Representatives: Representatives and Special Attachés: Appointments
1. FOR FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THE SITUATION IN PORTUGAL, & DEXTER'S ACTIVITIES THERE

SER: 1. COOPERATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS: NEUTRAL EUROPEAN (PORTUGAL)

PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF AND RESCUE OF REFUGEES: EVACUATION OF TO AND THROUGH SPAIN (AND PORTUGAL)
The following from Fehr is with cable no. 32 and is for Dexter:

arrangements your salary payments, mentioned your May 13 letter to Stewart, being handled Lisbon. Modification these arrangements at this time providing payment partly Washington and partly Lisbon would be very difficult and cumbersome. Suggest under circumstances acceptance further salary payment Lisbon as originally planned and that such funds as you see fit be transferred your bank Cambridge by mail or otherwise. Sorry alternative you propose not deemed presently practical.

HULL
(GLC)
CABLE TO LISBON

Please deliver following message to Minister Horweb, Lisbon, for Dexter, War Refugee Board Representative, from J. W. Pehle.

Re your letter May 13 to Stewart. All arrangements for your salary payments are being handled in Lisbon and modification of these arrangements to provide for payment partly in Washington and partly in Lisbon would be very cumbersome and difficult at this time. Under circumstances suggest you accept full salary payment in Lisbon as originally planned and mail or otherwise transfer to your bank in Cambridge such funds as you see fit. Regret that alternative you propose is not practical at present.

THIS IS WAR LISBON CABLE NO. 32

************
May 25, 1944
11:20 a.m.

Stewart, pck 5/24/44
PAR. PHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Lisbon

TO: Secretary of State, Washington

DATED: May 8, 1944

NUMBER: 1382

Following is substance of WRB 23:

Reference is made herewith to Department's message no. 1265 (WR 12).

Dexter feels salary arrangements are satisfactory.

For accounting Department in Lisbon, advise account to be charged, assign to WR.

With Embassy accountant allocation of salary is being arranged.

NORWEB

NAR
w.d.5/9

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date MAR 7 1973
Please deliver the following message to Minister Norweb, Lisbon, for Dexter, for Refugee Board Representative, from Mr. Finkle:

Following discussions with Mr. Joy, and in the interest of simplifying accounting, arrangements have been made for the embassy to pay you full-time salary of sixty-five hundred dollars per annum effective as of date you entered on duty as our Refugee Board Special Attache. Unitarian Service Committee has granted you indefinite leave of absence for this purpose and we assume you have no objection to this arrangement.

THIS IS WRI LIEBON CABLE NO. 12

HULL
CABLE TO LISBON

Please deliver the following message to Minister Hervey, Lisbon, for Dexter, War Refugee Board Representative, from J. W. Page:

Following discussions with Mr. Joy, and in the interest of simplifying accounting, arrangements have been made for the Embassy to pay you full-time salary of sixty-five hundred dollars per annum effective as of date you entered on duty as War Refugee Board Special Attache. Unitarian Service Committee has granted you indefinite leave of absence for this purpose and we assume you have no objection to this arrangement.

THIS IS WAR LISBON CABLE NO. 12

May 3, 1944
4:35 p.m.
AMERICAN EMBASSY
LISBON
April 29, 1944

WAR REFUGEES
Bd (m.贝壳)

TO MINISTER NORMEB FROM WAR REFUGEES BOARD

Reference your No. 1206 of April 22 State Department

is arranging seven dollar per diem for personal expenses
payable directly from Embassy to Dexter on reimbursable
basis in same manner as administrative expenses.

THIS IS WRB CABLE NO. 5

HULL

(CLW)
CABLE TO LISBON

To Minister Norweb from War Refugees Board

Re your 1206. State Department is arranging seven dollar per day for personal expenses payable directly from Embassy to Dexter on reimbursable basis in same manner as administrative expenses.

THIS IS WEB LISBON CABLE NO. 5

April 25, 1944
4:15 p.m.
AML! GATION
LISBON:
1006
Following for Dexter from J. W. Pohle, War Refugees Board.

Ref. no. 3.

Reference your 1083, April 10. Glad to hear of designation and acceptance. Arrangements being made here for Legation to supply administrative needs and administrative expenditures through State Department channels. Attempting to make arrangements for automobiles and typewriters and will advise you further. Agreeable to purchase of safe if Legation unable to accommodate. Establishing $10,000 credit for which you will be responsible to me alone. These funds not subject to usual government disbursing requirements but you should keep careful record and obtain receipts where possible. These funds may be used at your discretion but should not (repeat not) be used for administrative expenses of the sort being handled by the Legation. We are contacting Eleanor Widen re availability. Compensation for loss of time to Unitarian Committee being arranged with Joy.

HULL
(GLW)

1083
4/19/44
CABLE TO LISBON

Please deliver following message to Minister Morris, Lisbon, for
Dexter, War Refugee Board Representative, from J. W. Fehlo.

Reference your 1053, April 10. Glad to hear of designation and
acceptance. Arrangements being made here for Legation to supply
administrative needs and administrative expenditures through
State Department channels. Attempting to make arrangements for
automobile and typewriters and will advise you further. Agreeable
to purchase of safe if Legation unable to accommodate. Establish-
ing $10,000 credit for which you will be responsible to us alone.
These funds not subject to usual government disbursing requirements
but you should keep careful record and obtain receipts where possible.
These funds may be used at your discretion but should not (repeat not)
be used for administrative expenses of the sort being handled by the
Legation. We are contacting Kleaner Widan re availability. Compen-
sation for loss of time to Unitarian Committee being arranged with

JOE.
THIS IS MWR LISBON CABLE NO. 3
If interested, you must make your own salary arrangements.
She is excellent. Suggest that you use her.

The responsibility for transportation, hotel, and meal

executing her arrangements:

- Hotel: The hotel can be arranged by the organization.
- Transportation: You need to arrange the transportation to the location or from the hotel. You are carrying

by mail of your expected arrival next Monday.

Difficult to get the exact time of your arrival.

For the return, expensive accommodations. Suggest

you arrange wiring or hotel. Note: We are limited with

transportation seriously. Cancel the work. Request ship

next two typewriters and instructions regarding purchase

of same.

Room 43

cc: Miss Chauncey (For the Sec'y), Abramson, Akin, Bernstein,
Cohn, DeBols, Friedman, Barton, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Laxford,
Mann, Mannen, Marks, McGorman, Murphy, Paul, Pehle, Pulsin,
Rains, Sorgey, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. B. White,
Fiske
MJB-144
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency. (BR).

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1046, April 8, 5 p.m.
FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD.
Department's 949, April 4.

Dr. Robert Dexter has formally notified me of his acceptance of the appointment as the special representative of War Refugee Board. The Legation is notifying the Portuguese Foreign Office of his designation by the Department as Attaché on War Refugee matters and is requesting its approval concerning his diplomatic status.

NORWEB

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

WAR REFUGEES BOARD

CONTROL COPY

AMS-ALIATION
LISBON
949

FOR THE MINISTER FROM WAR REFUGEES BOARD

April 4, 1944

Refer to Department's No. 800 of January 25, 1944, in regard to the establishment of the War Refugees Board.

The Executive Director of the Board, John W. Pehle, has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's order of January 22, 1944, the Board proposes to appoint Mr. Robert C. Dexter, European representative of the Unitarian Service Committee and enroute to Lisbon at the present time, as the special representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as special attaché to the Legation on war refugee matters. The President's order provides that the State Department shall appoint such special attachés upon recommendation of the War Refugees Board, that they shall have diplomatic status, and that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board, in consultation with the State Department.

The Unitarian Service Committee has indicated that it has no objection to Mr. Dexter's accepting this appointment.

If, after discussing the matter with Mr. Dexter,
the appointment meets with your approval, you should advise him that he is so designated and that he is to have diplomatic status. It is assumed there will be no objection on the part of the Portuguese Government to this designation, although you may, in your discretion, approach the Portuguese authorities if you consider it necessary or advisable to do so. You are requested to confirm by telegram Doctor's designation or to advise us promptly if there is any reason why it should not be effective at once.

You should advise Doctor that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of carrying out the Board's policies and programs in Portugal;

(b) He is responsible to the Minister and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully;

(c) The Legation will provide him with the necessary communication facilities in carrying on his official duties;

(d) He shall extend all possible assistance to the Minister in carrying out the instructions contained in
in the Department’s reference telegram;

(e) He shall work with and give all assistance to public and private agencies operating in Portugal in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;

(f) He shall develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees;

(g) He shall forward to the Board recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered;

(h) In so far as the Trading with the Enemy Act is concerned, the Secretary of the Treasury has vested in the War Refugee Board and its representatives in the field full authority to communicate with enemy territory to carry out the purposes of the Order. The Secretary of the Treasury has also delegated to the War Refugee Board and its representatives the power to authorize any public or private agencies which may be subject to the provisions of our Trading with the Enemy Act, to communicate with enemy territory for the purpose of carrying out the order. Dexter
949, April 4, 11 a.m. to Lisbon

is authorized to act accordingly.

After receipt of confirmation of Dexter's designation further detailed instructions will follow from time to time.

HULL
(GLM)

REV:GLM:CHR
4/3/44
FE FA A-5/5
April 1, 1944
9:35 a.m.

To: Mr. George L. Warren
From: J. W. Fohle

I should appreciate it if the attached cable to Minister Horn in Lisbon, Portugal were transmitted as soon as possible.
CABLE TO MINISTER HORNER, LISBON, PORTUGAL

Please refer to Department's No. 200 of January 25, 1944, in regard to the establishment of the War Refugee Board. The Acting Executive Director of the Board, John W. Fohle, has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's Order of January 22, 1944, the Board proposes to appoint Mr. Robert C. Dexter, European representative of the Unitarian Service Committee and en route to Lisbon at the present time, as the special representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as special attaché to the Legation on war refugee matters. The President's order provides that the State Department shall appoint such special attaches upon recommendation of the War Refugee Board, that they shall have diplomatic status, and that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board, in consultation with the State Department.

The Unitarian Service Committee has indicated that it has no objection to Mr. Dexter's accepting this appointment.

If, after discussing the matter with Mr. Dexter, the appointment meets with your approval, you should advise him that he is so designated and that he is to have diplomatic status. It is assumed there will be no objection on the part of the Portuguese Government to this designation, although you may, in your discretion, approach the Portuguese authorities if you consider it necessary or advisable to do so. You are requested to confirm by telegram Dexter's designation or § advise us promptly if there is any reason why it should not be effective at once.

You should advise Dexter that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of carrying out the Board's policies and programs in Portugal.
(b) He is responsible to the Minister and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully.

(c) The Legation will provide him with the necessary communication facilities in carrying on his official duties;

(d) He shall extend all possible assistance to the Minister in carrying out the instructions contained in the Department's reference telegram;

(e) He shall work with and give all assistance to public and private agencies operating in Portugal in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;

(f) He shall develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees;

(g) He shall forward to the Board recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered;

(h) In so far as the Trading with the Enemy Act is concerned, the Secretary of the Treasury has vested in the War Refuge Board and its representatives in the field full authority to communicate with enemy territory to carry out the purposes of the Order. The Secretary of the Treasury has also delegated to the War Refugee Board and its representatives the power to authorize any public or private agencies which may be subject to the provisions of our Trading with the Enemy Act, to communicate with enemy territory for the purpose of carrying out the order. Dexter is authorized to act accordingly.

After receipt of confirmation of Dexter's designation further detailed instructions will follow from time to time.
TDB BELMONT MASS MAR 22 1944 023A

JOSEPH FRIEDMAN

WAR REFUGEE BOARD ROOM 192 TREASURY BLDG

UNITARIAN COMMITTEE ACCEPT PROPOSITION. I SUGGEST SPANISH

REPRESENTATIVE CONTACT ME LISBON BEFORE ENTRY

ROBERT DEXTER.

835A.
MEMORANDUM TO MR. STEWART

List: Steps to be taken regarding assignment of Robert C. Dexter to Lisbon, Portugal

1. **Airplane Priority**

   Mr. Dexter has ordinary passport No. 690198 in which are included Validation for Portugal and Spain; Portuguese Visa; Irish Visa; Bermudian Visa; also has had all the necessary inoculations. Arrangements have been made for priority Clipper passage. Priority is No. 3. It is hoped that this priority can be stepped up into an earlier departure and the privilege of staying on the plane. Mr. Dexter is ready to leave at practically any moment. If your office should hear of possibilities of his departure, will you kindly let him know, if possible a day or two in advance. His address are as follows: Office: 25 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass., Phone - Capitol 3650. Home: 536 Pleasant Street, Belmont, Mass., Phone - Belmont 3736.

2. **Regarding Budget and Expenses in Lisbon**

   (a) Mr. Dexter feels that he will need very soon a confidential secretary and administrative assistant. He does not feel that such a person can be obtained in Portugal. He therefore suggests that, if possible, arrangements be made for such person to come over from the United States and has such a person in mind; The person whom he has in mind is Miss Pippa Harris, a British subject now in this country and who has her first papers. She has been here since 1902. She was employed by Mr. Dexter in Portugal for some months prior to coming to this country and prior to that she was for many years the executive secretary of the International Trade Union Congress in Paris. She speaks and writes French and German as well as English and has a scattering of one or two other languages. She is thoroughly trustworthy. She is now employed by the Office of War Information in charge of their labor desk. She receives there a salary of $4,000 a year and would probably need something equivalent to this. Perhaps something less and a per diem for expenses if she comes to Lisbon. The Unitarian Service Committee is allowing the workers $6.00 a day per diem. She would also need her transportation, either by plane or boat to Lisbon. Mr. Dexter has, naturally, taken the matter up with her but is willing to do so at any time and has every reason to believe that she would be interested in the proposition.

   (b) Mr. Dexter is assuming that the Unitarian Service Committee would be willing to continue to pay his personal salary and that there would therefore be no salary charge for his services to the Board. However,
in view of the fact that he would be unable to give as much of his time to the Service Committee as he otherwise could do, he is suggesting that part of the appropriation from this office would include an amount, perhaps $150 per month, he paid to the Service Committee so that they could hire additional help.

(a) Travel. It is expected that Mr. Dexter will do some traveling in Portugal and Spain. He is recommending therefore a budget of $1200 per year for travel.

(a) Portuguese Staff. There would be a need of a messenger and perhaps one or two other well salaried Portuguese staff members and if a car is provided, a chauffeur. Salaries are comparatively low in Portugal and he is recommending a budget of $2000 per year for this item.

(a) Rent. In is, of course, not known whether or not the Portuguese Legation would provide office space or whether he could occupy his present offices. In case either可能性 was not desirable, he is recommending an appropriation of $100 per year for rent.

(g) Office Expenses. There would be a comparatively small item for office expenses, letterheads, cables, telephones, etc. Most cables would, of course, be sent through the State Department but there might be others. He is recommending $1000 a year for this item.

(g) Confidential Fund. In carrying on our work, Mr. Dexter should have at his disposal a confidential fund. This may amount to a considerable item but in the beginning he would suggest that $250 be sent over.

In general it is not necessary to have gold in Portugal and funds could be sent to Mr. Dexter in case of emergency in bank drafts which can be exchanged into escudos or pesetas and used as needed.

3. Permanent Equipment.

(a) The most important item of permanent equipment needed is an automobile. Mr. Dexter does not feel that it would be possible to purchase an automobile in Portugal that would be of any particular use. He recommends that a car be sent over from here if possible. He realizes it would take considerable time but in the long run it is a better arrangement than trying to pick up something there. In the interval he would hire what seems to be necessary or use trains or planes.

(b) Typewriting. It is somewhat difficult to obtain typewriters in Portugal, particularly typewriters with American keyboards and he recommends that a typewriter be sent over as soon as possible.
4. These figures do not include any sum for special projects for the reason that it is impossible at this stage of the game to indicate what such projects might be. There are, however, indications that there might well be need for considerable sums of money, particularly for transportation for refugees for whom visas are secured and for which funds would not be available from other sources. He will, naturally, try to get funds elsewhere but it might be necessary to have such fund available in special and particular needs.

The above statement except for the question of priority is largely conjectural and it may be that the whole situation will change, either up or down, depending upon developments when he gets there. This, however, is the best "guess" at the present time.
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Moscow
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: April 24, 1944
NUMBER: 1417

It is my opinion that at this time it would be definitely inadvisable for a special attache on refugee matters to be sent here. Insofar as the Soviet Government is concerned, it will deal with such matters only through the Foreign Office and in a formal and official manner. In order to get effective results, matters of this sort must be handled with high officials of the Soviet Government who do not receive attaches and junior officers of the Embassy because of heavy pressure of important business. A special attache would not be permitted by the Soviets to travel about the country or to develop direct contacts with various agencies of the Soviet Government. Doubtless the Department is aware that I have to take up refugee matters with Molotov and Vashinski personally. I am sure that having made our general approach to the Soviet Government asking for its cooperation in the War Refugee Board work, the best way to further implement that cooperation.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 5-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972
that cooperation is to present to the Soviet Government concrete and specific projects.

In order to further the work of the WRB I desire to do everything possible. Because of the factors I have mentioned, the work here vis a vis the Soviet Government, can only be handled by me and the senior officers of the Embassy rather than by the appointment of a special attache for refugee matters. Whether the work we will be allowed to do will be great in volume is doubted. Of course, if it proves to be so, I would wish to review the situation further and express my views as to the type of man required for the work at that time.

HARRIMAN
SECRETARY OF STATE:

WASHINGTON:

1200, twenty-second, 2 p.m.

FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD:

WRB 3. Acknowledging Department's telegram 1097, twentieth, WRB 3.

Remittance received. Thanks. Will keep record and report. Regarding personal expenses, do you wish to cover all expenses as has been case heretofore or have you per diem or other arrangement.

NORWEB

LMS
Department of State

Embassy

Moscow

April 21, 1943

For the Ambassador from War Refuge Board.

Please refer to Department's circular airgram of January 26 in regard to the establishment of the War Refugee Board, also to War Refuge Board cables nos. 854, March 11, and subsequent telegram on same subject.

The Executive Director of the Board John W. Feske has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's Order of January 22, the Board proposes to appoint Mr. Robert J. Scovell, former representative of the American Red Cross in Russia, and new on the headquarters staff of that organization, as the Special Representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as Special Attaché to the Embassy on war refugee matters. The Presidential Order provides that the State Department shall appoint such Special Attachés on the recommendation of the Board, that they shall have diplomatic status, and that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board in consultation with the State Department.

It is understood that Mr. Scovell is personally known to you. It is assumed that there will be no objection on the part of the Russian Government to this designation, although you may in your discretion approach the Russian authorities informally, if you so consider.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Paule Date SEP 13 1972
-2-#978, April 20, midnight, to Moscow.

-2-

consider it necessary or advisable to do so. If Mr. Scovell's appointment meets with your approval, please advise us accordingly in order that his designation may be made effective at once.

If Scovell is appointed we propose to advise him through you that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of carrying out the Board's policies and programs in Russia;

(b) He is responsible to the Ambassador and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully;

(c) The Embassy will provide him with the necessary communication facilities in carrying on his official duties;

(d) He should extend all possible assistance to the ambassador in carrying out instructions contained in the airgrams and cablegrams referred to above;

(e) He should work with and give all possible assistance to public and private agencies operating in Russia in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;

(f) He should develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees;

(g) He should forward to the Board recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered;

(h) In so far as the Trading with the enemy Act is concerned, the Secretary of the Treasury has vested in the War Refugee Board and its representatives in the field full authority to communicate with enemy territory to carry out the purpose of the Order. The Secretary of the Treasury has also delegated to the War Refugee Board and its representatives the power to authorize any public or private agencies who may be subject to the provisions of our Trading with the enemy Act to communicate with enemy territory for the purpose of carrying out the Order.

Scovell
-3-#978, April 20, midnight, to Moscow.

-3-

Seovell is authorized to act accordingly upon your confirmation of his designation.

Hull
(GLW)
Please refer to Department's circular airgram of January 26 in regard to the establishment of the War Refugee Board, also to War Refugee Board cables Nos. 554 and 555 of March 11.

The Executive Director of the Board John W. Pohle has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's Order of January 22, the Board proposes to appoint Mr. Robert J. Scovell, former representative of the American Red Cross in Russia and now on the headquarters staff of that organization, as the Special Representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as Special Attache to the Embassy on war refugee matters. The Presidential Order provides that the State Department shall appoint such Special Attaches on the recommendation of the Board, that they shall have diplomatic status, and that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board in consultation with the State Department.

It is understood that Mr. Scovell is personally known to you. It is assumed that there will be no objection on the part of the Russian Government to this designation, although you may in your discretion approach the Russian authorities informally, if you consider it necessary or advisable to do so. If Mr. Scovell's appointment meets with your approval, please advise us accordingly in order that his designation may be made effective at once.

If Scovell is appointed we propose to advise him through you that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of carrying out the Board's policies and programs in Russia;

(b) He is responsible to the Ambassador and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully;

(c) The Embassy will provide him with the necessary communication facilities in carrying on his official duties;

(d) He should extend all possible assistance to the Ambassador in carrying out instructions contained in the airgram and cablegrams referred to above;

(e) He should work with and give all possible assistance to public and private agencies operating in Russia in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;
(f) He should develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees;

(g) He should forward to the Board recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered;

(h) In so far as the trading with the enemy Act is concerned, the Secretary of the Treasury has vested in the Var Refugee Board and its representatives in the field full authority to communicate with enemy territory to carry out the purposes of the Order. The Secretary of the Treasury has also delegated to the Var Refugee Board and its representatives the power to authorize any public or private agencies who may be subject to the provisions of our trading with the enemy Act to communicate with enemy territory for the purpose of carrying out the Order. Sowell is authorized to act accordingly upon your confirmation of his designation.

***************

April 17, 1944
11:15 A.M.

cc: Miss Charnsey (for the Sec'y), Abrahamson, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Fehle, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files.
CROSS-REFERENCE

1. FOR FURTHER REFERENCE TO APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE TO SPAIN
2. FOR A DETAILED EXPOSITION OF DIFFICULTIES IN SPAIN

SEE: 1. COOPERATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS: NEUTRAL EUROPEAN (SPAIN)
2. PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF AND RESCUE OF REFUGEES: EVACUATION TO AND THROUGH SPAIN (AND PORTUGAL)
   PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF AND RESCUE OF REFUGEES: EVACUATION TO AND THROUGH (AND PORTUGAL)
   (EVACUATION OF CHILDREN FROM FRANCE TO SPAIN AND PORTUGAL (JDC))
August 33, 1944

TO: Mr. Stettinius
FROM: Mr. Pehle

Reference is made to my memorandum of August 7, 1944 recommending that Mr. James H. Mann be appointed Special Attaché to the American Embassy at Madrid as a representative of the War Refugee Board on refugee matters.

Military developments of recent date have been such that it now appears that there are no longer the possibilities of doing important rescue work in that area which formerly existed. Accordingly, there is attached a cable to Ambassador Hayes advising him that Mr. Mann will not come to Spain at this time as an Attaché of the Embassy and expressing the Board's appreciation for his having consented to receive Mr. Mann. It will be appreciated if you will see that the attached cable is transmitted. I take this opportunity to express the Board's appreciation to the Department of State for its efforts in obtaining Ambassador Hayes' consent and for the preparations which it made for the trip.

Mr. Josiah R. DuBois has just returned from London and has reported to us in detail concerning the possibilities for the work of the Board being carried on in London. After hearing DuBois report, it is the opinion of the Board that more effective work for the rescue of persons in imminent danger of death can now be carried on from London than perhaps any other European capital outside of enemy territory. Accordingly, the Board proposes to send Mr. James H. Mann, Assistant Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, on a mission to London to confer with Ambassador Winant, members of his staff, and the Intergovernmental Committee. It is possible that later Mr. Mann will be stationed in the Embassy there as a representative of the War Refugee Board. However, I shall communicate with you on that point after I have talked with Mr. Goodhart who is expected to arrive here from London within the next few days. There is attached a cable to Ambassador Winant concerning Mr. Mann's mission and it is requested that such be transmitted to him as soon as practicable.

As you recall, about a month ago Mr. Mann returned from a mission to Spain and Portugal for the War Refugee Board. On that mission he traveled on a diplomatic passport which is now on file with the Department of State. It would be appreciated if the necessary steps were taken to obtain the reissuance of such passport to him and to obtain the necessary visas for his journey to England.

Events make it imperative that Mr. Mann leave for London within the next few days. Accordingly, the Board would be grateful if the necessary air passage to England were obtained for him at the earliest possible date. Mr. Mann is prepared to leave at any time.

(Signed) J.W. Pehle
Josiah E. DuBois has just returned and reported to me in detail concerning his trip to England. I wish to extend to you the Board’s deepest appreciation for your efforts in furtherance of the Board’s program.

DuBois is strongly of the opinion that the Board should have a full time representative in London. Accordingly it is expected that James B. Mann, an Assistant Executive Director of the War Refugees Board will be leaving within the next few days for London, to confer with you, members of your staff, and the Intergovernmental Committee. I am informed that Mr. Goodhart will arrive in Washington within the next few days at which time I shall talk with him and then communicate further with you concerning Mann’s status.
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR HATES, AMERICAN EMBASSY, MADRID FROM
JOHN W. PERLM

Recent military developments lead me to believe that at this time there are no longer the possibilities of doing important rescue work from Spain which formerly existed. In view of such developments the War Refugee Board has decided that James H. Mann would be able to do more effective work from London for the rescue of persons in imminent danger of death. Accordingly Mann will be stationed in the American Embassy in London and will not come to the American Embassy in Madrid as Special Attaché on refugee matters. However, it is possible that if in the future important problems arise in that area he may if you perceive no objection come to Madrid from London in the same capacity as on his previous trip there. I extend to you my appreciation for your having consented to receive Mann as an Attaché to the Embassy.

JOHANNES ZHOU

August 23, 1944
August 21, 1944

Dr. Robert O. Dexter
American Embassy
Lisbon, Portugal

Dear Dr. Dexter:

Mr. James H. Mann who, as you know, has served until recently as an Assistant Executive Director of the War Refugees Board in Washington, has now been appointed Special Representative of the War Refugee Board for Spain and will be attached to the American Embassy there. I have designated Mr. Mann to be in charge of War Refugee Board matters for the Iberian Peninsula. Accordingly, I shall expect that you will keep him advised of your activities in Lisbon and will consult him on major decisions which are to be made in the field.

Both the Board and the State Department were highly pleased that the Joint Distribution Committee and the World Jewish Congress representatives in Lisbon were finally brought into an agreement. However, there were some things of a rather disturbing nature concerning this situation which Mr. Mann reported to me. It is my understanding that the relations between you and the Joint Distribution Committee representatives in Lisbon are not as cordial as I would like them to be. Accordingly, I shall expect you to make every effort to improve those relations and as hopeful that with your efforts and Mr. Mann's presence on the peninsula, we will be able to have the same kind of relations with the field representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee which the Board enjoys with that organization in the United States.

I have asked Mr. Mann to take up with you several matters concerning your operations in Lisbon. You should consider his comments and instructions as coming directly from me.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director
August 21, 1944

To Whom It May Concern:

The bearer of this letter, Mr. James H. Mann, has just been appointed Special Representative of the War Refugee Board in Spain. He is traveling on official business and has in his possession certain documents concerning War Refugee Board matters. He is authorized to have possession of such documents and to carry them with him at all times whether he is traveling within or outside of the United States.

Any courtesies extended to Mr. Mann which will in any way facilitate his travel will be greatly appreciated by the War Refugee Board.

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director
Messrs. Pehle and Friedman

Mr. Mohn

In the event that Spain becomes cut off from enemy territory by the Allied troops and it is clear that there is no possibility of doing anything in the refugee field in Spain, I will send a telegram to the Board stating that the Board should abandon any ideas which it might have of sending any clerks or administrative assistants to assist me. The receipt of a message along these lines will indicate that there is nothing left to do in Spain but twiddle thumbs and that I should either come home or be sent to some other post.

A message stating that there is no activity in Spain or that the activity is greatly decreased but I understand that there is still considerable activity in Switzerland will indicate that it is possible to travel to Switzerland provided the Board takes the necessary steps here to get the State Department or the army to agree and send the necessary permission to me in Spain.

It is altogether possible that circumstances will be such that I will be able to express my thoughts without having to resort to the use of code. If so, I shall clearly express myself without resorting to the abovementioned suggestive code. Another possibility would be by communicating through another agency of the Government.
August 17, 1944

My dear Mr. Shaw:

The War Refugee Board has been advised by the Department of State that upon the recommendation of the Board the Department of State has appointed Mr. James H. Mann, Special Attaché with diplomatic status, to handle refugee matters in the Embassy of the United States in Madrid. The Board considers it important that Mr. Mann proceed to his post in Madrid as soon as possible.

In view of the nature of Mr. Mann’s work it is, of course, necessary that he have a diplomatic passport. He has just returned from a mission to Spain and Portugal on behalf of the War Refugee Board on which he traveled on a diplomatic passport. Such passport is now on file at the Department of State. The Board would be grateful if action could be taken at the earliest possible date to obtain the reissuance to Mr. Mann of his diplomatic passport and to obtain the necessary visas for Spain and the countries en route.

It is the understanding of the Board that the next clipper for Lisbon is leaving somewhere around the 22nd of this month. It is thought that Mr. Mann should, if possible, proceed to Lisbon on that clipper since there apparently will not be another going directly to Lisbon until around the middle of September. If for some reason it is impossible to secure the necessary visas in that length of time it is felt that arrangements should be made to obtain passage to Spain for Mr. Mann either by way of England or Africa. Accordingly it would be appreciated if the Department of State would make the necessary travel arrangements to permit Mr. Mann to leave for Spain on the next clipper, or if such is not possible to go to England or Africa by either commercial or army transport at the earliest possible date and from there to Lisbon and Madrid by commercial airlines.

In view of the fact that Mr. Mann is going to Spain for an indefinite stay, it is requested that if possible, he be given the necessary priority for twenty pounds excess baggage.

Yours very truly,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Honorable G. Howland Shaw,
Assistant Secretary of State,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.

[Signature]
Please refer to the Department's No. 207 January 25 in regard to the establishment of the War Refugee Board. The Executive Director of the Board, John W. Fehle, has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's Order of January 22, the Board proposes to appoint Mr. James H. Mann, representative of the War Refugee Board in Madrid, as the Special Representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as Special Attaché to the Embassy on war refugee matters. The President's Order provides that the State Department shall appoint such Special Attachés on the recommendation of the Board, that they shall have diplomatic status, and that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board in consultation with the State Department.

It is assumed that there will be no objection, although you may in your discretion approach the Spanish authorities informally if you consider it necessary or advisable to do so. You are requested to confirm by telegram Mann's designation and to advise us promptly if there is any reason why the designation should not be effective at once.

You should advise Mann that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of

B. H. Parks Date: SEP 3 1972
of carrying out the Board's policies and programs in Spain;

(b) He is responsible to the Ambassador and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully;

(c) The Embassy will provide him with the necessary communications facilities in carrying on his official duties;

(d) He shall extend all possible assistance to the Ambassador in carrying out the instructions contained in the Department's reference telegram;

(e) He shall work with and give all possible assistance to public and private agencies operating in Spain in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;

(f) He shall develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees;

(g) He shall forward to the Board recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered;

(h) In so far as the Trading with the enemy Act is concerned, the Secretary of the Treasury has vested in the War Refugee Board and its representatives in the field full authority to communicate with enemy territory to carry out the purposes

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972
purposes of the Order. The Secretary of the Treasury has also
delegated to the War Refugee Board and its representatives the
power to authorize any public or private agencies, who may be
subject to the provisions of our Trading with the enemy act,
to communicate with enemy territory for the purpose of carry-
ing out the Order. Mann is authorized to act accordingly.

After receipt of confirmation of Mann's designation further
detailed instructions will follow from time to time.

In anticipation of your agreement to the foregoing appoint-
ment as indicated in your recent conversation with Assistant
Secretary Shaw Mr. Mann is preparing to depart for Madrid as
soon as travel arrangements can be made.

HULL
(GLW)
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. STATIINUS

Since Ambassador Hayes' return, I have discussed with him on two occasions the refugee situation in Spain. Ambassador Hayes has finally agreed to permit a War Refugee Board representative to make a study of refugee problems in Spain for a limited period of time not to exceed two months, at which time a report would be submitted to the Ambassador outlining the functions which the Board's representative would perform in Spain if he were permanently attached to the Embassy staff there.

Ambassador Hayes insists, however, that during this period of time the Board's representative would not have diplomatic status. Diplomatic status would only be accorded if such representative could convince the Ambassador that there was a function which he could perform and which would serve a useful purpose.

Until now, diplomatic status has always been granted to War Refugee Board representatives serving in our Embassies abroad. The proposition which Ambassador Hayes has made seems to me to be clearly unacceptable. In my opinion, the failure to grant the Board's representative in Spain diplomatic status as a Special Attaché on refugee matters would seriously impede him in carrying out his assigned responsibilities.

Accordingly, pursuant to paragraph 3 of Executive Order No. 9017 of January 22, 1944, the War Refugee Board recommends that Mr. James R. Mann be appointed Special Attaché on refugee matters for Spain with diplomatic status. Mr. Mann is known to the State Department since he is employed by that Department and is presently on loan to the War Refugee Board. He is also known to Ambassador Hayes and presumably is personally acceptable to him.

I urge strongly that Mr. Mann should be appointed as soon as possible and should proceed to his post without further delay. I cannot believe that the Department of State will wish to share in the responsibility of denying to the War Refugee Board the right to have a representative of its own choosing in this crucial area.

(Signed) J. W. Pohle
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. STETTINIUS

Since Ambassador Hayes' return, I have discussed with him on two occasions the refugee situation in Spain. Ambassador Hayes has finally agreed to permit a War Refugee Board representative to make a study of refugee problems in Spain for a limited period of two months, at which time a report is to be submitted to the Ambassador outlining the functions which the Board's representative would perform in Spain if he were permanently attached to the embassy staff there.

Ambassador Hayes insists, however, that during this period of two months there is no need for the War Refugee Board representative in Spain to have diplomatic status. Until now such status has always been granted to War Refugee Board representatives accredited to recognized foreign governments. In my opinion, the failure to grant the Board's representative in Spain diplomatic status as a special attaché on refugee matters would seriously impede him in the carrying out of his assigned responsibilities.

It is therefore requested that the State Department, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 3 of Executive Order No. 9417 of January 22, 1944, grant diplomatic status to the Board's representative for Spain. I shall advise you of the name of the Board's proposed appointee in the next few days.

7/22/44
Wilbur M. Blum
Secretary of State,
Washington.

2341, July 5, 4 p.m.

James Dunn of the War Refugee Board has spent several days in Spain talking with interested persons in Madrid and Barcelona concerning refugee problems.

With reference to Department's 1610 June 24, midnight, we have discussed the question of the Board's sending a representative to Spain who would be accredited to the Spanish Government as Attaché of the Embassy. As the Department is aware, refugee problems in the past have been adequately handled by the black-market organization and the Embassy and I am not yet convinced that there is work in the refugee field which is not being done and which would justify the assignment of an Attaché on refugee problems. Dunn has, however, suggested the appointment of James Saxon in such a capacity and while I am not prepared at this time to agree as to the necessity of such an appointment I should welcome Saxon's coming to Spain.

[DECLASSIFIED]
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By B. H. Parks Date 5-7-1972
to Spain to make a thorough study of refugee matters with the understanding that if at the end of such study which should not take more than two months at most he is able to outline to me the functions which he could perform if he were attached to the Embassy staff and if I am convinced that such would serve a useful purpose I will request the Spanish government to recognize him as an Attaché. Mann is leaving for Lisbon on July 6 and has requested that the Board notify him there of any decision taken by it in this matter and I should appreciate the Department's advising me as soon as possible whether Saxon is coming to Spain on the basis outlined above.

I feel that Mann's visit to Spain has been the occasion for a mutually profitable exchange of views and that it will prove to be helpful in connection with any operations which may be contemplated in the future.

HAYES

FS RB
Madrid, May 19

The cable below in reference to Department's 1452 of May 19 and Madrid's 1777 of May 22 is for the Ambassador from Polska, War Refuge Board.

James MacDonald will not undertake trip to Spain referred to in foregoing cable, for time being at least. Meanwhile your full cooperation with James H. Mann, Assistant Executive Director of Board, who has my full confidence and I understand is now in Spain, would be appreciated. Please inform Mann of postponement trip of MacDonald.

Hull
(CHW)

8/44

1944-1944

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

June 24, 1944

CONTROL COPY
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR HAYES, MADRID, FROM J. W. PEILE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Reference Department's 1422, May 19, and your no. 1777,

May 22.

For the time being at least James McDonald will not undertake the trip to Spain referred to in the foregoing cables. In the meantime I would appreciate your cooperating fully with James H. Mann, Assistant Executive Director of War Refugee Board, whom I understand is now in Spain and has my full confidence. Will you please advise Mann concerning the postponement of McDonald's trip.

**********
June 24, 1944
11:46 a.m.
I certainly have no objection to the visit of my friend James G. Macdonald, suggested in your cable of May 19, No. 1423, although I am reasonably confident that the existing Embassy machinery, in conjunction with the Blicken-staff organization, can serve adequately the proper purposes of the War Refugee Board. I welcome, in fact, the opportunity of his familiarizing himself at firsthand with the position here as he will return to report to the Department and the War Refugee Board.

It is neither necessary nor desirable that he be accredited to the Spanish Government, but during his visit here, he can rest assured that it will be my pleasure to ensure that he will receive every consideration and courtesy.

HAYES
I certainly have no objection to the visit of my friend James G. McDonald, suggested in your cable of May 10, No. 1428, although I am reasonably confident that the existing embassy machinery, in conjunction with the Klicka-staff organization, can serve adequately the proper purposes of the War Refugee Board. In fact, the opportunity of his familiarizing himself at firsthand with the position here as he will return to report to the Department and the War Refugee Board.

It is neither necessary nor desirable that he be accredited to the Spanish Government, but during his visit here, he can rest assured that it will be my pleasure to ensure that he will receive every consideration and courtesy.

Yours

Date
May 20, 1944

Mr. Pehle

James E. Mann

Today Mr. Warren emphasized that Mr. McDonald should make immediate application for passport and that we should furnish him with a memorandum relative to air passage so he could obtain air priority on the clipper. Warren thought that in view of my scheduled departure on May 29, McDonald should leave on the next clipper which would be two weeks later.

J. E. M.
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Embassy, Madrid
DATED: May 19, 1944
NUMBER: 1422

Following is personal, for the Ambassador's attention.

The Board wishes to send a representative to Spain in order to review the refugee situation in Spain with you and to report to the Department and to the War Refugee Board. For this mission, the services of James C. McDonald, whose name is well known to you, have been secured. In order that Mr. McDonald may carry out this assignment, it is a matter of personal interest to me that he be accorded every facility by the Embassy. For the time that Mr. McDonald is on this particular mission in Spain, he is to have diplomatic status, and he will be attached to the Embassy with the title of Special Attache. We assume that the Spanish Government, on their part, will have no objection, although if you consider it necessary or advisable to do so in your discretion you may approach the Spanish authorities informally. Of course, you will be advised in advance of the date of Mr. McDonald's departure. If there is any reason why this designation should not be made, please advise at once.

HULL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R.H. Parks Date SEP 13 1972
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR HAYES, MADRID

The War Refugee Board desires to send a representative to Spain to review with you the refugee situation there and report to the Department and the Board his findings. The Board has been successful in obtaining for this mission the services of Mr. James O. McDonald, who, no doubt, is well known to you. I am personally interested in seeing that Mr. McDonald carries out this assignment and that he is accorded every facility by the Embassy. Accordingly you should request the Spanish Government to accord to Mr. McDonald diplomatic status for the time that he is in Spain on this particular mission. While in Spain, Mr. McDonald will be attached to the Embassy and will be given the title of Special Attaché on Refugee Matters.

Please make the necessary arrangements and advise me as soon as possible. You will, of course, be advised of the date of Mr. McDonald's departure.
When I saw you on Friday, May 12, I mentioned to you the difficulties we had been having in making any progress in the Spanish situation. You suggested that I find out whether Ambassador Hayes would be returning to the United States in the near future. I checked on this matter and was advised by Mr. George of the Spanish desk that Mr. Hayes is not expected to return to the United States at this time.

As you know, the War Refugee Board on several occasions has approached Ambassador Hayes with a view to setting up a program for evacuation of refugees through Spain. Ambassador Hayes not only has turned down the Board's suggestions to date but has even refused to allow the Board to have a full-time representative in Spain. Obviously Spain should be a major theatre for the Board's operations and it is most lamentable that nothing is being accomplished in that area at this time. Because of Ambassador Hayes attitude we are losing valuable time.

It is absolutely essential that the Board send someone to Spain as its representative to report on the situation existing there and to attempt to influence Ambassador Hayes to change his attitude with regard to the Board and its program. In order to obtain the appointment of anyone, or in order to get a representative in Spain even for a short period of time, it seems necessary that the State Department send a very strong cable to our Ambassador in Madrid. I am afraid that unless the cable states that you are personally interested in seeing that a Board representative goes to Spain, Ambassador Hayes will treat such suggestion as he has treated others in the past, that is, flatly refuse to allow such a person to be sent there.

The Board has been successful in obtaining the services of Mr. James G. McDonald, Chairman of the President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees, and former High Commissioner for Refugees coming from Germany. As you know, Mr. McDonald is a very prominent person and is deeply interested in the refugee question. We are fortunate to be able to secure the services of such a person. It is the Board's desire that Mr. McDonald go to Spain as soon as possible and report on the situation there after he has talked to Ambassador Hayes and Spanish Government officials.
There is attached a proposed draft of a cable to Ambassador Hayes relative to Mr. McDonald's mission. If you are in agreement it would greatly be appreciated if you would have such a cable despatched as soon as conveniently possible.

Attachment

JWMcCNIWWFehler11hh  5/15/44
CABLE TO AMBASSADOR HAYES, MADRID

The War Refugee Board desires to send a representative to Spain to review with you the refugee situation there and report to the Department and the Board his findings. The Board has been successful in obtaining for this mission the services of Mr. James G. McDonald, who, no doubt, is well known to you. I am personally interested in seeing that Mr. McDonald carries out this assignment and that he is accorded every facility by the Embassy. Accordingly you should request the Spanish Government to accord to Mr. McDonald diplomatic status for the time that he is in Spain on this particular mission. While in Spain, Mr. McDonald will be attached to the Embassy and will be given the title of Special Attaché on Refugee Matters.

Please make the necessary arrangements and advise me as soon as possible. You will, of course, be advised of the date of Mr. McDonald's departure.

JHM

8/11/44
Mr. John W. Pehle,  
Acting Executive Director,  
War Refugee Board,  
Washington 25, D.C.

My dear Mr. Pehle:

You did me much honor by considering me for a place with the War Refugee Board in this country, and I am quite grateful to you for it and to my friends Joe DuBois and Jim Mann for mentioning me to you. I appreciate the high humanitarian objectives of the Board's work; and were circumstances otherwise, I should have liked to participate in it. However, I have obligations to carry on for the time being with my present tasks. The economic warfare and related economic control activities of our Mission in Spain have increased, and to add my assignments to those of my already overburdened superiors and colleagues could not, in my opinion, be justified by what I could do in refugee work, given my inexperience in social welfare administration and the availability of others to perform it. Moreover, there is this consideration: I came here to carry on certain economic control functions in which I had some experience because donning a uniform seemed to include a considerable likelihood of my being relegated to teaching, my peacetime career. To the extent that the circumstances governing this decision have been changed or may change, I think a man of my age should move only in one direction, namely, toward more direct, physical participation in this war. My impression of the manpower situation in the United States leads me to believe that even should my convictions be otherwise, I should not have been a desirable choice for reasons implicit in this statement.

Your...
Your letter of March 18, 1944 requested that I cable you directly regarding the possibilities of my accepting a position with the Board. Under the present circumstances it was not thought desirable to mention the Board in conjunction with employment and my name in an en clair telegram; consequently the Department of State facilities were used in the Embassy's telegram no. 1433, April 25, 1944.

Please accept my sincere best wishes for the Board's work, and ask anything of me that you consider might aid it. My experiences with you and the other gentlemen of Treasury's Foreign Funds Control are among the most pleasant of my Washington ones; and I consider myself somewhat of a Treasury outpost, since I have the big books of freezing regulations and explain General Ruling 5-a, General License 52, etc. to all comers.

Very truly yours,

Covey T. Oliver
Special Assistant.
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental agency. (3000)

LC - CDT

Madrid

Dated April 25, 1944

Rec'd 11:33 a.m., 26th

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1433, April 25, 8 p.m.

FOR PEILE WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Oliver says cannot accept appreciated offer, adding that volume Economic Warfare work continues heavy and no readily available trained substitute.

HAYES

RR
In connection with my message number 427 dated April 3, 1944, I am sending herewith a message from the Department of State number 759 dated March 29, 1944, from the American Embassy, Madrid, to the Department of State, Washington, D.C., April 6, 1944.

I trust that steps will be taken to put into effect any such plan of operations as the Department of State has in mind until such time as the Board of Directors of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, to whose care the problem of the repatriation of refugees from Germany has been entrusted, feels that it can start to undertake this important task.

The Department of State acknowledges that there is already an existence of some organization of German refugees in the United States, but that it will be necessary to go beyond this to establish a more comprehensive and efficient organization.

It is suggested that the Board of Directors might consider the establishment of a special board to be responsible for the repatriation of refugees from Germany, and that this board might be empowered to undertake the necessary arrangements for their care.

By R. H. Parks, Date SEP 1 3 1972

DECLASSIFIED State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

30046
March 16, 1944

Mr. Govey Oliver,
Special Assistant to the Ambassador,
American Embassy,
Madrid, Spain.

My dear Mr. Oliver:

You, no doubt, are acquainted with the fact that there has been established in the Executive Office of the President, the War Refugee Board. The functions of the Board have been described in cables sent to the Embassy in Madrid. The purpose of the Board is to rescue Jews and other persons whose lives may be in imminent danger in the Axis and occupied countries. In order effectively to carry out this work, the Board is appointing field representatives in the neutral countries of Europe. You have been recommended to me by Joe Dubieka and James Mann (both of whom are working with the Board) as a person possessing the desired qualifications who could greatly assist us in the work which we are attempting to do in Spain. Our work is challenging and I can think of no more important functions than saving peoples' lives.

I realize that you are presently employed by the State Department working on economic warfare problems and I am advised that you have done an excellent job. However, it occurred to me that your present work might be such that others could carry it on at this stage and that possibly you might be interested in working with the War Refugee Board. In the event that you would accept a position with the Board working as one of its field representatives in Spain, I will take up the matter with the State Department and attempt to obtain your transfer to the Board. Your salary would remain the same as at present and in lieu of living and other allowances which you may now be receiving, you would be paid per diem at the rate of $7.00 per day.

Please cable me directly at my expense stating whether you would accept the position which I have described above. I will, of course, consider any acceptance as being conditioned upon the attitude of the State Department. However, if you indicate an acceptance, I shall approach the State Department immediately.

Very truly yours,

(Signed J. W. Pebble)

J. W. Pebble
Acting Executive Director

Original signed by Mr. Pebble

[Signatures]
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Embassy, Madrid
DATED: March 16, 1944
NUMBER: 726

With reference to your telegram of March 3, 1944 No. 378, you are informed that the expression of your views with respect to the designation of David Blickenstaff as representative for the Board in Spain is greatly appreciated by the War Refugee Board.

It is felt by the Board that the work of representative of the Board in Spain will be a full-time job requiring at least one man's undivided attention and energies. In light of your views, the Board does not consider it feasible that Blickenstaff undertake these duties under the circumstances although it feels that he would be eminently qualified for this post. Moreover, although the Friends have been most cooperative with respect to the designation of Blickenstaff, they have indicated a reluctance to separate him from his present duties.

At the present time the Board is considering the designation of James J. Saxon, Representative of the United States Treasury in French North Africa, as acting representative of the War Refugee Board in Spain in lieu of the appointment of Blickenstaff. James J. Saxon has been Representative for the United States...
United States Treasury in French Africa for about 13 months, the first 7 months of which consisted of duty in Dakar.

Since that time he has been stationed in Algiers. Before then he was a Representative of United States Treasury in Hawaii and the Philippines where he served under High Commissioner Sayre. It is felt by the Board that Saxon is well qualified for any duties to which he may be assigned in connection with the War Refugee Board and in this most important work he will be of real aid to you. We have discussed this assignment with the Treasury which is willing to allow him to be assigned to this duty.

Your views with respect to the designation of Saxon should be sent to the Department promptly.

The foregoing telegram has been repeated to Algiers to Wilson for Saxon as the Department's telegram No. 766.
MAR 11 1944

10:20 a.m.

To: Mr. George L. Warren

From: J. W. Pahle

I should appreciate it very much

if the attached telegram were despatched

promptly to Ambassador Hayes in Madrid.

[Initialed] J. W. P.
FROM DEPARTMENT TO AMBASSADOR HATES, MADRID

REPEAT TO WILSON, AloISIS, FOR Saxon

Please refer to your 775 of March 3. The War Refugee Board very much appreciates the expression of your views with respect to the designation of David Blickenstaff as the Board's representative in Spain.

It is felt that the work in Spain of the War Refugee Board representative will be a full time job requiring the undivided attention and energies of at least one man. In the light of your views, while we feel that Blickenstaff would be eminently qualified for this post, we do not consider it feasible that he undertake these duties under the circumstances. Furthermore, while the Friends have been most cooperative with respect to Blickenstaff's designation, they have indicated a reluctance to separate him from his present duties.

In lieu of the appointment of Blickenstaff, we are presently considering the designation of James J. Saxon, United States Treasury Representative in French North Africa, as acting representative in Spain of the War Refugee Board. Saxon has been United States Treasury Representative in French Africa for about 15 months, the first seven months consisting of duty in Dakar, French West Africa. He has since been stationed in Algiers. Prior to that time he was United States Treasury Representative in Hawaii and the Philippines, where he served under High Commissioner Bayne. We feel that Saxon is well qualified for any duties which may be assigned to him in connection with the War Refugee Board and will be of real assistance to you in this most important work. This assignment has been discussed with the Treasury which is willing to permit Saxon to be assigned to this task.

Please advise the Department promptly of your views with respect to the designation of Saxon.
Please advise the Department promptly of your views with respect to the designation of Saxon.
378, March 3, 11 a.m.

Before discussing with Blickenstaff contents of Department’s SSO, February 26, 10 p.m., I should like to be advised further as to proposed relationship between work of War Refugee Board in Spain and that of the “representative in Spain of American relief organizations”. As reported in my dispatch 1932, January 24, latter is joint agency representing private American charitable organizations engaged in refugee relief in Spain and is under Blickenstaff’s direction.

Specifically I should like to be informed as to whether, in the event of Blickenstaff’s designation as representative of the board, he would be expected to give up his present work. The agency he now heads is at present bearing virtually entire burden financial and otherwise of care of stateless and unprotected refugees in Spain and it is my recommendation that it be allowed to continue to do so and that Blickenstaff be permitted...
MARCH 3, 11 a.m., FROM MADRID

be permitted to continue as its director while serving concurrently as board's representative with designation as Attaché.

As I have taken great pains to point out the problem of the care of these refugees is being very competently handled by Blickenstaff and his organization which was set up at my suggestion to unify efforts of participating private agencies and I wish to avoid any changes which might impair effectiveness of this work, I am in thorough agreement with the board that Blickenstaff is highly qualified to represent it in Spain, but I wish to make sure that his services will be utilized in the most effective manner possible.

Repealed to London by pouch to Lisbon.

E.V.E.S.
You are referred herewith to the Department's telegram of January 26, no. 207, regarding the establishment of the War Refugee Board. John W. Fehl, the Acting Executive Director of the Board, has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's order of January 22, it is proposed by the Board to appoint Mr. David Bickenstaff, representative of the American Friends Service Committee in Madrid, as the Special Representative of the Board, and to be designated by the Department as Special Attaché to the Embassy on war refugee matters. It is provided in the President's order that the State Department shall appoint such Special Attachés upon the recommendation of the Board, that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board in consultation with the State Department, and that they shall have diplomatic status.

It has been indicated by the American Friends Service Committee that it has no objection to Mr. Bickenstaff's accepting this appointment.

After

Ofr. Miss Chauncey (for Sec'y), Hasen, Paul, Gaston, White, Fehl, Luntsford, Duda, E.H. Bernstein, Stewart, Lesser, Fridman, Miss Meld, Mr. Polisch, Miss Laughlin, Mr. Abramson.
After discussing the matter with Mr. Blicthenstaff, if this appointment meets with your approval, you should advise him that he is so designated and that he is to have diplomatic status. It is assumed that on the part of the Spanish Government there will be no objection to this designation, although you may informally approach the Spanish authorities if, in your discretion, you consider it necessary or advisable to do so. We request that you confirm by telegram Blicthenstaff's designation or that you advise us promptly if there is any reason why the designation should not become effective at once.

You should inform Blicthenstaff that:

(a) He is charged with the responsibility and duty of carrying out the policies and programs of the Board in Spain;

(b) He is responsible to the Ambassador and should regularly and fully discuss his activities and problems with him;

(c) The necessary communications facilities required for the carrying on of his official duties will be provided him by the Embassy;

(d) He shall extend all possible assistance to the Ambassador in carrying out the instructions contained in the Department's reference telegram;

(e) He shall work with and give all possible assistance to public and private agencies operating in Spain.
in Spain in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, international or foreign;

(f) He shall develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, maintenance, relief and transportation of refugees;

(g) He shall forward recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered to the Board;

(h) In so far as the Trading with the enemy Act is concerned, the War Refugee Board and its representatives in the field have been vested by the Secretary of the Treasury with full authority to communicate with enemy territory in carrying out the purposes of the Order. Also the Secretary of the Treasury has delegated to the War Refugee Board and its representatives the power to authorize any public or private agencies, who may be subject to the provisions of our Trading with the enemy Act, to communicate with enemy territory for the purpose of carrying out the Order. Blydenstaff is authorized to act accordingly.

Further detailed instructions will follow from time to time after receipt of confirmation of Blydenstaff’s designation.

SURTINKUS
(Acting)
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental agency.

February 12, 1944
8 p.m.

American Embassy
Ankara

120

Please refer to the Department's 68 January 22 in regard to the establishment of the War Refugee Board. The Acting Executive Director of the Board, John W. Pehle, has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's order of Jan., 22, the Board proposes to appoint Mr. Ira Hirschmann, who is now in Turkey in a private capacity, as the acting Special Representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as Special Attaché to the Embassy on war refugee matters. The President's order provides that the State Department shall appoint such special attaches on the recommendation of the Board, that they shall have diplomatic status, and that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board in consultation with the State Department.

If this meets with your approval, you should immediately advise Hirschmann that he is so designated and that he is to have diplomatic status. It is assumed that there will be no objection on the part of the Turkish Government to this designation, although you may in your discretion approach the Turkish authorities informally if you consider it necessary or advisable to do so. You are requested to confir'm Mr. Hirschmann's designation or to advise us promptly if there is any reason why the designation should not be effective at once.

You should advise Mr. Hirschmann that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of carrying out the Board's policies and programs in Turkey;

(b) He is responsible to the Ambassador and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully;

(c) The Embassy will provide him with the necessary communications facilities in carrying on his official duties;

(d) He shall extend all possible assistance to the Ambassador in carrying out the instructions contained in the Department's reference telegram;

(e) He shall work with and give all possible assistance to public and private agencies operating in Turkey in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;

(f) He shall develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees;
(g) He shall forward to the board recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered.

(h) In so far as the Trading with the Enemy Act is concerned, the Secretary of the Treasury has vested in the War Refugee Board and its representatives in the field full authority to communicate with enemy territory, to carry out the purpose of the order. The Secretary of the Treasury has also delegated to the War Refugee Board and its representatives the power to authorize any public or private agencies, who may be subject to the provisions of our Trading with the Enemy Act, to communicate with enemy territory for the purpose of carrying out the order. Hirschmann is authorized to act accordingly.

After receipt of confirmation of approval of Hirschmann’s designation, further detailed instructions will follow from time to time, including instructions concerning fiscal and administrative matters.
February 12, 1944

MEMORANDUM TO: Mr. Pehle
FROM: Mr. Friedman

Attached are suggested draft telegrams appointing Special Representatives of the Board in Spain and Switzerland. These have been drafted in accordance with the latest version of the Hirschmann cable. I think that you should probably clear the appointment of these two men with Secretary Morgenthau before the cables are sent over to State.

[Signature]

Attachments

[Handwritten note: "Memorandum to Mr. Pehle 2-13-44"]
February 15, 1944

TO: Mr. Stettinus
FROM: J. E. Fidler

Attached hereto are proposed cables to the
Embassy at Madrid and the Legation at Bern designating
David Blickenstaff and Roswell McClelland, respectively,
as Special Representatives of the Board and Special Attachés
to the Missions.

It will be extremely helpful if these cables
are despatched promptly. The cables follow the form
approved by the State Department in the Hirschmann case.

Attachments

JWFehleribh 2/15/44
AMERICAN EMBASSY

MADRID

Please refer to the Department's No. 207, January 25, in regard to the establishment of the War Refugees Board. The Acting Executive Director of the Board, John V. Pehle, has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's Order of January 22, the Board proposes to appoint Mr. David Blinkenstaff, representative of the American Friends Service Committee in Madrid, as the Special Representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as Special Attaché to the Embassy on war refugee matters. The President's Order provides that the State Department shall appoint such Special Attachés on the recommendation of the Board, that they shall have diplomatic status, and that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board in consultation with the State Department.

The American Friends Service Committee has indicated that it has no objection to Mr. Blinkenstaff's accepting this appointment.

If, after discussing the matter with Mr. Blinkenstaff, the appointment meets with your approval, you should advise him that he is so designated and that he is to have diplomatic status. It is assumed that there will be no objection on the part of the Spanish Government to this designation, although you may in your discretion approach the Spanish authorities informally if you consider it necessary or advisable to do so. You are requested to confirm by telegram Blinkenstaff's designation or to advise us promptly if there is any reason why the designation should not be effective at once.
You should advise Mr. Aho that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of carrying out the Board's policies and programs in Spain;

(b) He is responsible to the Ambassador and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully;

(c) The Embassy will provide him with the necessary communications facilities in carrying on his official duties;

(d) He shall extend all possible assistance to the Ambassador in carrying out the instructions contained in the Department's reference telegram;

(e) He shall work with and give all possible assistance to public and private agencies operating in Spain in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;

(f) He shall develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees;

(g) He shall forward to the Board recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered;

(h) In so far as the Trading with the enemy Act is concerned, the Secretary of the Treasury has vested in the War Refugee Board and its representatives in the field full authority to communicate with enemy territory to carry out the purposes of the Order. The Secretary of the Treasury has also delegated to the War Refugee Board and its representatives the power to authorize any public or private agencies, who may be subject
to the provisions of our Trading with the enemy Act, to communicate
with enemy territory for the purpose of carrying out the Order.
Blickenstaff is authorized to act accordingly.

After receipt of confirmation of Blickenstaff's designation
further detailed instructions will follow from time to time.
Dear Mr. Olsen:

I have just received the final report of your activities as Special Representative of the Board in Stockholm. I wish to take this opportunity to thank you personally for continuing in this capacity during my service with the Board and to congratulate you upon the outstanding and extremely important contributions you made to the Board's achievements in a unique humanitarian undertaking.

You handled your assignment for the Board with ingenuity, ability and devotion. The Board's activities from Stockholm comprise one of the most important phases of its history and we were indeed fortunate to have had your services directing those activities from that strategic country.

You deserve high commendation for the colorful and successful rescue and relief operations developed and guided by you. Reports of these operations, particularly those from Norway, are now being made available to the American public. The private American organizations, whose rescue and relief activities in enemy territory you directed from Sweden, are all outspoken in their praise of your work in this field. You deserve the fine reputation you have gained.

I wish especially to thank you for the work you did during the last months of the Board's operations, for in this role your activities are particularly vivid to me personally. Your successful handling of extremely delicate and secret negotiations during these months, your dealings with the Swedish Government, and with private and international agencies were able performances throughout.

I wish you all possible success in your new assignment for the Treasury Department and I hope some day that I may
extend my appreciation to you in person for the fine job you did for us.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Mr. Iver O. Olsen,
Treasury Representative,
United States Embassy,
The Hague, Holland.
The following is a telegraph from O’Dwyer to the Department of State:

"The Board has been advised that you are considering requesting to be relieved of your duties as Special Representative of the War Refugee Board in Stockholm.

Since it is felt that the War Refugee Board work in Sweden has decreased considerably and should not require a great deal of your time and in view of your unusual background and familiarity with our work, Board would deeply appreciate your reconsidering such action and agreeing to stay on as its Special Representative for the coming months.

F oregoing has been discussed with Fehle and he is in full agreement."
CABLE TO JOHNSON, STOCKHOLM, FOR CLEAN FROM O'NEILL, WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Board has been advised that you are considering requesting to be relieved of your duties as Special Representative of the War Refugee Board in Stockholm.

Since it is felt that War Refugee Board work in Sweden has decreased considerably and should not require a great deal of your time and in view of your unusual background and familiarity with our work, Board would deeply appreciate your reconsidering such action and agreeing to stay on as its Special Representative for the coming months.

Foregoing has been discussed with Pahle and he is in full agreement.

THIS IS WAR STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 321.

10:00 a.m.
February 2, 1945

Warmest regards

[Signature]

Cleared with Field and Children 2/6/48
Partial salary payment to Dorfman of $70.00 monthly effective August 1 authorized for reimbursement by WRB. This amends Department's 1382, July 7.
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Stockholm
DATED: June 23, 1944
NUMBER: 1246

Subject to your approval the Board has designated Mr. Isaiah S. Dorfman to be assistant to Olsen. Dorfman is presently in London and immediately upon receipt of advice that you have no objection, arrangements will be completed for his transportation to Stockholm.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 35.

HULL.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-75
By R. H. Parks Date, SEP 13 1972
CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON, STOCKHOLM, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Subject to your approval the Board has designated Mr. Isaiah S. Dorfman to be assistant to Olsen. Dorfman is presently in London and immediately upon receipt of advice that you have no objection, arrangements will be completed for his transportation to Stockholm.

THIS IS WAR STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 33

*******
June 22, 1944
6:16 p.m.
War Refugee Board

May 2, 1944

APPLICATION

STOCKHOLM,
004, Second

Legation authorized to pay salaries at rate of $3000 and $440 per annum to Tone Filseth and Ulla Afviren, respectively, whose employment to assist Olsen has been approved by War Refugee Board. Include payments in regular accounts for reimbursement by WRR accordance Section V-45 as authorized by its letter of April 24.

HULL
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 4 1944
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS & DECISION

Hull (Eng)
Temporary employment as requested your 1585 April 19
of Miss Tone Filaeth at $3000 per annum and Miss Ulla Afwirsen
at $1440 per annum authorized. This is VRB Stockholm cable
no. 756. Olsen should send personal information promptly.
You will be informed subsequently by Department as to manner
in which salaries should be paid.

HULL
(SEN)
CABLE TO STOCKHOLM

To Minister Johnson from War Refuge Board.

We have your letter of 9/55. Temporary employment Miss Yvonne Milsted at $3,000 per annum and Miss Ulla Aafedt at $1,660 per annum authorized. Glenn should send personnel information promptly. You will be informed subsequently by State Department as to manner in which salaries should be paid.

THIS IS WAR STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 7

April 26, 1944
12:30 p.m.
Authorization is urgently requested to employ following aliens to assist Iver Olsen in connection with his work as Stockholm representative of War Refugee Board:

(1) Miss Toue Filseth, Norwegian, as assistant and consultant on refugee problems, at $3,000 per annum. For several years she has been executive secretary of Nansen-Aid activities for the stateless and has had wide organizational experience in this field in Oslo, Geneva, Vienna, Peking and Warsaw. More recently she has been engaged as consultant by Swedish Social Styrelsen and Danish Legation on refugee problems. Exceptionally capable; highly regarded in Sweden and excellent contacts.

(2) Miss Ulla Arwisen, Swedish, as alien clerk at $1,440 per annum. Excellent linguist and has had secretarial
SECRETARIAL EXPERIENCE. Will assist in preliminary interviewing, maintenance of card index and filing system, and will work directly with Miss Filsath.

These appointments are essential in order to permit Olsen to devote sufficient time to his other duties as Financial Attaché. Telegraphic reply requested.

JOHNSON

BR
I have no objection to appointment of Iver Olsen as Special Attaché to the Legation on war refugee matter. He already has diplomatic status through his appointment as Financial Attaché of the Legation.

Department 527, March 29, 8 p.m.

JOHNSON
AMLEGATION,

STOCKHOLM.

539 thirtieth

FOR OLSEN FROM SECRETARY MORGENTHAU

Reference is made to State Department cable of today's date which proposes you as Special Representative of the War Refugee Board. This designation has my full approval. It is understood that you will continue your duties as Financial Attache in Stockholm concurrently with the exercise of your duties as Representative of the Board. Please advise whether your designation as Representative of the Board imposes too great a burden upon you in view of your other duties.

HULL
(GLW)

WRB:GLW:KG  A-S/3  FA  NOE

3/30/44
The appointment of Mr. Olsen as special representative of the Board, as recommended by the State Department, is subject to the approval of the Board. If the appointment meets with your approval, you should advise him that he is so designated and that he is to have diplomatic status. It is assumed that there will be no objection on the part of the Swedish Government to this designation, although you may in your discretion approach the Swedish authorities.
recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered.

(b) In so far as the Treaty with the enemy Act is concerned, the Secretary of the Treasury has vested in the War Refugee Board and its representatives in the field full authority to communicate with enemy territory to carry out the purposes of the Order. The Secretary of the Treasury has also delegated to the War Refugee Board and its representatives the power to authorize any public or private agencies, who may be
cc: Miss Chauncey, (Mr. the Secy) Abrahamson, Atkin, Anderlini, Choin, Dubois, Fishman, Hanson, Holz, Laughlin, Levenson, Lord, Mox, Parz, McCormack, Murphy, Paul, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, W. N. Wilde, Flies
March 27, 1944
5:30 p.m.

TO Mr. Garren
FROM J. W. TELLE

It will be appreciated if you will have the attached cable despatched at once to Minister Johnson, Stockholm, Sweden.

Attachment.

EFRAINSIE 3/21/44
TO JOHNSON

STOCKHOLM

FOR OLSEN FROM SECRETARY MORGENTHAU

Reference is made to State Department cable of today's date which designates you as Special Representative of the War Refugee Board. This designation has my full approval. It is understood that you will continue your duties as Financial Attaché in Stockholm concurrently with the exercise of your duties as Representative of the Board. Please advise whether your designation as Representative of the Board imposes too great a burden upon you in view of your other duties.

STEINERMAN
Please refer to Department's No. 131 of January 25, in regard to the establishment of the War Refugee Board. The Acting Executive Director of the Board, John W. Fehl, has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's order of January 22, the Board proposes to appoint Mr. Iver Olsen, Treasury representative in Stockholm, as the special representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as special attaché to the Legation on War Refugee matters. The President's order provides that the State Department shall appoint such special attaches on the recommendation of the Board, that they shall have diplomatic status and that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board, in consultation with the State Department.

The Treasury has indicated that it has no objection to
Mr. Olsen's accepting this appointment, provided that Olsen does not feel that the new work when added to the duties already being performed by Olsen would constitute too great a burden.

If, after discussing the matter with Mr. Olsen, the appointment meets with your approval, you should advise him that he is so designated and that he is to have diplomatic status. It is assumed that there will be no objection on the part of the Swedish Government to this designation, although you may in your discretion approach the Swedish authorities informally if you consider it necessary or advisable to do so. You are requested to confirm by telegram Olsen's designation or to advise us promptly if there is any reason why the designation should not be effective at once.

You should advise Olsen that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of carrying out the Board's policies and programs in Sweden;

(b) He
327, March 28, 1944, 8 p.m. to Stockholm.

(b) He is responsible to the Minister and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully;

(c) The Legation will provide him with the necessary communications facilities in carrying on his official duties;

(d) He shall extend all possible assistance to the Minister in carrying out the instructions contained in the Department's reference telegram;

(e) He shall work with and give all assistance to public and private agencies operating in Sweden in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;

(f) He shall develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of refugees;

(g) He shall forward to the Board recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and
...
March 21, 1944

TO: Mr. Warren
FROM: J. H. Pahlé

It will be appreciated if you will have the attached cable despatched at once to Minister Johnson, Stockholm, Sweden.

Attachment.

3/21/44
CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

Please refer to Department's No. 131 of January 25, in regard to the establishment of the War Refugee Board. The Acting Executive Director of the Board, John V. Pehle, has informed the Department that in conformity with the President's order of January 22, the Board proposes to appoint Mr. Iver Olsen, Treasury representative in Stockholm, as the special representative of the Board with the designation by the Department as special attaché to the Legation on War Refugee matters. The President's order provides that the State Department shall appoint such special attaches on the recommendation of the Board, that they shall have diplomatic status and that their duties and responsibilities shall be defined by the Board, in consultation with the State Department.

The Treasury has indicated that it has no objection to Mr. Olsen's accepting this appointment, provided that Olsen does not feel that the new work when added to the duties already being performed by Olsen would constitute too great a burden.

If, after discussing the matter with Mr. Olsen, the appointment meets with your approval, you should advise him that he is so designated and that he is to have diplomatic status. It is assumed that there will be no objection on the part of the Swedish Government to this designation, although you may in your discretion approach the Swedish authorities informally if you consider it necessary or advisable to do so. You are requested to confirm by telegram Olsen's designation or to advise us promptly if there is any reason why the designation should not be effective at once.
You should advise Olsen that:

(a) He is charged with the duty and responsibility of carrying out the Board's policies and programs in Sweden;

(b) He is responsible to the Minister and should discuss his activities and problems with him regularly and fully;

(c) The Legation will provide him with the necessary communication facilities in carrying on his official duties;

(d) He shall extend all possible assistance to the Minister in carrying out the instructions contained in the Department's reference telegrams;

(e) He shall work with and give all assistance to public and private agencies operating in Sweden in this field regardless of whether such organizations are American, foreign or international;

(f) He shall develop and assist in the development of programs and implementation of measures for the rescue, transportation, maintenance, and relief of refugees;

(g) He shall forward to the Board recommendations and frequent reports on progress of work and difficulties encountered;

(h) In so far as the trading with the enemy Act is concerned, the Secretary of the Treasury has vested in the War Refugee Board and its representatives in the field full authority to communicate with enemy territory to carry out the purposes of the Order. The Secretary of the Treasury has also delegated to the War Refugee Board and its representatives the power to authorize any public or private agencies, who may be subject to the provisions of our trading with the enemy Act, to communicate with enemy territory for the purpose of carrying out the order. Olsen is authorised to act accordingly.
After receipt of confirmation of Olsen’s designation further detailed instructions will follow from time to time.
Mr. White
J. W. Pehle

March 15, 1944

In addition to his other duties and provided we can obtain the necessary clearances, do you have any objection to Olsen being named representative of the War Refugee Board in Stockholm?

(Initialed) J.W.P