War Refugees Board activities are to be strictly limited to the rescue and relief of the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death, that is, who are still in enemy-occupied territory. Refugees problems in liberated areas are not (repeat not) regarded as being within the Board's functions. Accordingly, if you receive requests limited to the relief and assistance of refugees in areas liberated from the Germans, you should refer such problems to UNRRA, the appropriate military authorities, the Interagency Committee on Refugees, private refugee organizations, or other national or international groups which are authorized to deal with matters of this nature.

The foregoing shall not be construed to limit the activities of the Board dealing with arrangements for the removal of refugees from liberated areas whose presence serves to discourage and prevent the return of additional refugees from enemy-occupied areas.

Report this message to the following WNB Special Representatives:
Adenkum, Italy; McCullum, Bera, Switzerland; Gless, Scandinavia; and Baxone, Lisbon, Portugal; Mann, London, England.

THIS IS WNB CABLE NO. 106

4:40 p.m.
September 6, 1944

WFBredenbko

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Gohn, Babols, Friedman, Herold, Laughlin, Leser, Mannon, McCormick, Cable Control Files
FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO MCCLELLAND

Several requests have already been received by the War Refugee Board for financial assistance in the relief of refugees in areas liberated by the Allied military forces.

For your information and guidance War Refugee Board activities are to be strictly limited to the rescue and relief of the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death, that is, who are still in enemy-occupied territory. Refugee problems in liberated areas are not (repeat not) regarded as being within the Board's functions. Accordingly, if you receive requests limited to the relief and assistance of refugees in areas liberated from the Germans, you should refer such problems to UNRRA, the appropriate military authorities, the Inter-governmental Committee on Refugees, private refugee organizations, or other national or international groups which are authorized to deal with matters of this nature.

The foregoing shall not be construed to limit the activities of the Board dealing with arrangements for the removal of refugees in liberated areas whose presence serves to discourage and
and prevent the rescue of additional refugees from enemy-occupied areas.

Other WRB Special Representatives abroad are receiving this message.

Repeated to London for Manna as Department's No. 7256.

HULL
Secretary of State

Washington

272, September 3, 9 p.m.

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD

In absence of Ackermann who left this morning on a trip to Northern Italy and Southern France and will be out of touch with us for four or five days, I am telegraphing you urgently to inform you of a situation which perhaps should receive your immediate attention.

A report has just been received at AFHQ from an American member of OSS now in Rumania to the effect that there are several hundred refugees from Poland and Hungary in Bucharest who are in dire straits and need immediate assistance. OSS report requested this office to communicate this information immediately to Ackermann with recommendation that $5000 should be sent at once to Bucharest for alleviating the tragic situation of these unfortunate. At my suggestion Colonel Early of OSS office at AFHQ is sending $5000 yellow seal dollars with another OSS representative who is flying to Bucharest tomorrow morning with instructions.

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION
OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

BE-624
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangements. (P)

Caserta, Italy
Dated September 3, 1944
Rec'd 1 a.m., 4th
-2- 

No 278, September 3, 9 p.m. from Caserta
instructions to hold this money and not disburse it
until authorization is received from him.

Please telegraph what decision you wish me
to communicate to Colonel Early.

OFFIE

WSB